



**WELCOME!**

**Asbury United Methodist Church**

*Open Doors with Loving Hearts*

**April 19, 2026**





# CENTERING SONG

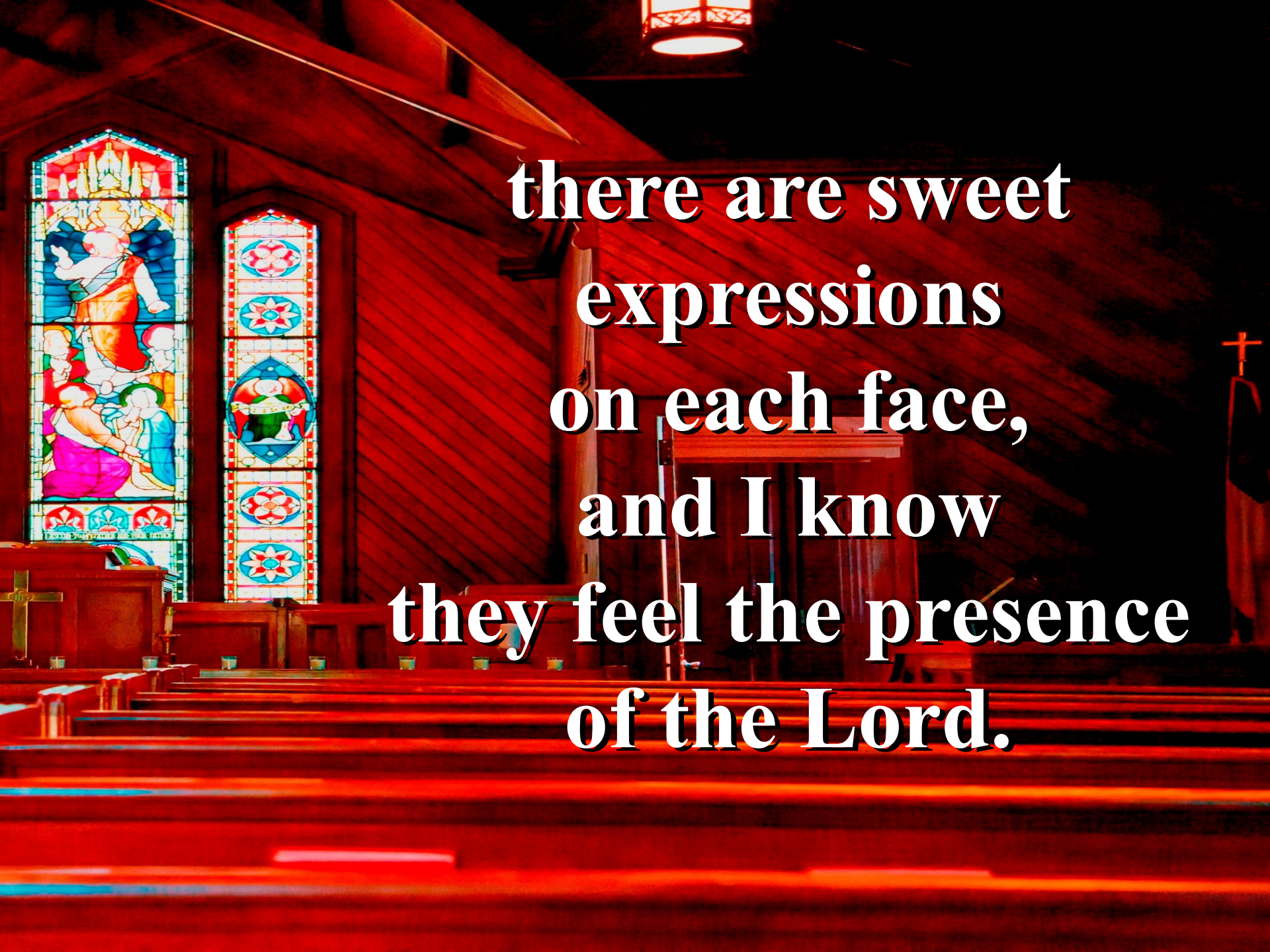
**“SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT”  
UMH 334**

# Sweet, Sweet Spirit

334

WORDS: Doris Akers, 1962

There's a sweet,  
sweet Spirit  
in this place,  
and I know that it's  
the Spirit of the Lord



**there are sweet  
expressions  
on each face,  
and I know  
they feel the presence  
of the Lord.**

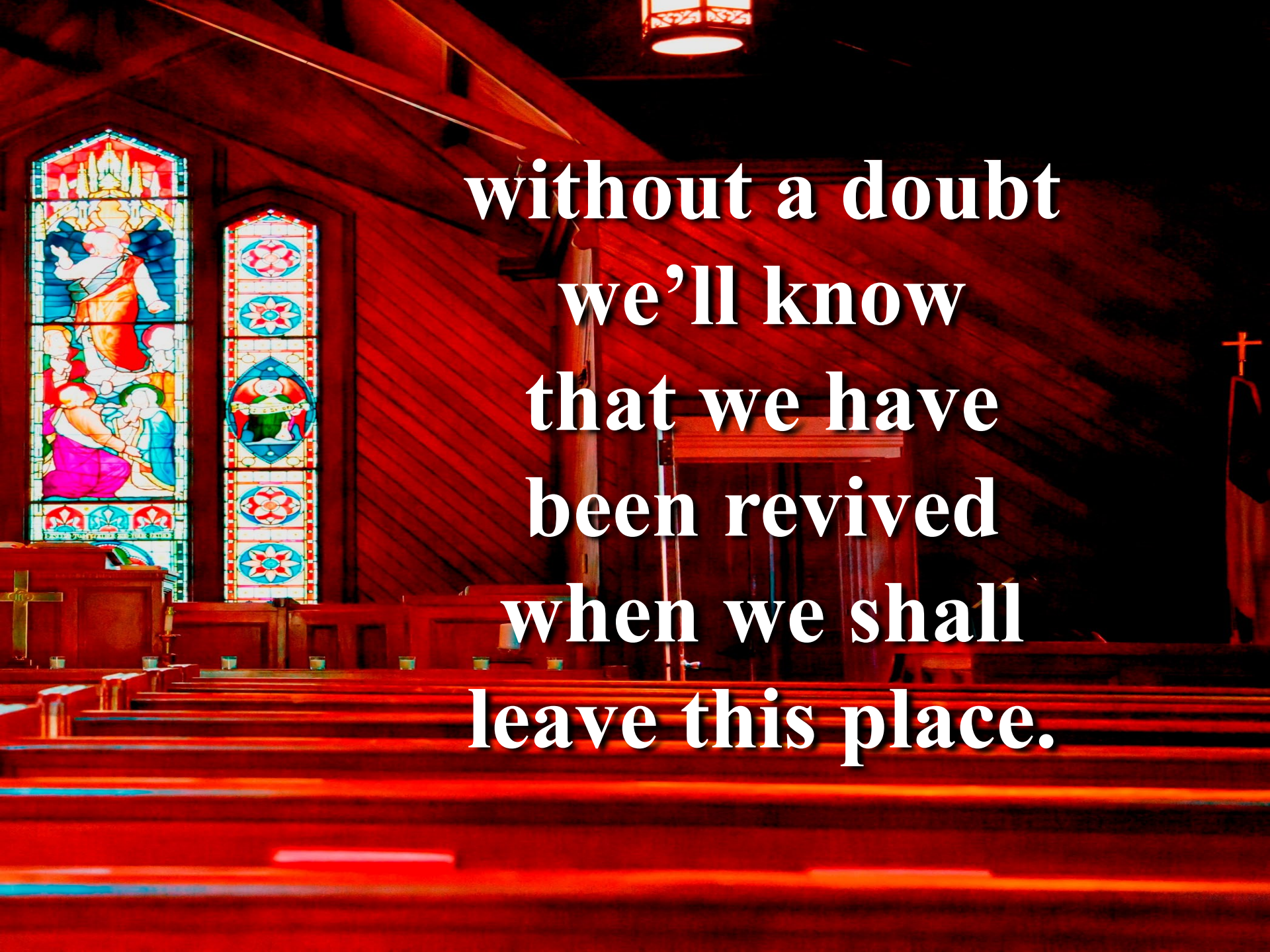


*Refrain*

**Sweet Holy Spirit,  
sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us,  
filling us with your love;**



**and for these blessings  
we lift our hearts  
in praise;**



**without a doubt  
we'll know  
that we have  
been revived  
when we shall  
leave this place.**



UNITY IN THE  
**Body of Christ**

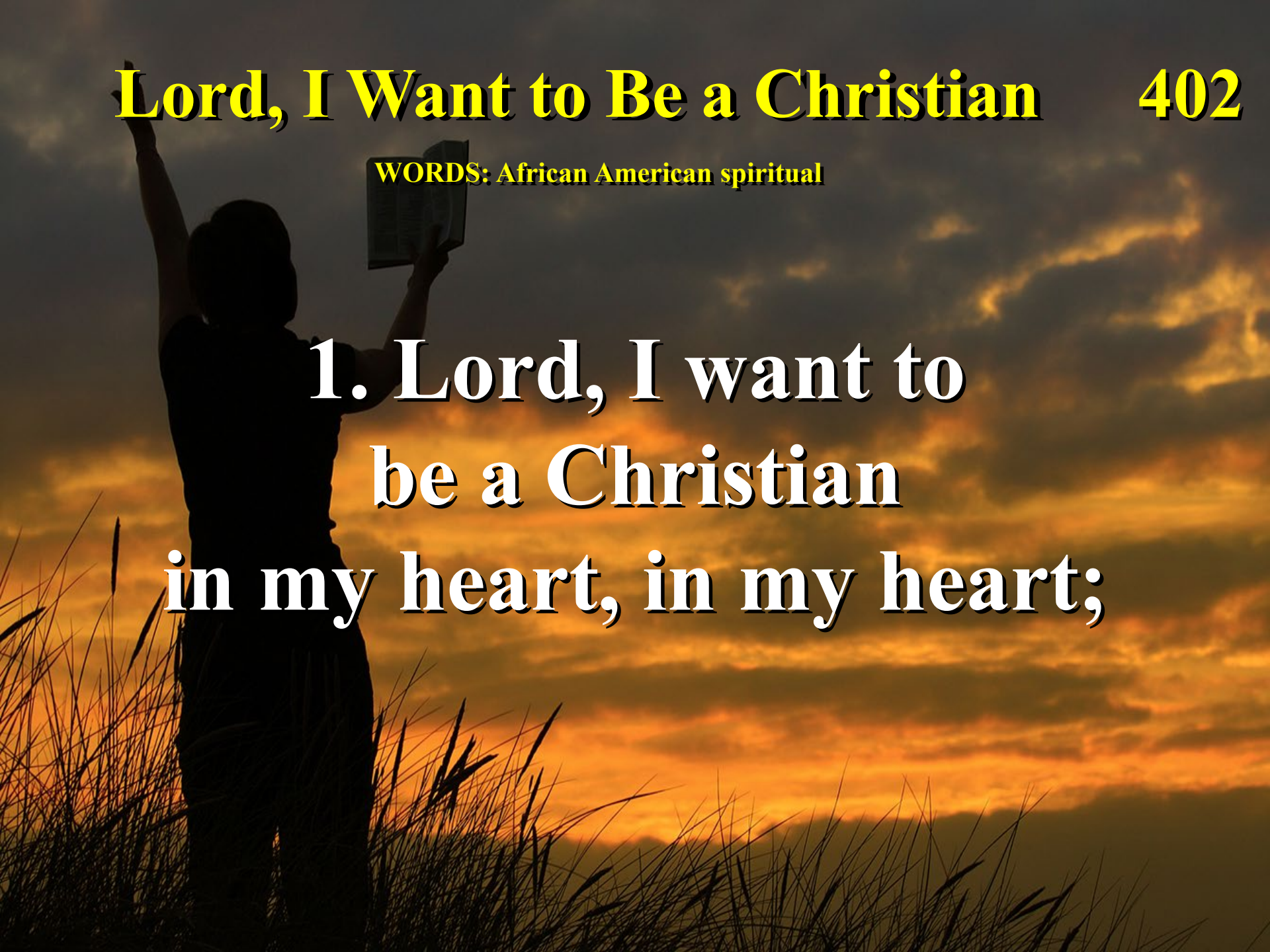
EPHESIANS 4

**“LORD, I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN”**


# Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

402


**WORDS:** African American spiritual

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high in the air with their right hand. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image.

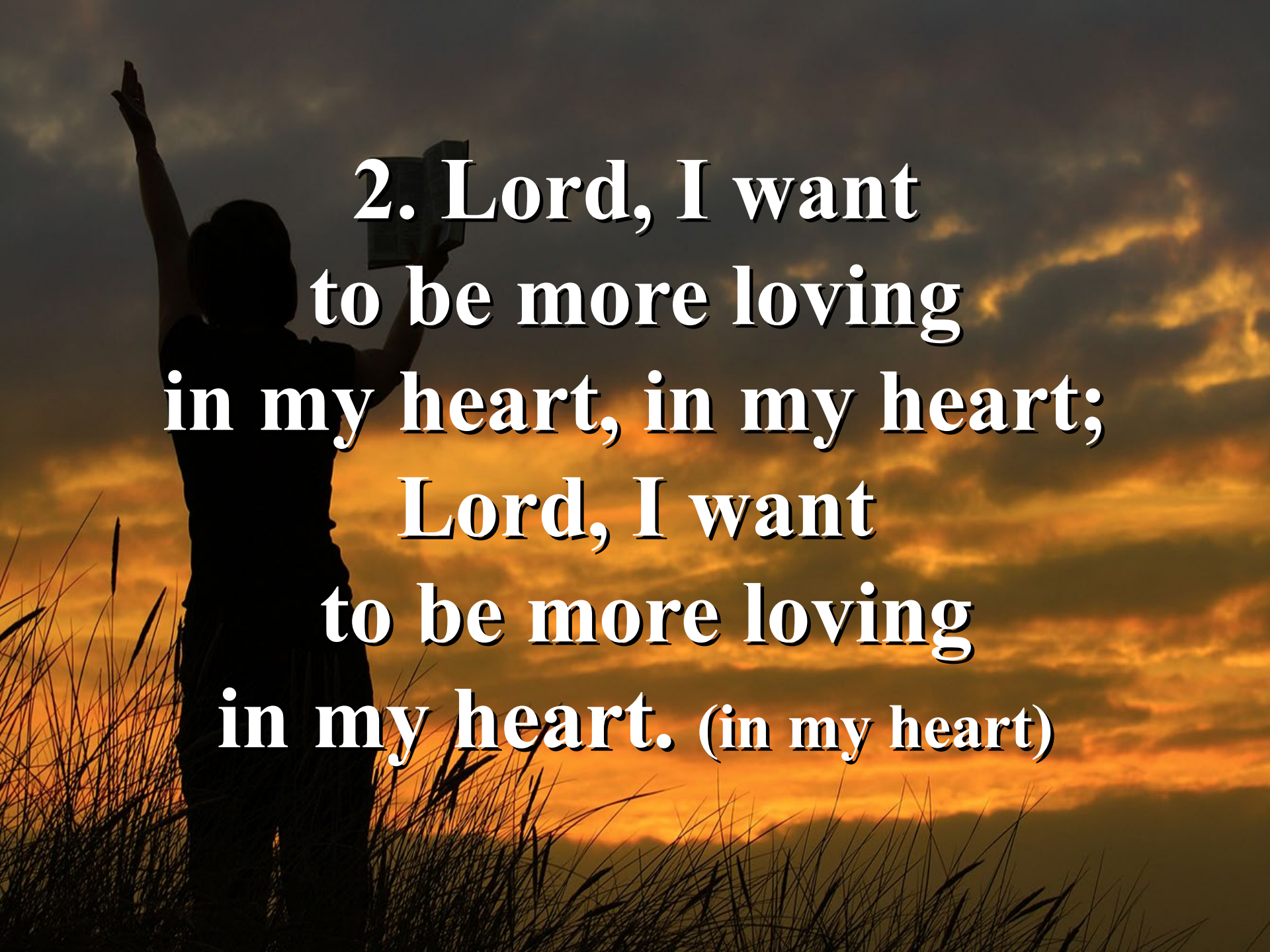
**1. Lord, I want to  
be a Christian  
in my heart, in my heart;**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding an open book and raising their right arm towards a dramatic, orange and yellow sunset sky. The person is positioned on the left side of the frame, facing right. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

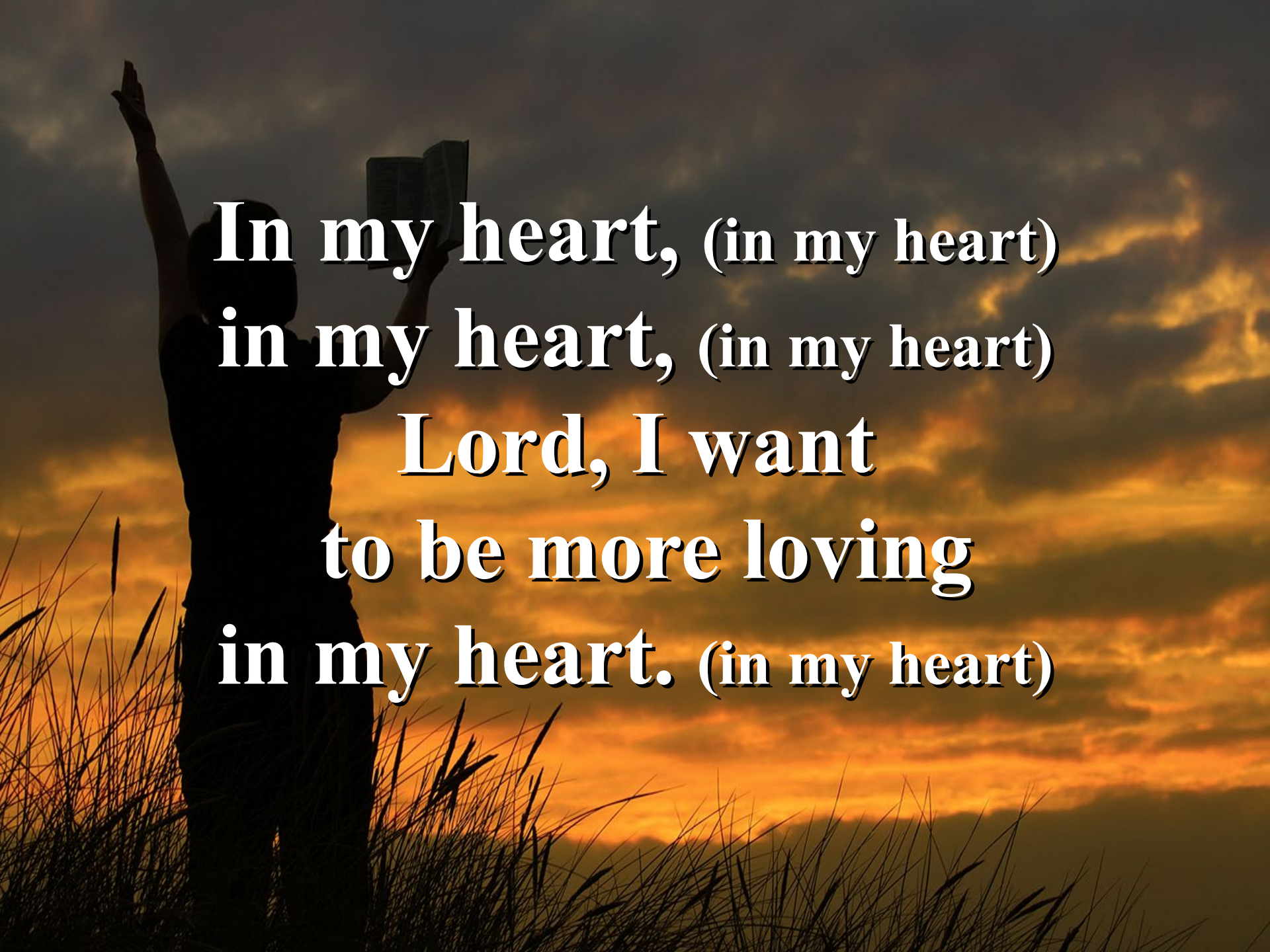
**Lord, I want to  
be a Christian  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high in the air with both hands. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.

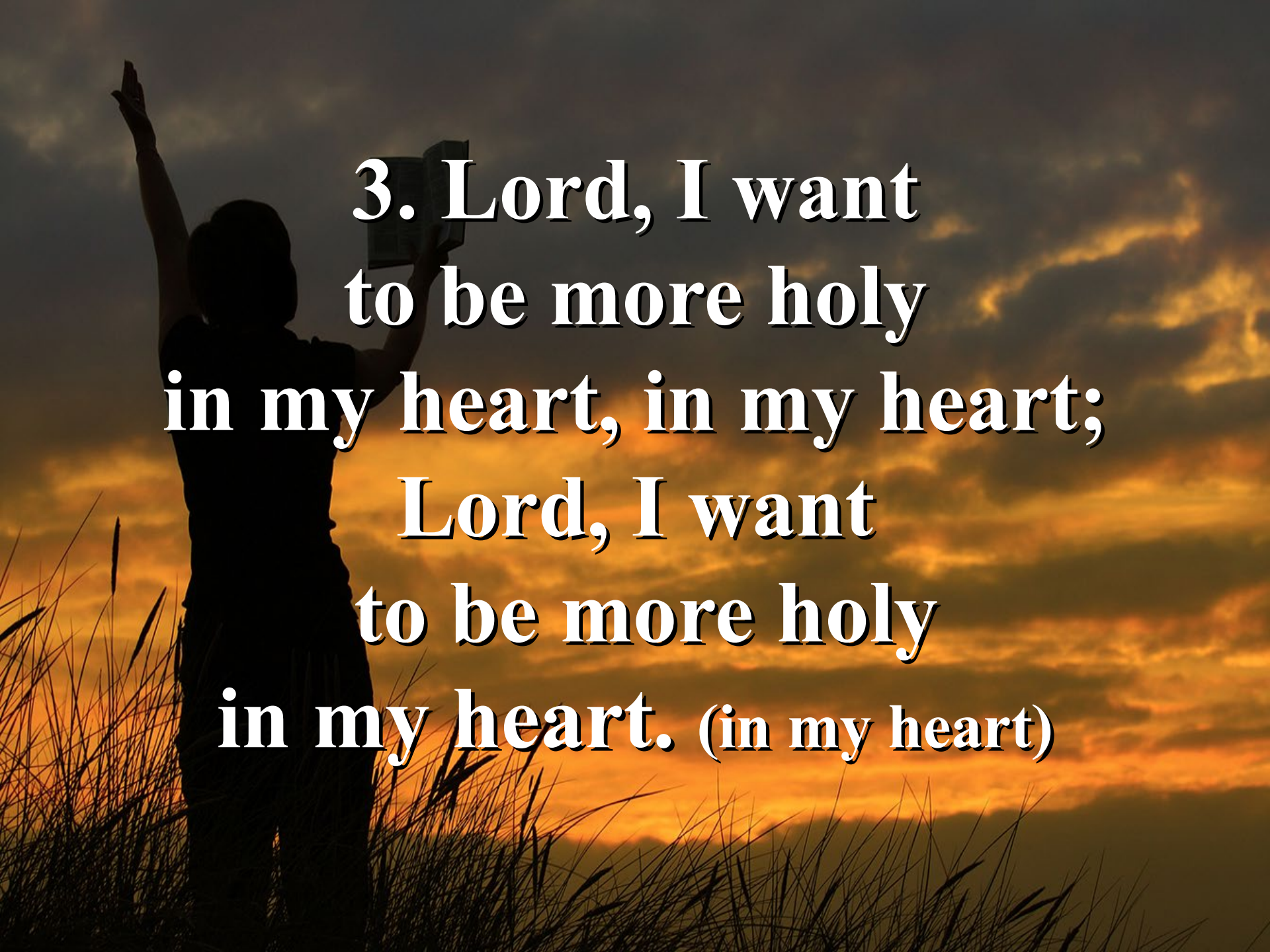
**In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be a Christian  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high in the air with their right hand. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.

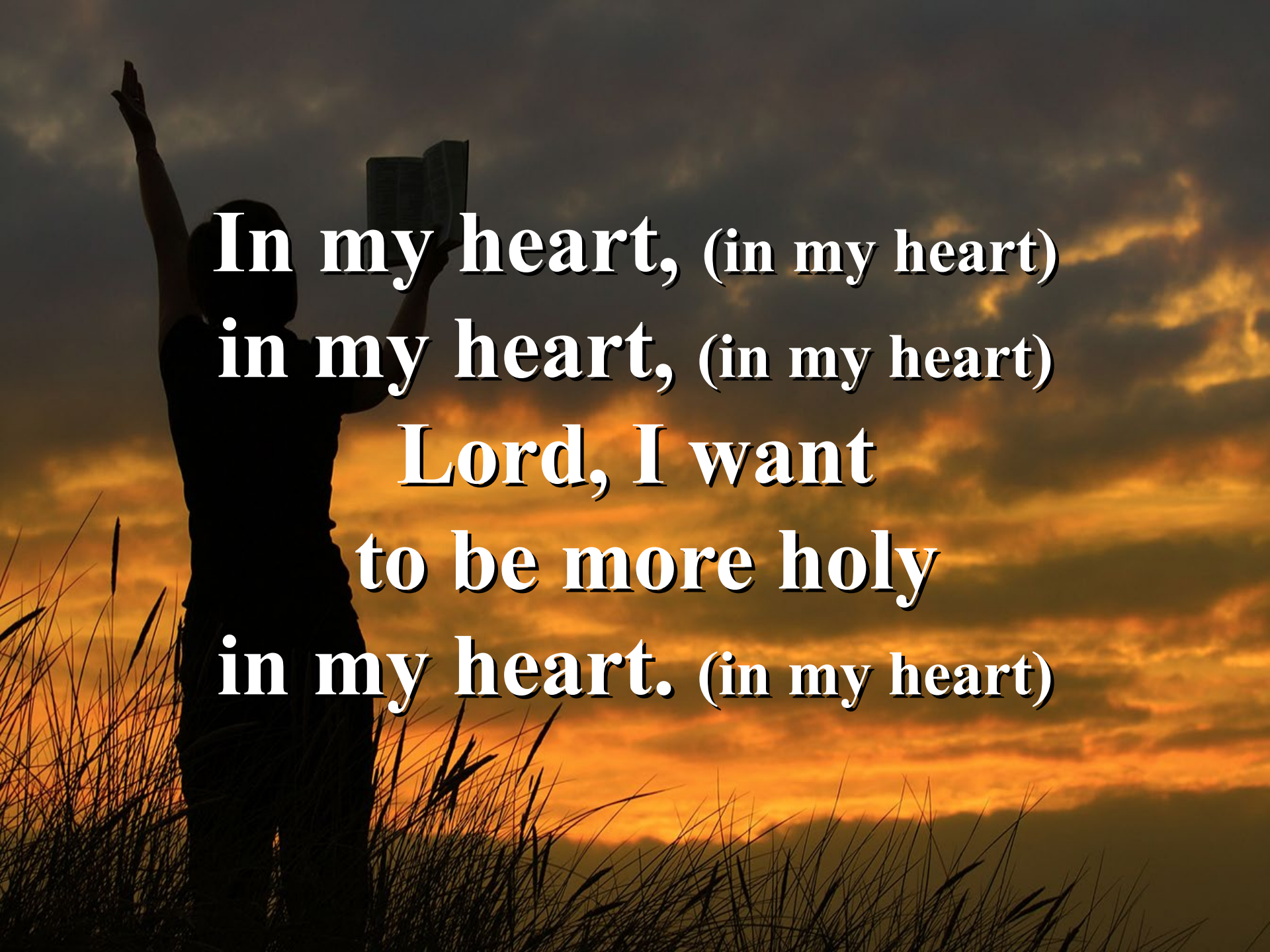
**2. Lord, I want  
to be more loving  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want  
to be more loving  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high in their right hand against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.


**In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be more loving  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, with their arms raised in prayer. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.


**3. Lord, I want  
to be more holy  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want  
to be more holy  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high in their right hand against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.

**In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be more holy  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high in their right hand against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The person is facing away from the camera, looking towards the horizon.

**4. Lord, I want  
to be like Jesus  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want  
to be like Jesus  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

A silhouette of a person standing in a field of tall grass, holding a book high above their head with both hands. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, bold, serif font.

**In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be like Jesus  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

# PRELUDE





UNITY IN THE  
**Body of Christ**

EPHESIANS 4

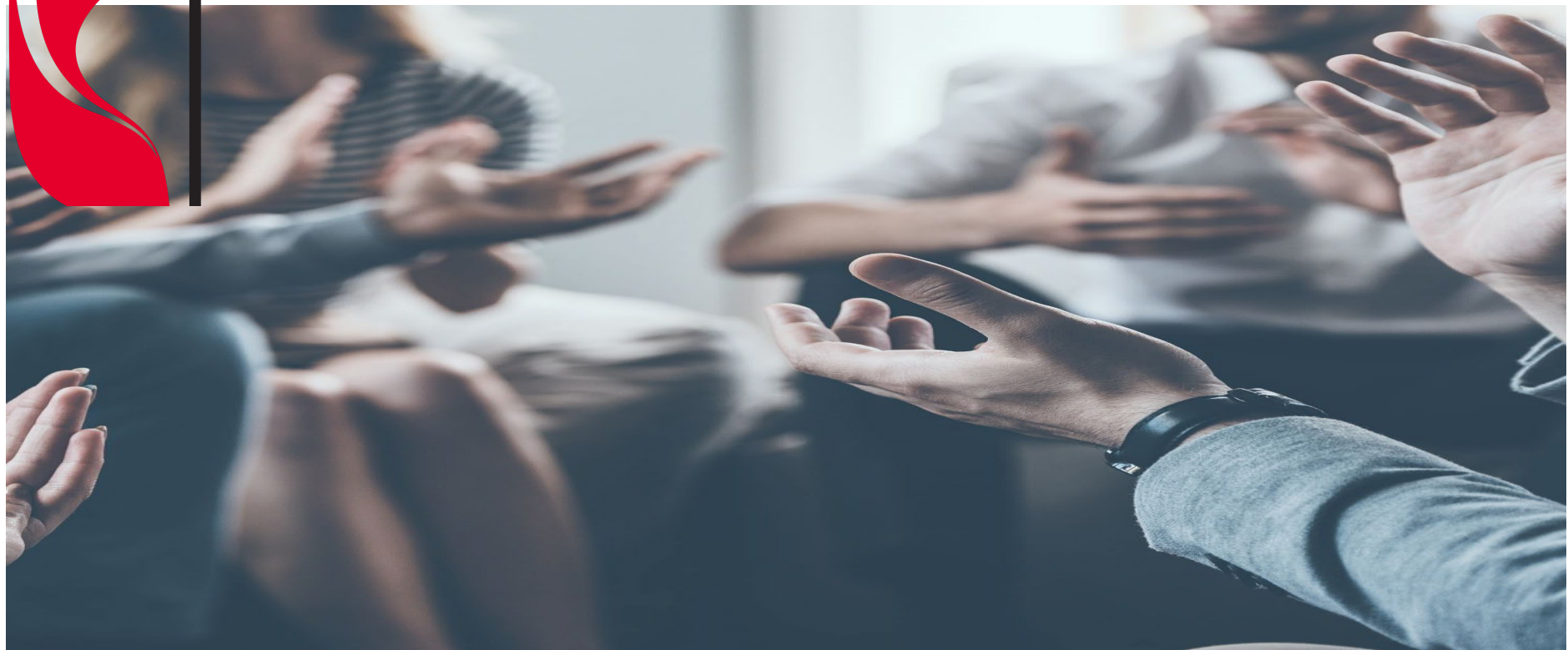
**WELCOME  
&  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**



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**Birthday/Anniversary**

# CALL TO WORSHIP





**Leader:** Even if we feel abandoned and alone.

**People:** Christ meets us here.

**Leader:** Even when we become lost and disoriented.

**People:** Christ rescues us in our need.

**Leader:** Even when our hearts are touched by the frost.



**People: Christ warms our spirits.**

**Leader: Even when all light has faded to black.**

**People: Christ illumines our Way.**

**All: Here in this house of worship, enter, rejoice, and come home.**



# OPENING SONG

“NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD”

# Nothing but the Blood

362

WORDS: Robert Lowry, 1876

1. What can wash  
away my sin?  
Nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.



**What can make me  
whole again?  
Nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



*Refrain*

O precious is the flow  
that makes me  
bright as snow;



**no other fount  
I know;  
nothing but  
the blood of Jesus.**



**2. For my pardon  
this I see:  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



**For my cleansing  
this my plea:  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



*Refrain*

O precious is the flow  
that makes me  
bright as snow;



**no other fount  
I know;  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



**3. Nothing can  
for sin atone:  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



**Naught of good  
that I have done:  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



*Refrain*

O precious is the flow  
that makes me  
bright as snow;



**no other fount  
I know;  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



**4. This is all my  
hope and peace:  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



**This is all  
my righteousness:  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**



*Refrain*

O precious is the flow  
that makes me  
bright as snow;



**no other fount  
I know;  
nothing but the  
blood of Jesus.**

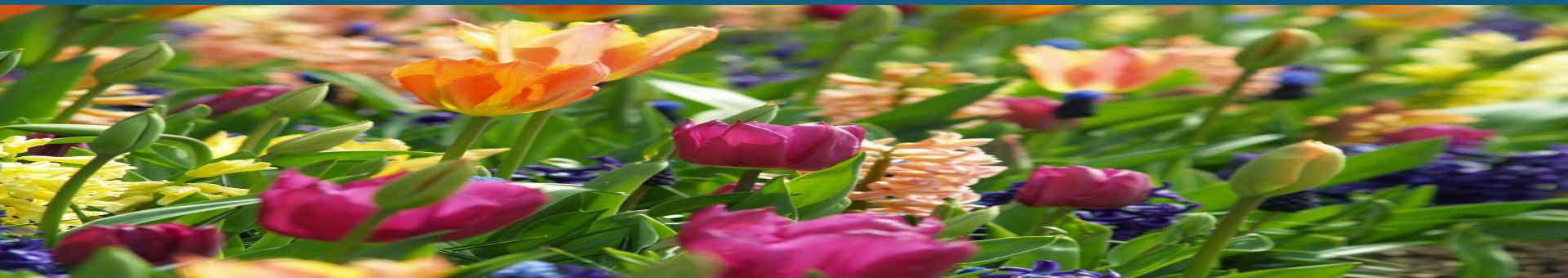




# OPENING PRAYER

**Lover of our souls, you meet us on the road of life and lift us from our pain and grief. Heal our hardness of heart and open our minds to the subtleness of your ways and the grandeur of your kingdom. During times of suffering and**

doubt, help us grow strong and true, through your enduring word. Reveal your presence to us, as we show hospitality to strangers and break bread in your name. Amen.





# “VICTORY IN JESUS”

# Victory in Jesus

370

WORDS: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

1. I heard an old,  
old story,  
how a Savior came  
from glory,



© 1939 Eugene M. Bartlett, renewed 1967 Mrs. Eugene M. Bartlett,  
by permission of Albert E. Brumley & Sons, Inc.

**how he gave his life  
on Calvary  
to save a wretch  
like me;**



**I heard about his  
groaning,  
of his precious  
blood's atoning,**



**then I repented  
of my sins  
and won the victory.**



*Refrain*

O victory in Jesus,  
my Savior forever!



**He sought me  
and bought me  
with his redeeming  
blood;**



he loved me ere I  
knew him,  
and all my love is  
due him;



**he plunged me to  
victory  
beneath the  
cleansing flood.**



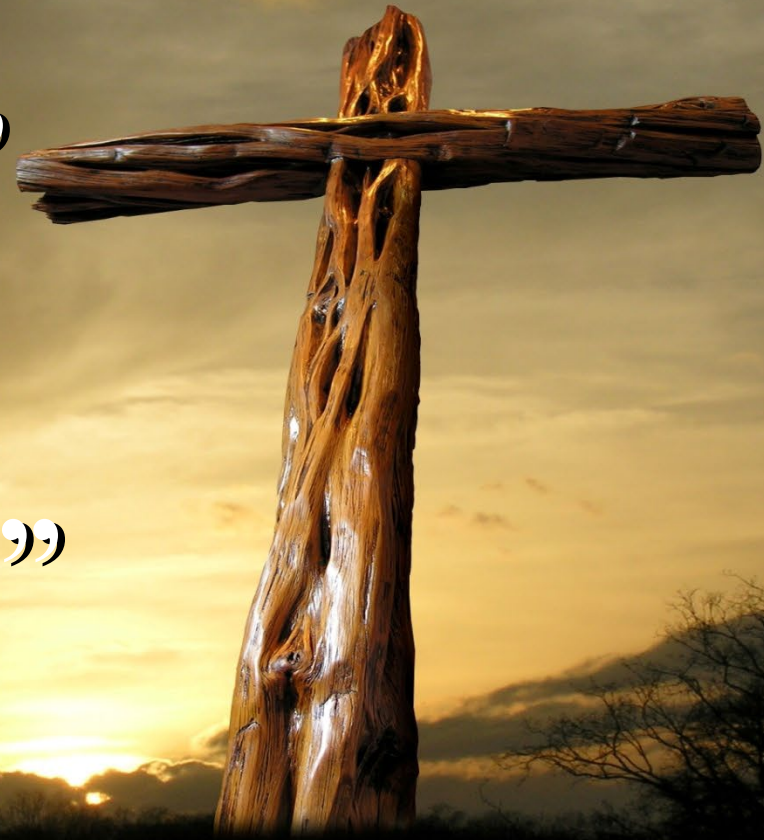
**2. I heard about  
his healing,  
of his cleansing  
power revealing,**



**how he made the lame  
to walk again  
and caused the  
blind to see;**



**and then I cried,  
“Dear Jesus,  
come and heal  
my broken spirit,”**



**and somehow Jesus  
came and brought  
to me the victory.**



*Refrain*

O victory in Jesus,  
my Savior forever!



**He sought me  
and bought me  
with his redeeming  
blood;**



he loved me ere  
I knew him,  
and all my love is  
due him;



he plunged me  
to victory  
beneath the  
cleansing flood.



**3. I heard about  
a mansion  
he has built for me  
in glory,**



**and I heard about  
the streets of gold  
beyond the  
crystal sea;**



**about the angels  
singing  
and the old  
redemption story,**



and some sweet day  
I'll sing up there  
the song of victory.



*Refrain*

O victory in Jesus,  
my Savior forever!



**He sought me  
and bought me  
with his redeeming  
blood;**



**he loved me ere  
I knew him,  
and all my love is  
due him;**



**he plunged me to  
victory  
beneath the  
cleansing flood.**





# OFFERING:

Praising God with Our Gifts  
Open Doors with Loving Hearts





# “DOXOLOGY”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**



# “CHILDREN’S MESSAGE”



# **“PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION”**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**



H E I S  
R I S E N  
C E L E B R A T E T H E S A V I O R



SCRIPTURE

1 PETER 1:17-23

17 Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear.

18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, 19 but with the precious



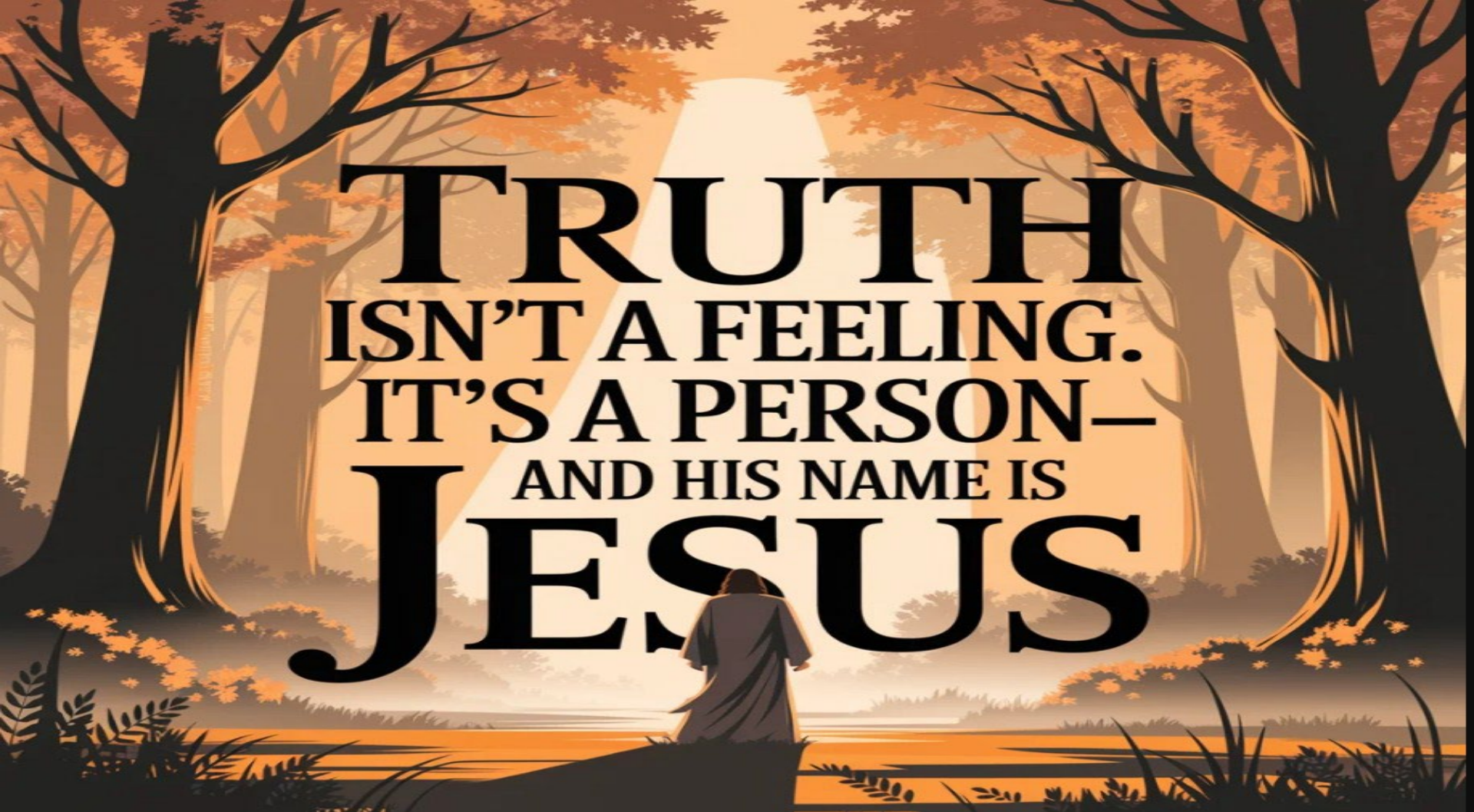
lamb without blemish or defect.

20 He was chosen before the creation of the world but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. 22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you



have sincere love for each other,  
love one another deeply, from the  
heart. 23 For you have been born  
again, not of perishable seed, but  
of imperishable, through the living  
and enduring word of God.



A person in a white robe stands with their back to the viewer, looking out over a landscape at sunset. The scene is framed by large, dark trees on either side. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, with a bright light source behind the trees. The text is overlaid on the scene in a large, bold, black serif font.

**TRUTH  
ISN'T A FEELING.  
IT'S A PERSON—  
AND HIS NAME IS  
JESUS**

**SERMON**

**“A Truth You Can Count On!”**



# “PRAYER OF CONFESSION”

**God of Easter hope, when our gaze is cast within, it is easy to miss your presence in our midst. When we fail to recognize you on the road, touch our minds with your wisdom and truth, and set**



# “PRAYER OF CONFESSION”

**our hearts on fire with your holy love. During times of confusion and doubt, open our eyes to your life-giving presence, and rekindle our Easter faith. Amen.**



# “WORDS OF ASSURANCE”

**In the resurrection of Jesus, we find hope and an imperishable seed of faith. Risen with Christ, we are born anew. Amen.**



**PRAYERS**

**OF THE**

**PEOPLE**



# **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in  
heaven, hallowed be thy  
name thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as  
we forgive those who trespass  
against us. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from  
evil, for thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory  
forever. Amen.**



# CLOSING SONG

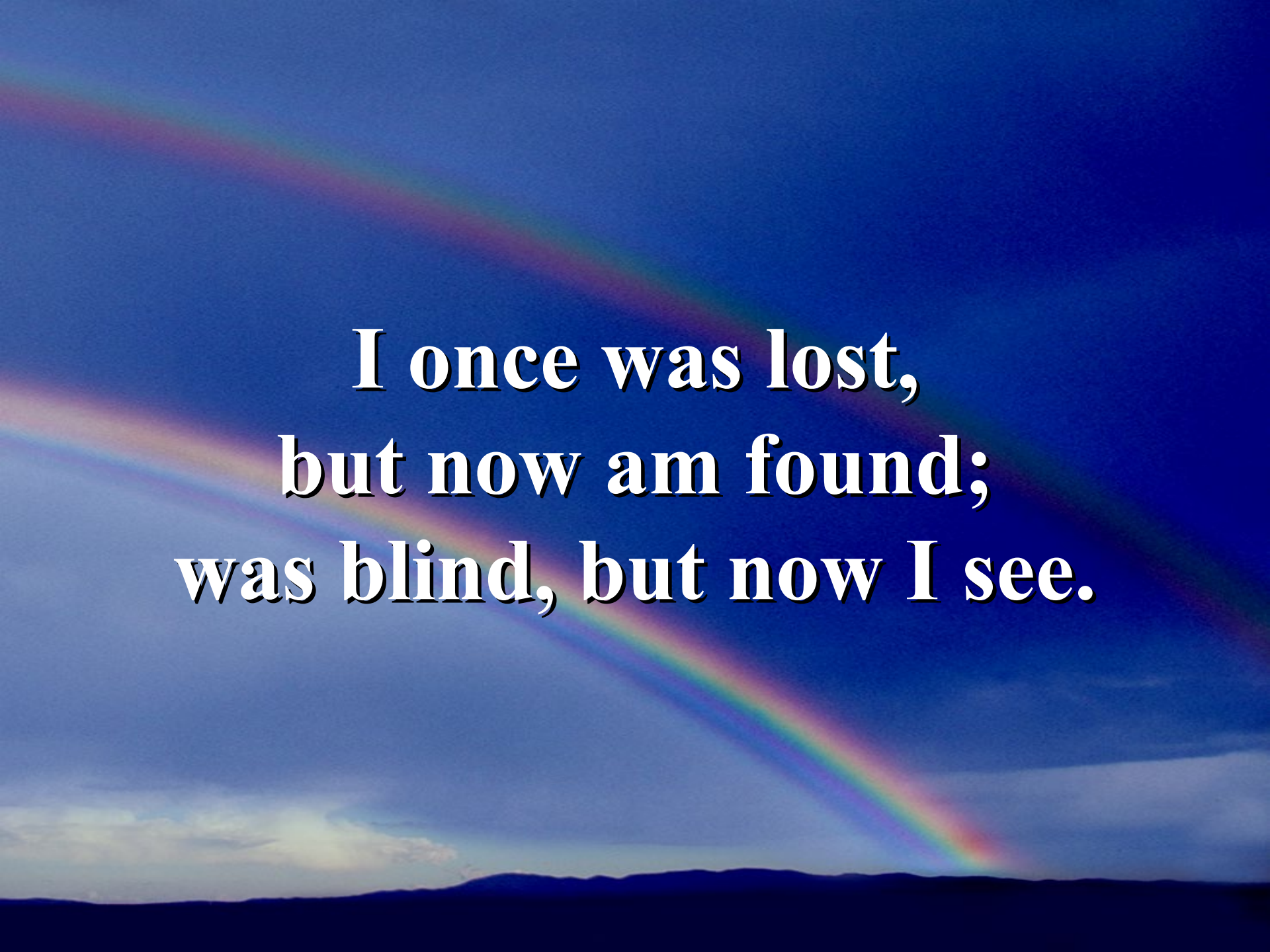
**“AMAZING GRACE”**

# Amazing Grace

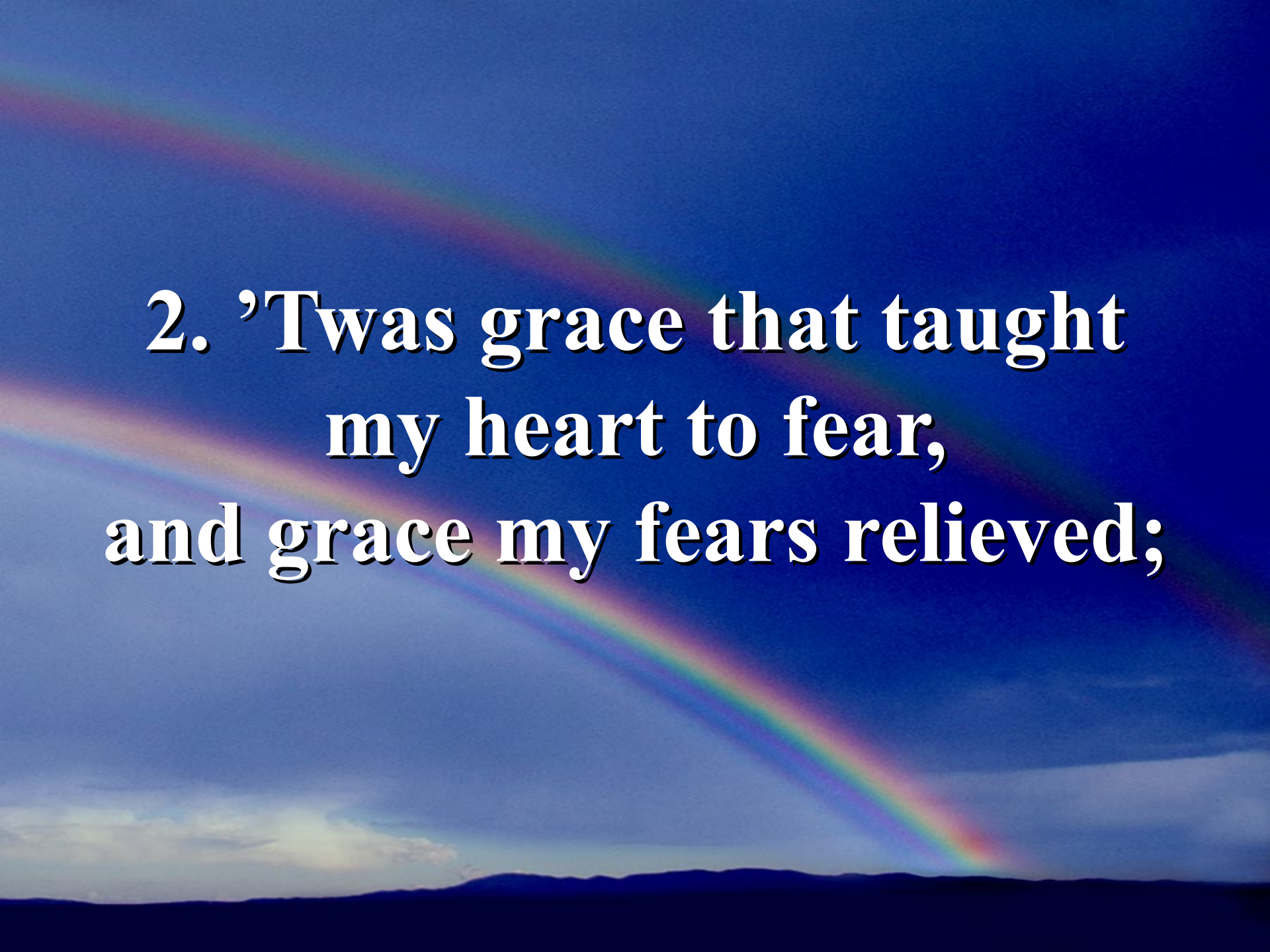
378

WORDS: John Newton, 1779; st. 6 anon. (1 Chr. 17:16-17)

1. Amazing grace!  
How sweet the sound  
that saved a  
wretch like me!

A vibrant rainbow arches across a blue sky, with dark mountains visible in the foreground. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

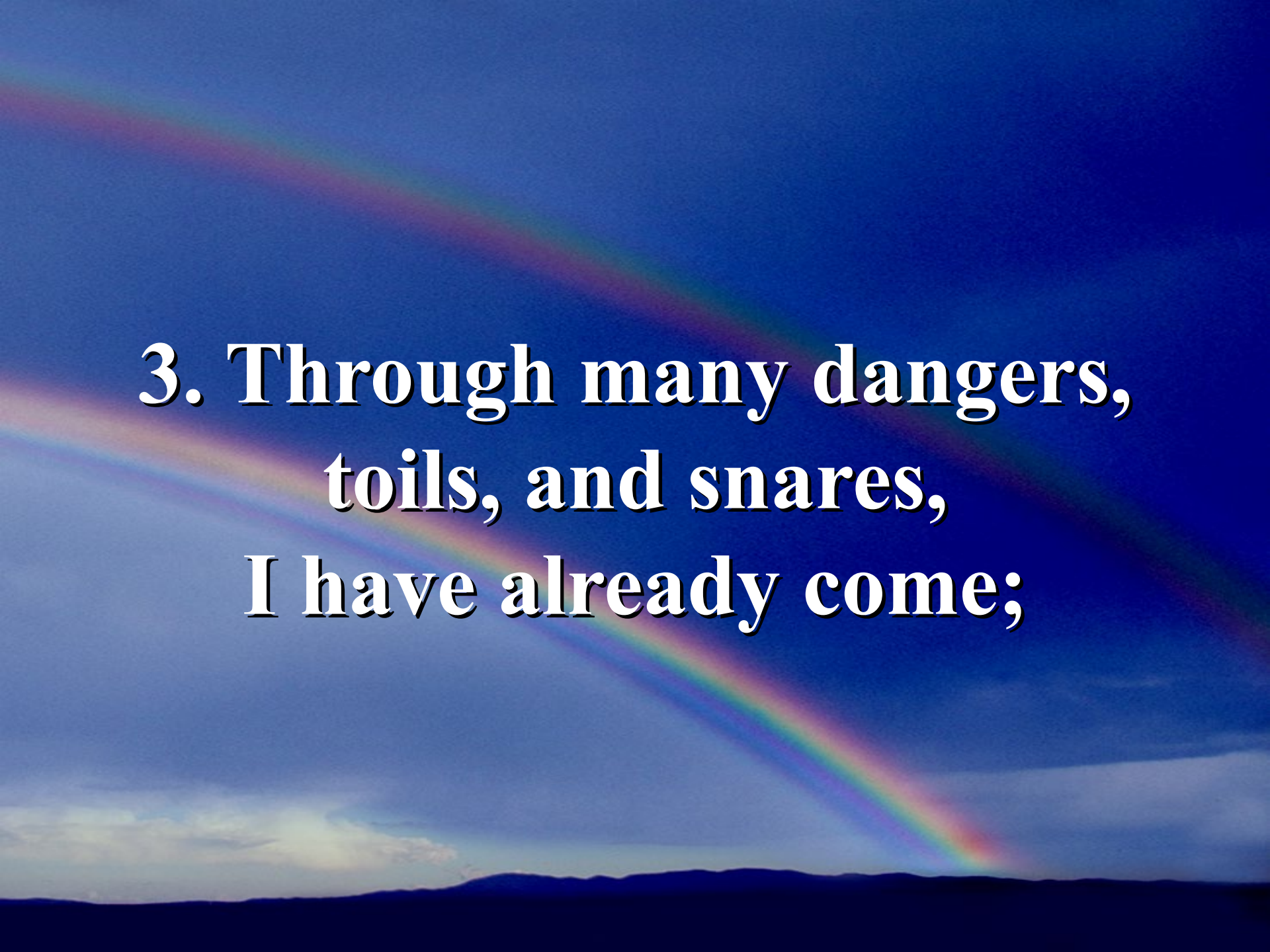
**I once was lost,  
but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right. The rainbow is set against a background of a clear, dark blue sky. At the bottom of the image, a dark, silhouetted horizon line suggests a landscape or mountains. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

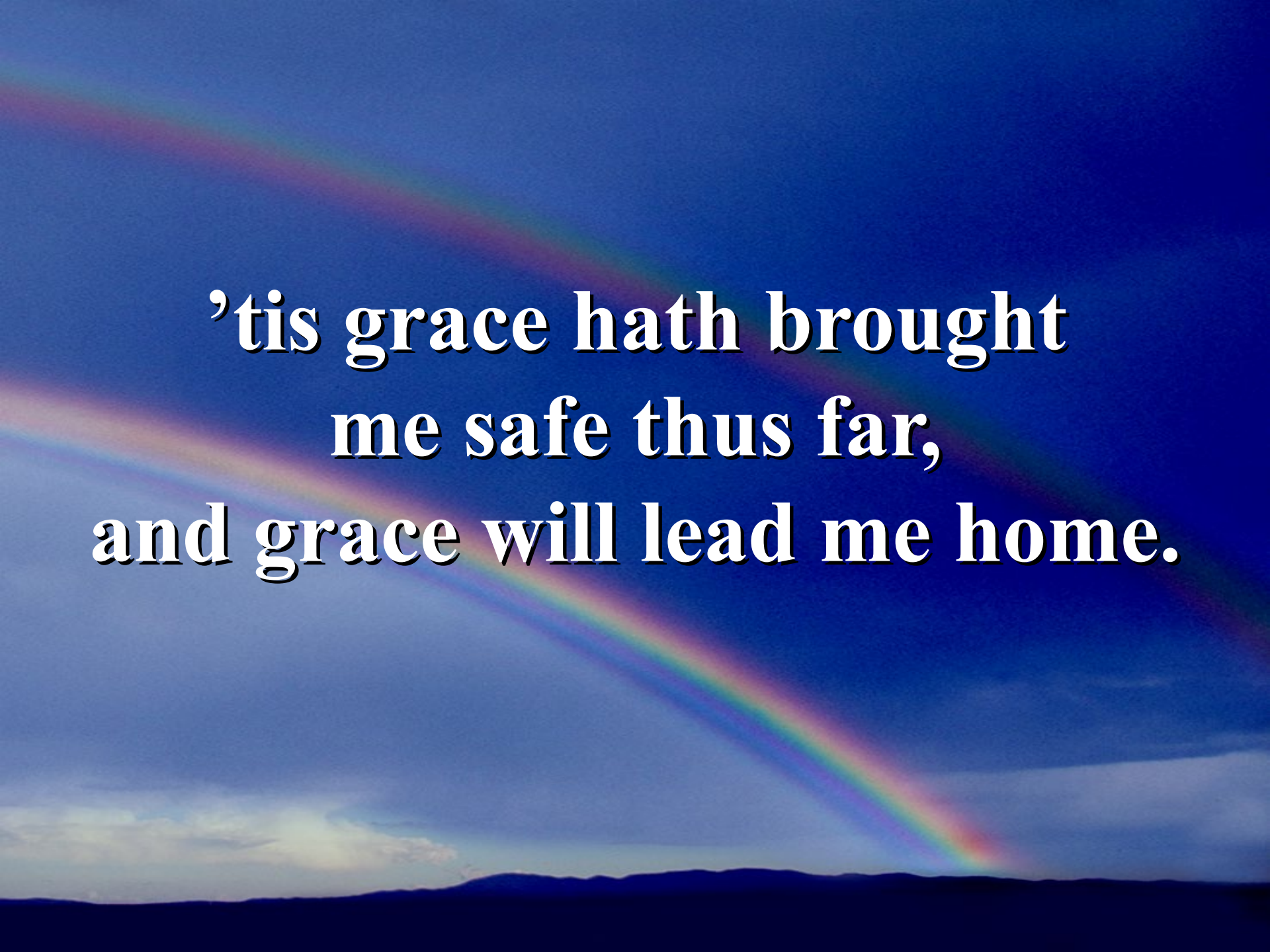
**2. 'Twas grace that taught  
my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red at the top to violet at the bottom. The rainbow is set against a background of a clear, dark blue sky. At the bottom of the image, a dark, silhouetted horizon line suggests a landscape or mountains. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

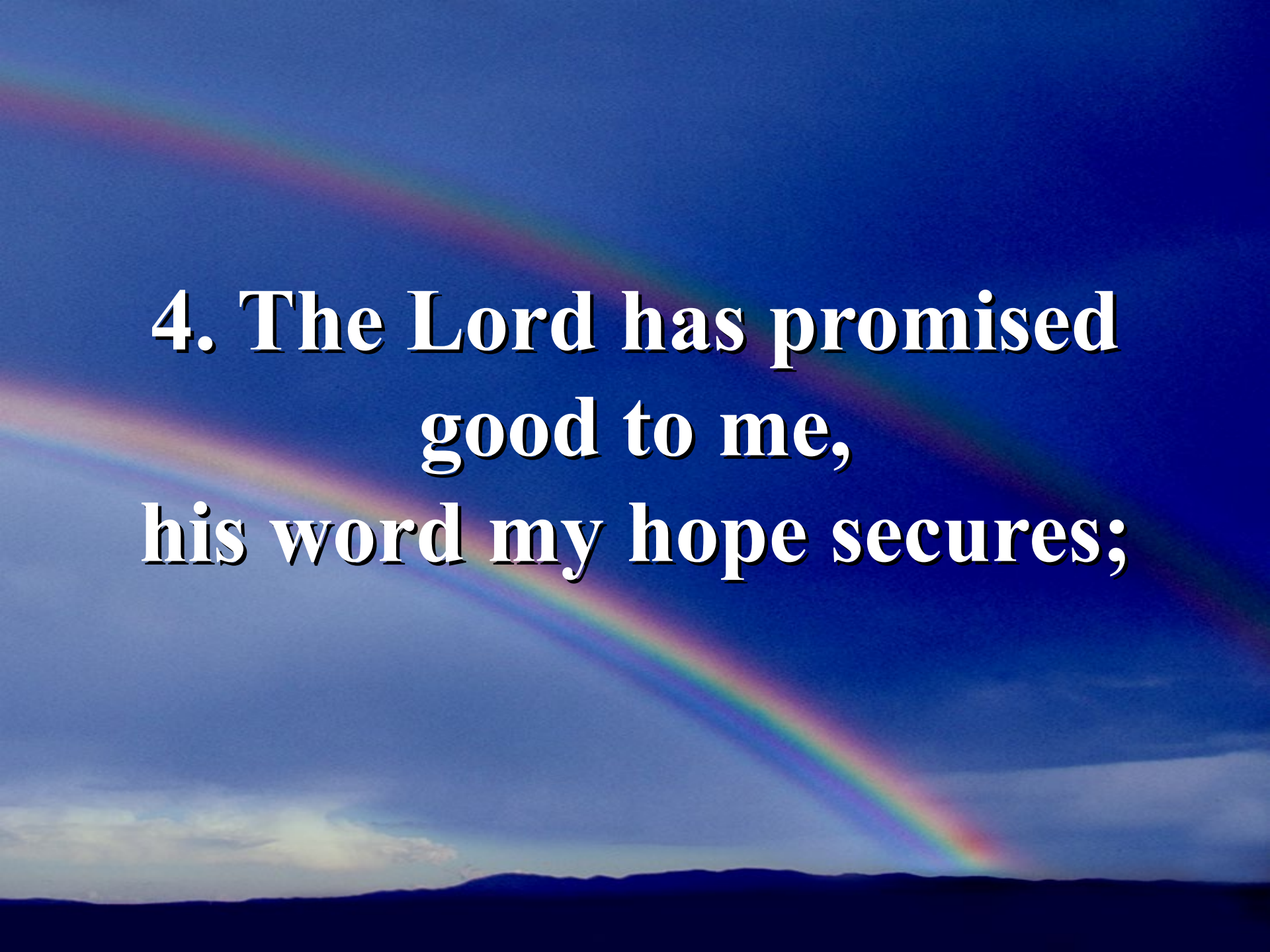
**how precious did  
that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right. The rainbow is set against a backdrop of a clear, dark blue sky. At the bottom of the image, a dark, silhouetted horizon line suggests a landscape or mountains. The overall scene is serene and hopeful.

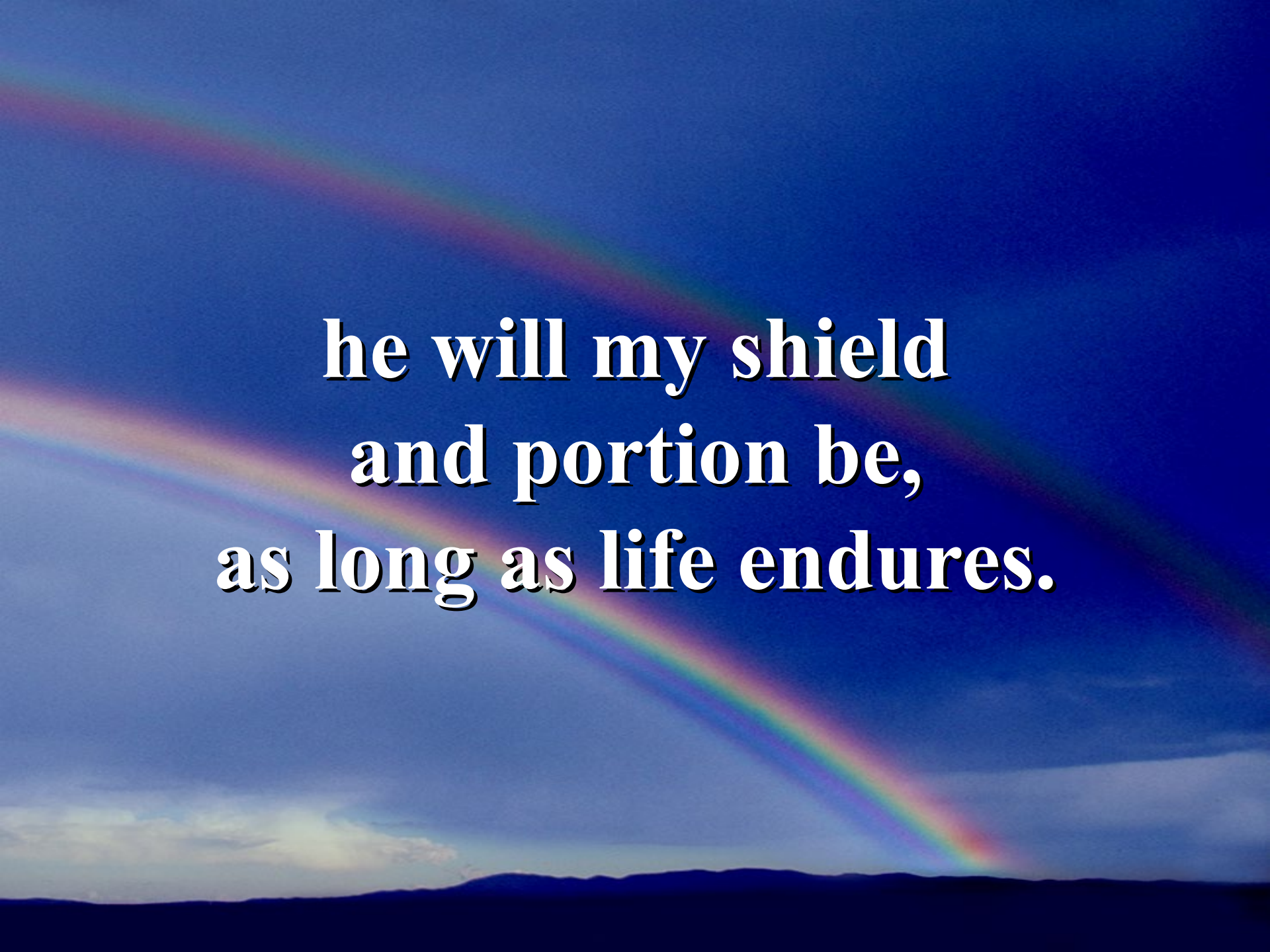
**3. Through many dangers,  
toils, and snares,  
I have already come;**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a blue sky, with dark mountains visible in the foreground. The text is centered over the rainbow.

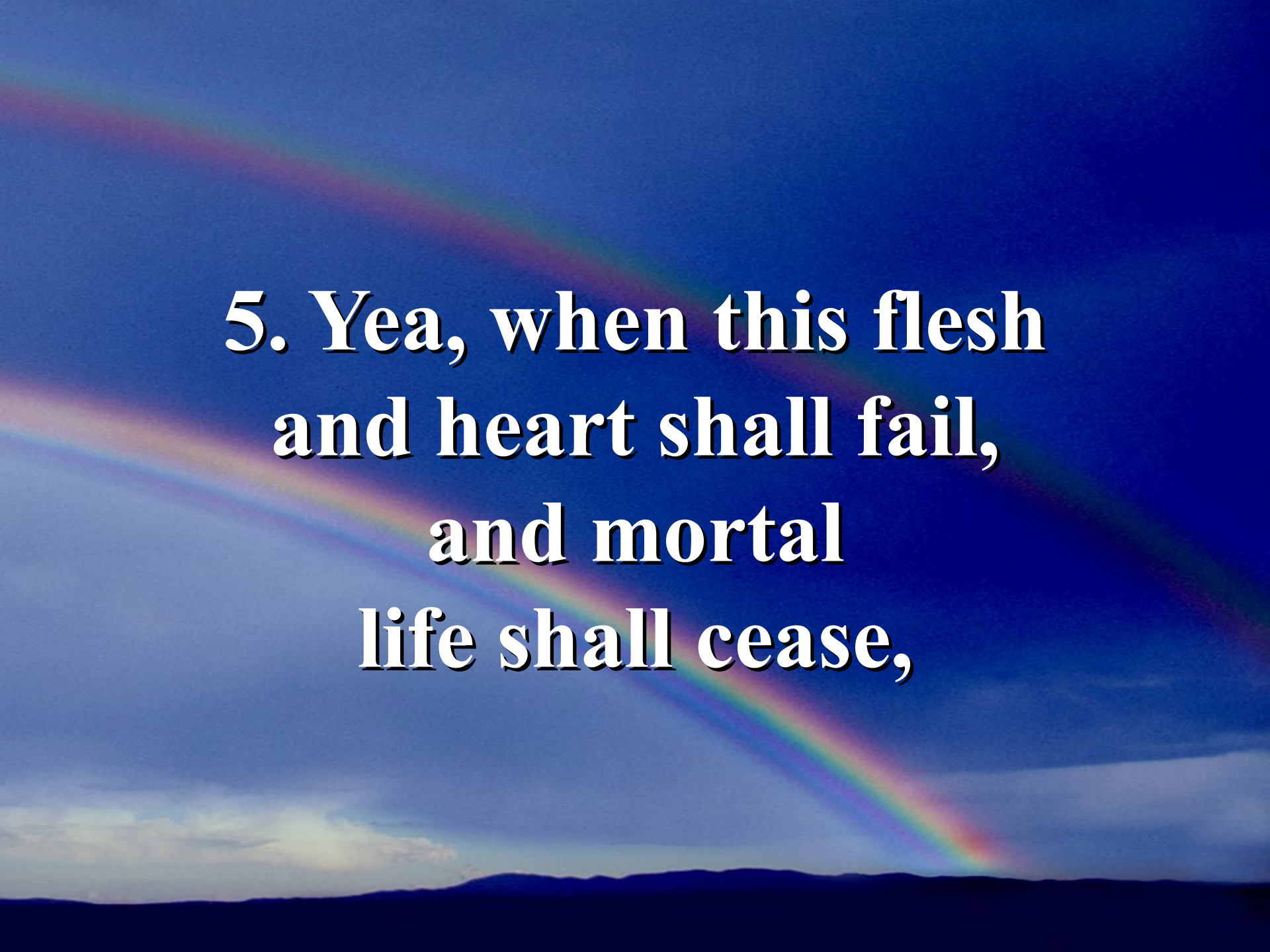
**'tis grace hath brought  
me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors clearly visible. Below the rainbow, a dark silhouette of a mountain range is visible against the horizon. The overall scene is serene and hopeful.

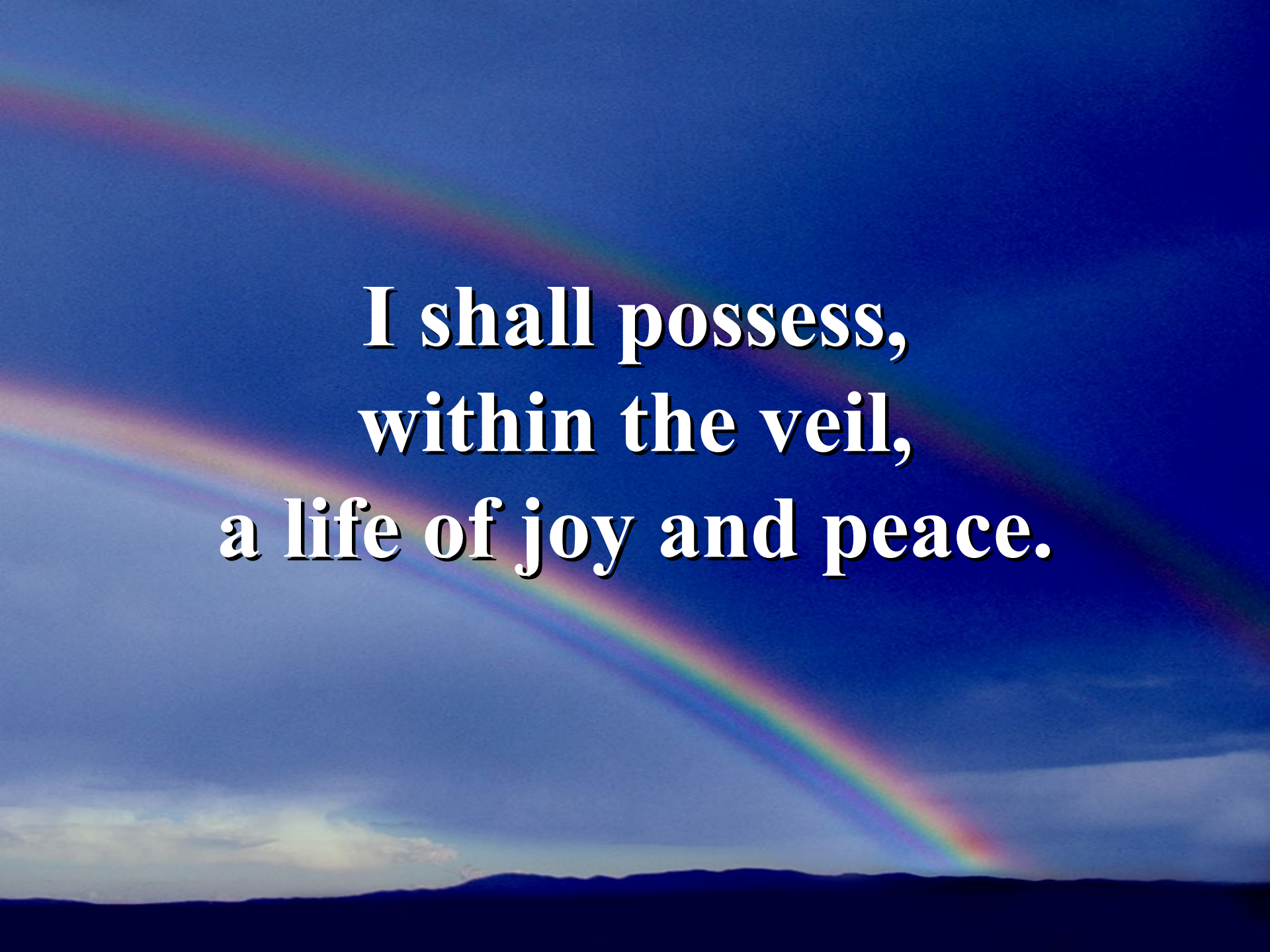
**4. The Lord has promised  
good to me,  
his word my hope secures;**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right. The rainbow is set against a backdrop of a deep blue sky. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted mountains stretch across the horizon. The overall scene is serene and hopeful.

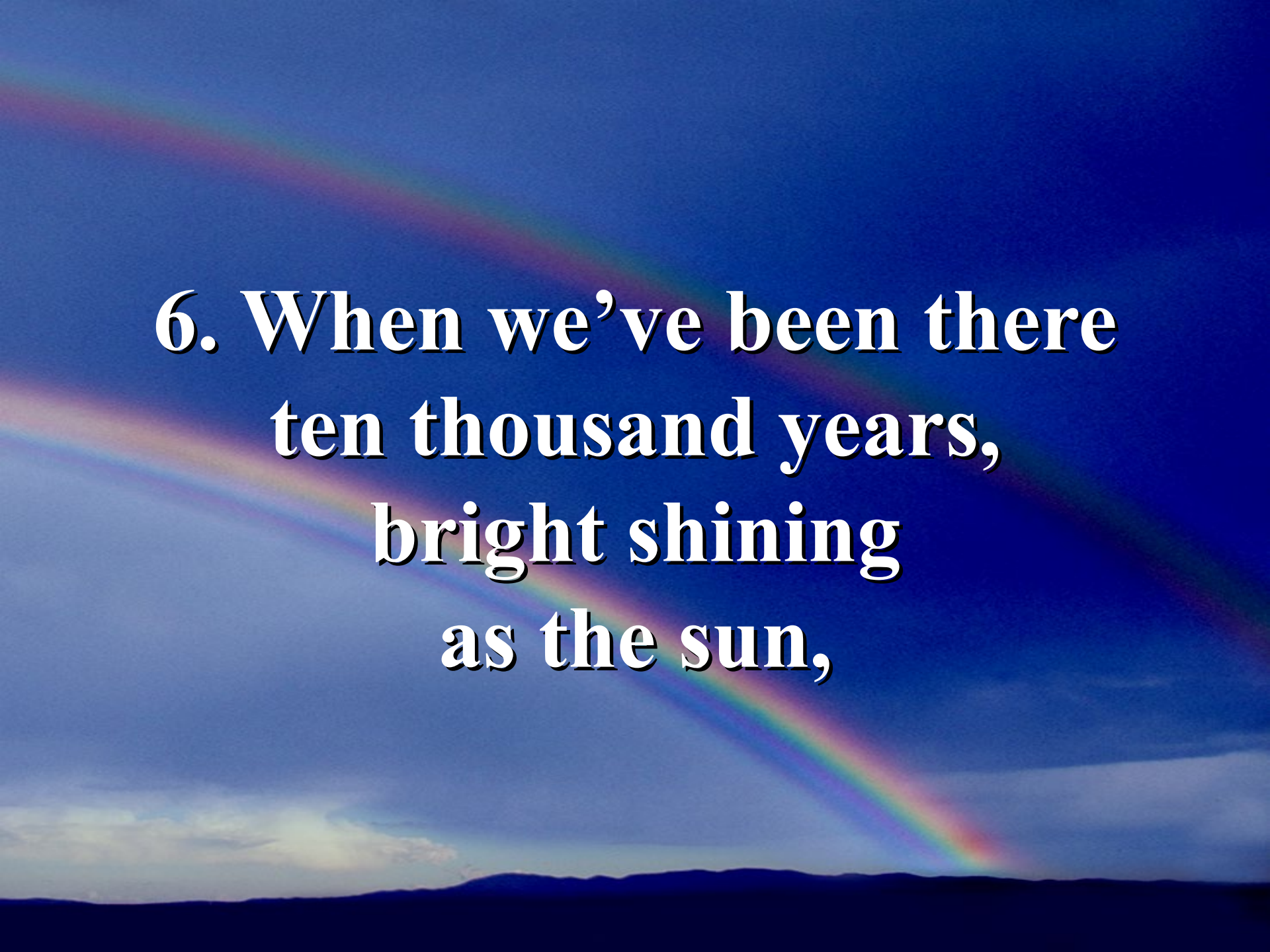
**he will my shield  
and portion be,  
as long as life endures.**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red on the left to violet on the right. The rainbow is set against a background of a clear, dark blue sky. At the bottom of the image, a dark, silhouetted horizon line suggests a landscape or mountains. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.


**5. Yea, when this flesh  
and heart shall fail,  
and mortal  
life shall cease,**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red at the top to violet at the bottom. The rainbow is set against a background of a clear, dark blue sky. At the bottom of the image, a dark, silhouetted horizon line suggests a landscape or mountains. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

**I shall possess,  
within the veil,  
a life of joy and peace.**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a blue sky, with dark mountains visible in the foreground. The text is centered and reads:

**6. When we've been there  
ten thousand years,  
bright shining  
as the sun,**



**we've no less days  
to sing God's praise  
than when  
we'd first begun.**



# BENEDICTION

**Leader:** As you meet strangers on the road, learn to recognize Christ in your mist.

**People:** As our hearts burn within us, we will recognize his whispers to our souls.

**Leader:** As you experience Christ in the smile of another, share the love of God with one another.

**People: As the scales fall from our eyes, we will see Easter miracles all around us.**

**All: Go with God's blessings.**





# 564 Threefold Amen

Walter Henry Hall (1862-1935)

A-men, A-men, A - - - men.

**CARRY OUT THE LIGHT**

