



**WELCOME!**  
**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS**  
**MARCH 1, 2026**

# CENTERING SONG

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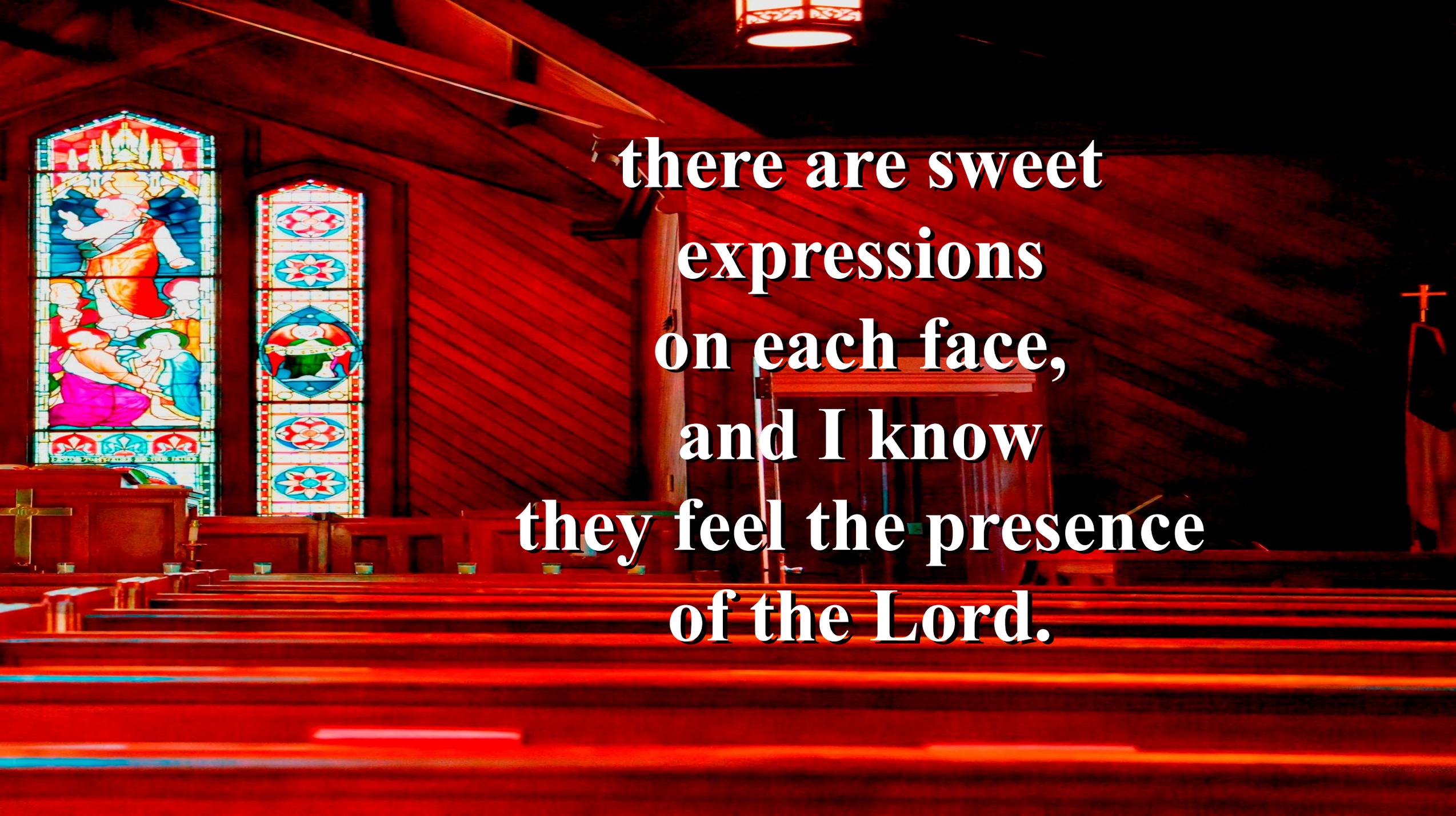
**SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT**  
**UMH 334**

# 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.**

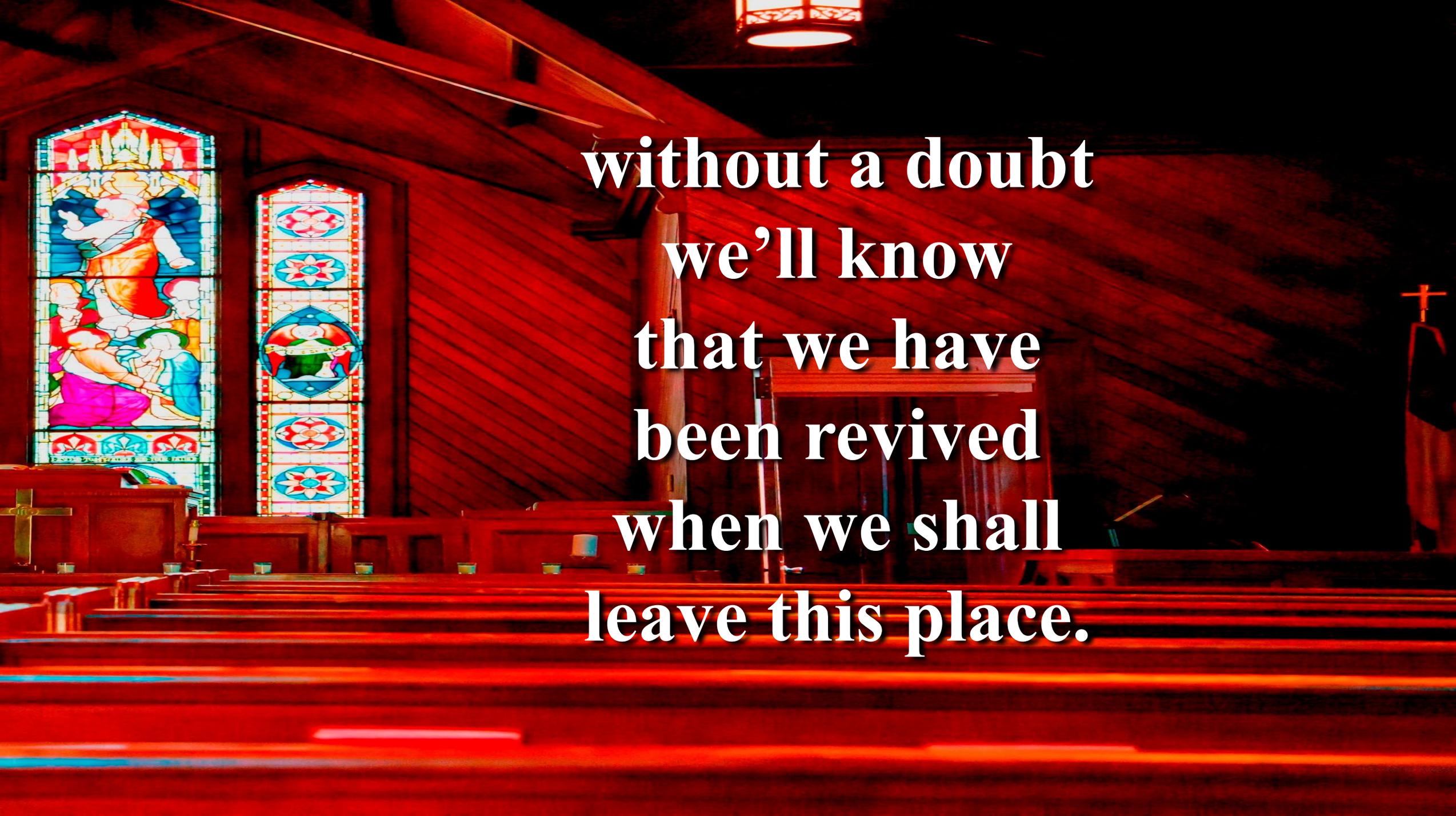


*Refrain*

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.**



# PRELUDE



**WELCOME  
&  
ANNOUNCEMENT**



**Birthday/Anniversary**



**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** God calls us to set out in faith.



**People:** The love of God leads us home.

**Leader:** Christ blesses us that we might bless others.

**People:** The blessings of Christ heal our world.

**Leader:** The Holy Spirit strengthens us for the journey.

**People:** The power of the Spirit sustains and supports us.

**Leader:** The One who made heaven and earth meets us here.



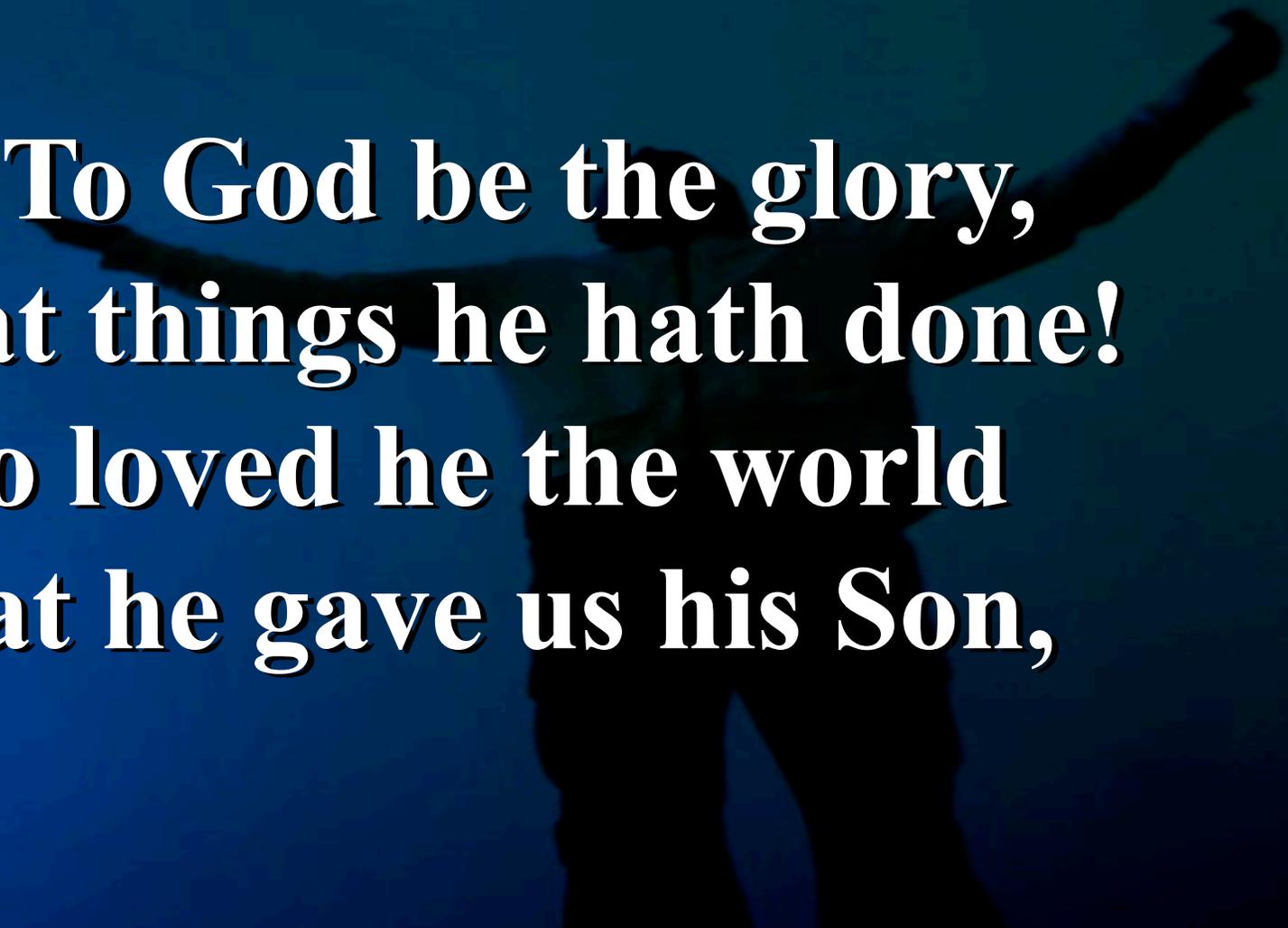


**OPENING SONG**  
**“To God Be the Glory”**

# To God Be the Glory

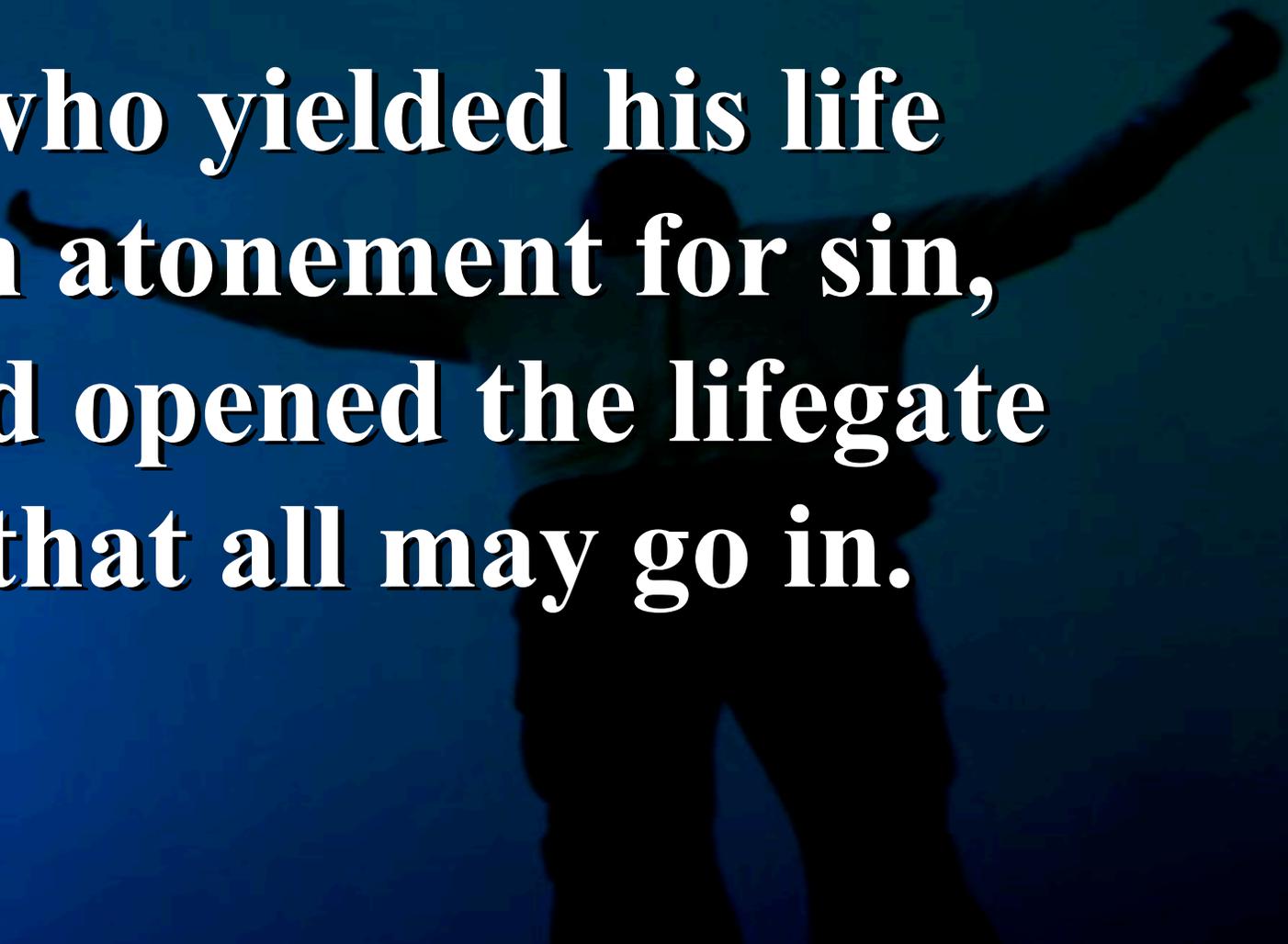
98

WORDS: Fanny Crosby, 1875

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a dark blue background. The person is wearing a long-sleeved shirt and pants.

1. To God be the glory,  
great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world  
that he gave us his Son,

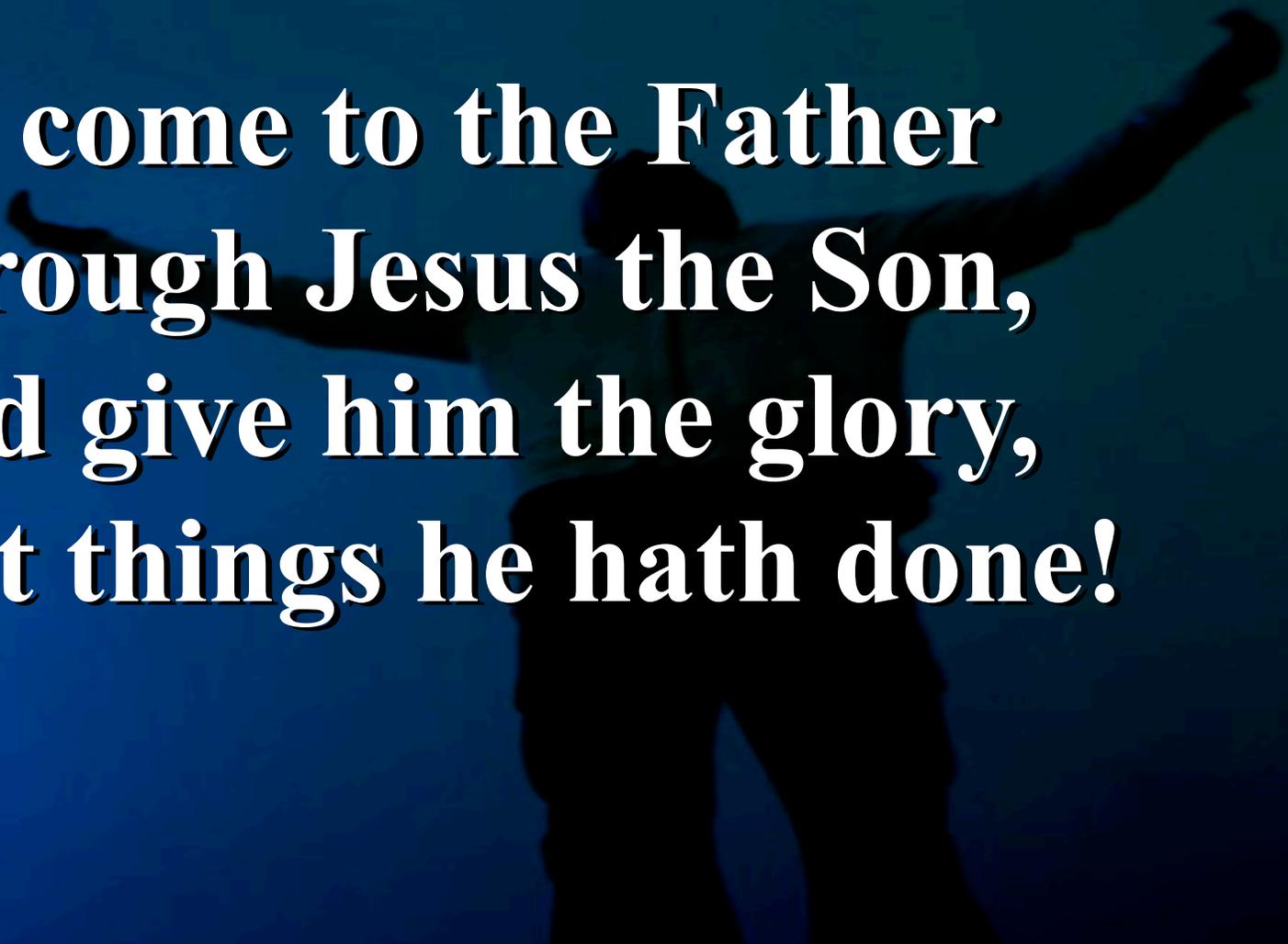
**who yielded his life  
an atonement for sin,  
and opened the lifegate  
that all may go in.**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or surrender, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending across the top of the text area.

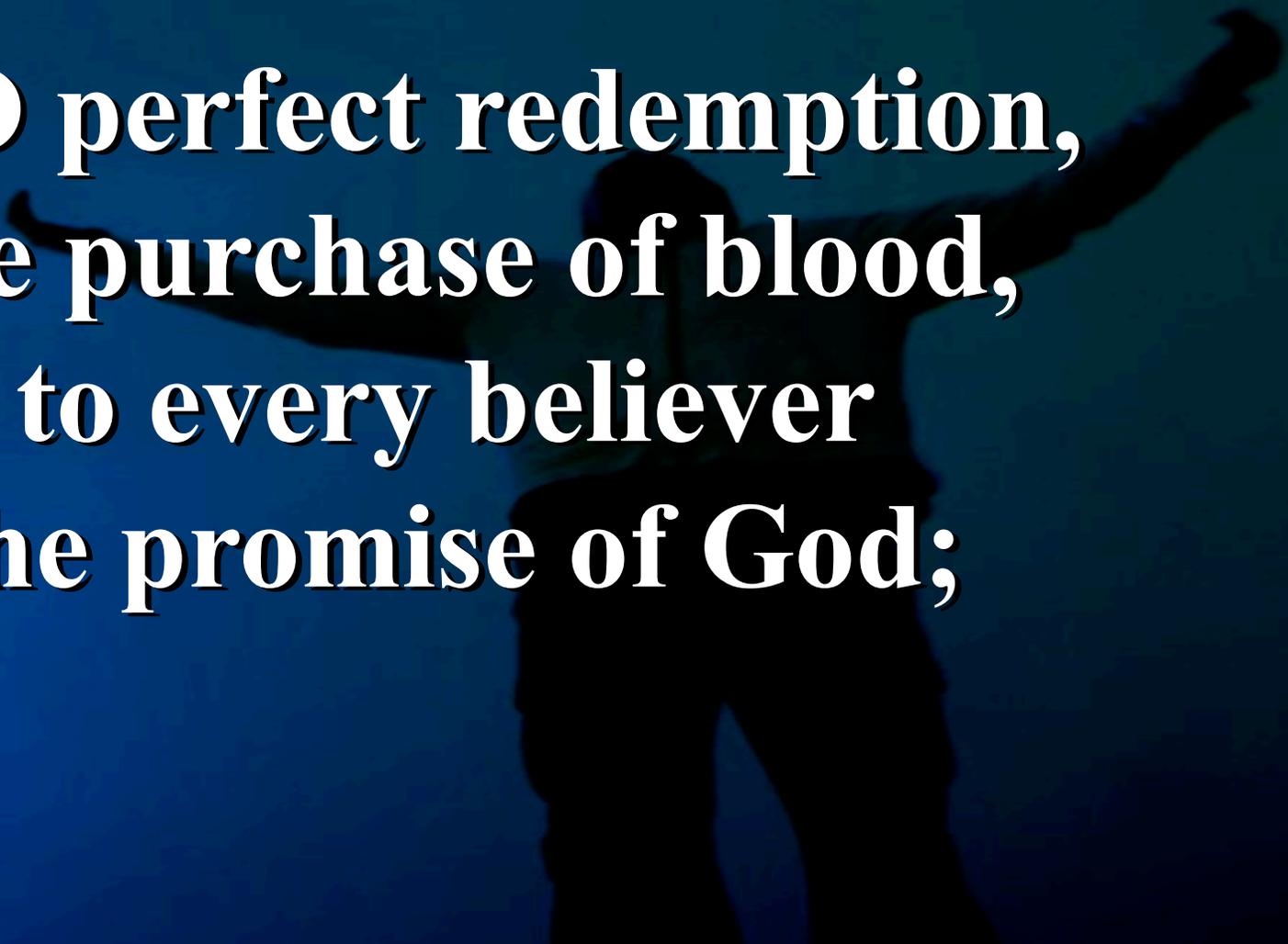
*Refrain*

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!**

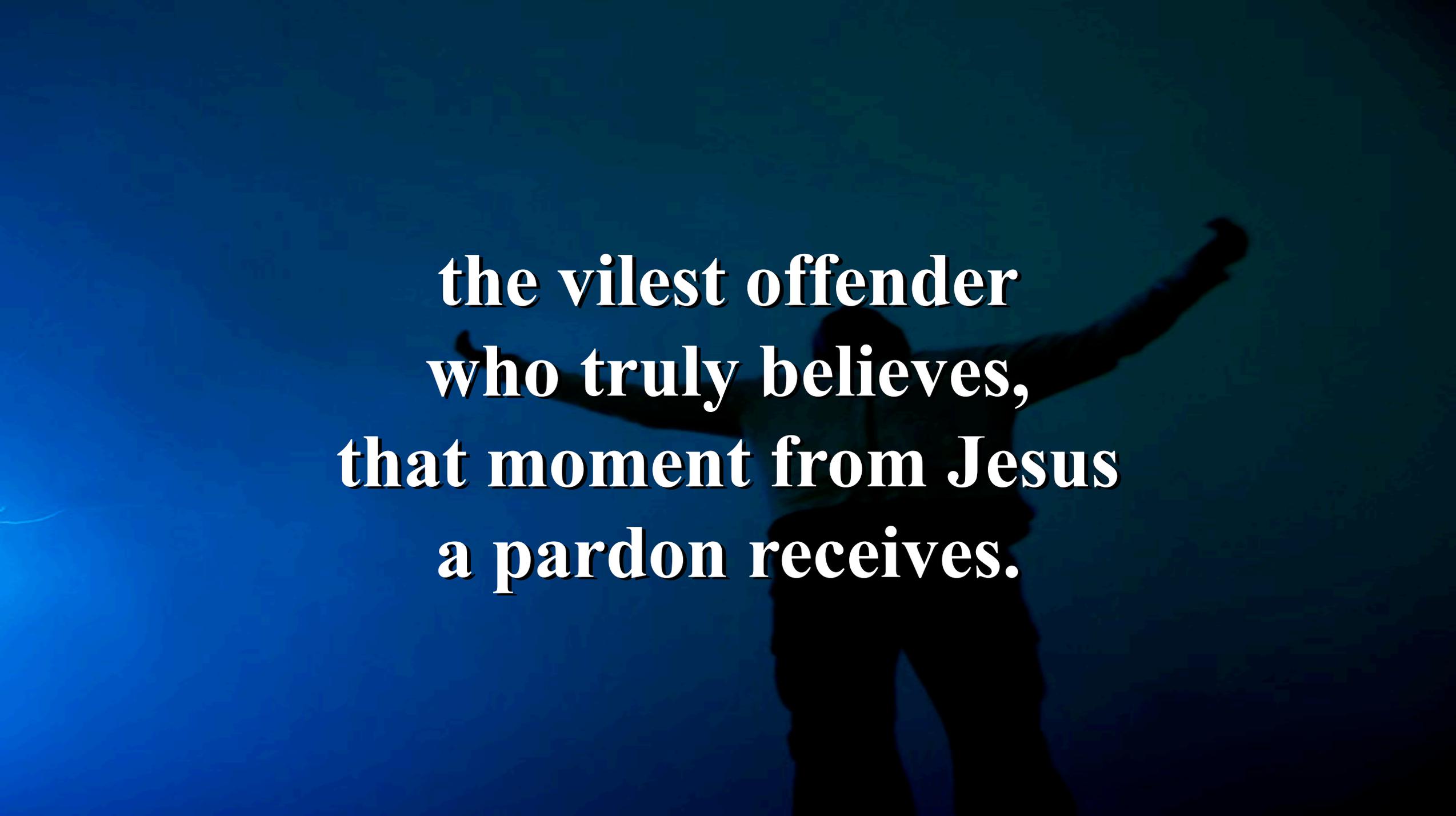
**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending across the top of the text.

**O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory,  
great things he hath done!**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending across the text.

**2. O perfect redemption,  
the purchase of blood,  
to every believer  
the promise of God;**

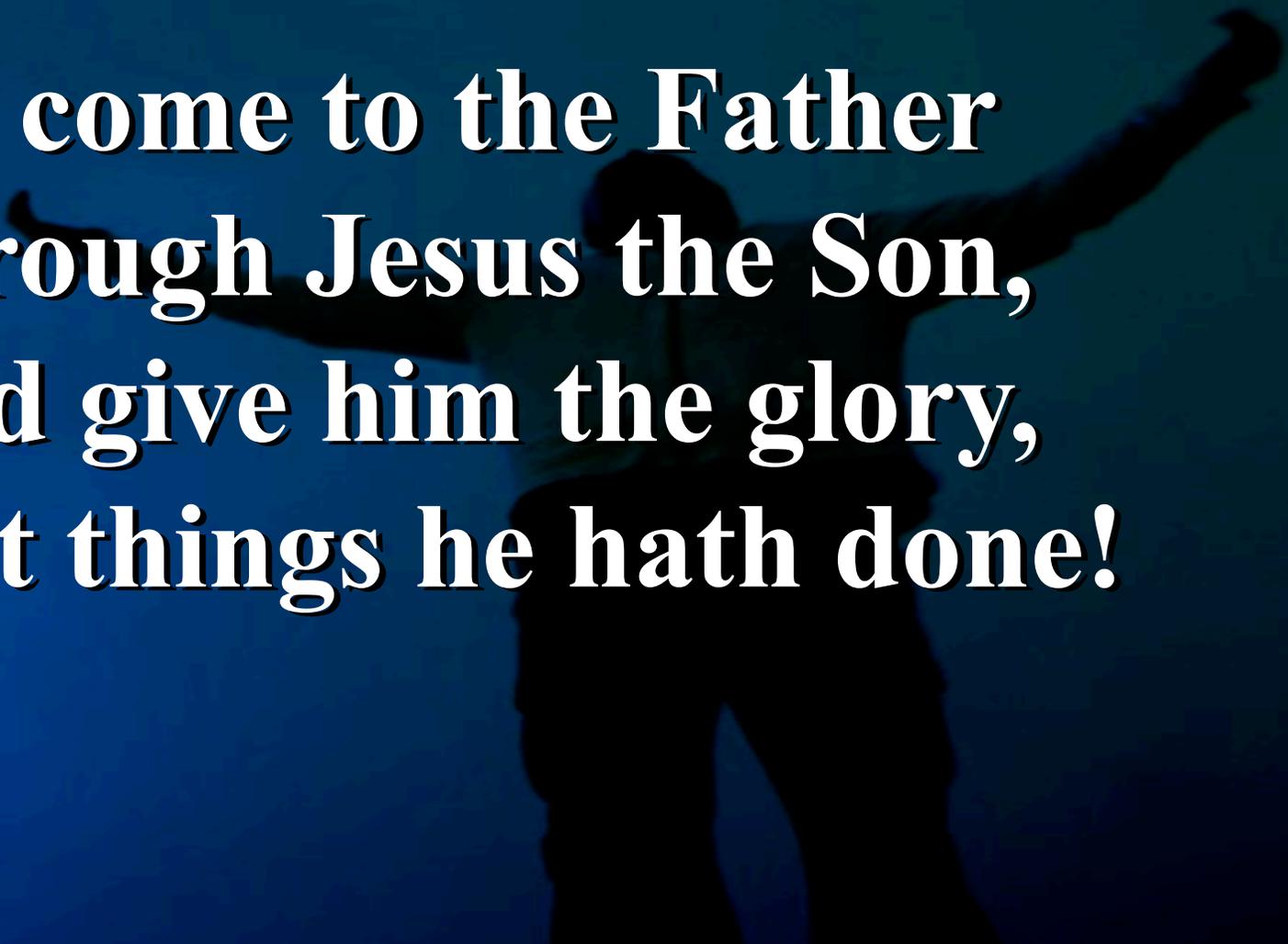
A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned in the center-right of the frame, with their arms extending towards the top corners. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**the vilest offender  
who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus  
a pardon receives.**

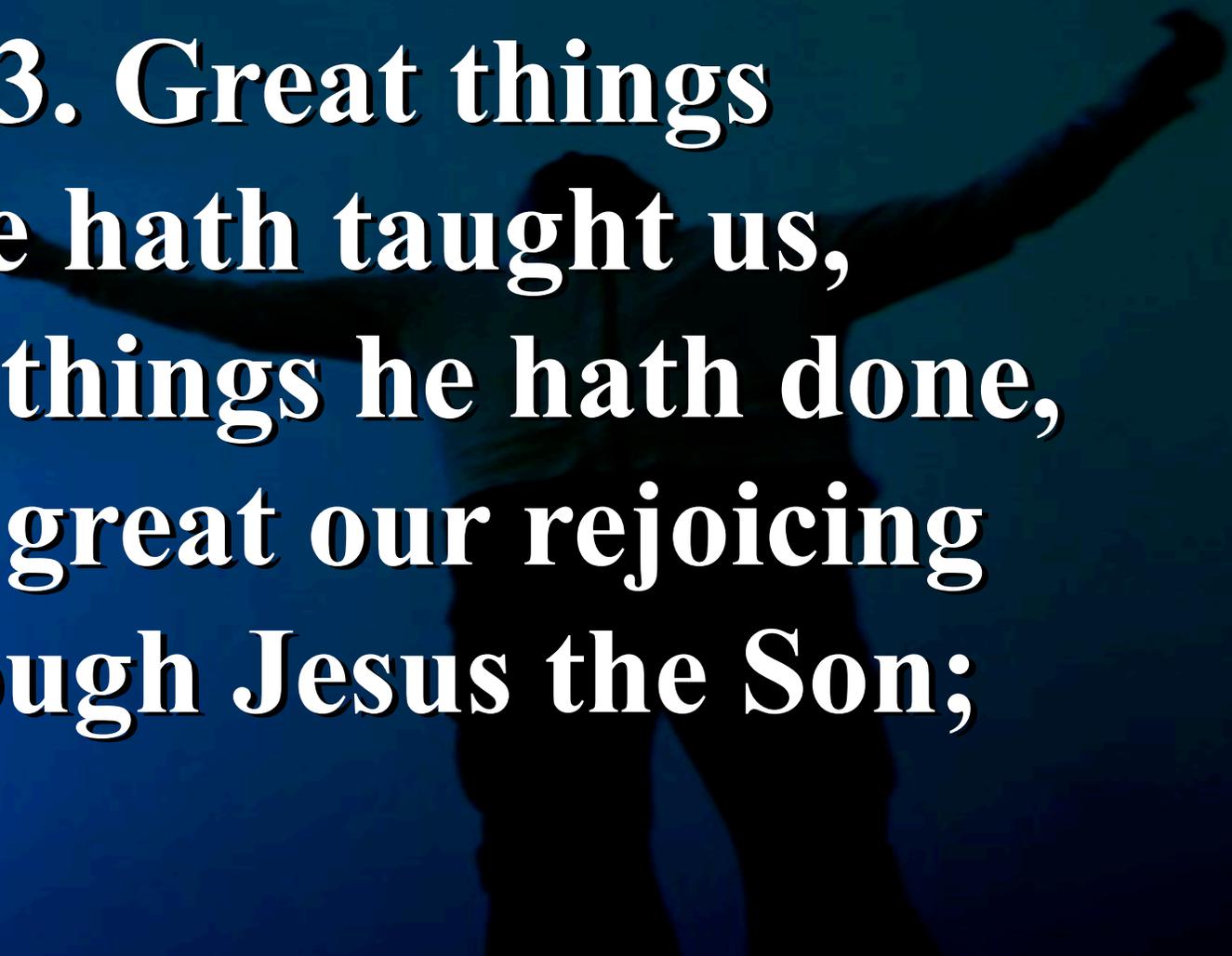
*Refrain*

**Praise the Lord,  
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let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!**

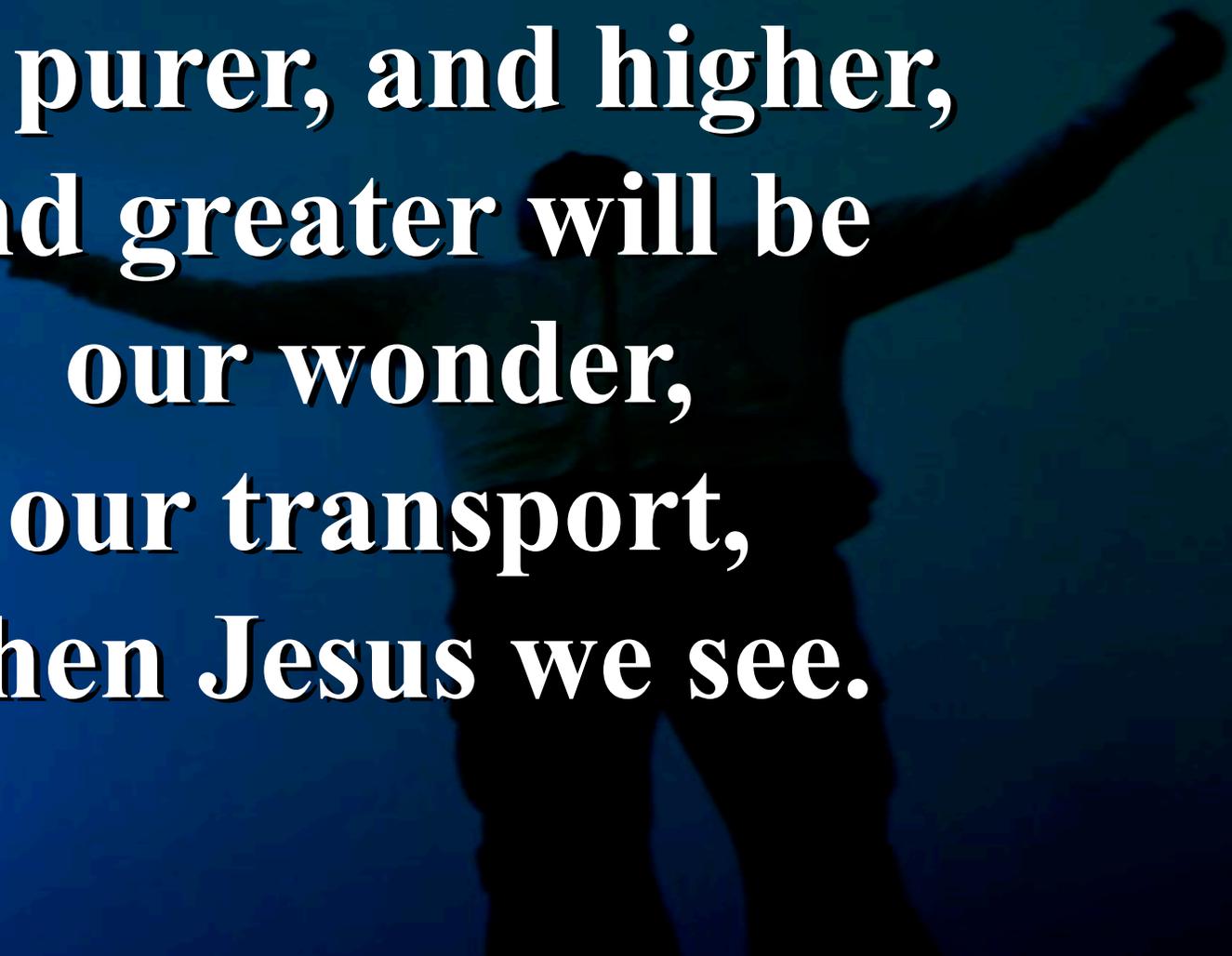
A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending upwards and outwards.

**O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory,  
great things he hath done!**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or joy, set against a blue background with a light flare on the left side. The person is wearing a long-sleeved shirt and pants.

**3. Great things  
he hath taught us,  
great things he hath done,  
and great our rejoicing  
through Jesus the Son;**

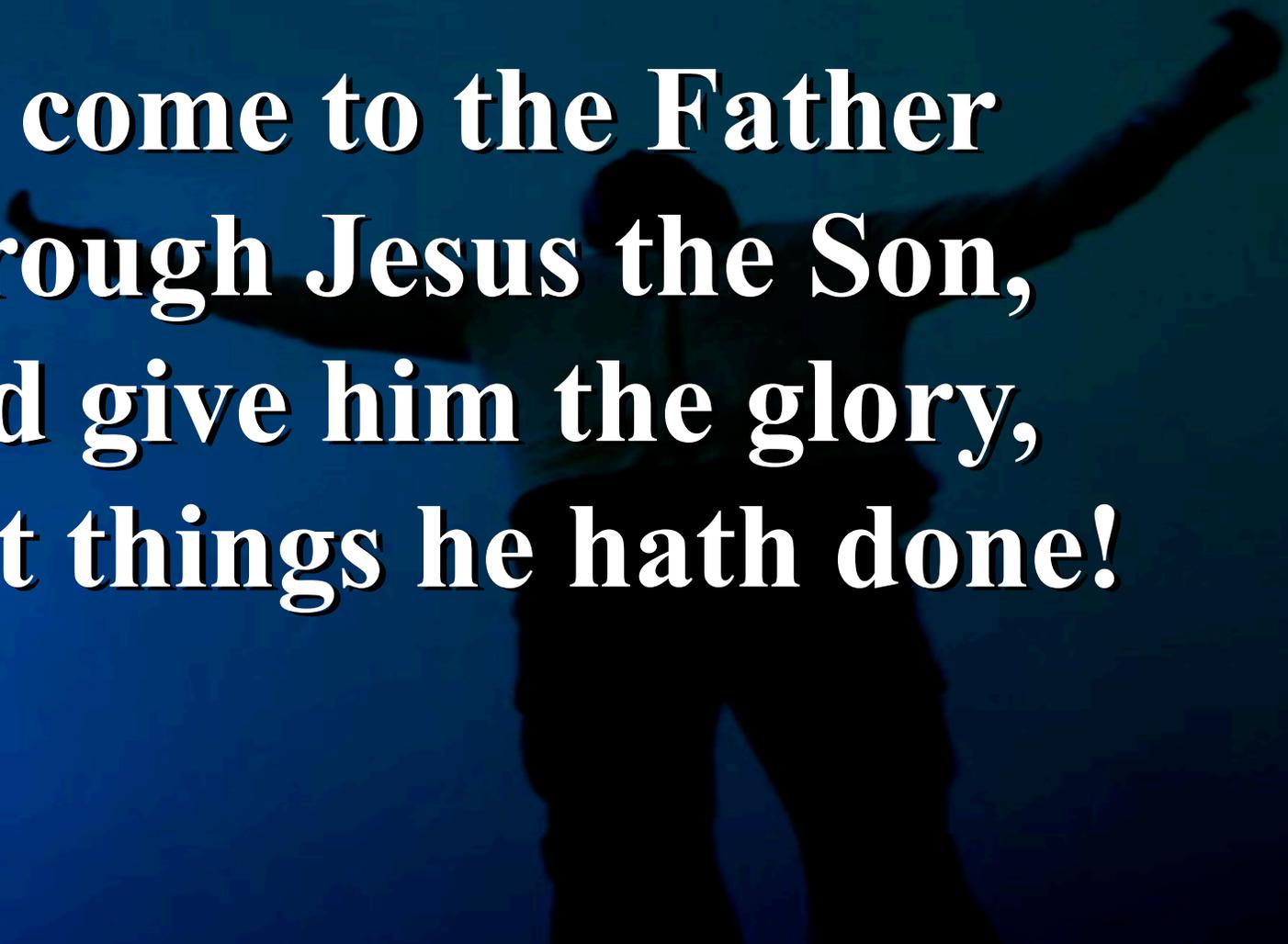
**but purer, and higher,  
and greater will be  
our wonder,  
our transport,  
when Jesus we see.**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or joy, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending towards the right side of the frame.

*Refrain*

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending across the top of the text.

**O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory,  
great things he hath done!**



# OPENING PRAYER

**Lord of light and love, your Spirit enlivens our spirits, even as your kingdom draws us to you. May we be born from above, that our souls might ascend to your realm and taste the joy of eternal life in your name. For you sent your Son into our world, not to condemn the world, but that all who enter into his light we might have life and have it abundantly. Amen.**



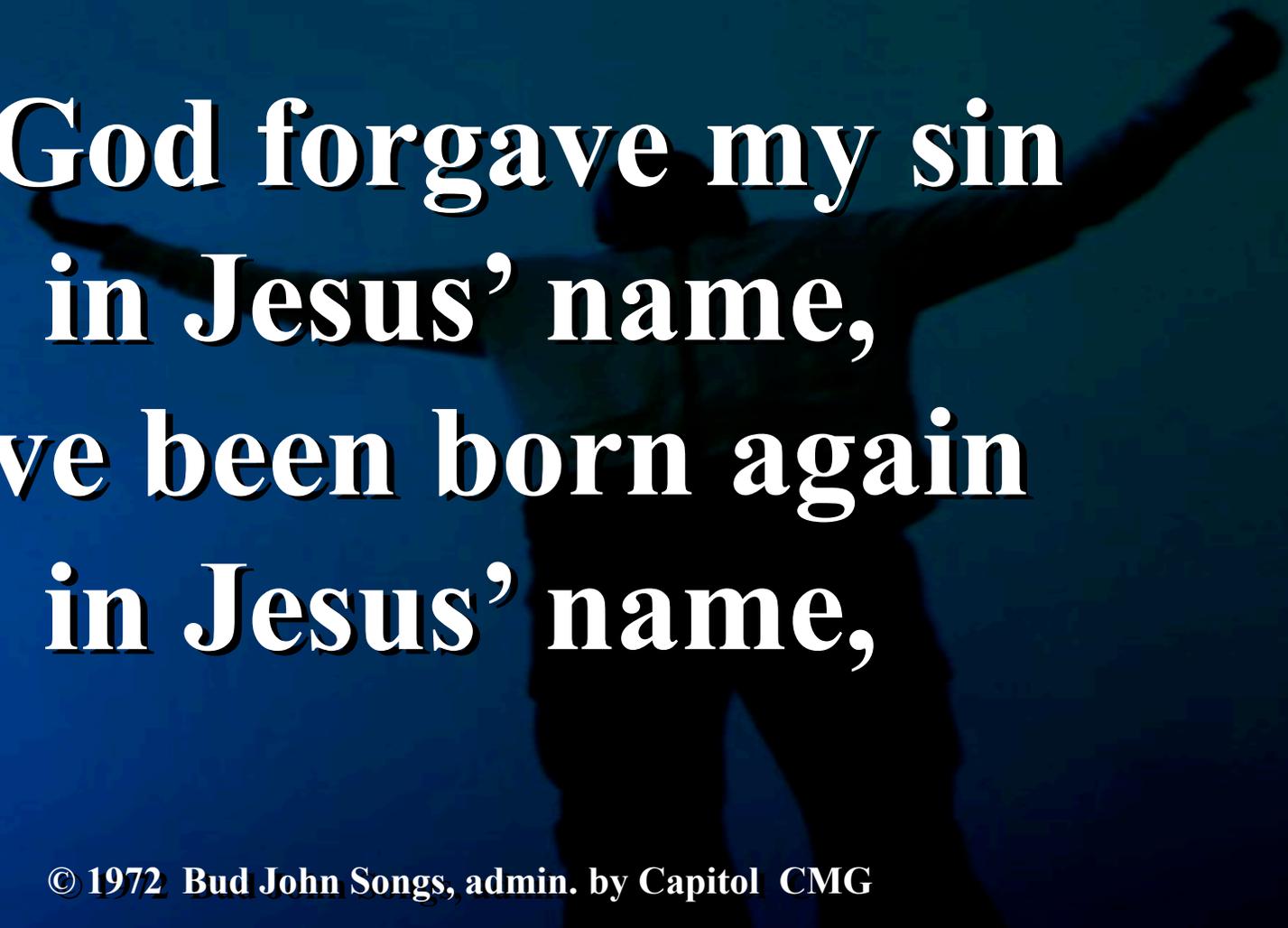


**“Freely, Freely”**

# Freely, Freely

389

WORDS: Carol Owens, 1972 (Mt. 10:8; 28:18-20)



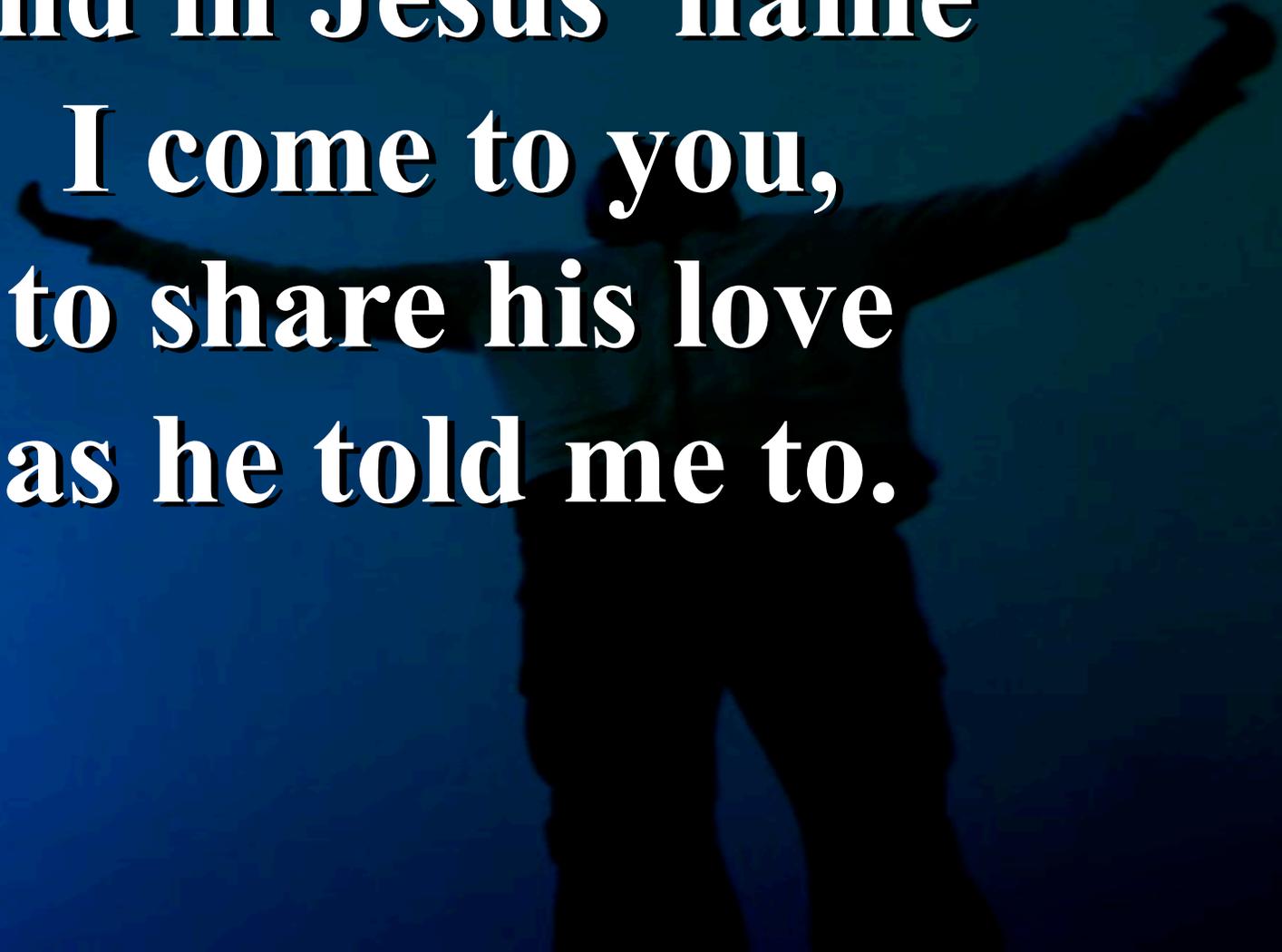
1. God forgave my sin  
in Jesus' name,  
I've been born again  
in Jesus' name,

**and in Jesus' name**

**I come to you,**

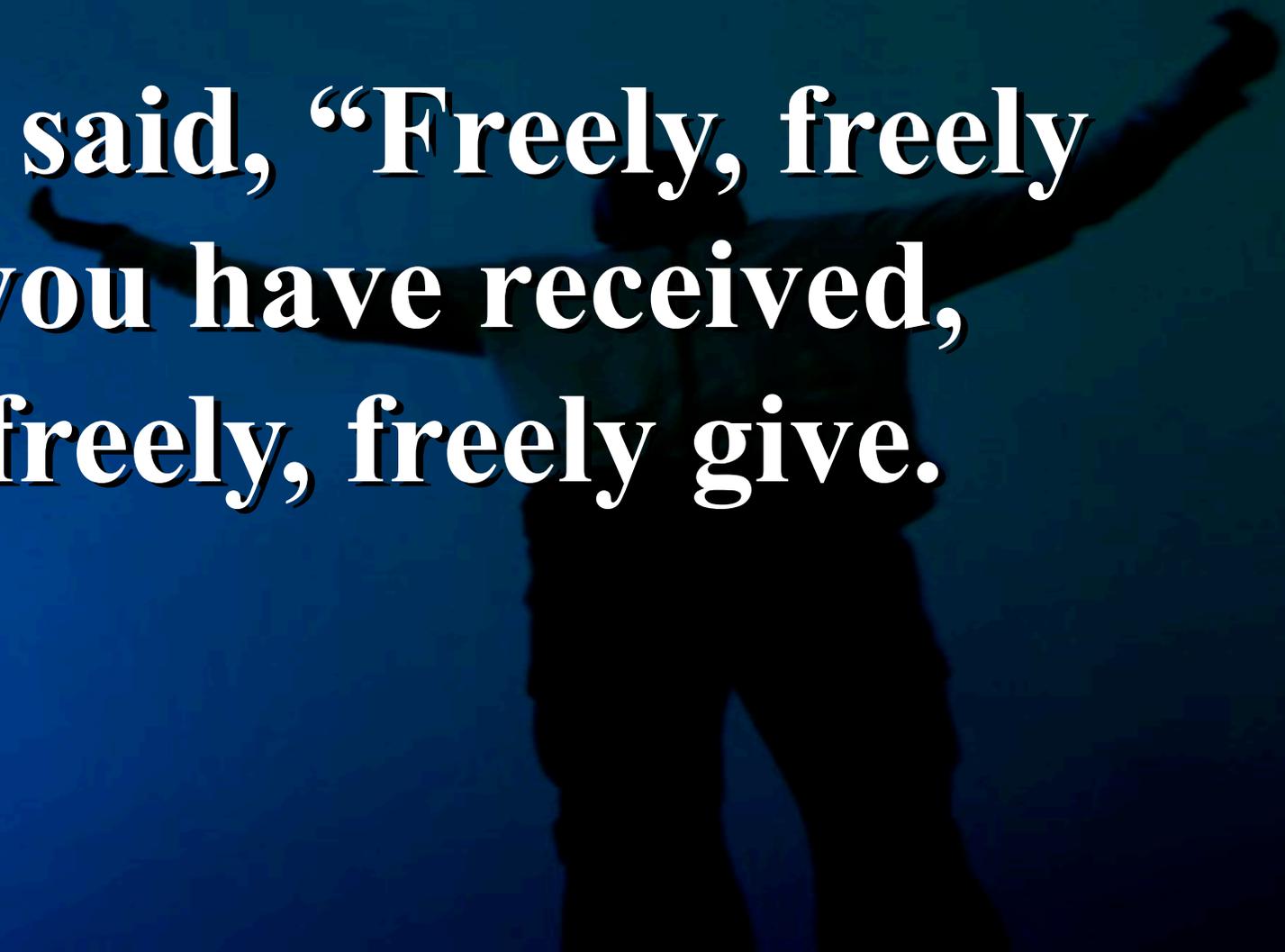
**to share his love**

**as he told me to.**

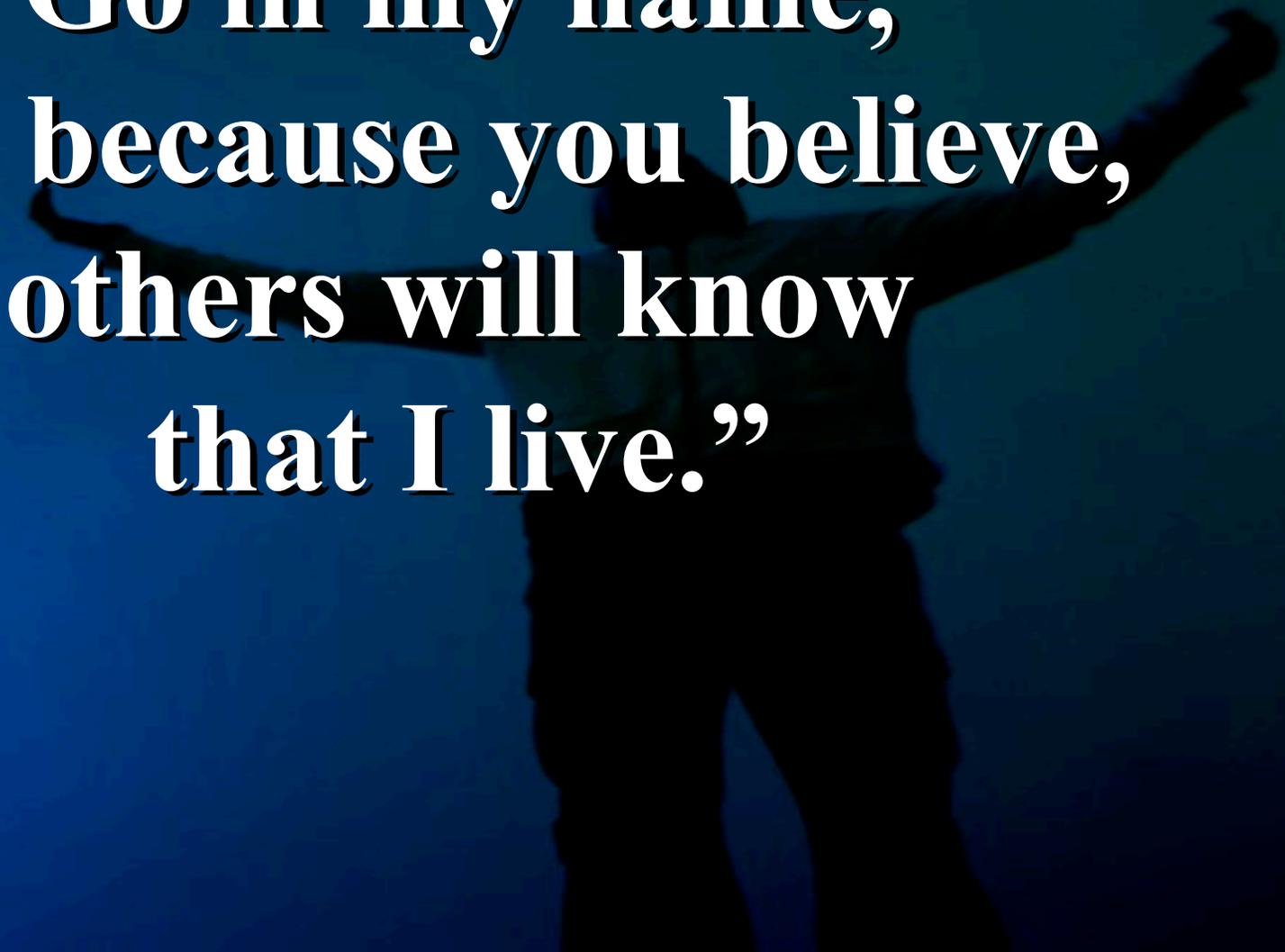


*Refrain*

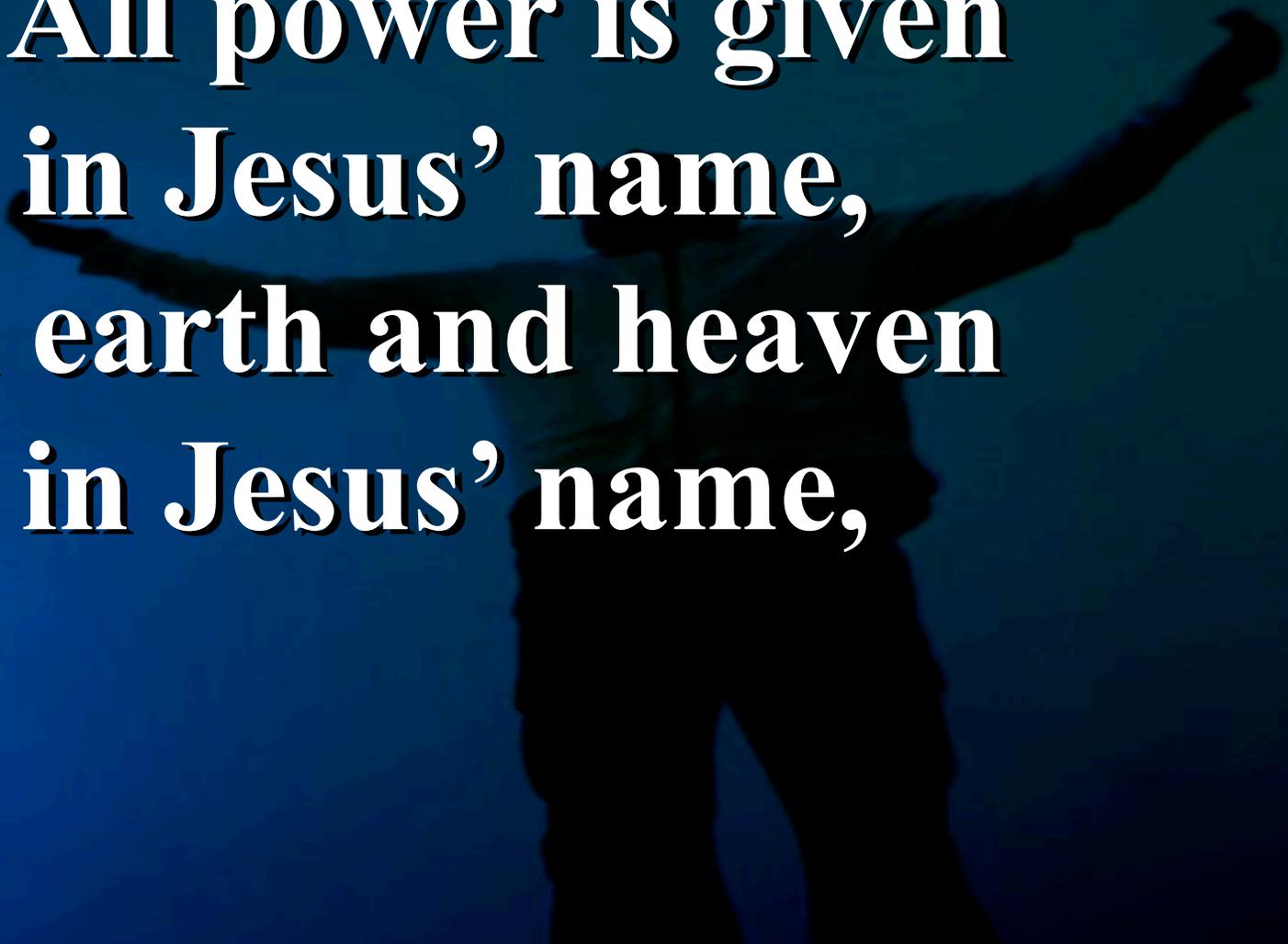
He said, “Freely, freely  
you have received,  
freely, freely give.”

A dark silhouette of a person standing with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background.

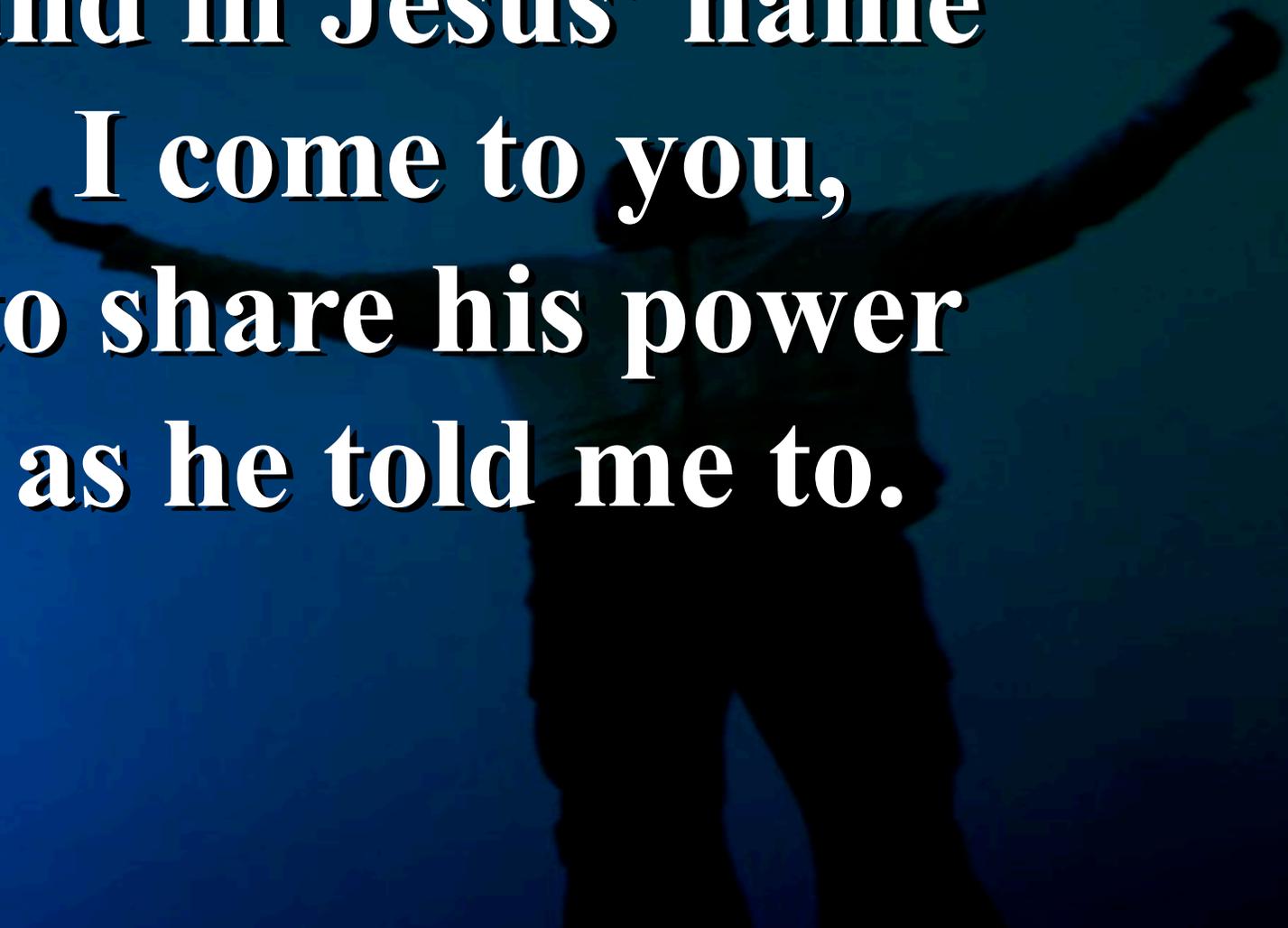
**Go in my name,  
and because you believe,  
others will know  
that I live.”**

A dark silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph, set against a blue gradient background.

**2. All power is given  
in Jesus' name,  
in earth and heaven  
in Jesus' name,**

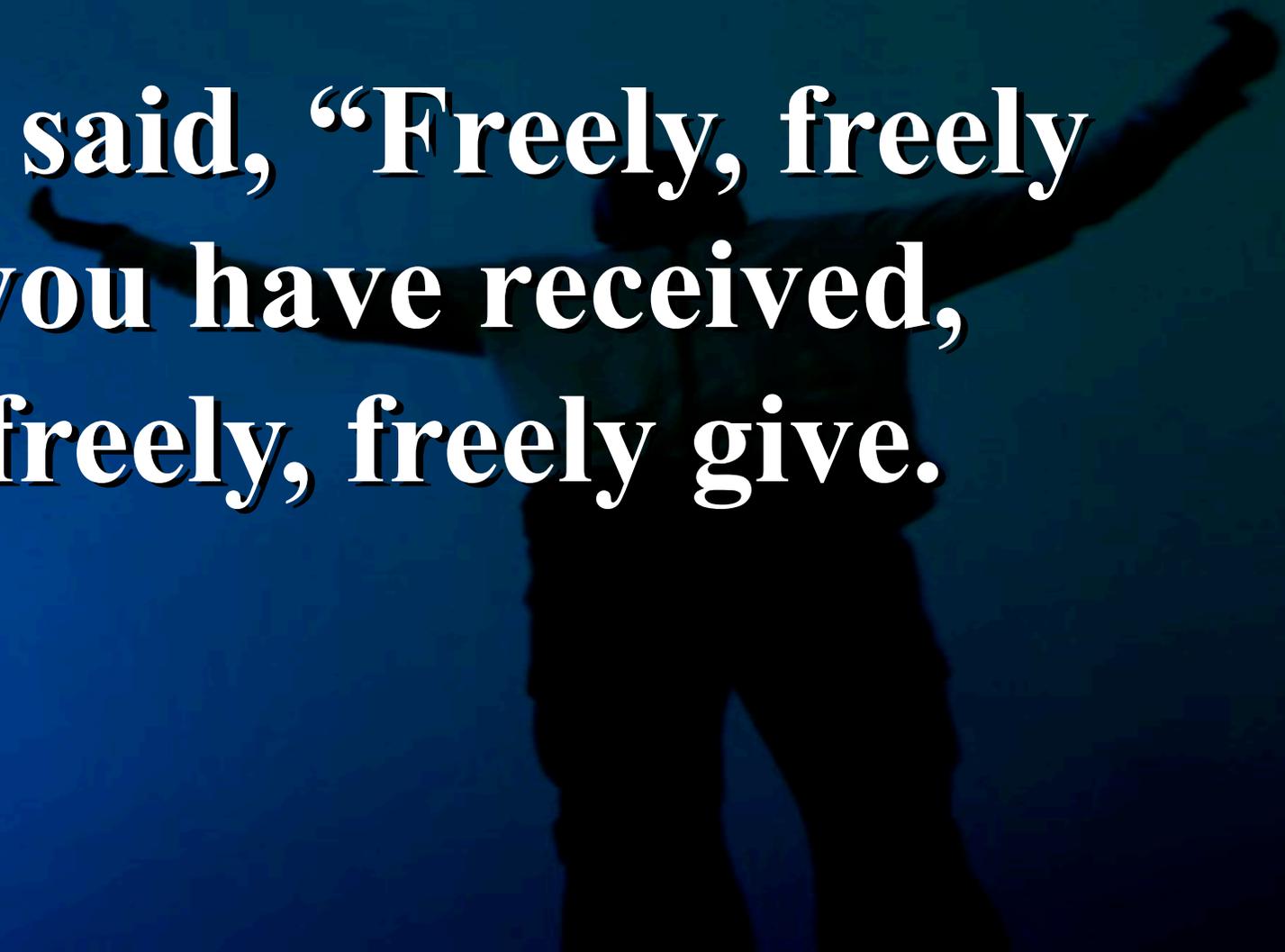
A dark silhouette of a person standing with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background.

**and in Jesus' name  
I come to you,  
to share his power  
as he told me to.**

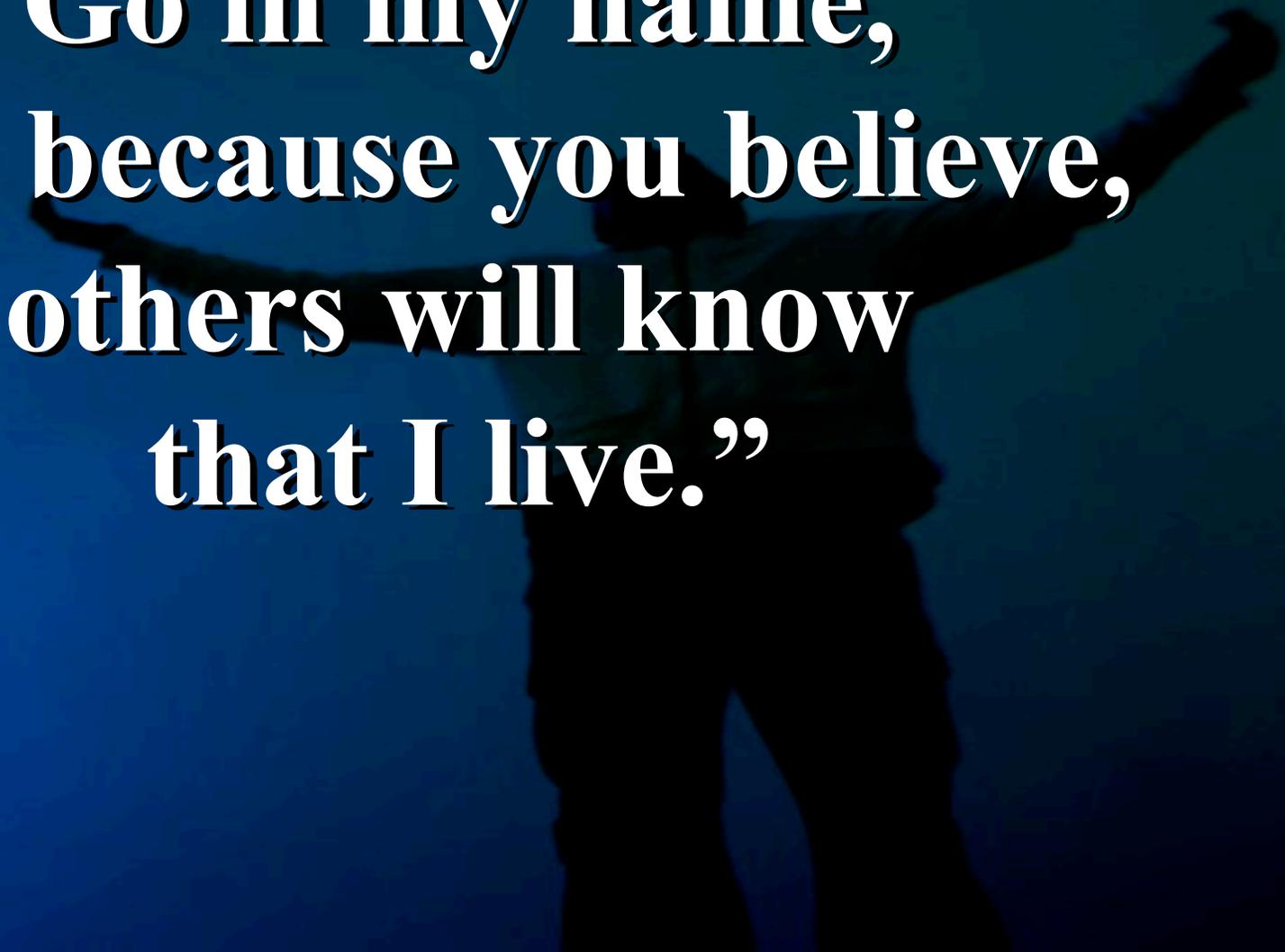
A dark silhouette of a person standing with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background.

*Refrain*

He said, “Freely, freely  
you have received,  
freely, freely give.”

A dark silhouette of a person standing with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background.

**Go in my name,  
and because you believe,  
others will know  
that I live.”**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned behind the text, with their arms extending across the middle of the quote.



# 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

**ROMANS 4:1–5, 13–17**

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness. David



says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: “Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord will never count against them.” Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham’s faith was credited to him as righteousness. Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or

before? It was not after, but before! And he received circumcision as a sign, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. And he is then also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised. It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received

the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is

the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.



CULTIVATING OUR  
**FAITH**



**SERMON  
IS OUR FAITH FOR SALE?**



**HOLY COMMUNION**

# SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II

Christ the Lord invites to  
his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent  
of their sin  
and seek to live in peace  
with one another.



Therefore, let us confess  
our sin before God  
and one another.

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## CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not  
loved you with our  
whole heart.**

**We have failed to be  
an obedient church.**

---

**We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled  
against your love,  
we have not loved  
our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the  
cry of the needy.**

---

**Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful  
obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our  
Lord.  
Amen.**

---

Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while  
We were yet sinners;  
That proves God's love  
toward us.

---

In the name of Jesus Christ,  
You are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus  
Christ,  
You are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

# THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

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The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the  
Lord.**

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Let us give thanks  
to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our  
thanks, and praise.**

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It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

---

And so, with your people  
on earth and all the  
company of heaven we  
praise your name and join  
their unending hymn:

---

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full  
of your glory. Hosanna in  
the highest.**

---

**Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**



Holy are you, and blessed is  
your Son Jesus Christ.

---

By the baptism of his suffering,  
death, and resurrection, You  
gave birth to your church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin  
and death, and made with us a  
new covenant by water and the  
Spirit.

---

On the night in which he  
gave himself up for us, He  
took bread, gave thanks to  
you, broke the bread, gave it  
to his disciples, and said:

---

“Take, eat; this is my body  
which is given for you. Do  
this in remembrance of me.”

---

When the supper was over,  
He took the cup, gave  
thanks to you, gave it to his  
disciples, and said:

---

“Drink from this, all of you;  
This is my blood of the new  
covenant, poured out for you  
and for many, for the  
forgiveness of sins.

---

Do this, as often as you  
drink it, in remembrance of  
me.”

---

And so, in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,

---

as we proclaim the mystery  
of faith.

**Christ has died;  
Christ is risen;  
Christ will come again.**

---

Pour out your Holy Spirit  
on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of  
bread and wine.

---

Make them be for us the  
body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world  
the body of Christ, redeemed  
by his blood.

---

By your Spirit, make us  
one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in ministry  
to all the world,

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until Christ comes in  
final victory  
and we feast at his  
Heavenly banquet.

---

Through your Son Jesus  
Christ, with the Holy Spirit  
in your holy church, all  
honor and glory is yours,  
Almighty Father, now and  
forever. **Amen.**



# COMMUNION

do this in  
remembrance of me

**Breaking the Bread  
and  
Sharing the Cup**





# 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





**Feel the Spirit blow  
through your life, renewing  
your spirit and calling you  
to be born from above. Go  
in the love of God, the  
peace of Christ, and the  
strength of the Holy Spirit.**



# 564 Threefold Amen

Walter Henry Hall (1862-1935)

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

# CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

