



WELCOME!
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS
MARCH 15, 2026

CENTERING SONG



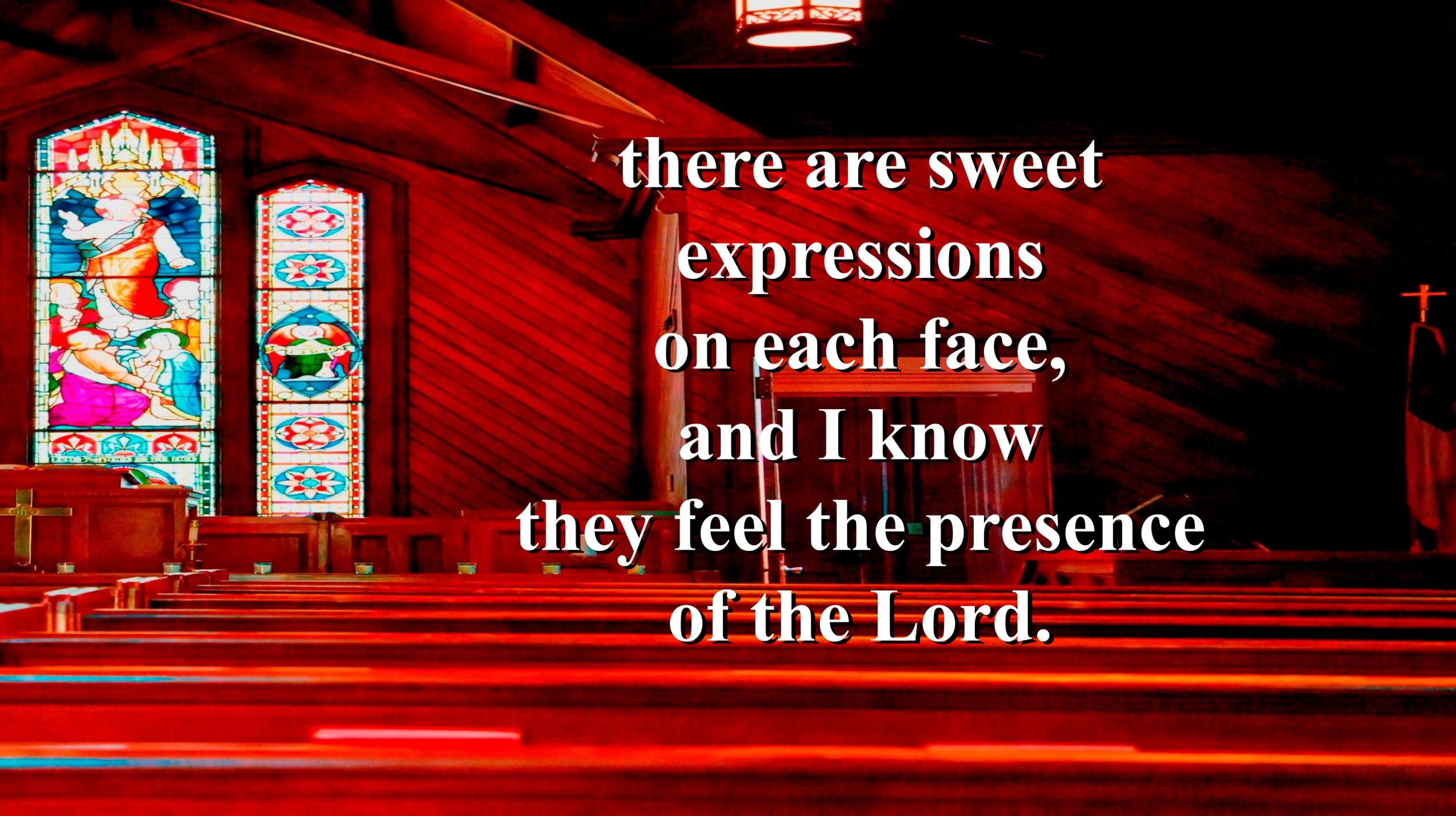
SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
UMH 334

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.**

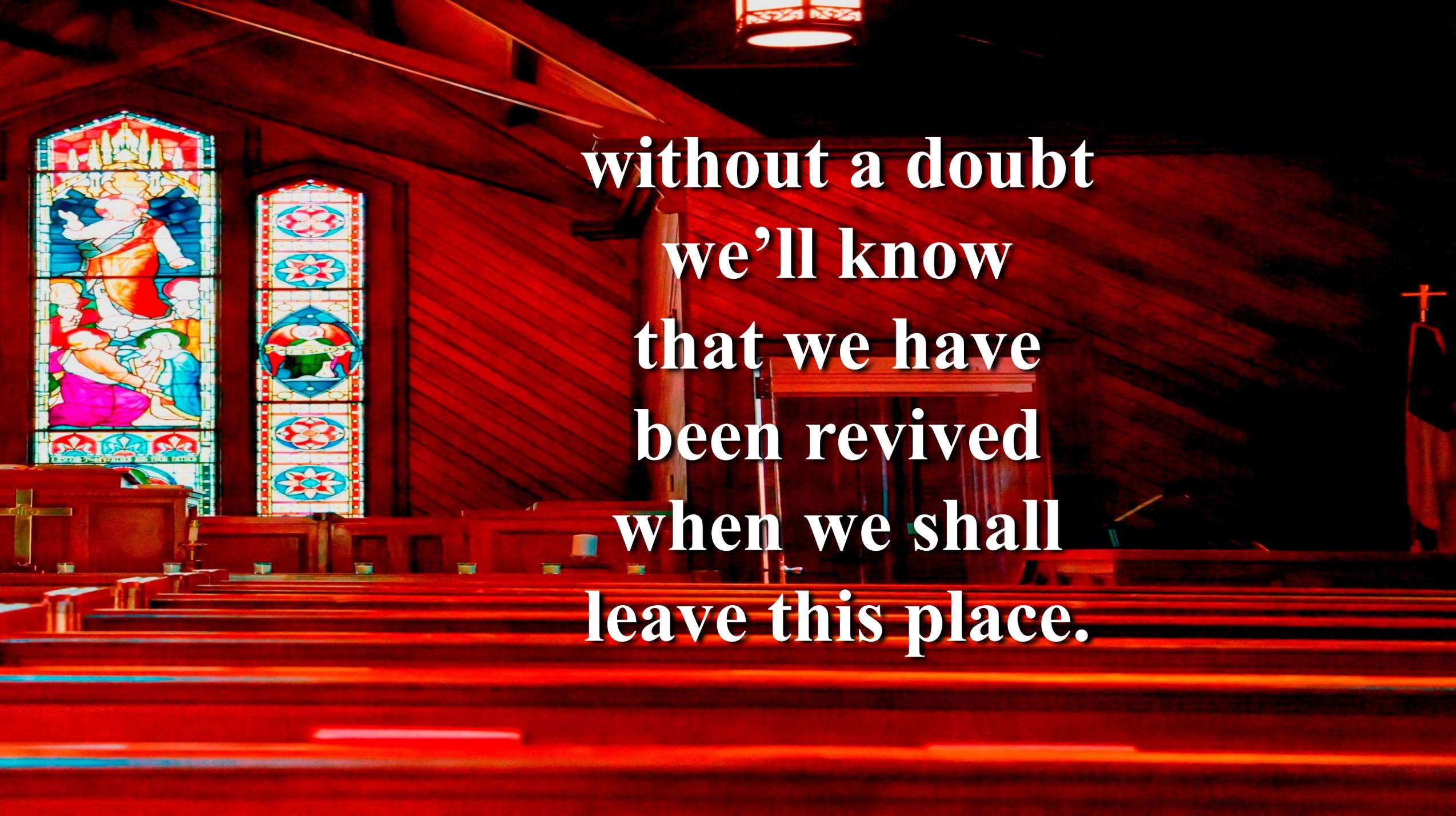


Refrain

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.**

GATHERING SONG



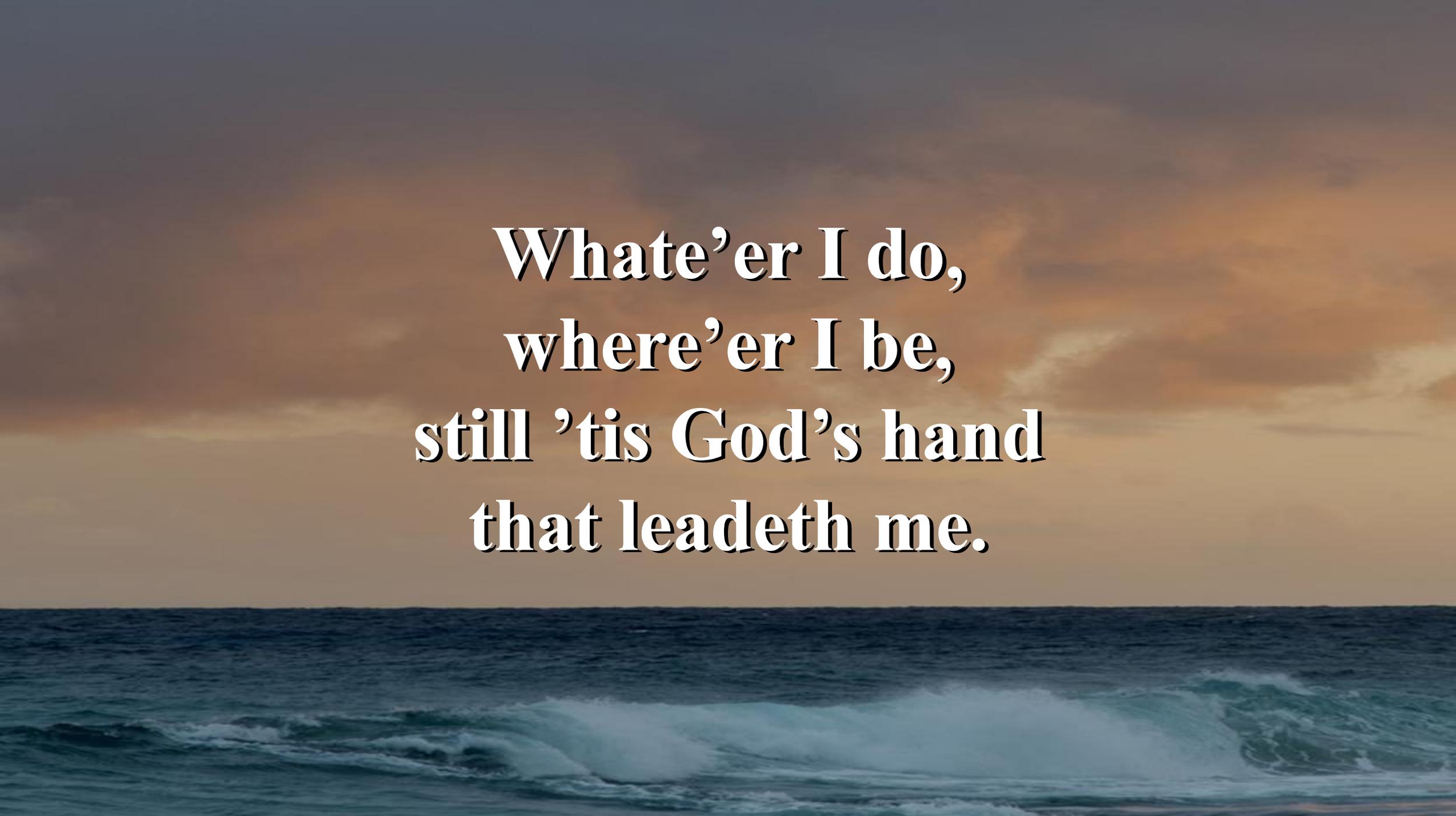
He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

**He Leadeth Me:
O Blessed Thought**

128

WORDS: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862 (Ps. 23)

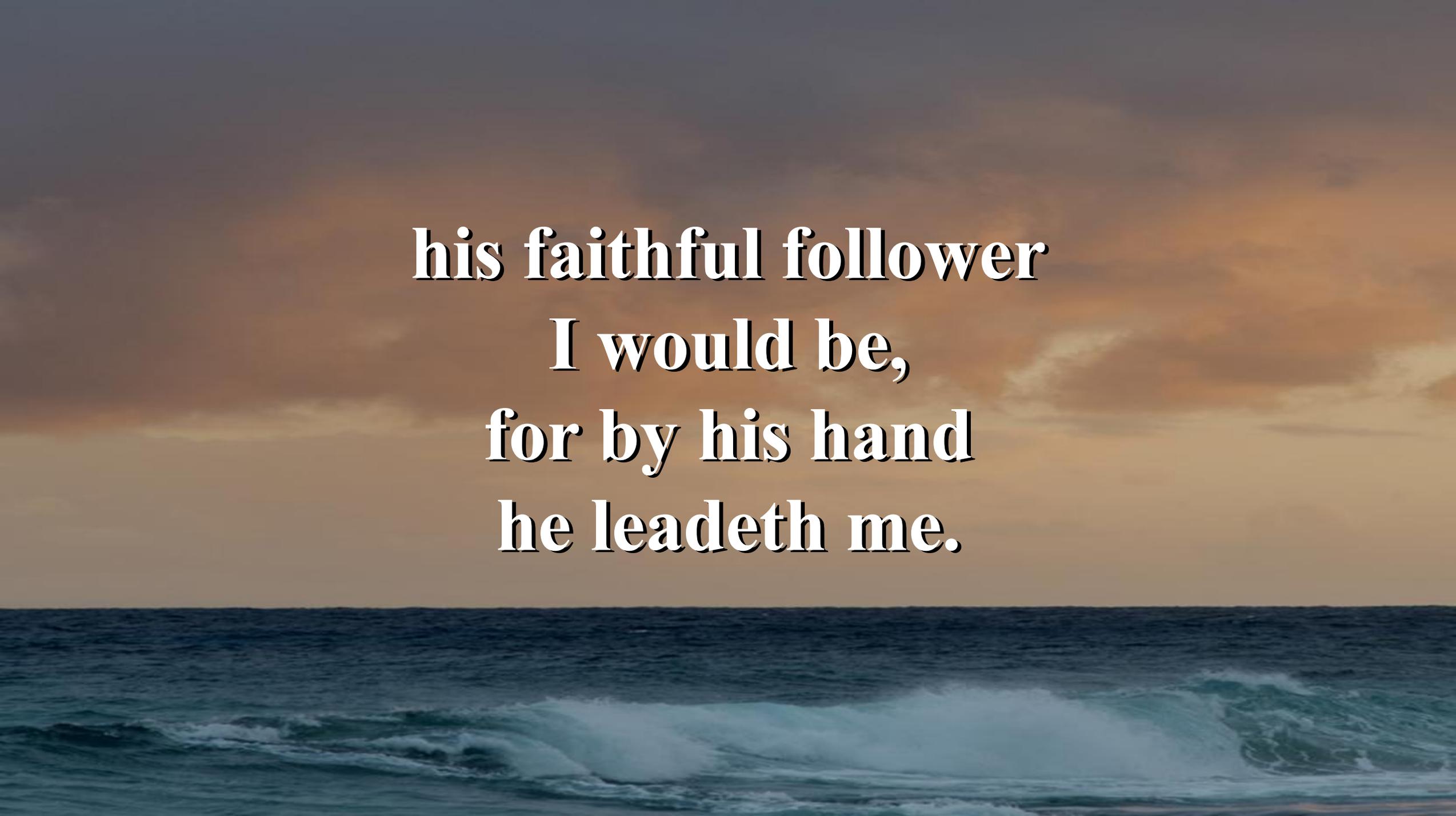
**1. He leadeth me:
O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly
comfort fraught!**

A sunset over the ocean with waves in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with some clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam on the waves.

**Whate'er I do,
where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand
that leadeth me.**

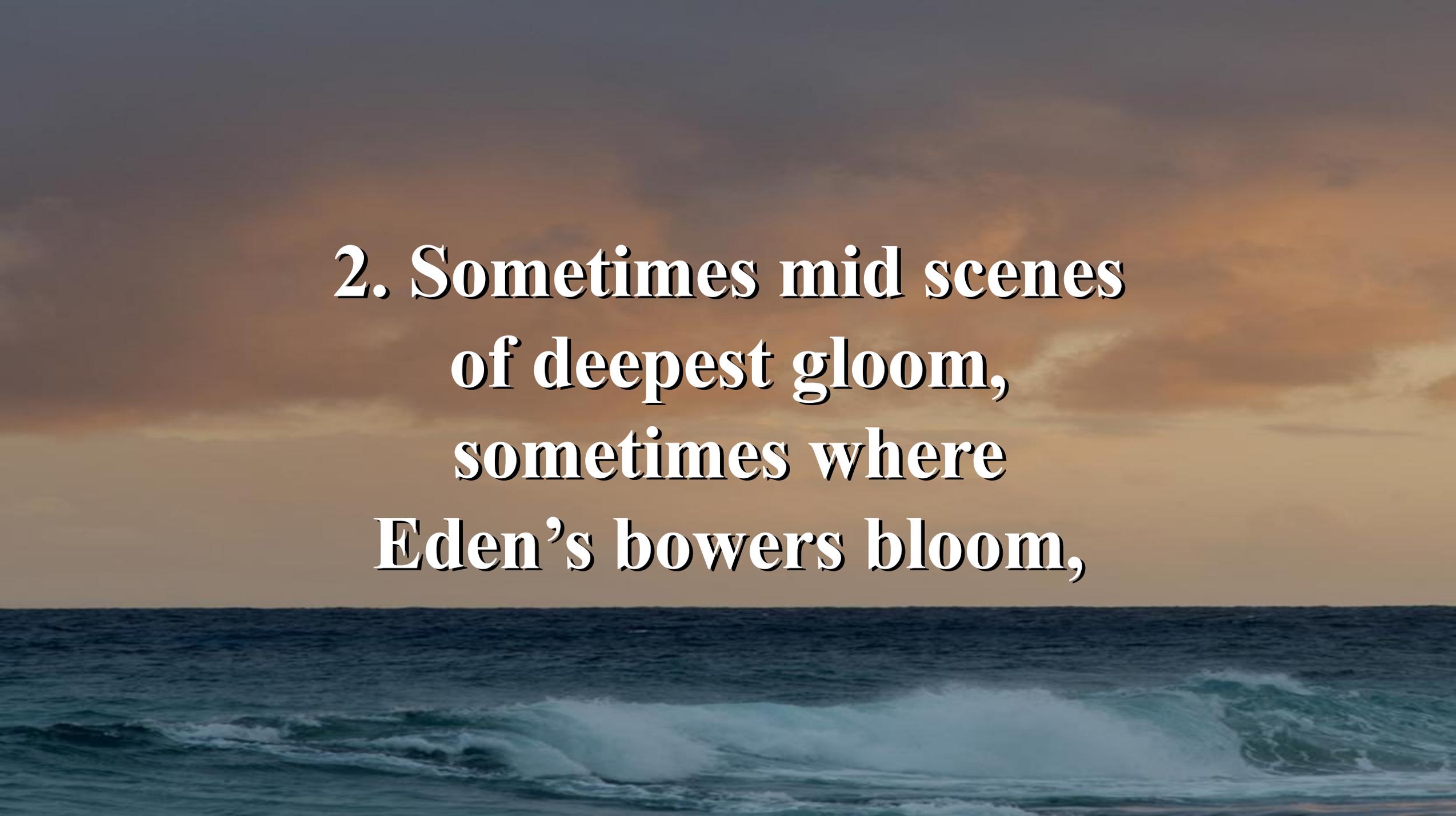
Refrain

He leadeth me,
he leadeth me,
by his own hand
he leadeth me;

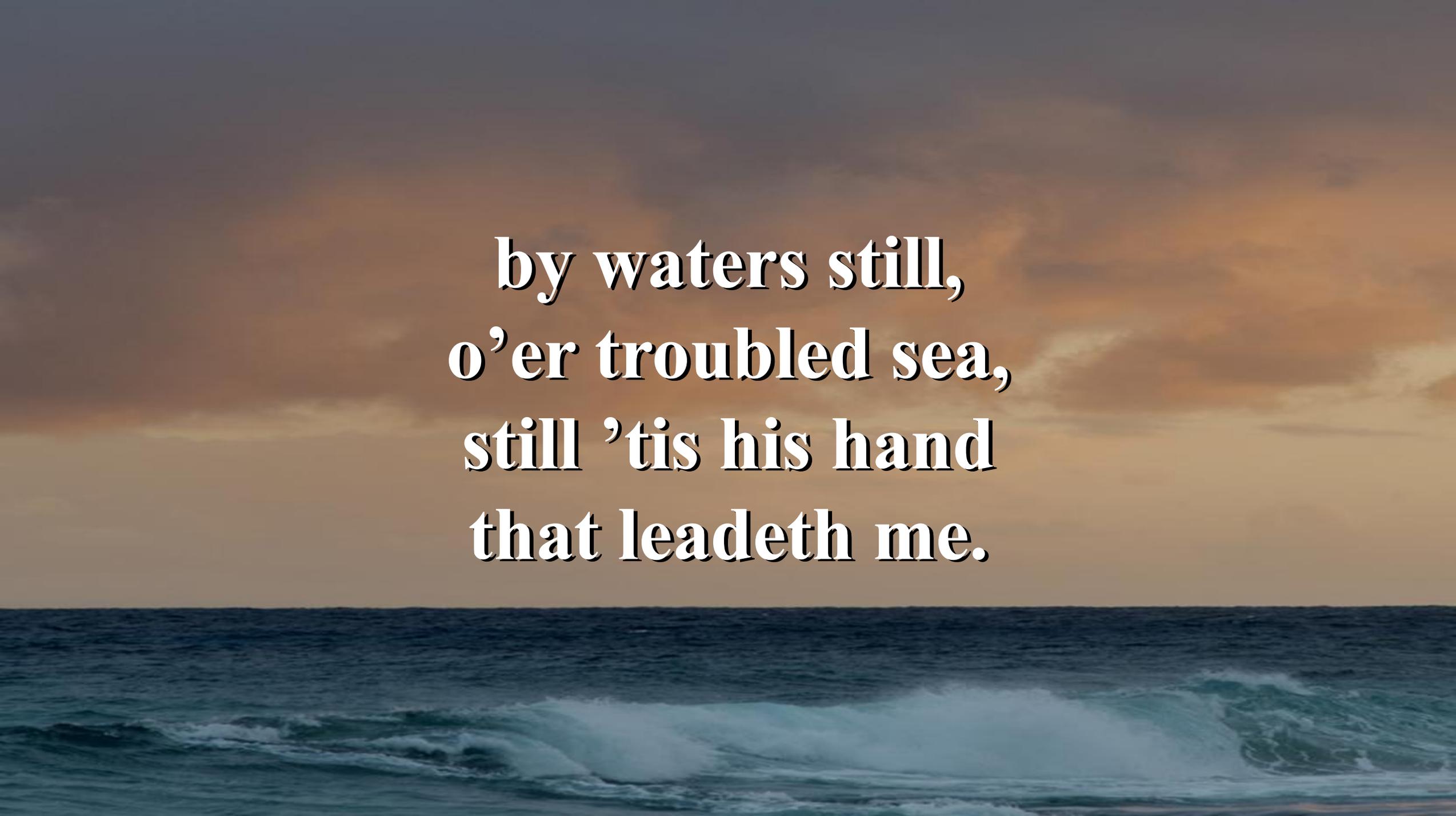
A sunset over the ocean with waves in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with some clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam from the waves.

his faithful follower

**I would be,
for by his hand
he leadeth me.**

The background of the image is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise over the ocean. The sky is filled with soft, warm colors ranging from light orange to a pale yellow, with some wispy clouds. The horizon line is visible, and the foreground shows the dark blue, choppy surface of the water with white foam from a wave breaking. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

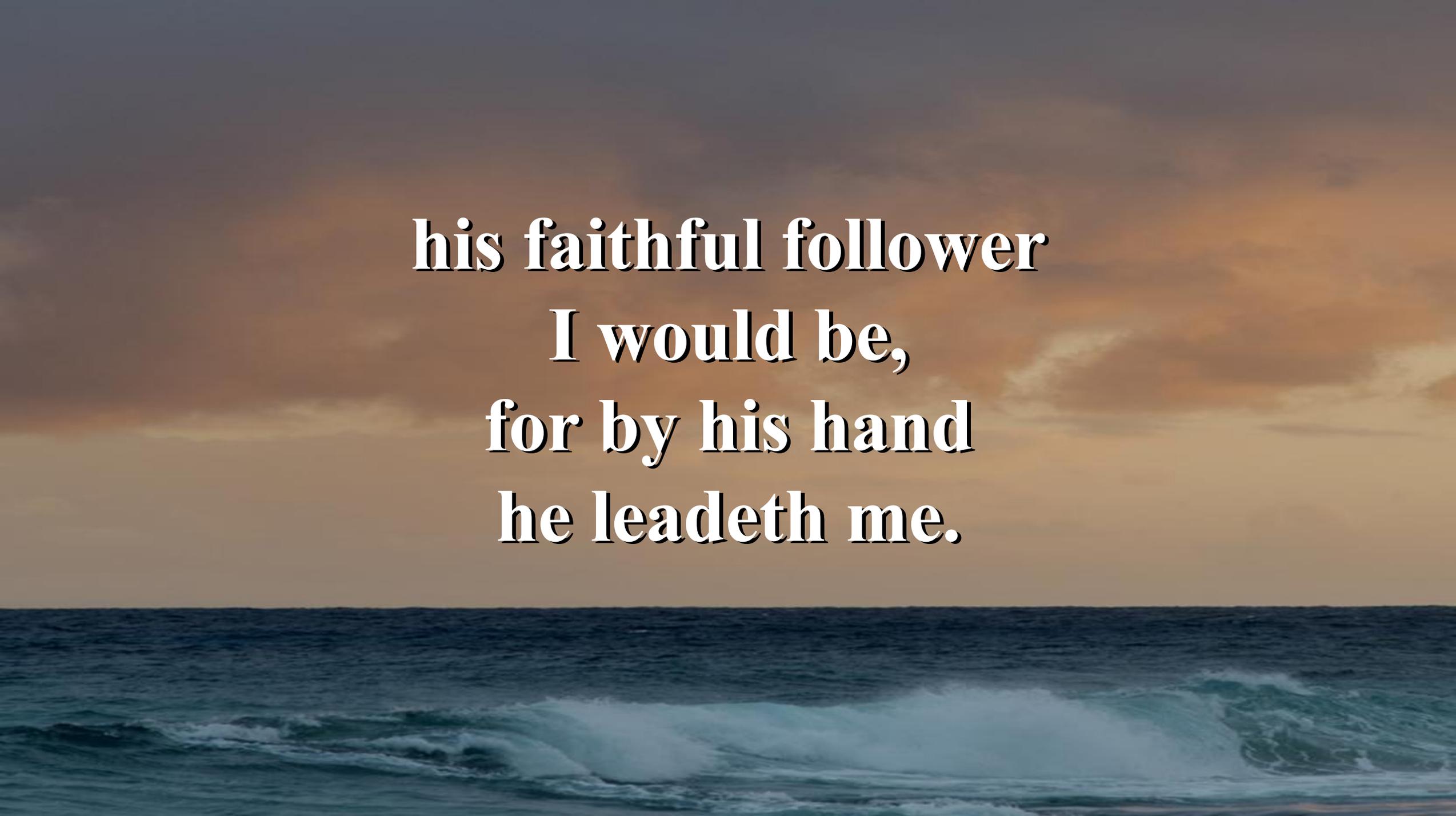
**2. Sometimes mid scenes
of deepest gloom,
sometimes where
Eden's bowers bloom,**

A seascape with a sunset sky and a wave in the foreground. The sky is a mix of dark grey, orange, and yellow, with some clouds. The sea is dark blue with white foam on a wave in the foreground.

**by waters still,
o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand
that leadeth me.**

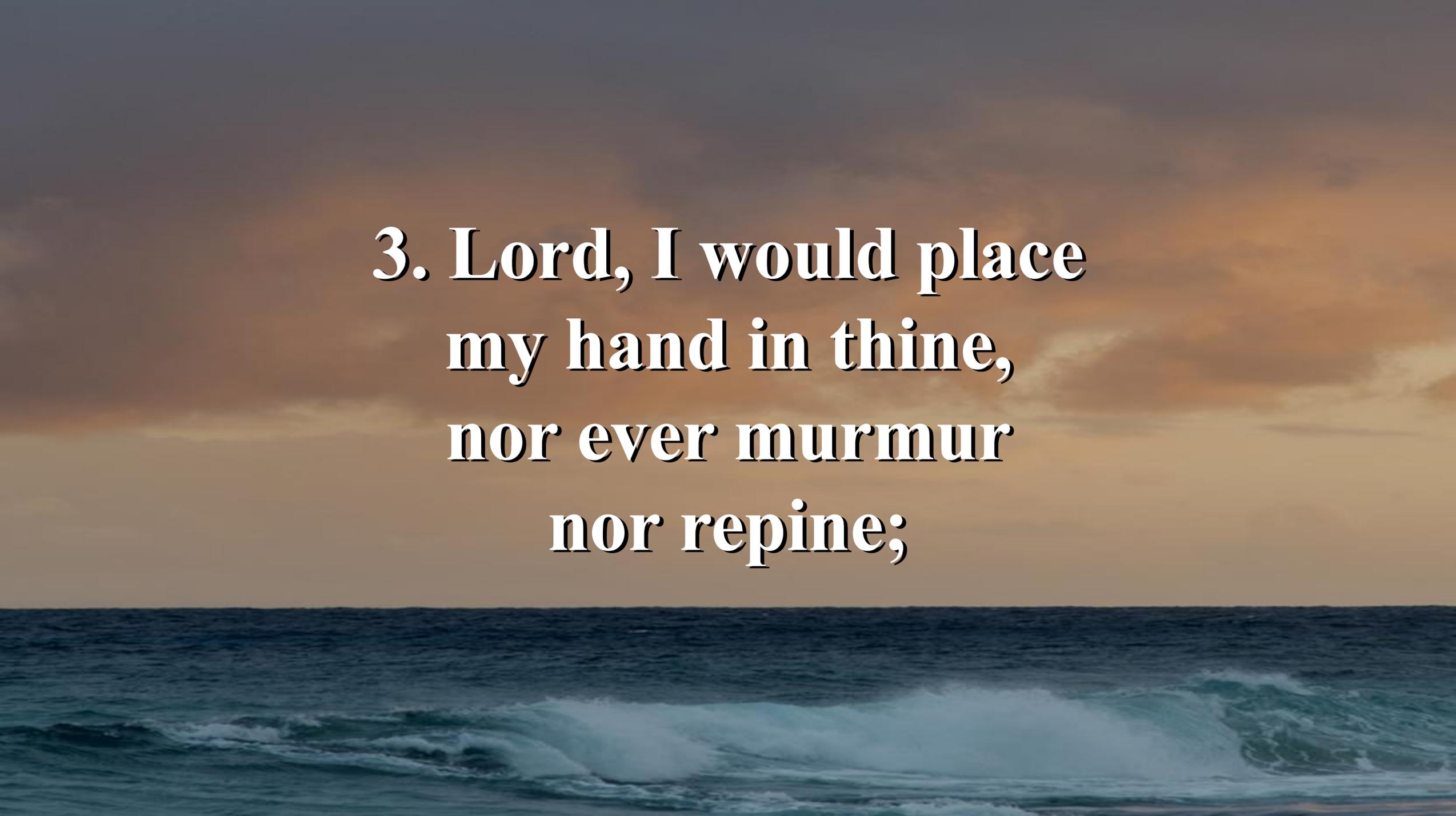
Refrain

He leadeth me,
he leadeth me,
by his own hand
he leadeth me;

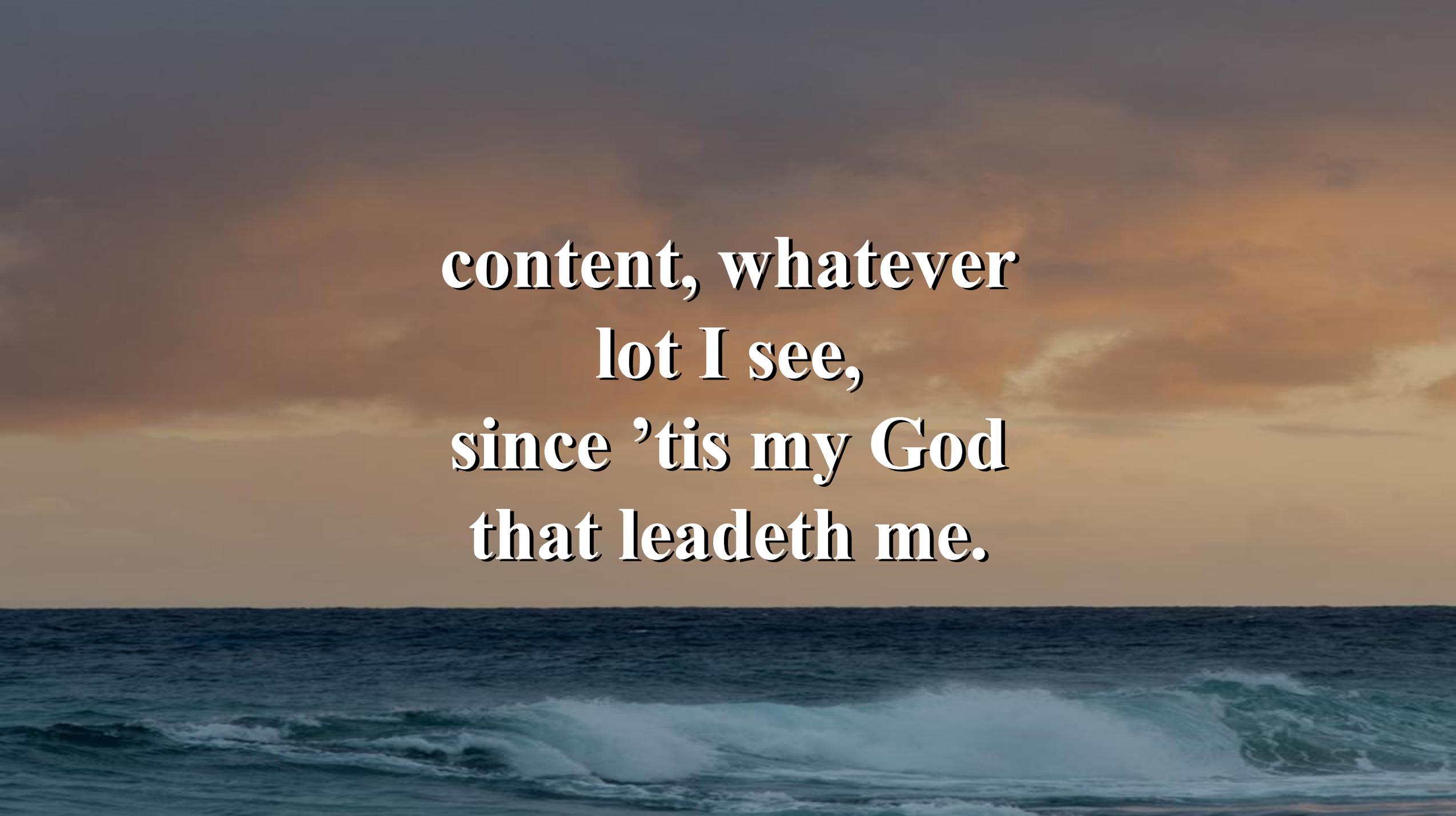
A sunset over the ocean with waves breaking in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, and the water is a deep blue with white foam from the waves.

his faithful follower

**I would be,
for by his hand
he leadeth me.**

A sunset over the ocean with waves breaking in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, and the water is a deep blue with white foam from the waves.

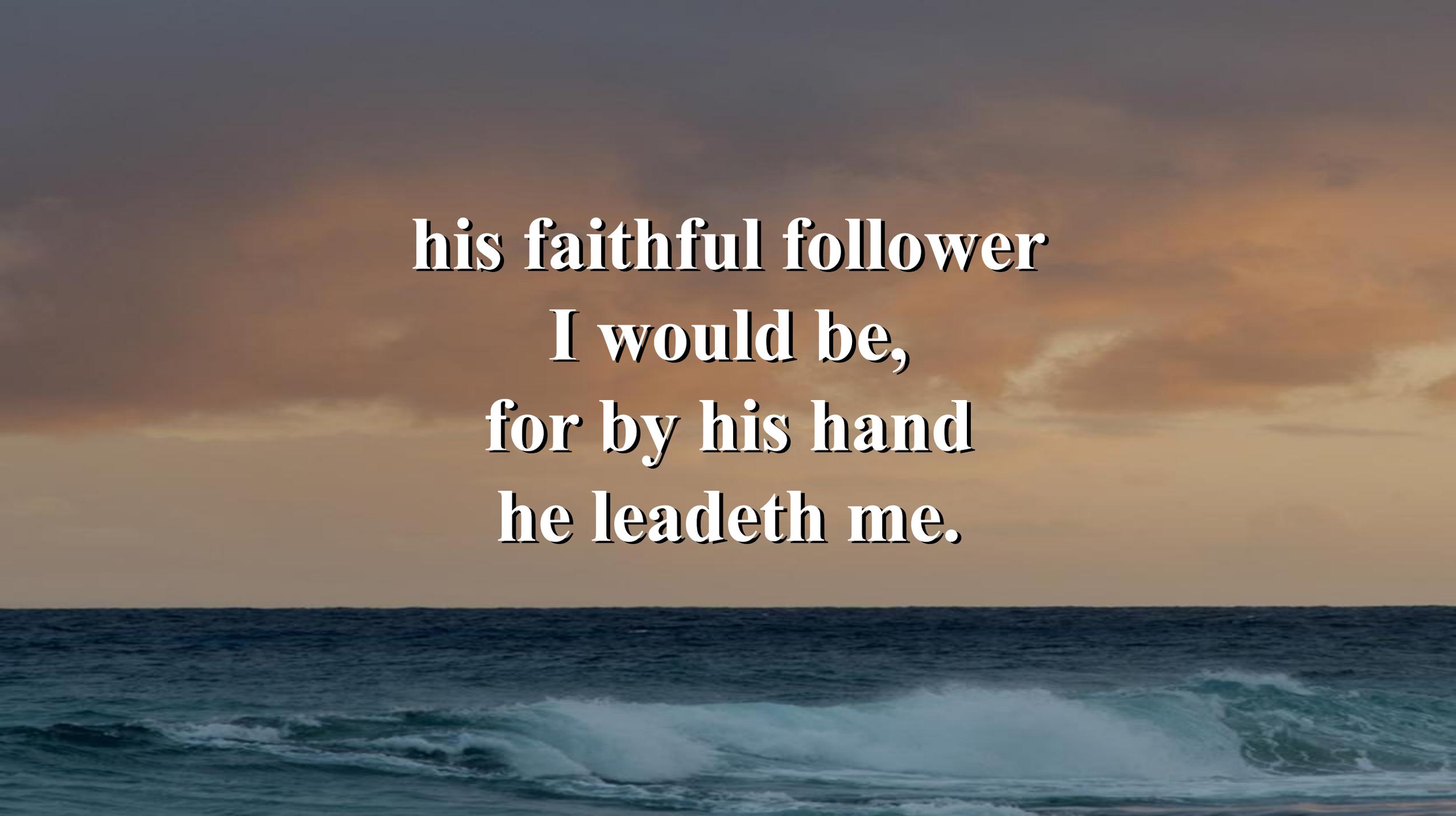
**3. Lord, I would place
my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur
nor repine;**

A sunset over the ocean with waves in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with some clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam from the waves.

**content, whatever
lot I see,
since 'tis my God
that leadeth me.**

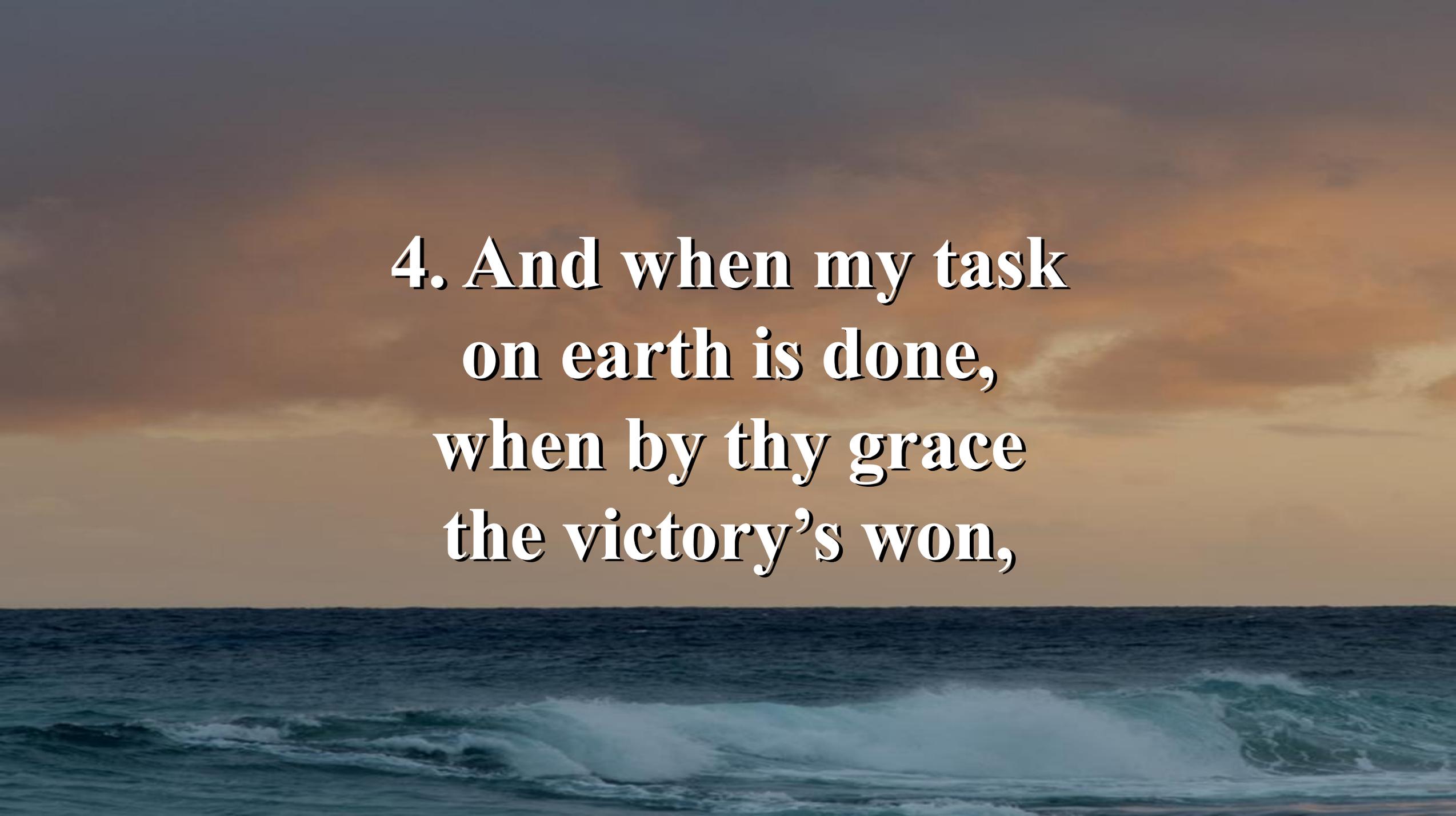
Refrain

He leadeth me,
he leadeth me,
by his own hand
he leadeth me;

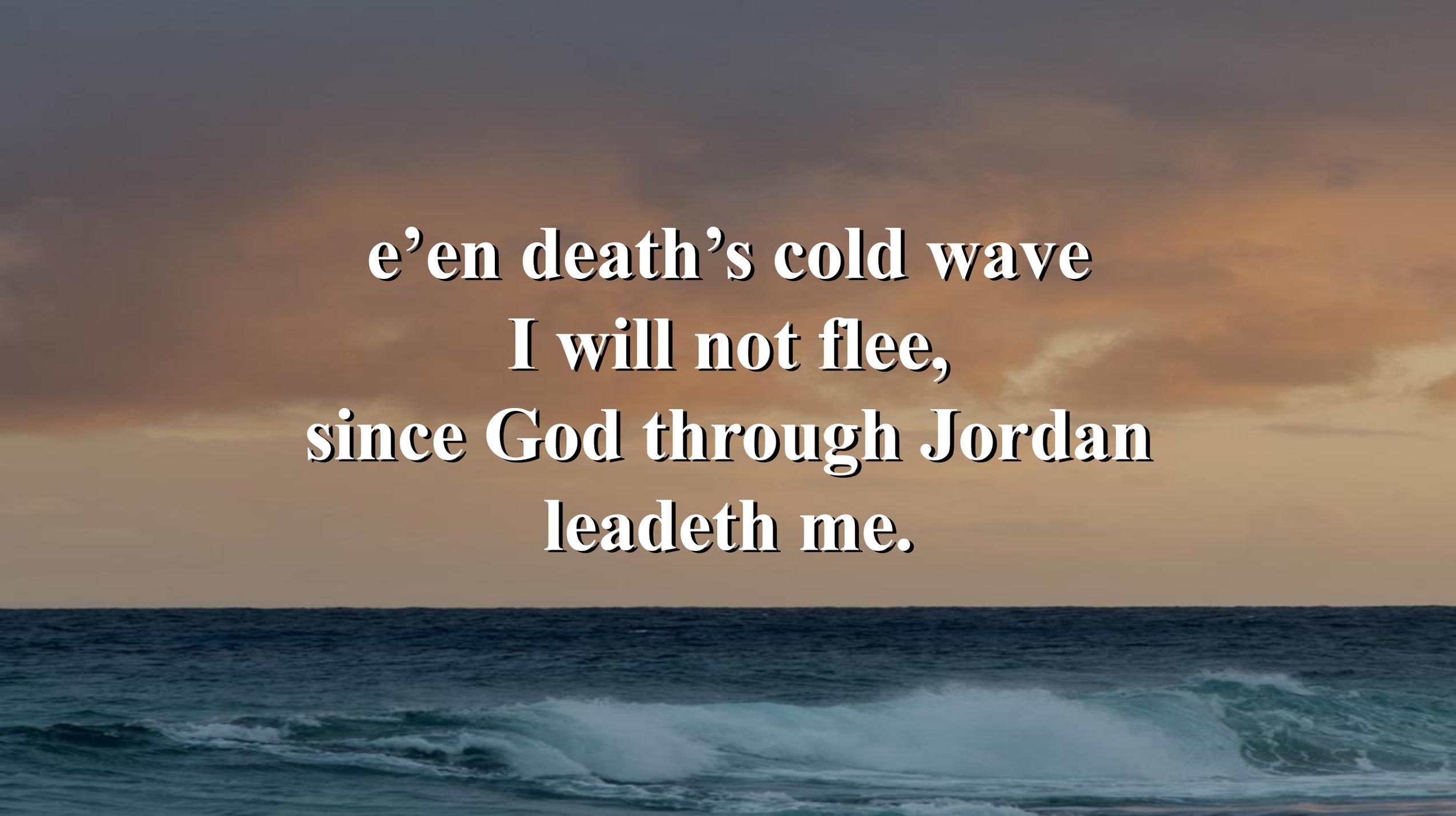
A sunset over the ocean with waves in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with some clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam from the waves.

his faithful follower

**I would be,
for by his hand
he leadeth me.**

A sunset over the ocean with waves in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with soft clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam from the waves.

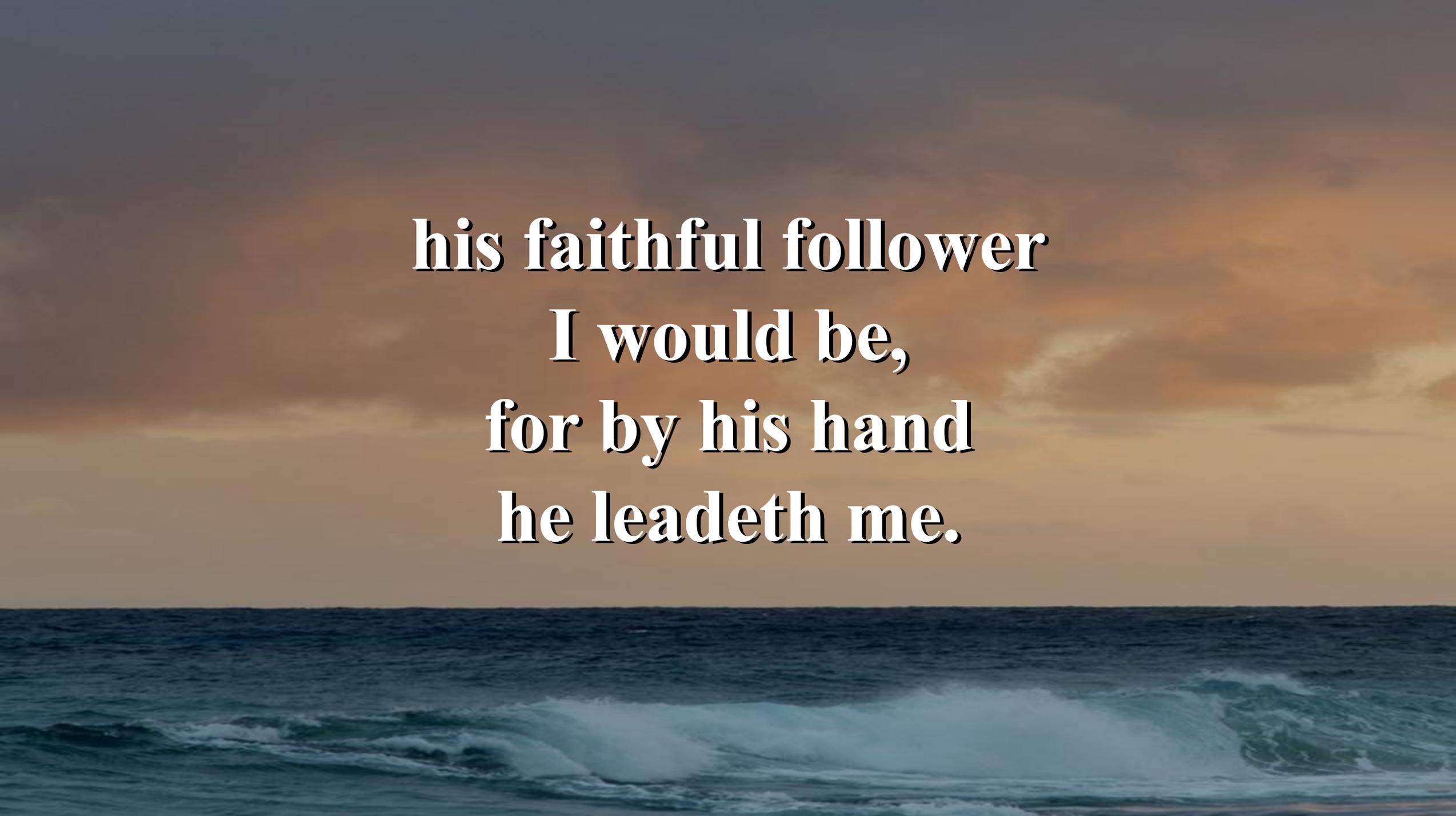
**4. And when my task
on earth is done,
when by thy grace
the victory's won,**

The background of the image is a sunset over the ocean. The sky is a mix of dark grey, orange, and yellow, with some light clouds. The ocean is a deep blue with white-capped waves in the foreground.

**e'en death's cold wave
I will not flee,
since God through Jordan
leadeth me.**

Refrain

**He leadeth me,
he leadeth me,
by his own hand
he leadeth me;**

A sunset over the ocean with waves in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with some clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam from the waves.

his faithful follower

**I would be,
for by his hand
he leadeth me.**



PRELUDE



**WELCOME
&
ANNOUNCEMENT**



Birthday/Anniversary



CALL TO WORSHIP

**Come into the light of God.
Christ's brightness will guide
our way. Come into the wisdom
of God. The Spirit's insight will
reveal new truths. Come into
the praise of God, Worship
opens new doors in our hearts.**





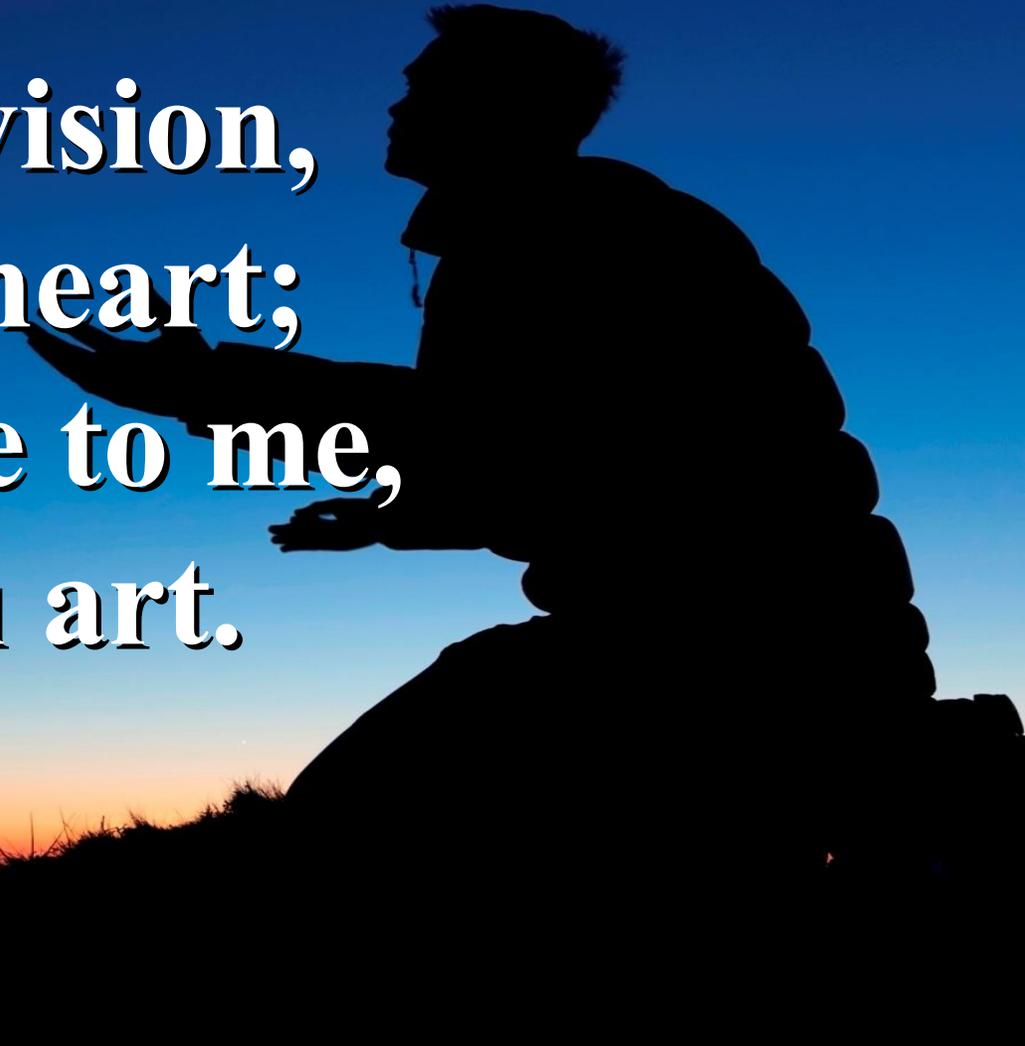
OPENING SONG
“Be Thou My Vision”

Be Thou My Vision

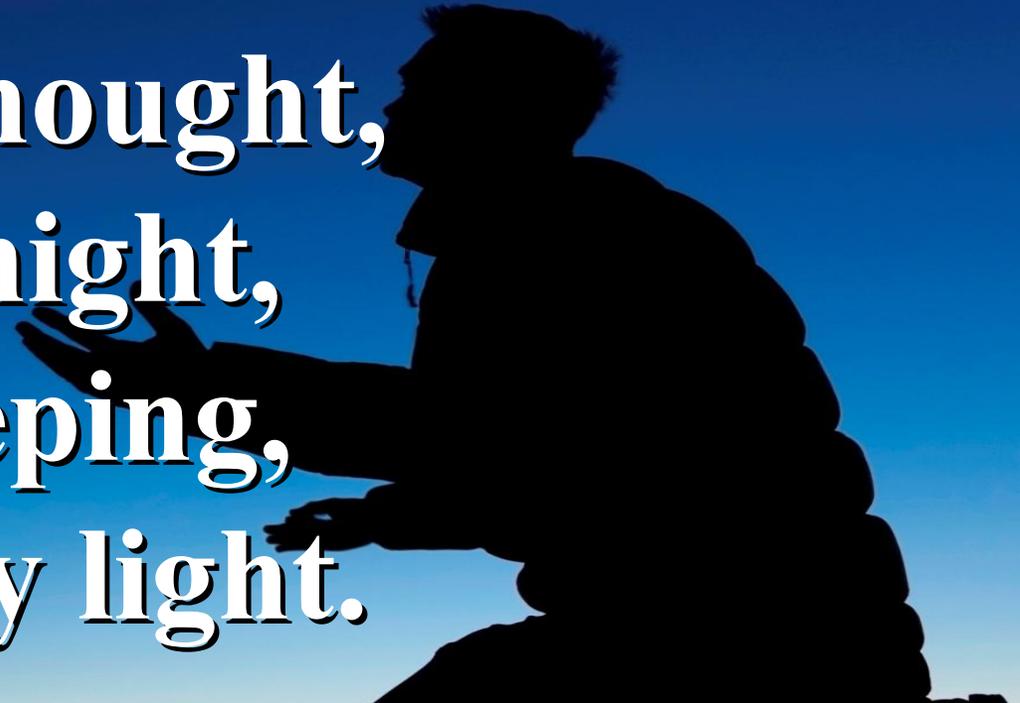
451

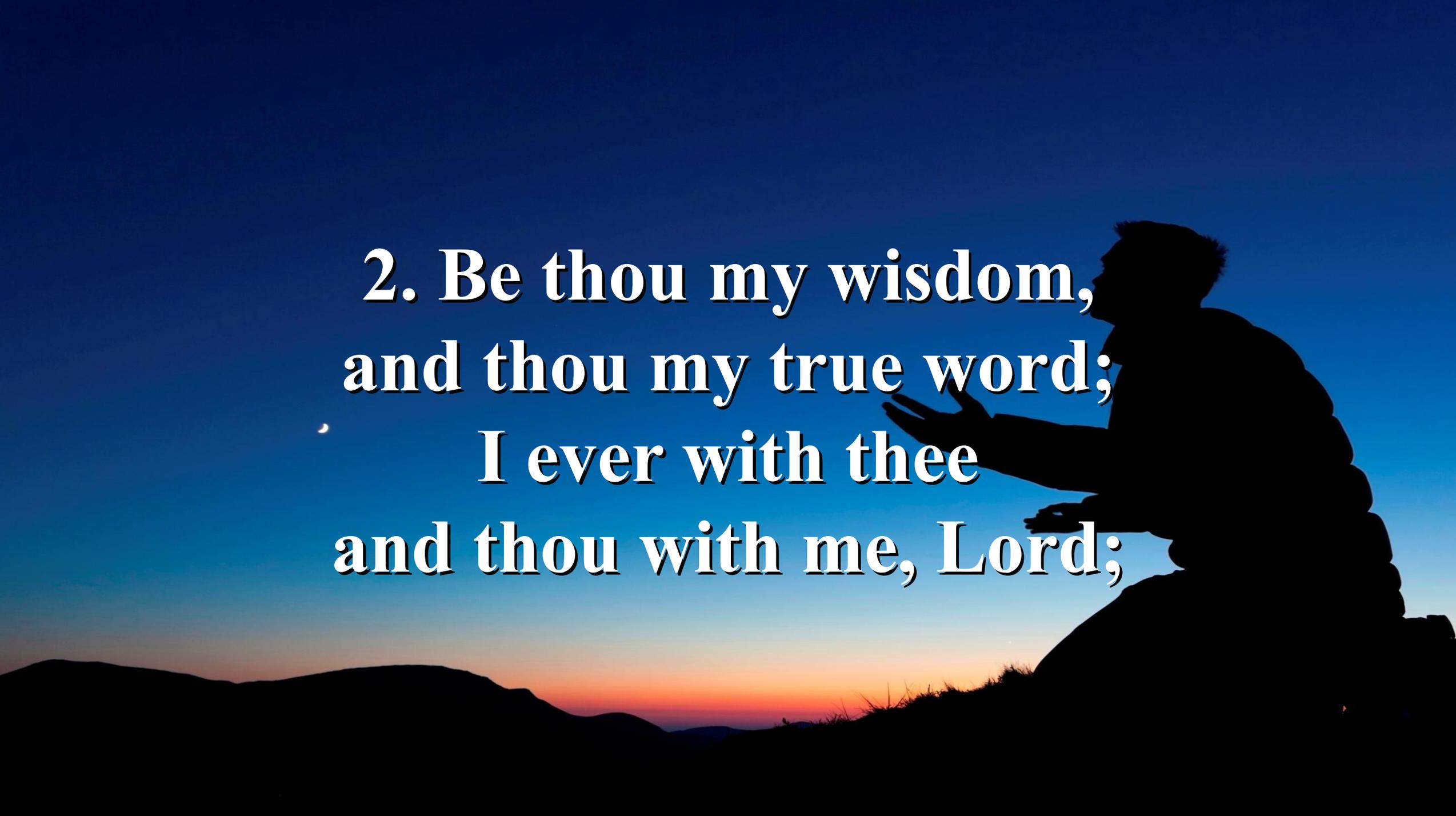
WORDS: Ancient Irish; trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905;
versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.

**1. Be thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me,
save that thou art.**



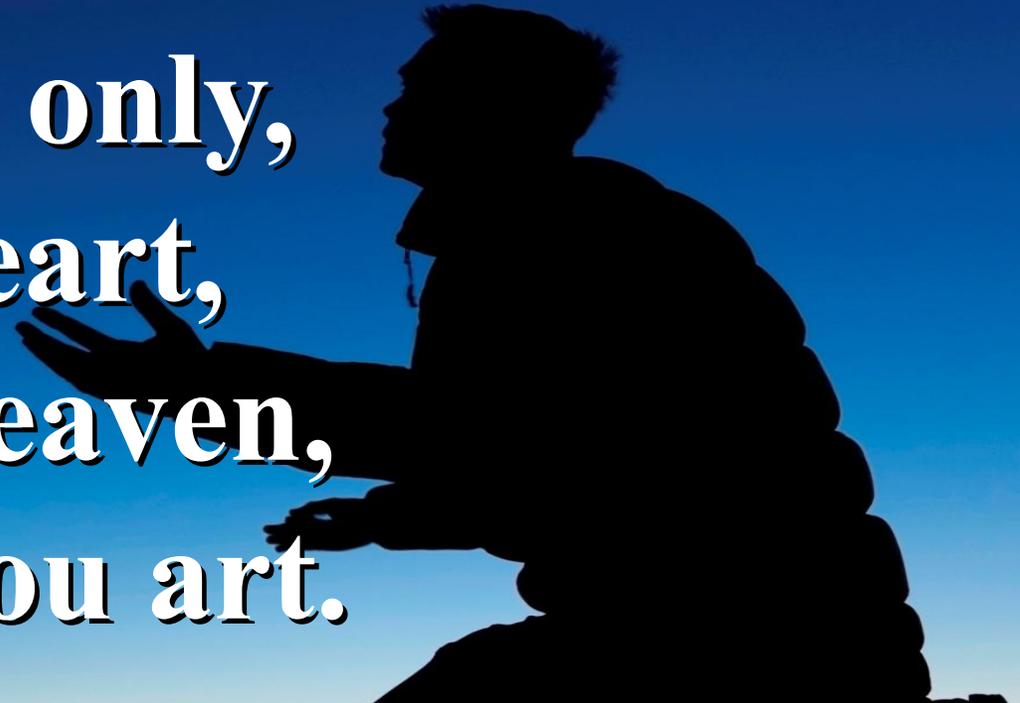
**Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light.**



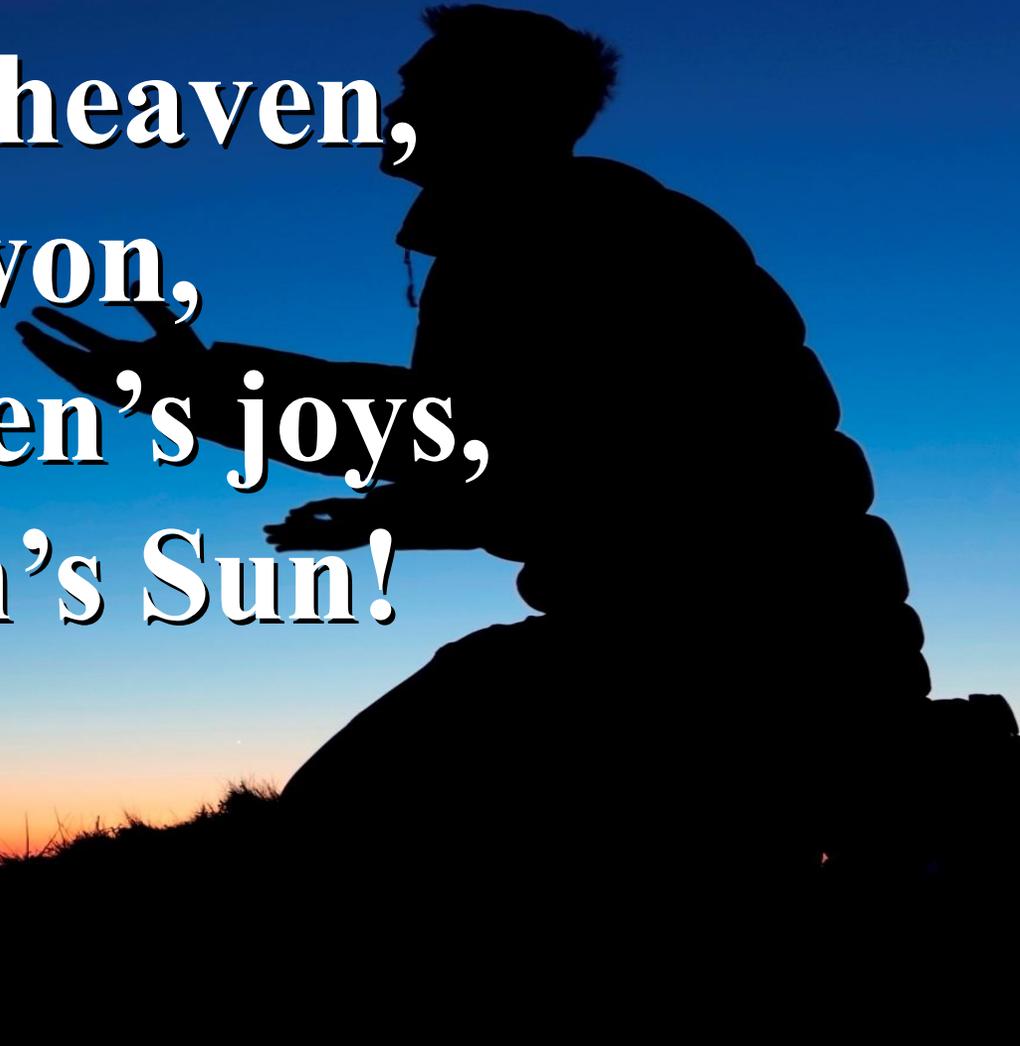
A silhouette of a person kneeling on a hillside, facing right with hands raised in prayer. The background is a sunset sky with a gradient from orange at the horizon to dark blue at the top. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**2. Be thou my wisdom,
and thou my true word;
I ever with thee
and thou with me, Lord;**

**thou and thou only,
first in my heart,
great God of heaven,
my treasure thou art.**



**3. Great God of heaven,
my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!**



**Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
still be my vision,
O Ruler of all.**





OPENING PRAYER



**Shepherd of love, guide our steps,
open the eyes of our hearts, and fling
wide the doors of our minds to perceive
as you perceive. Open our lives to love
as you love. Open our world to become
the world you envision for your
creation. In the light of your love, we
pray. Amen.**



“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

474

WORDS: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

1. Precious Lord,
take my hand,
lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak,
I am worn;

**through the storm,
through the night,
lead me on
to the light:**

Refrain

**Take my hand,
precious Lord,
lead me home.**

**2. When my way
grows drear,
precious Lord, linger near,
when my life
is almost gone,**

**hear my cry,
hear my call,
hold my hand
lest I fall:**

Refrain

Take my hand,
precious Lord,
lead me home.

**3. When the
darkness appears
and the night draws near,
and the day is
past and gone,**

**at the river I stand,
guide my feet,
hold my hand:**

Refrain

**Take my hand,
precious Lord,
lead me home.**



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

“PSALM 23”



1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are



with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters.

Psalm 23:1-2



DailyVerses.net



SERMON **“WHO’S LEADING YOU?”**



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ, our Healer, we want to see and be seen fully. We long to heal and be healed fully. We yearn to love and be loved fully. Yet these desires seem beyond our reach when our minds are set on earthly things. Set our minds instead on you. Help us perceive the possibilities of fullness, of shalom, of your realm on this earth. Then guide us to help live into the reality you show us. Amen.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Surely goodness and faithful love follow us all the days of our lives. For these gifts are already ours through the grace and the power of Christ Jesus.



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

“CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD”



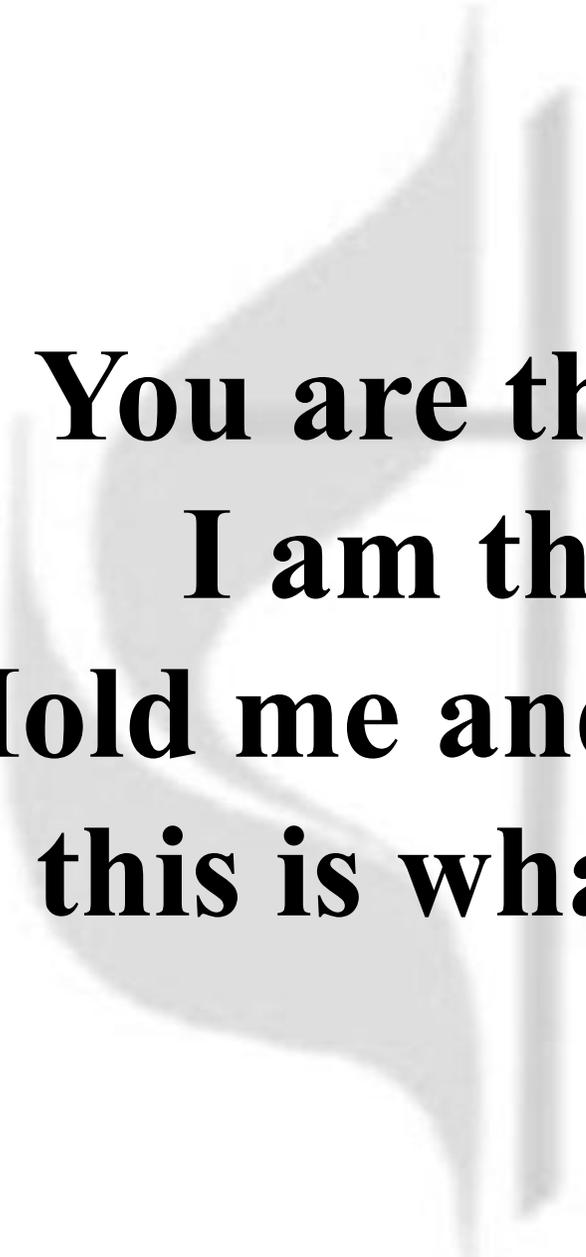
Change My Heart, O God

2152

Eddie Espinosa (Isa. 64:8)

**Change my heart, O God,
make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God,
may I be like you.**



**You are the Potter,
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me,
this is what I pray.**



**Change my heart, O God,
make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God,
may I be like you.**



BENEDICTION





As Christ's light has led us here, so now Christ's light leads us into the world. Go with the light, go to be light. We will brighten the world with God's love.



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 upper staff is in treble clef and contains vocal lines with lyrics. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "A-men, A-men, A - - - men." The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with some notes beamed together. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

