



**WELCOME!**  
**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS**  
**JUNE 21, 2026**

# CENTERING SONG

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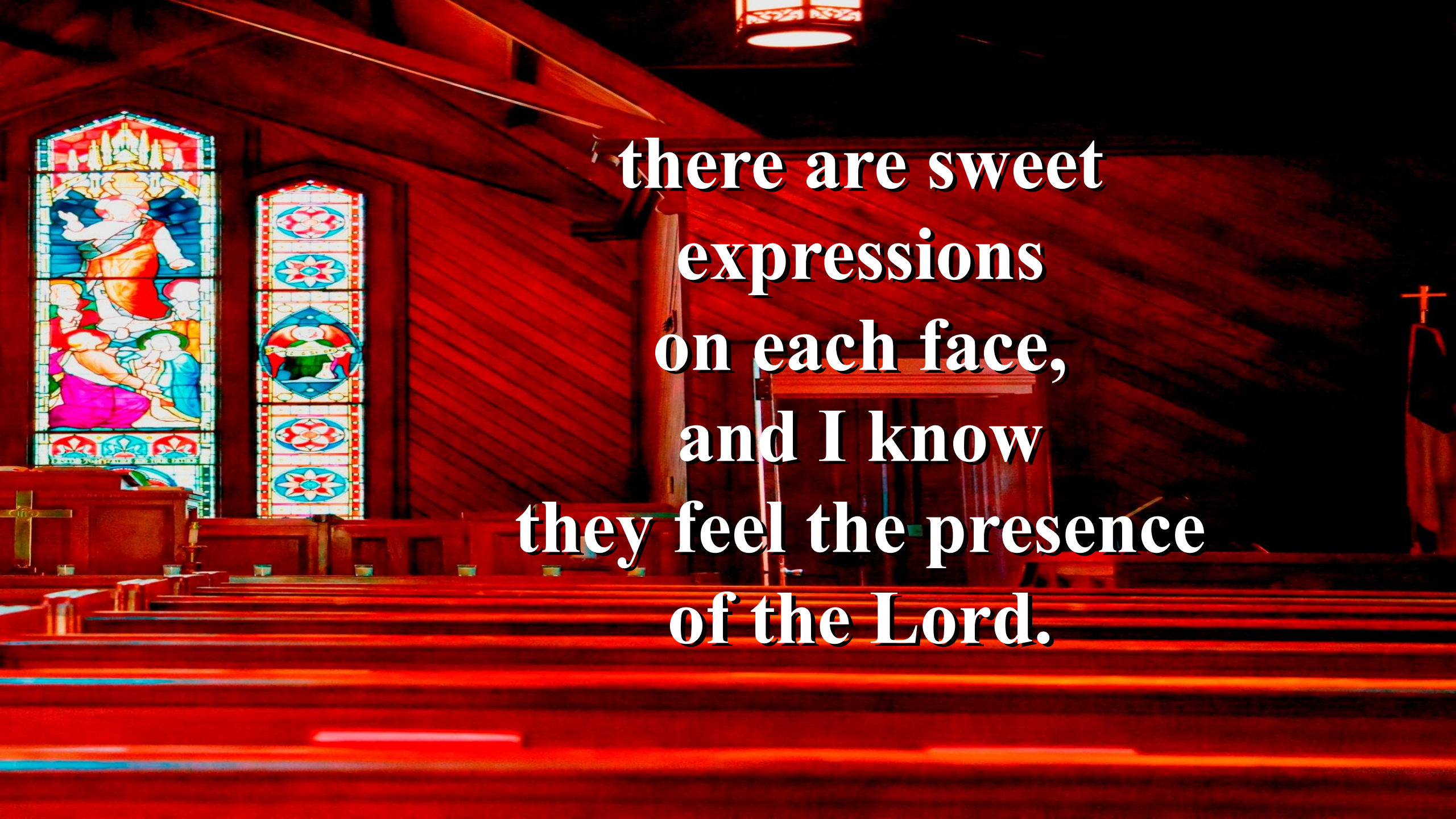
**SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT**  
**UMH 334**

# 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.**

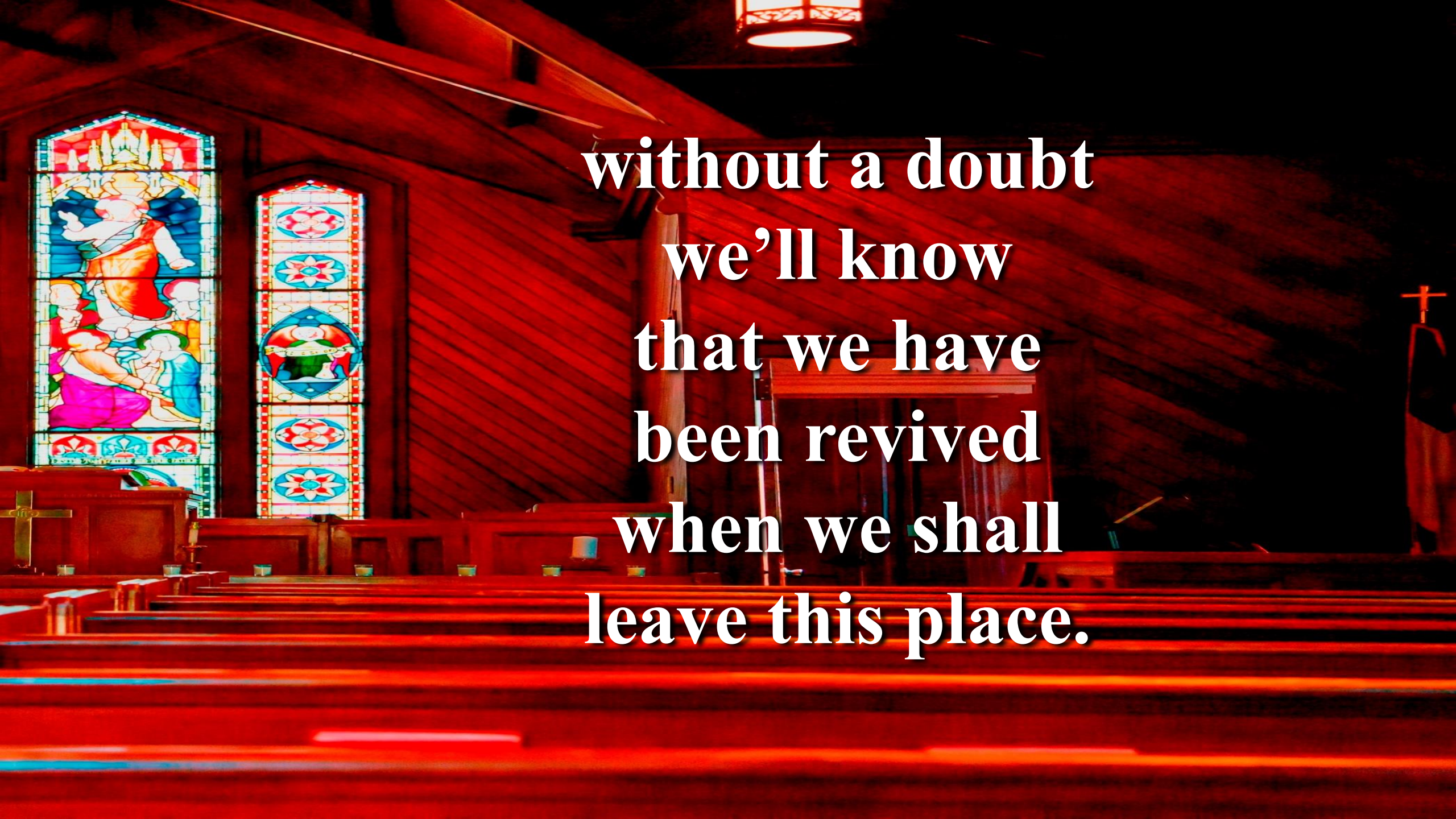


*Refrain*

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.**

# GATHERNING SONG

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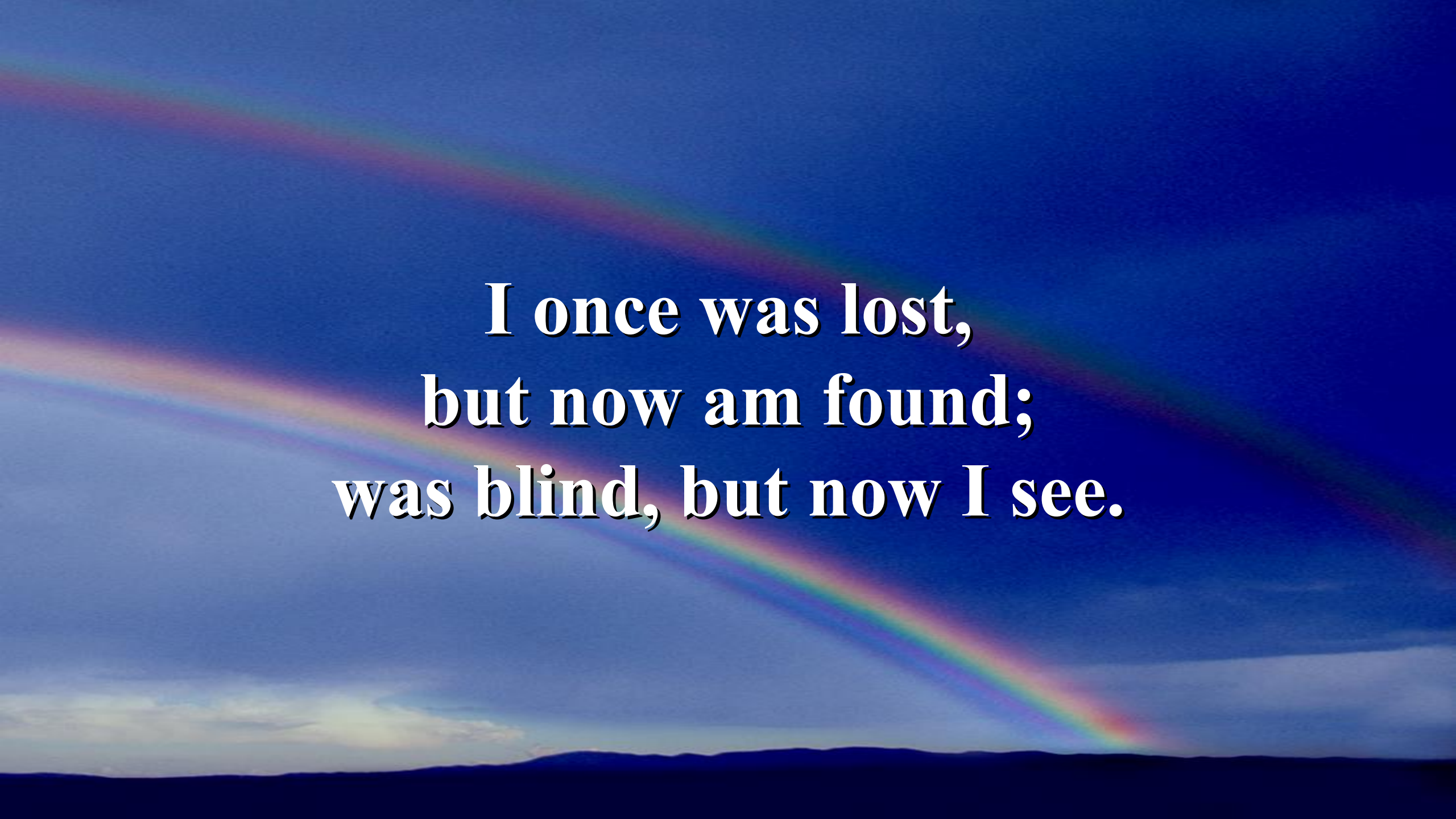
**“Amazing Grace”**

# Amazing Grace

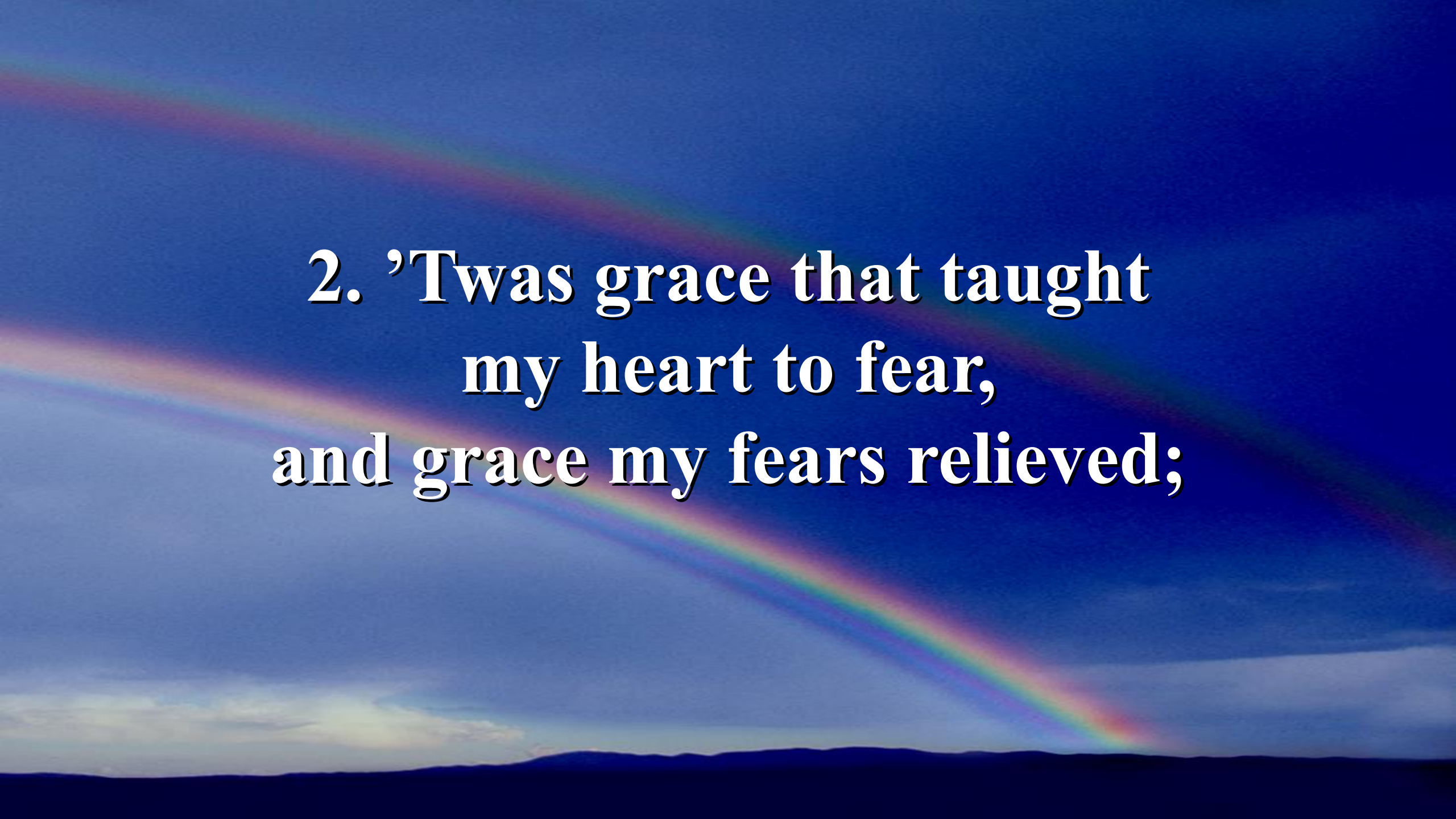
378

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 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.

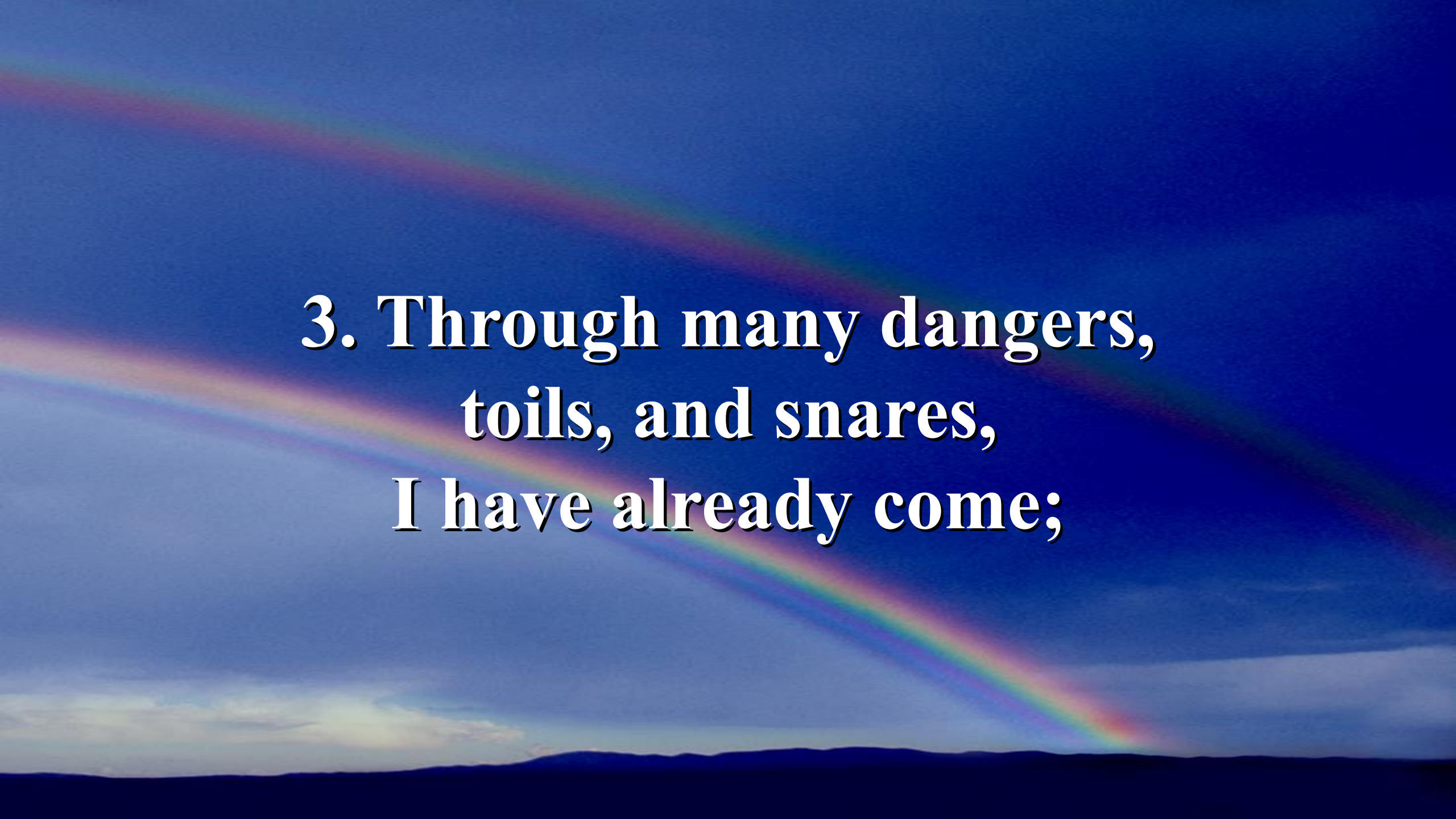
**I once was lost,  
but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**



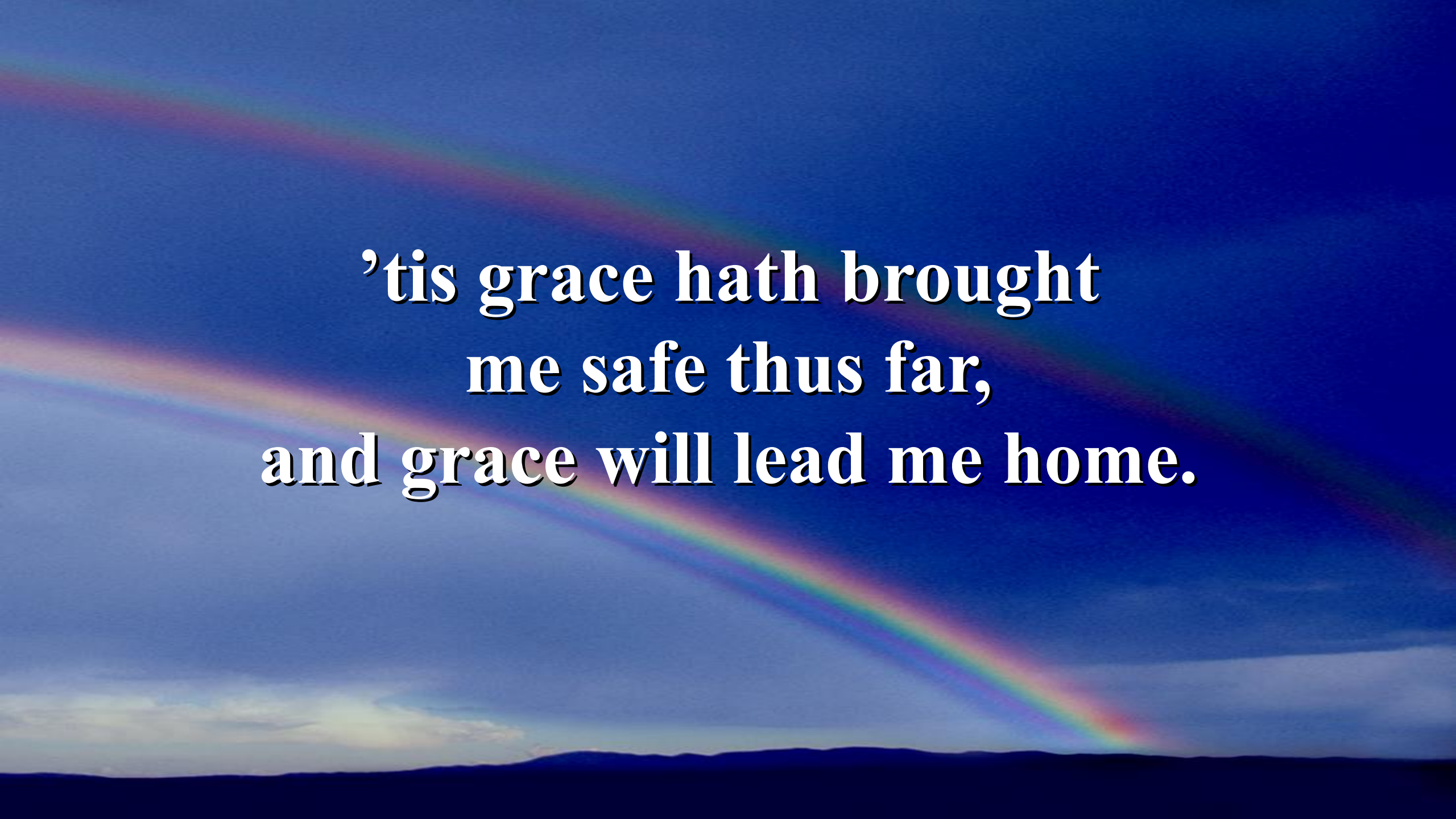
**2. 'Twas grace that taught  
my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a deep blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red 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.

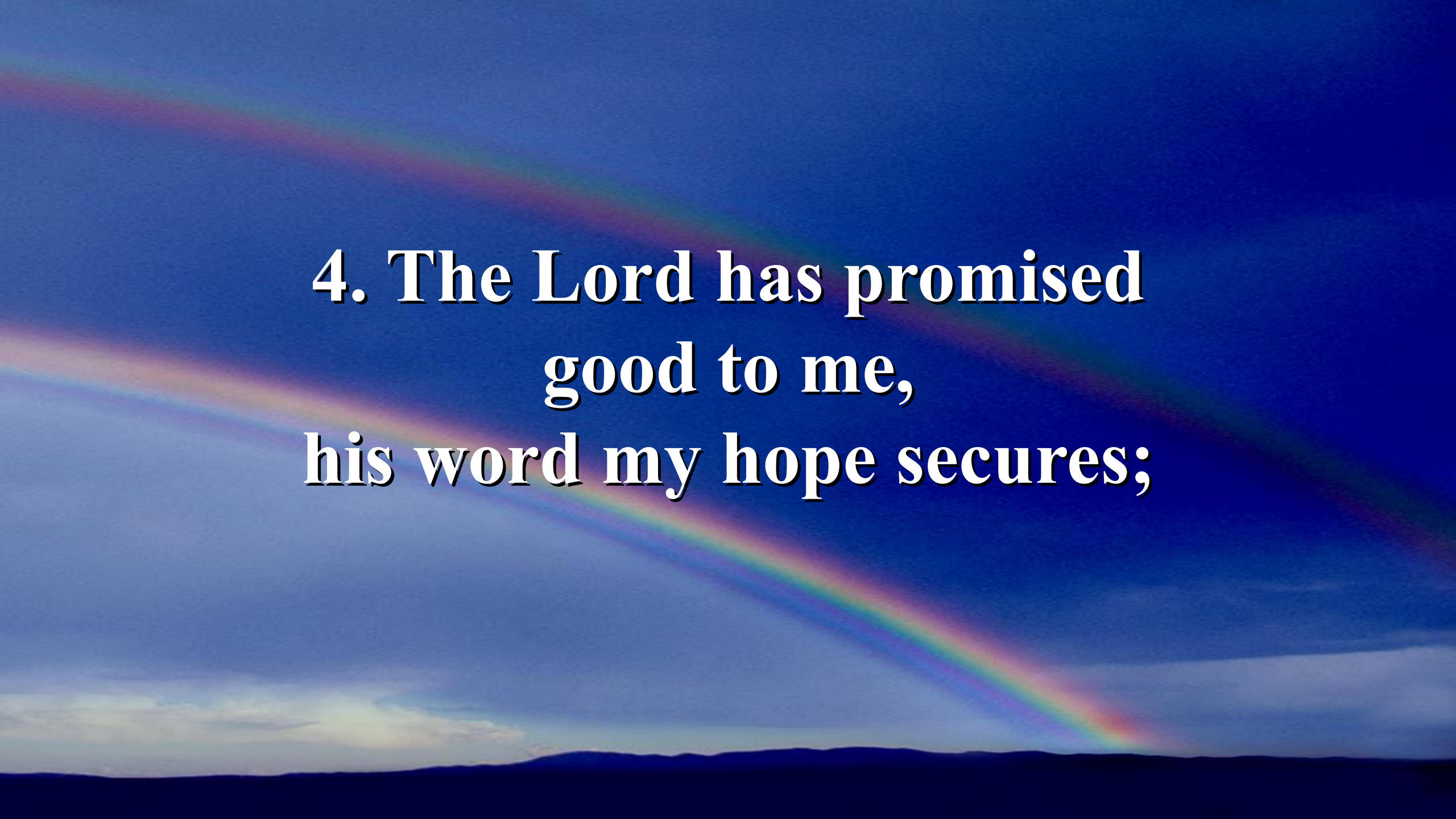
**how precious did  
that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.**

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.

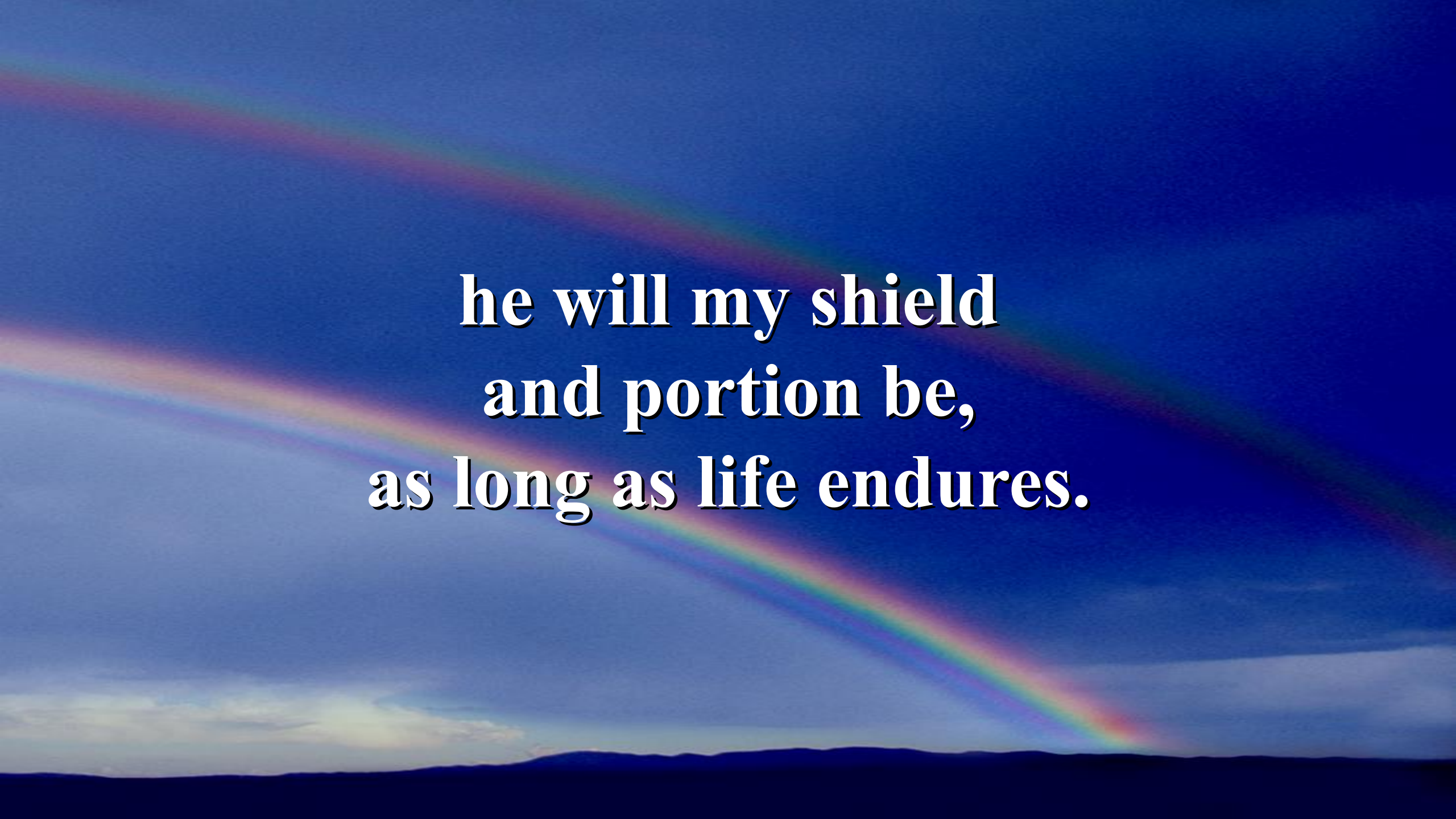
**3. Through many dangers,  
toils, and snares,  
I have already come;**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear blue sky, with its colors appearing slightly blurred. The rainbow spans from the left side of the frame towards the right, where it meets a dark, silhouetted mountain range on the horizon. The overall scene is peaceful and hopeful.

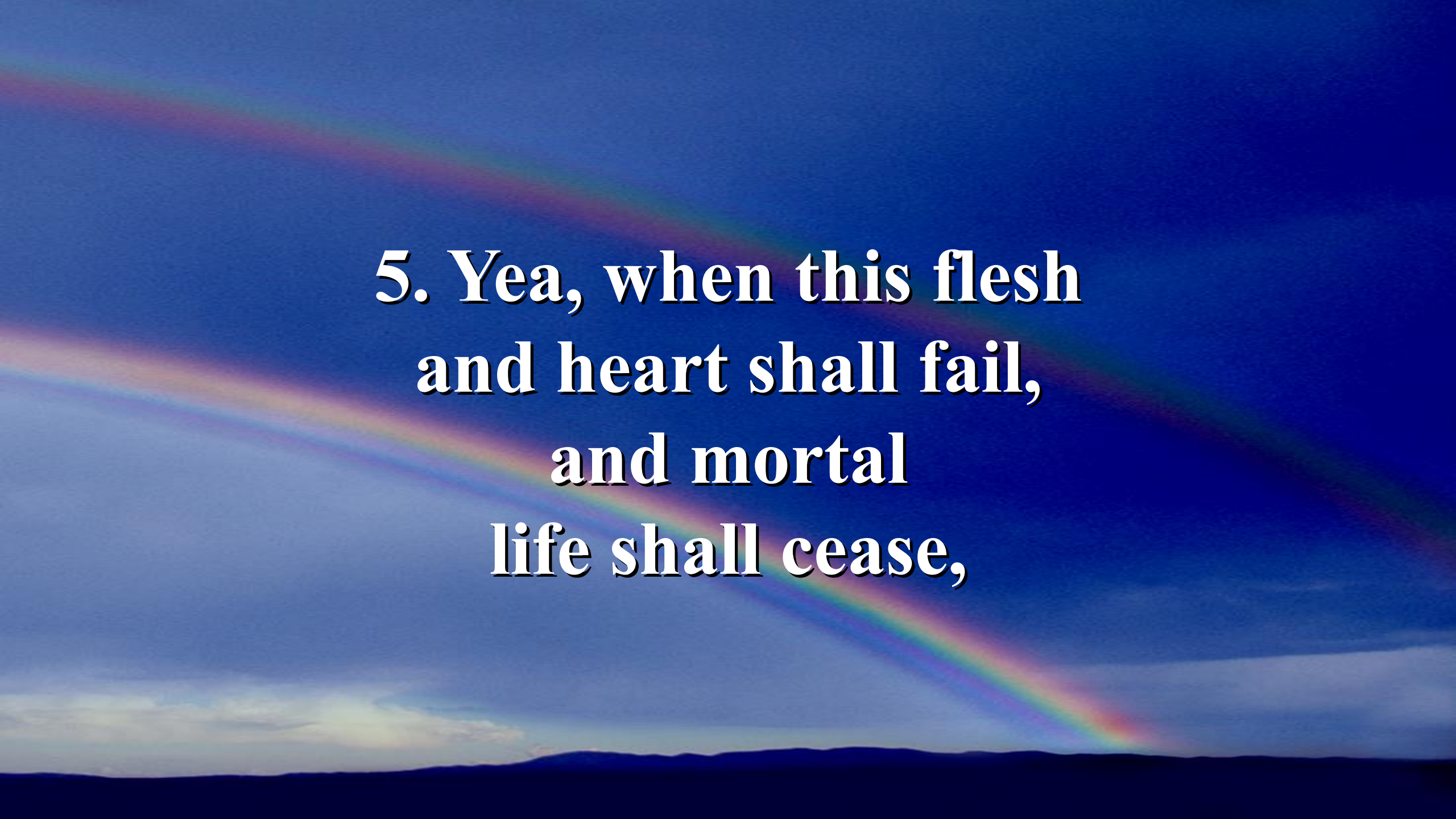
**'tis grace hath brought  
me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**

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 dark, silhouetted mountains in the foreground. The overall scene is bright and hopeful.

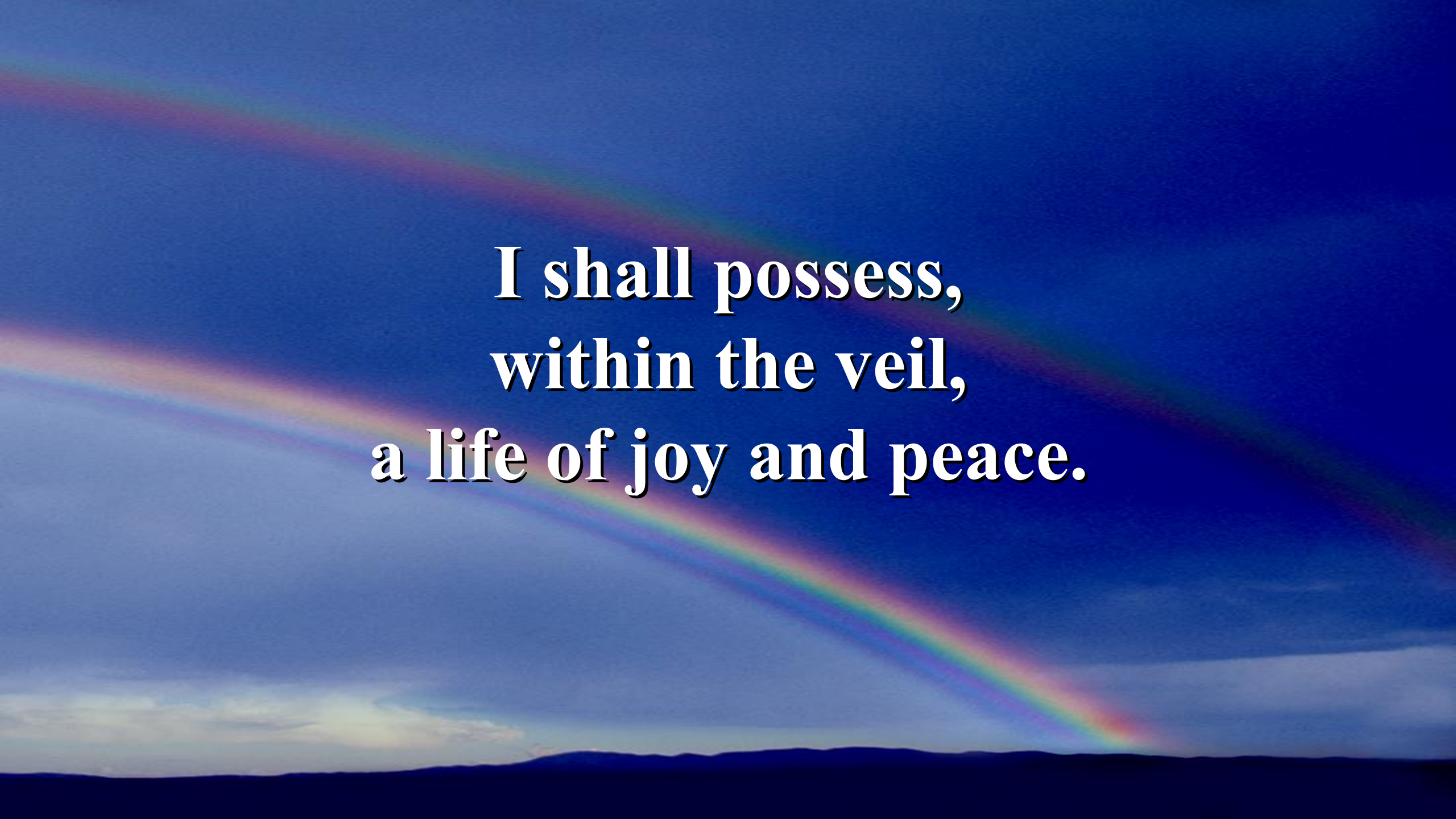
**4. The Lord has promised  
good to me,  
his word my hope secures;**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red at the top to violet at the bottom. The rainbow is positioned centrally, with its ends disappearing into the distance. Below the rainbow, a dark, silhouetted horizon line suggests a landscape or mountains. The overall scene is bright and clear, with the rainbow being the primary focus.

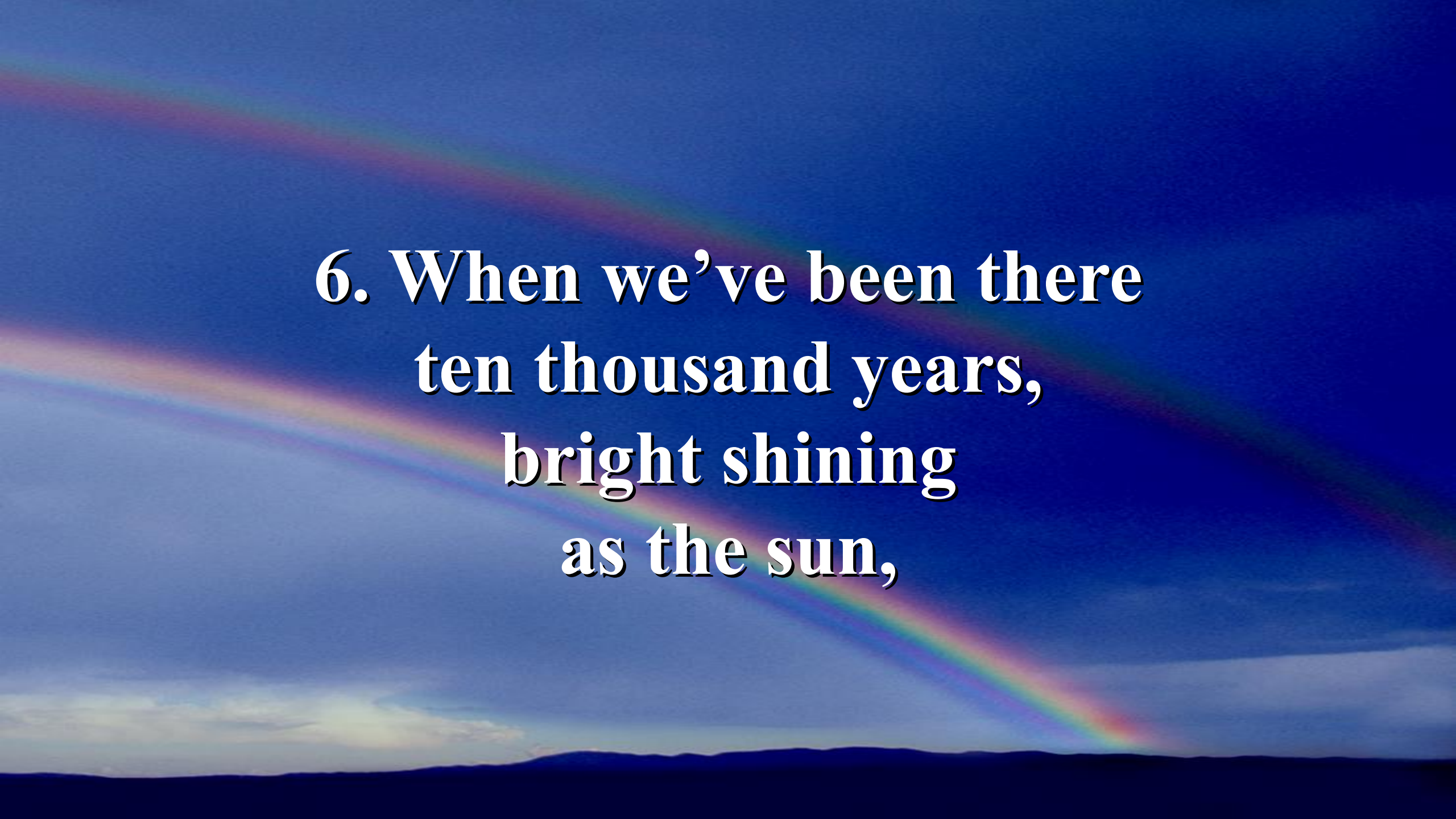
**he will my shield  
and portion be,  
as long as life endures.**

A double rainbow is visible against a dark blue sky, arching over a dark, silhouetted landscape. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.


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

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, the dark, silhouetted outlines of mountains or hills are visible against the horizon. The overall scene is serene and hopeful.

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

A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear blue sky, with its colors transitioning from red at the top to violet at the bottom. The rainbow is set against a backdrop of dark, silhouetted mountains in the foreground. The overall scene is bright and colorful, suggesting a clear, sunny day.

**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.**



# PRELUDE



**WELCOME  
&  
ANNOUNCEMENT**



# **PASTOR LACEY'S RETIREMENT CEREMONY**

## **VAUMC CONFERENCE**

Adults: \$15.00  
Kids: \$7.00



Delightful pancake and sausage supper, where fellowship and community come together! This year we'll be offering delicious empanadas. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy tasty food while connecting with friends and neighbors in our church community. We can't wait to see you!









Juneteenth Worship Service



Passing the mantel from one generation to the next.

Celebrating retirement ceremony with mentor and close friends.





**Birthday/Anniversary**



**CALL TO WORSHIP**



**Leader:** Through many dangers, toils, and snares.

**People:** We have already come.

**Leader:** Through days of joy and nights of fear.

**People:** We've traveled this far by faith.



**Leader:** Through life, through death,

**People:** Christ walks with us.

**Leader:** We are not alone.

**All:** Thanks be to God! In this promise,  
let's worship God together.



## **OPENING SONG**

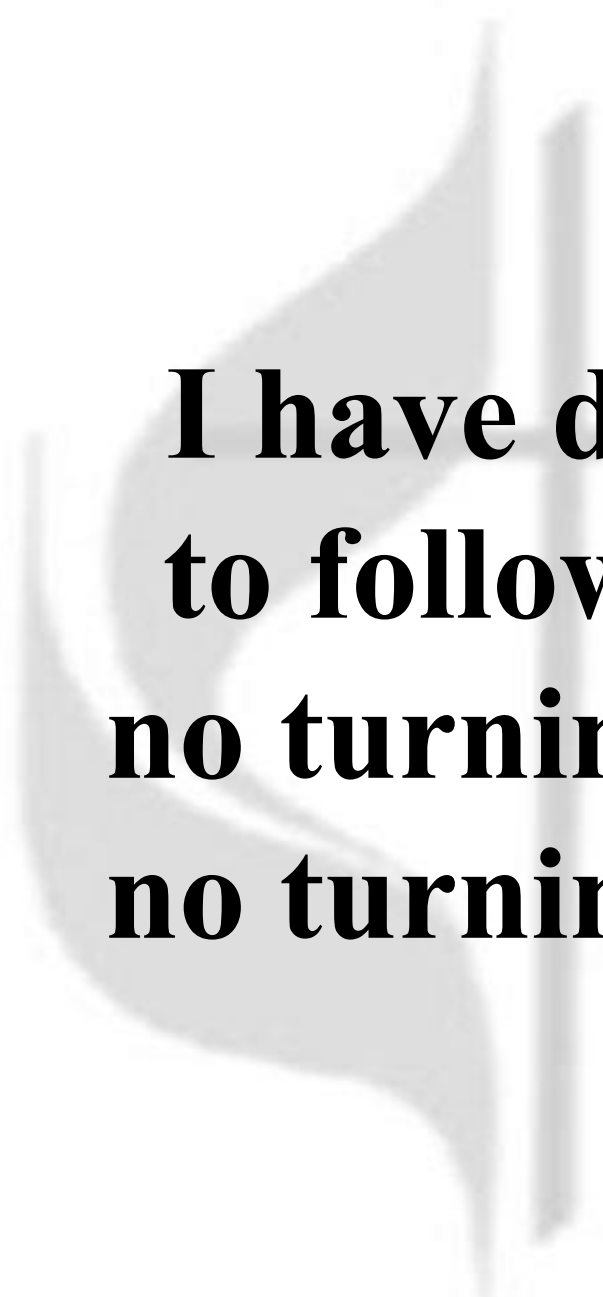
**“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”**

# **I Have Decided to Follow Jesus**

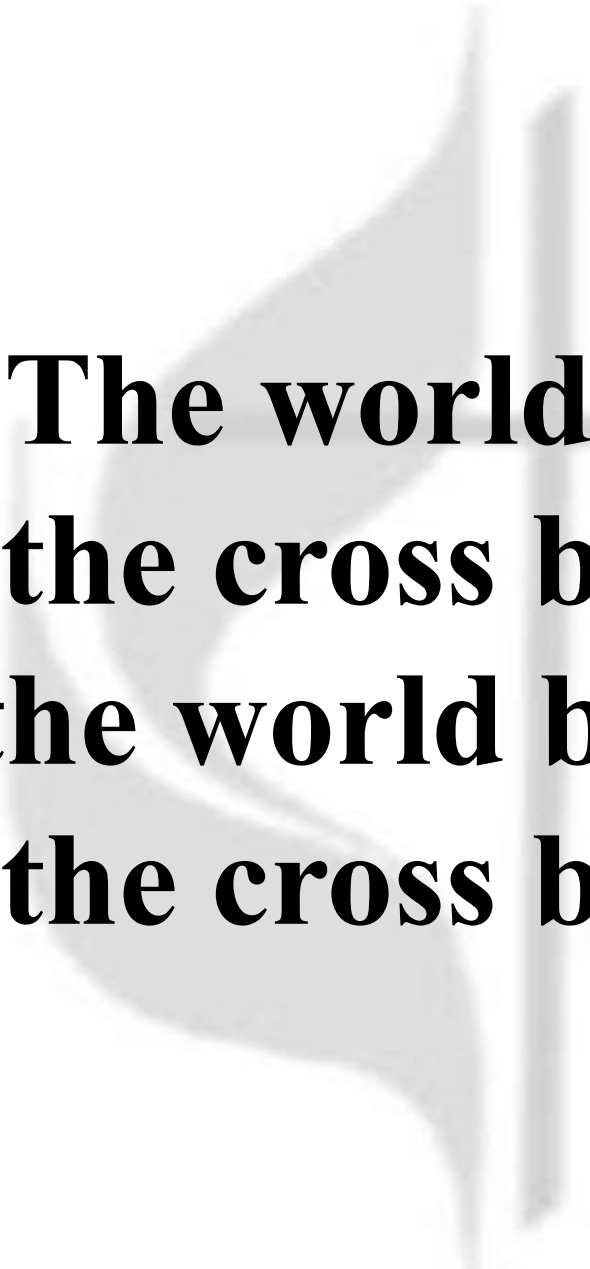
**2129**

*Anon.*

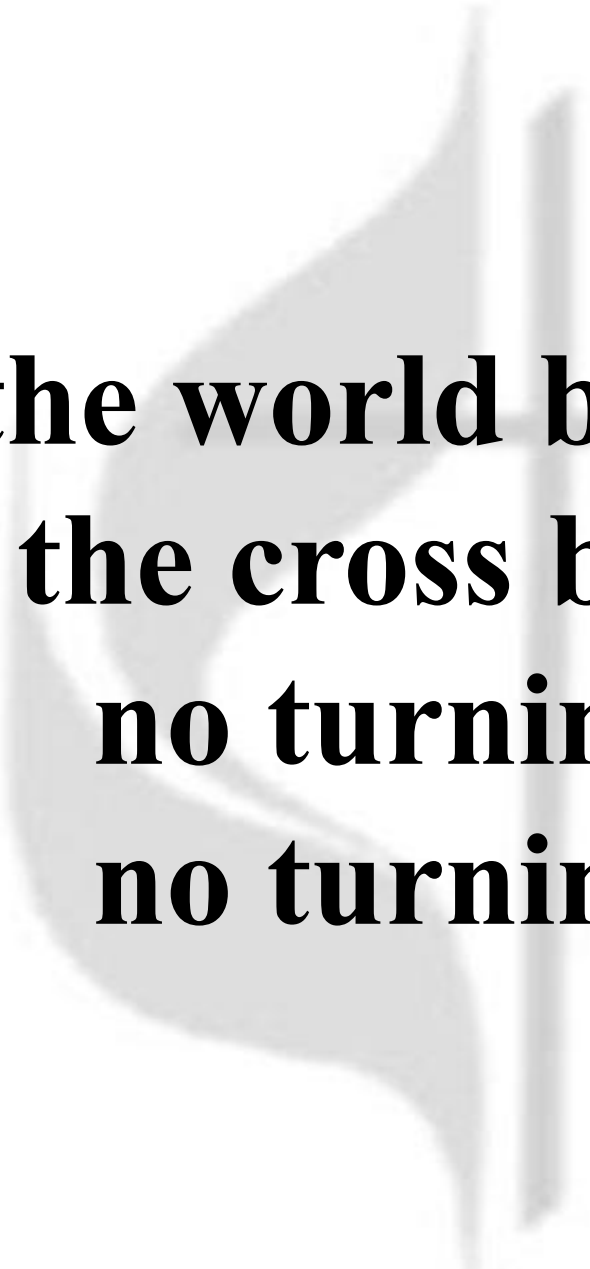
**1. I have decided  
to follow Jesus,  
I have decided  
to follow Jesus,**



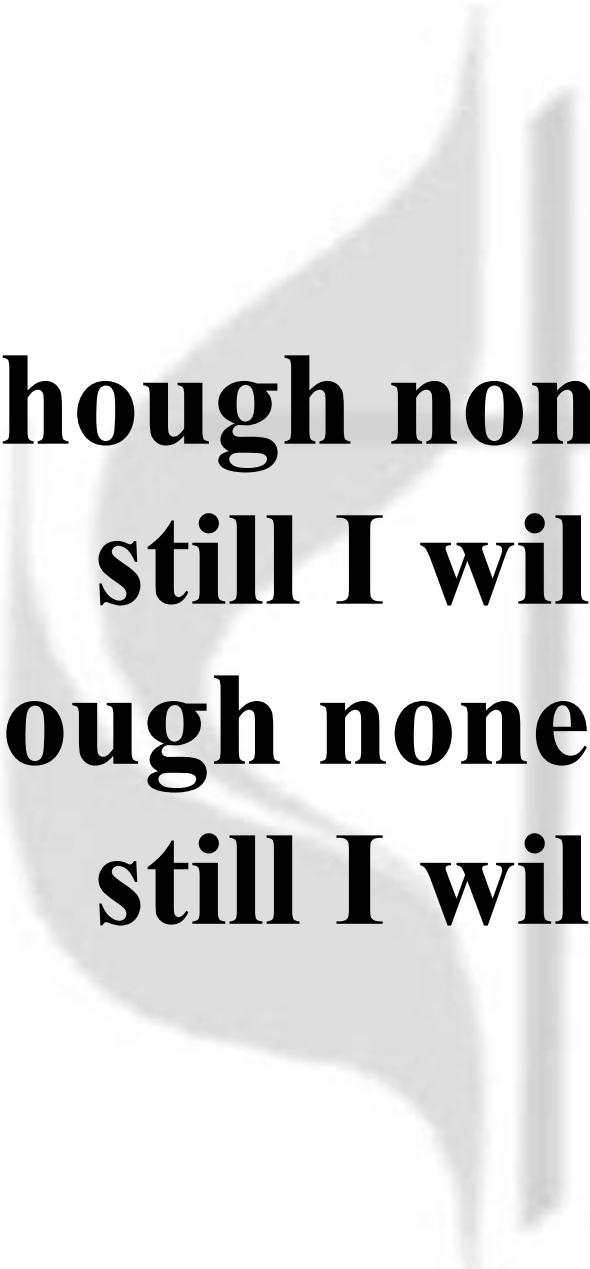
**I have decided  
to follow Jesus  
no turning back,  
no turning back.**



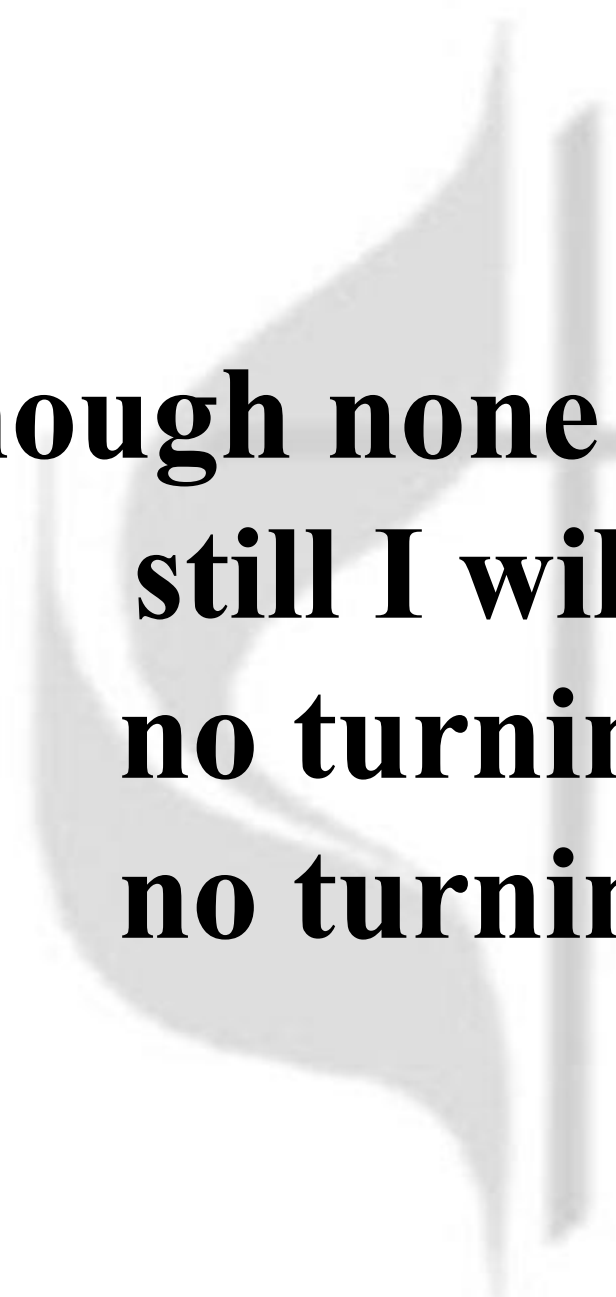
**2. The world behind me,  
the cross before me,  
the world behind me,  
the cross before me,**



**the world behind me,  
the cross before me  
no turning back,  
no turning back.**



**3. Though none go with me,  
still I will follow,  
though none go with me,  
still I will follow,**



**though none go with me,  
still I will follow  
no turning back,  
no turning back.**



# OPENING PRAYER



**Holy One, come to us now in this time of worship. Be present in our lives, that you may hear our cries, and speak to our souls. Give us your strength, that we may live all the days of our lives in steadfast faith and hope. Amen.**

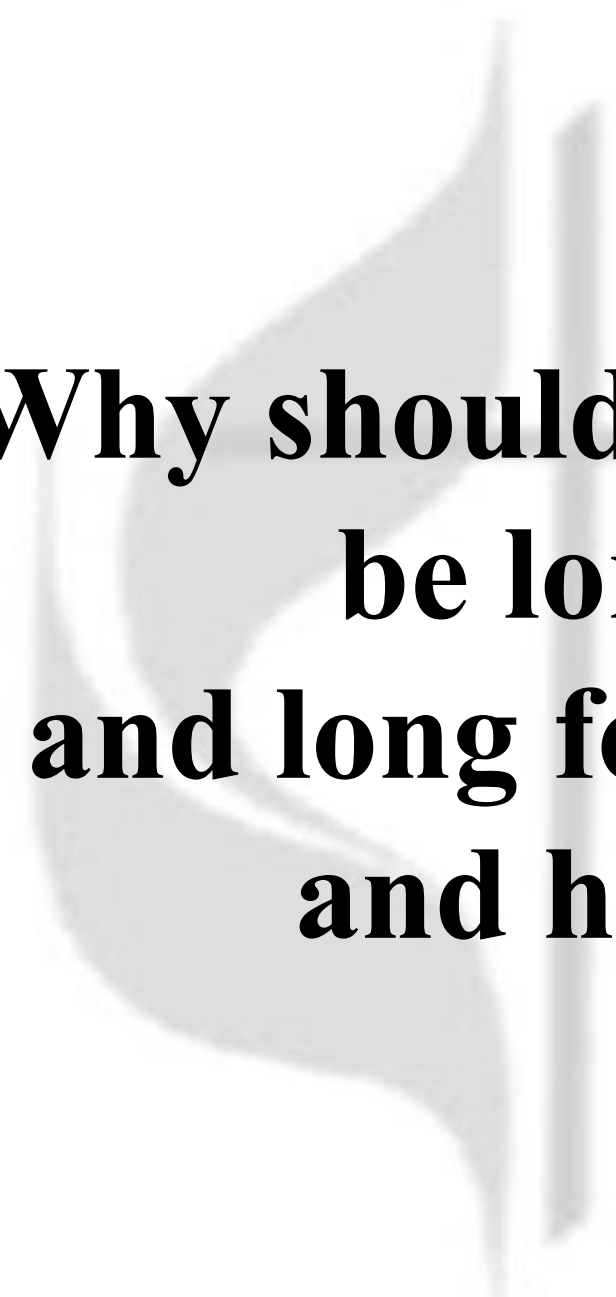


**“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”**

# His Eye Is on the Sparrow 2146

Civilla Martin (Luke 12:6-7; John 14:1)

**1. Why should I feel  
discouraged?  
Why should  
the shadows come?**



**Why should my heart  
be lonely  
and long for heaven  
and home,**

**When Jesus is my portion?**

**My constant friend is he:**

**His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;**

**his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.**

*Refrain*

**I sing because I'm happy,  
(*I'm happy,*)**

**I sing because I'm free,  
(*I'm free,*)**

**for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.**

**2. “Let not your heart  
be troubled,”**

**his tender word I hear,  
and resting on his goodness,  
I lose my doubts and fears;**

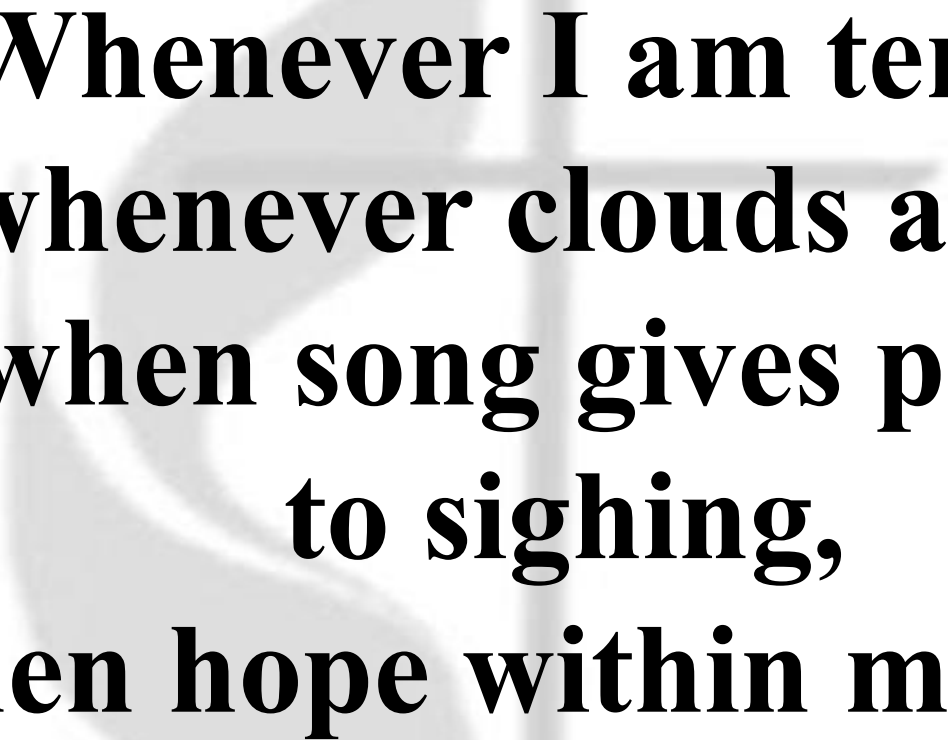
**though by the path he leadeth  
but one step I may see:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.**

*Refrain*

**I sing because I'm happy,  
(*I'm happy,*)**

**I sing because I'm free,  
(*I'm free,*)**

**for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.**



**3. Whenever I am tempted,  
whenever clouds arise,  
when song gives place  
to sighing,  
when hope within me dies,**

**I draw the closer to him,  
from care he sets me free:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.**

*Refrain*

**I sing because I'm happy,  
*(I'm happy,)***

**I sing because I'm free,  
*(I'm free,)***

**for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.**



# 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.**




# SCRIPTURE

**MATTHEW 10:24–39**






24 “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household! 26 “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed or hidden that will not be made known. 27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight;



what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. 28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many



sparrows. 32 “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. 34 “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to turn” ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her

mother-in-law 36 a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'

37 "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

**Truth Principle**  
 spiritual disease forever  
 error wind sense produce  
 perfect government human joy way  
 Always result true Life idea  
 physical never systems **Mind** found foundation  
 material Christian Jesus law things earth  
 natural belief **God** being **divine**  
 find through thought matter one **Spirit**  
 power healing Father pneuma mortal eternal  
 Christ Love all man  
 sorrow follow work harmony definitions  
**Science** testimony senses



# SERMON

“A DANGEROUS UNDERSTANDING OF GOD’S WORD”



# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, hear our prayer. Hear the cries of our hearts and the needs of our souls. When we are cast aside or falling apart, hold us in your arms of love. Help us sing once again of your love and proclaim your strength and grace. Show us signs of your goodness, your presence, and your love, over and over again. Teach our hearts that we never walk alone. In your mercy and grace, we pray. Amen.**



# WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**God is a wonderworker, and  
Christ is the wonder of love in  
our midst. This wondrous love is  
enough for every trouble we face.**



# 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

## “THE SUMMONS”

# The Summons

2130

John Bell

**1. Will you come  
and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go  
where you don't know  
and never be the same?**

**Will you let  
my love be shown,  
will you let  
my name be known,  
will you let  
my life be grown in you  
and you in me?**

**2. Will you leave  
yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care  
for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?**

**Will you risk  
the hostile stare  
should your life  
attract or scare?**

**Will you let  
me answer prayer in you  
and you in me?**

**3. Will you let  
the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set  
the prisoners free  
and never be the same?**

**Will you kiss  
the leper clean,  
and do such  
as this unseen,  
and admit to  
what I mean in you  
and you in me?**

**4. Will you love  
the “you” you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell  
the fear inside  
and never be the same?**

**Will you use the  
faith you've found  
to reshape the  
world around,  
through my sight and  
touch and sound in you  
and you in me?**

**5. Lord, your summons  
echoes true  
when you but  
call my name.  
Let me turn  
and follow you  
and never be the same.**

**In your company I'll go  
where your love  
and footsteps show.**

**Thus I'll move  
and live and grow in you  
and you in me.**



# BENEDICTION





**Leader:** Guided by God,

**People:** We go into the world.

**Leader:** Led by Christ,

**People:** We go with love and grace.

**Leader:** Strengthened by the Spirit.

**All:** We go to make the world a better place. Amen and Amen.



# 564 Threefold Amen

Walter Henry Hall (1862-1935)

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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and contains vocal lines with lyrics. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "A-men, A-men, A - - - men." The piano part features chords and single notes, with some notes beamed together. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

# CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

