



WELCOME!
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS
MARCH 22, 2026

CENTERING SONG



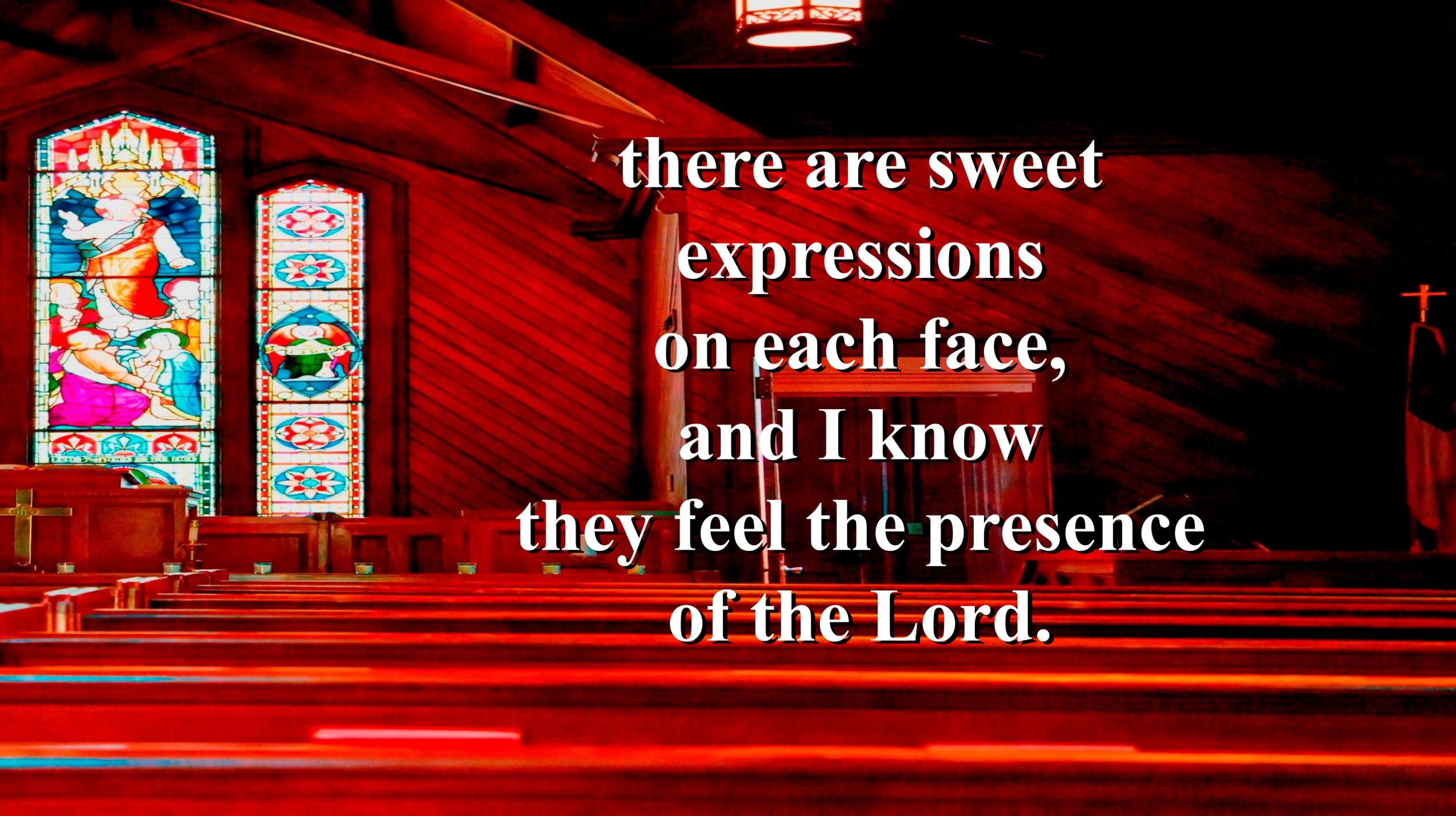
SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
UMH 334

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.**

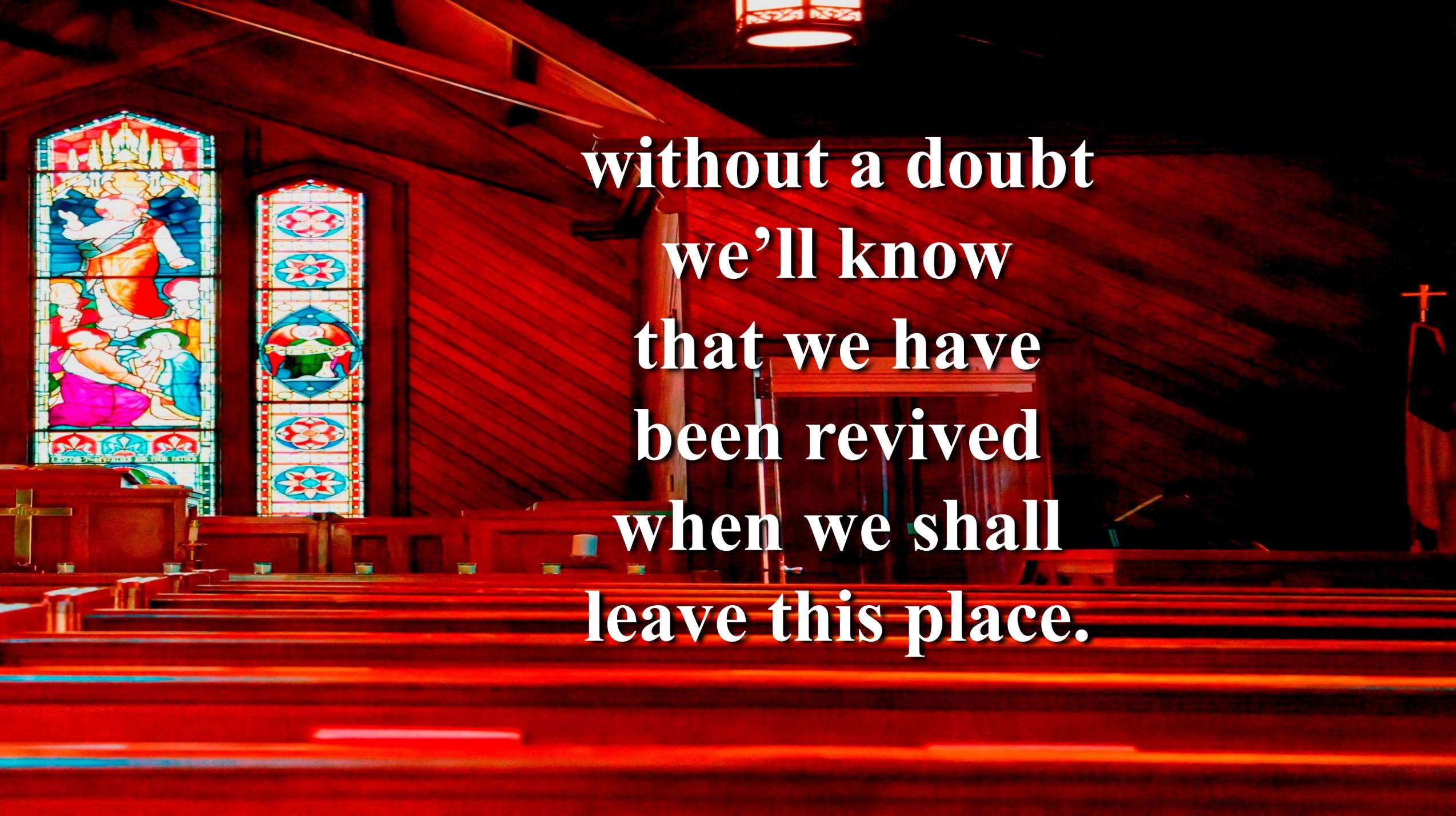


Refrain

**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



“Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the Living God

393

WORDS: Daniel Iverson, 1926 (Acts 11:15)

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**



**Melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

Spirit of the Living God

393

WORDS: Daniel Iverson, 1926 (Acts 11:15)

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**



**Melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**



PRELUDE



**WELCOME
&
ANNOUNCEMENT**



Birthday/Anniversary



CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Everything seems dead.

People: There is no life anywhere.

Leader: Our hopes have perished.

People: We see no future.

Leader: Send the power of your spirit upon us.

People: Breathe new life into us.

Leader: We wait for your transforming love.

People: We hope.

Leader: We wait.

All: We trust.



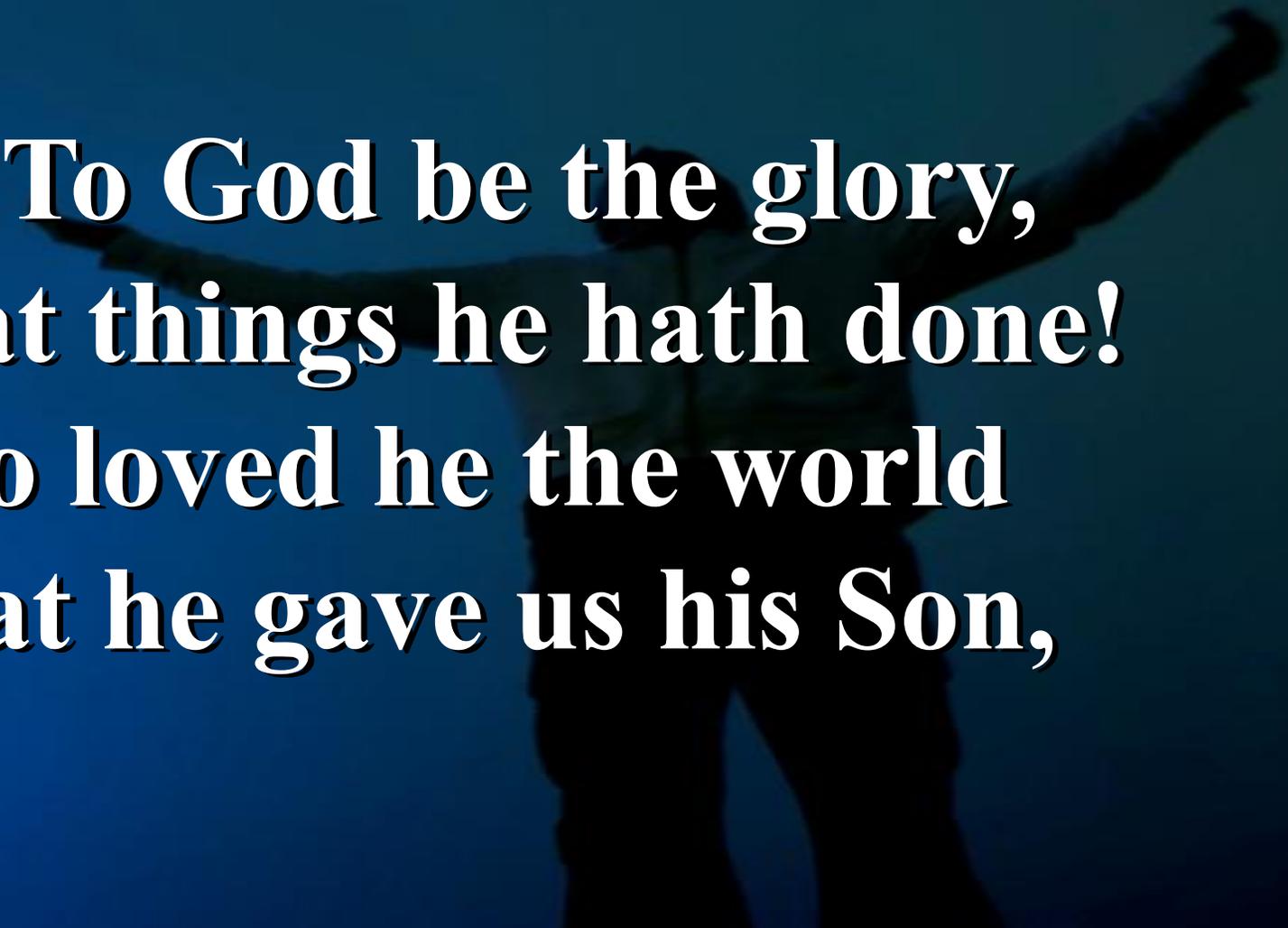


OPENING SONG
“To God Be the Glory”

To God Be the Glory

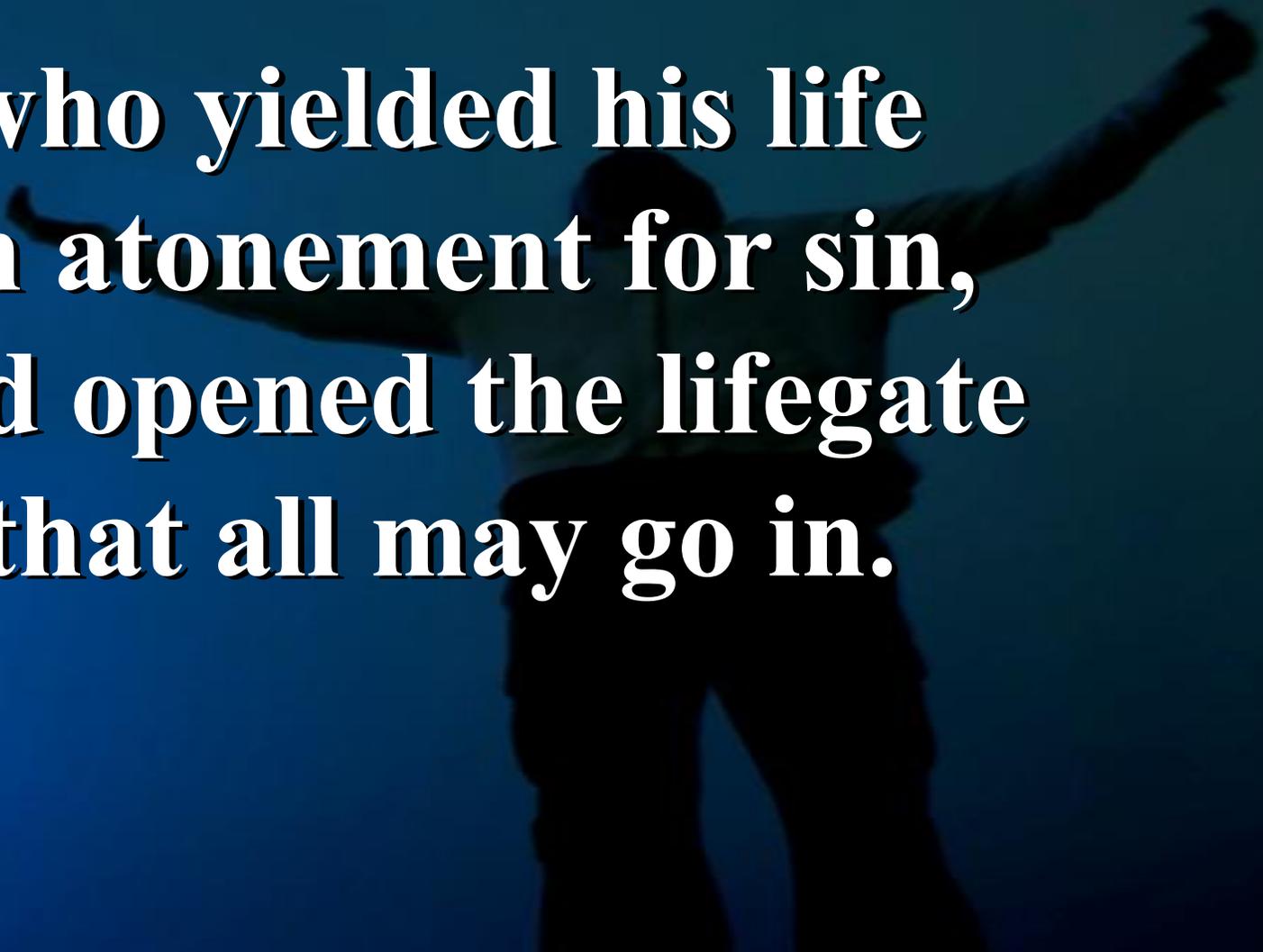
98

WORDS: Fanny Crosby, 1875

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue background with a light flare on the left side.

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

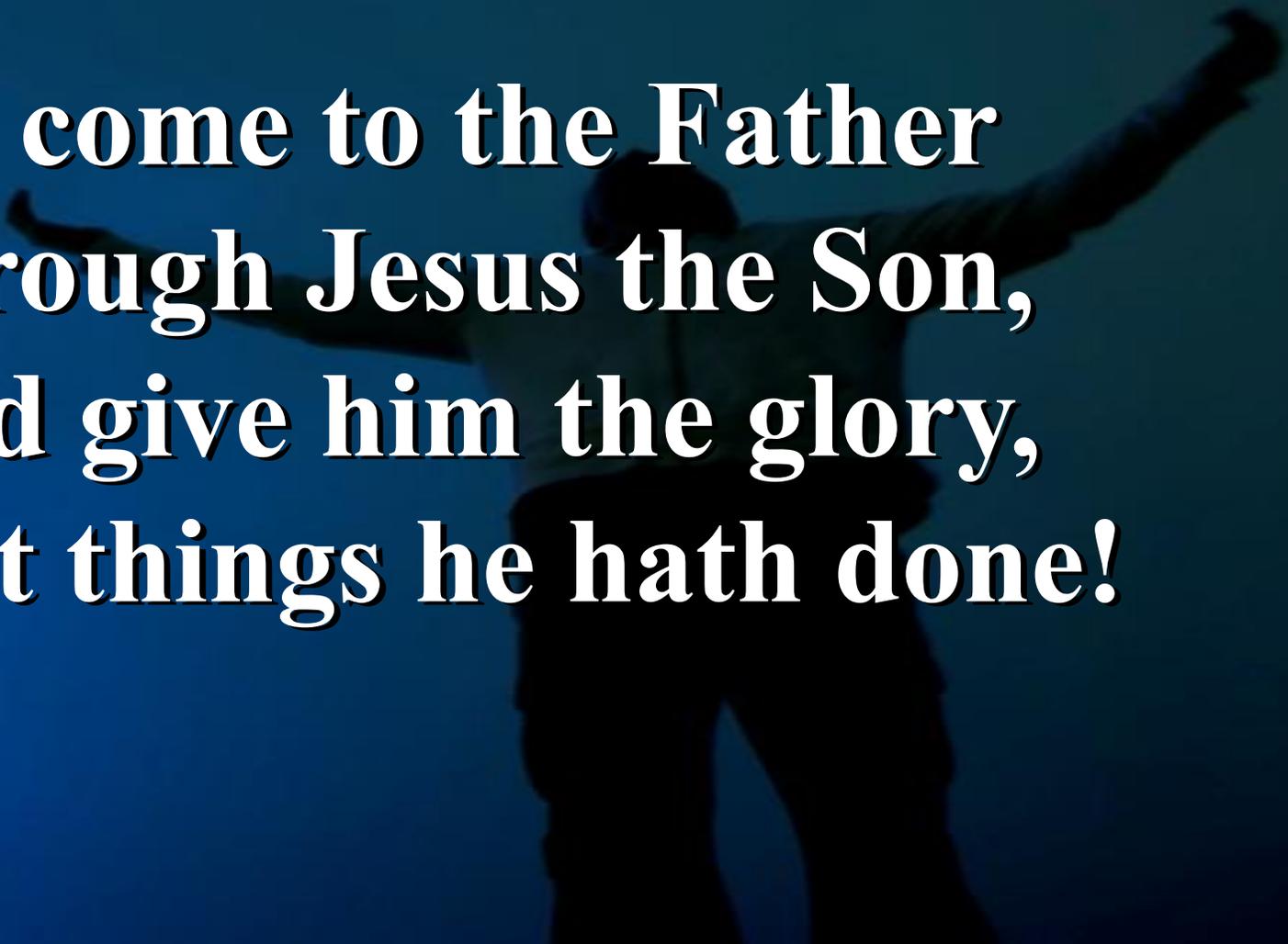
**who yielded his life
an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate
that all may go in.**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph, set against a blue background with a light flare on the left side.

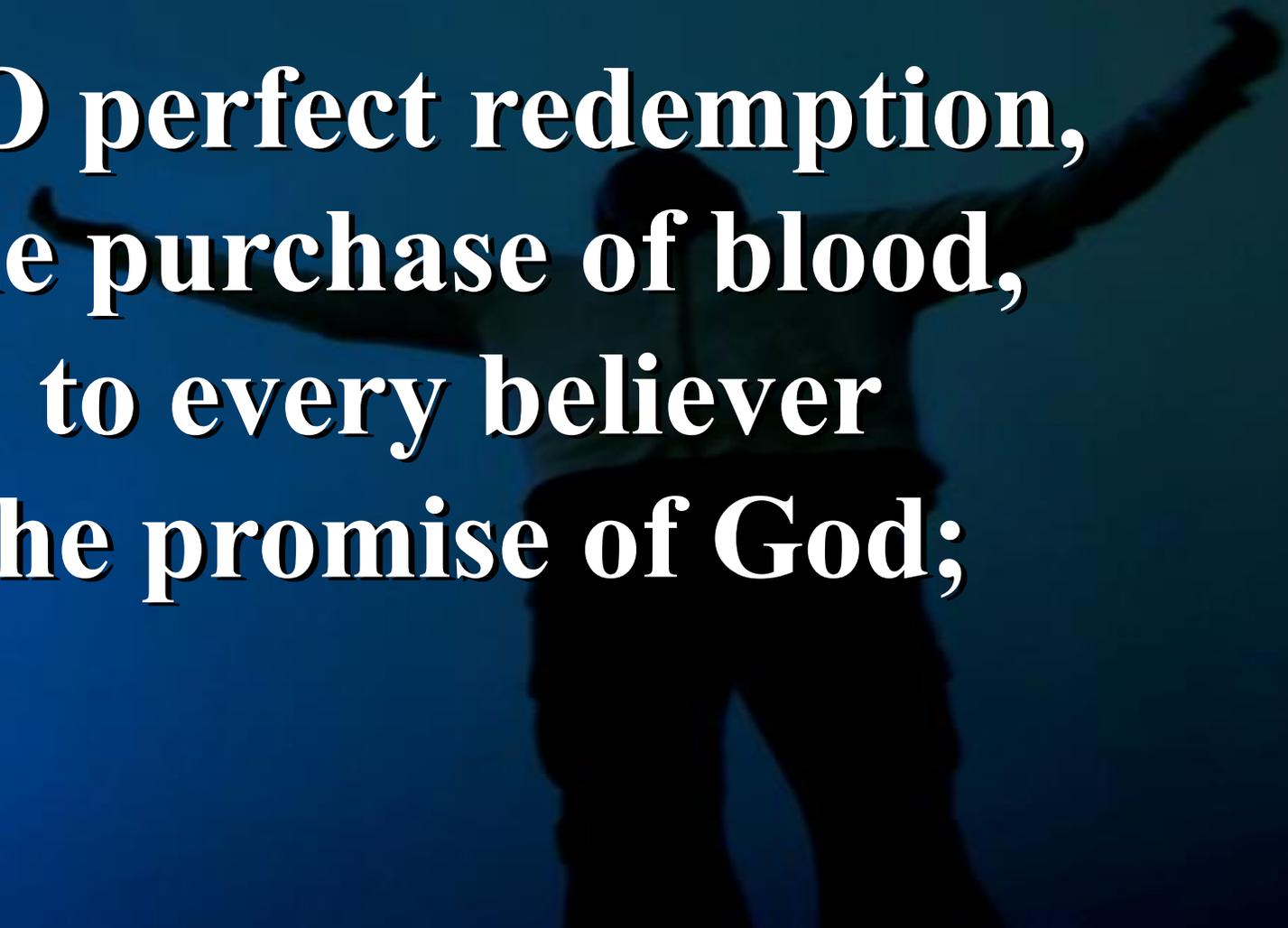
Refrain

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

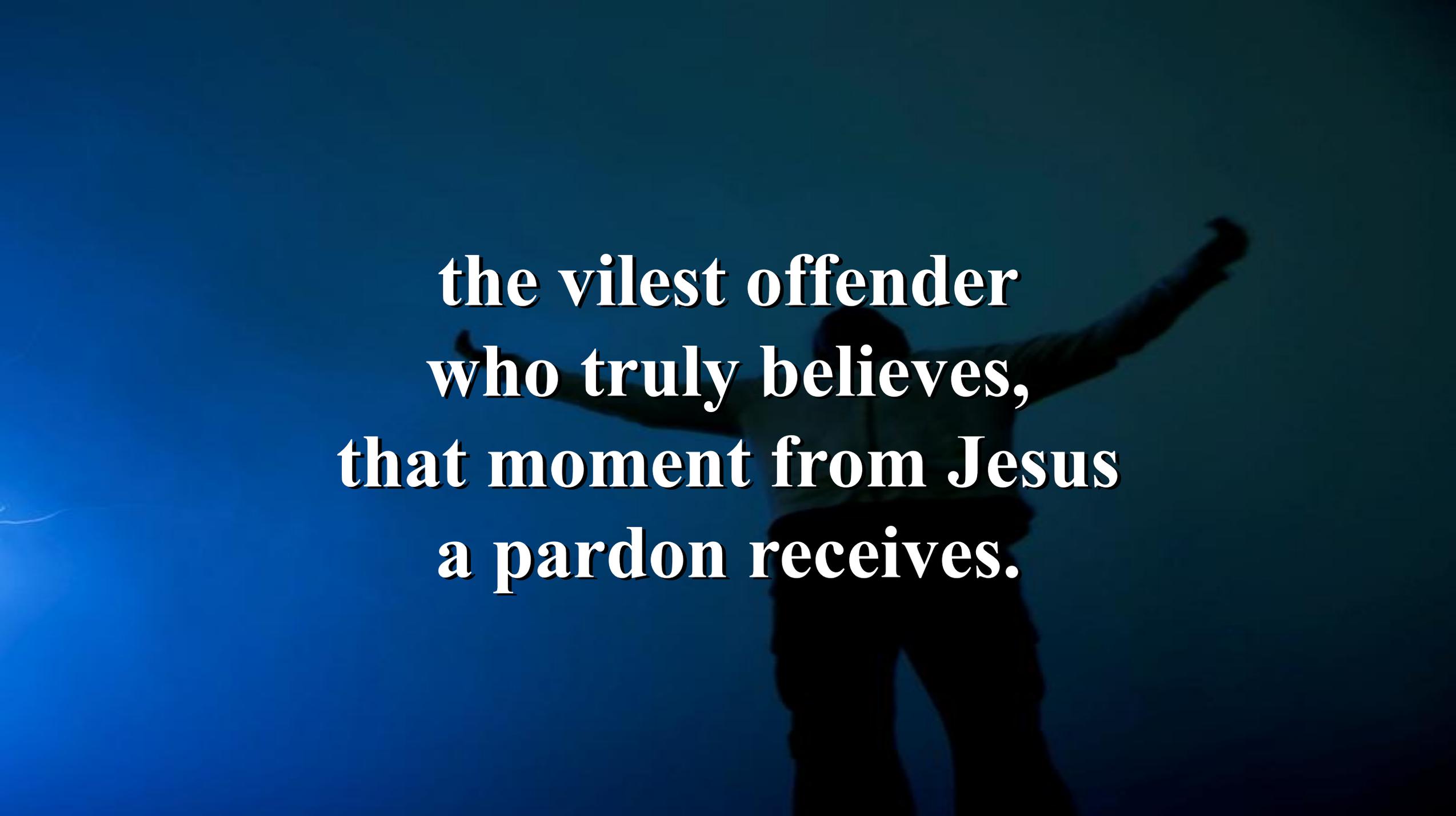
**Praise the Lord,
praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!**

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue background with a light flare on the left side. The person is positioned behind 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 background with a light flare on the left side. The person is positioned behind the text.

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

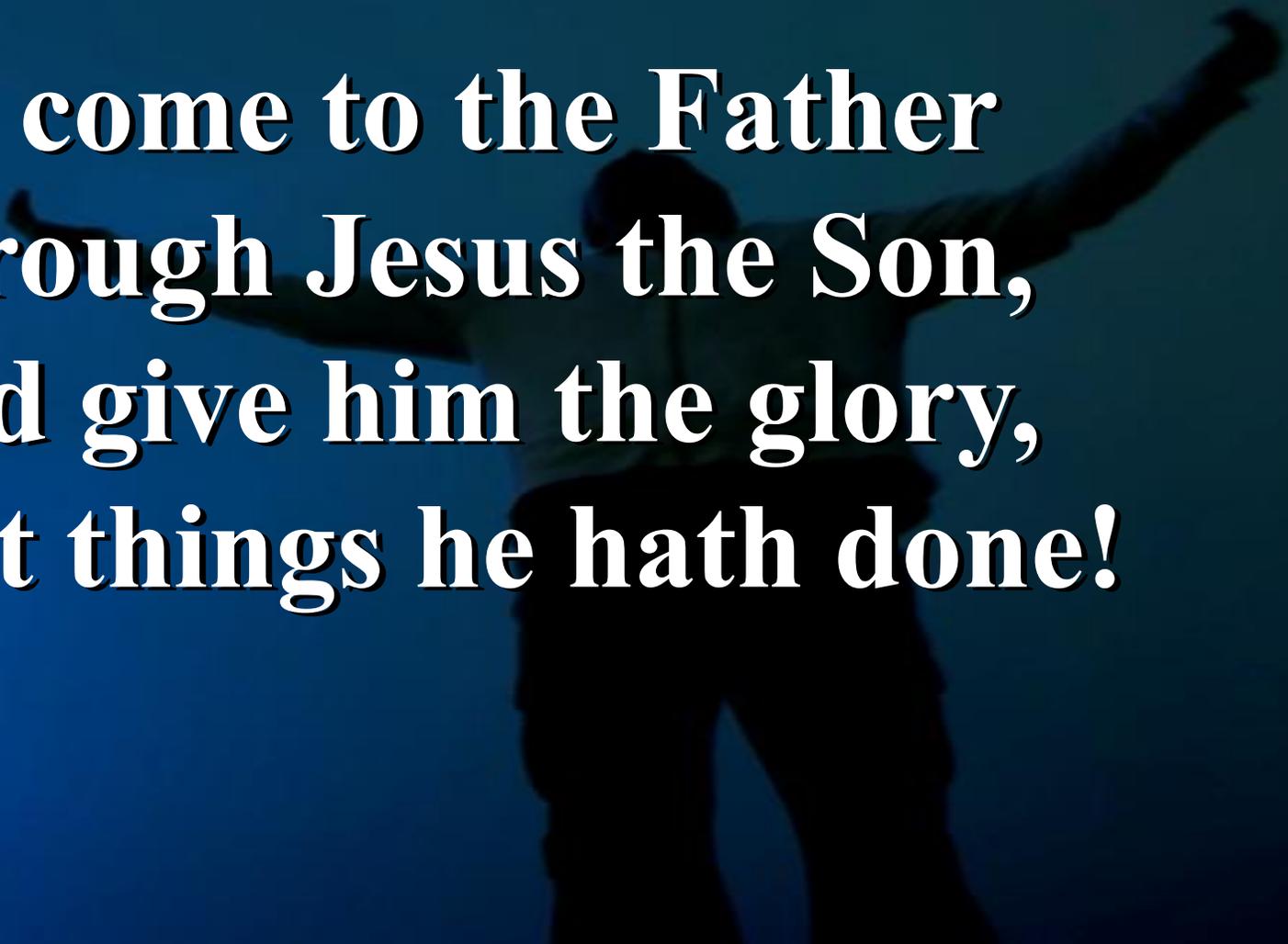
A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph, set against a blue gradient background. The person is positioned centrally, with their arms extending horizontally to the left and right.

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

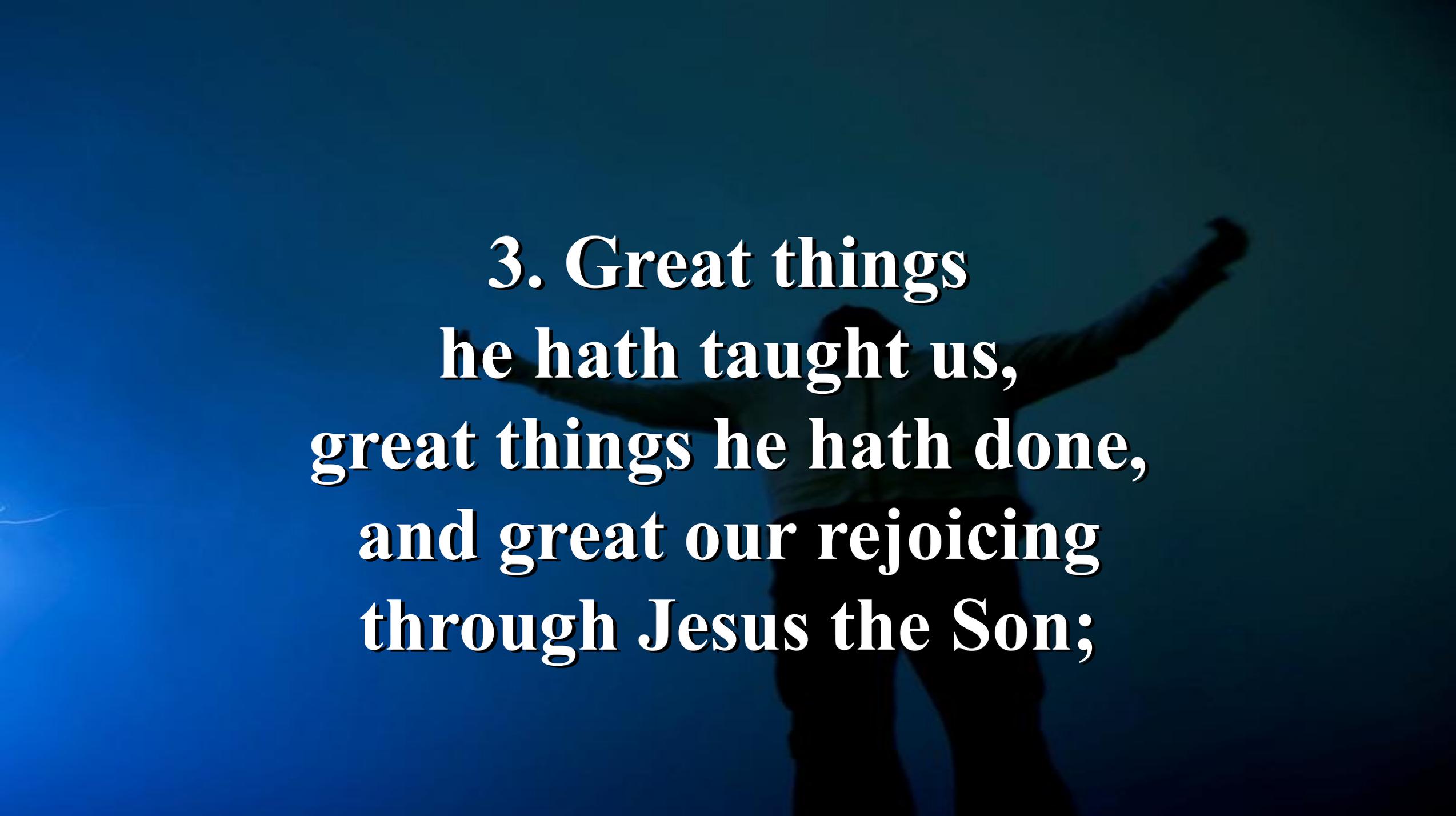
Refrain

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

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

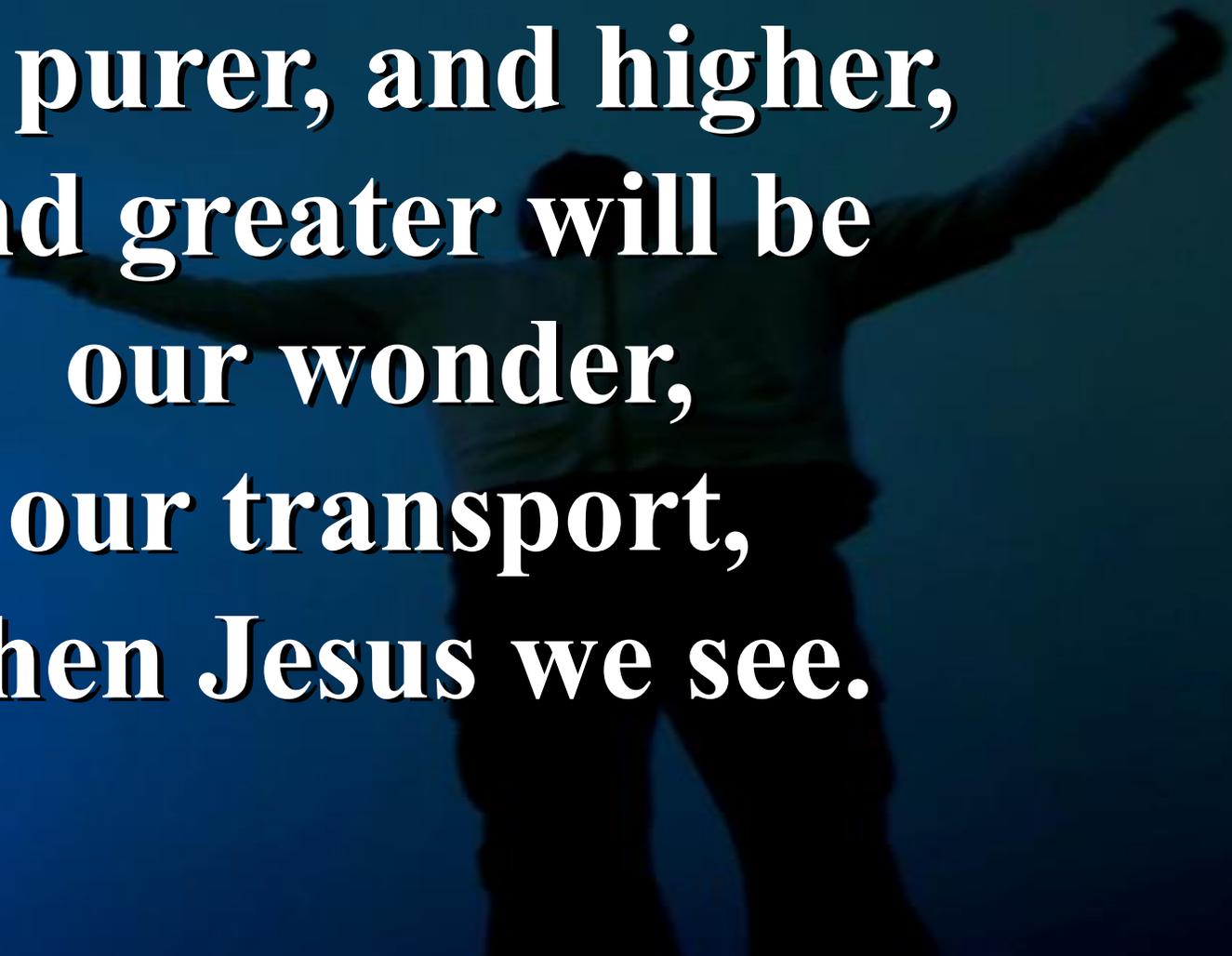
A silhouette of a person with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship, set against a blue background with a light flare on the left side. The person is positioned behind the text.

**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 joy, set against a blue background with a light flare on the left side. The text is overlaid on the image.

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

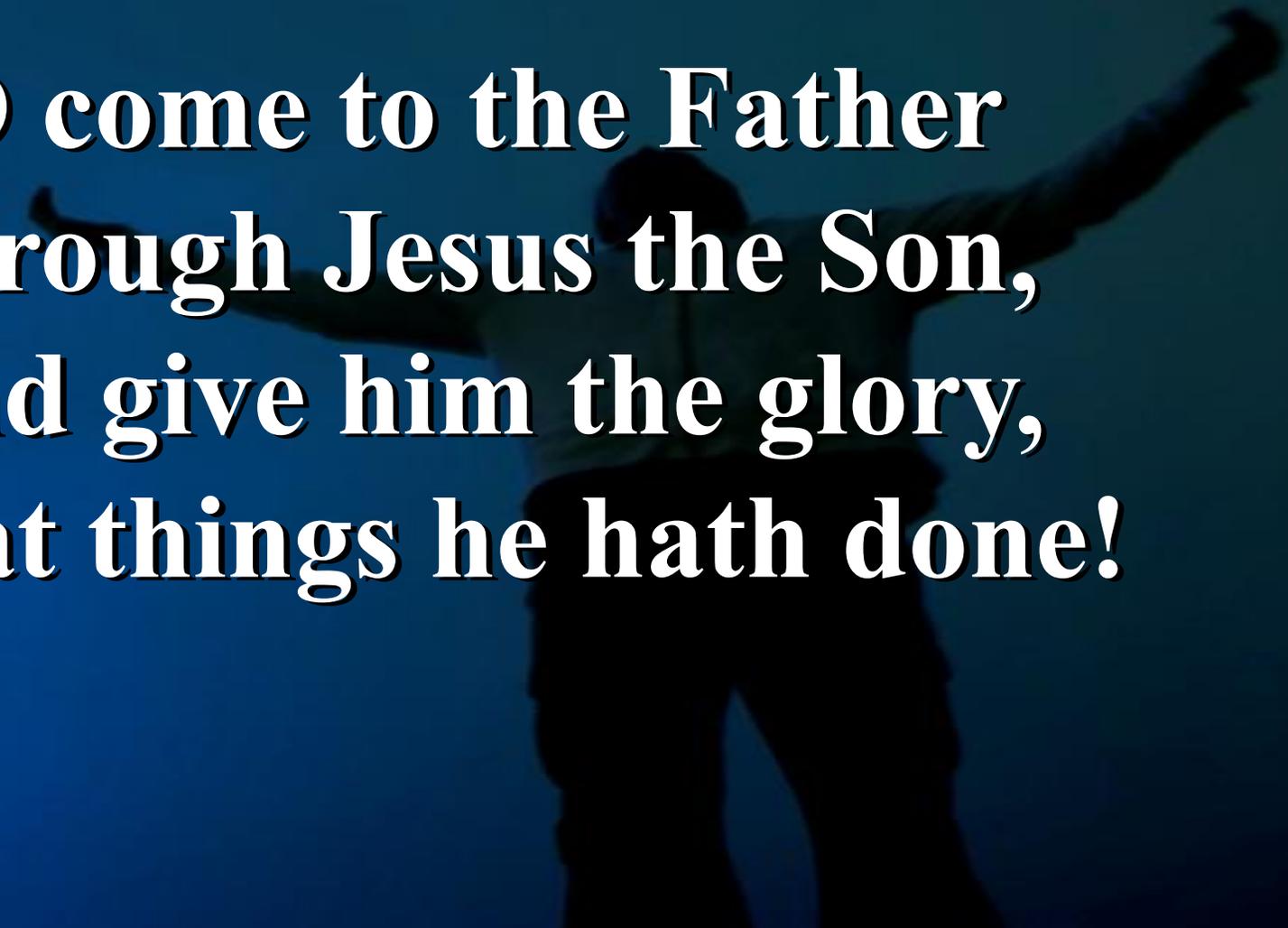
**but purer, and higher,
and greater will be
our wonder,
our transport,
when Jesus we see.**

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 upwards and outwards.

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 background with a light flare on the left side. 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



Come, Spirit of God. We wait for your presence. We trust in your abiding promises. Breathe the breath of your power into us this day, that we may experience the power of new life, the promise of forgiveness, and blessing of community. Amen.



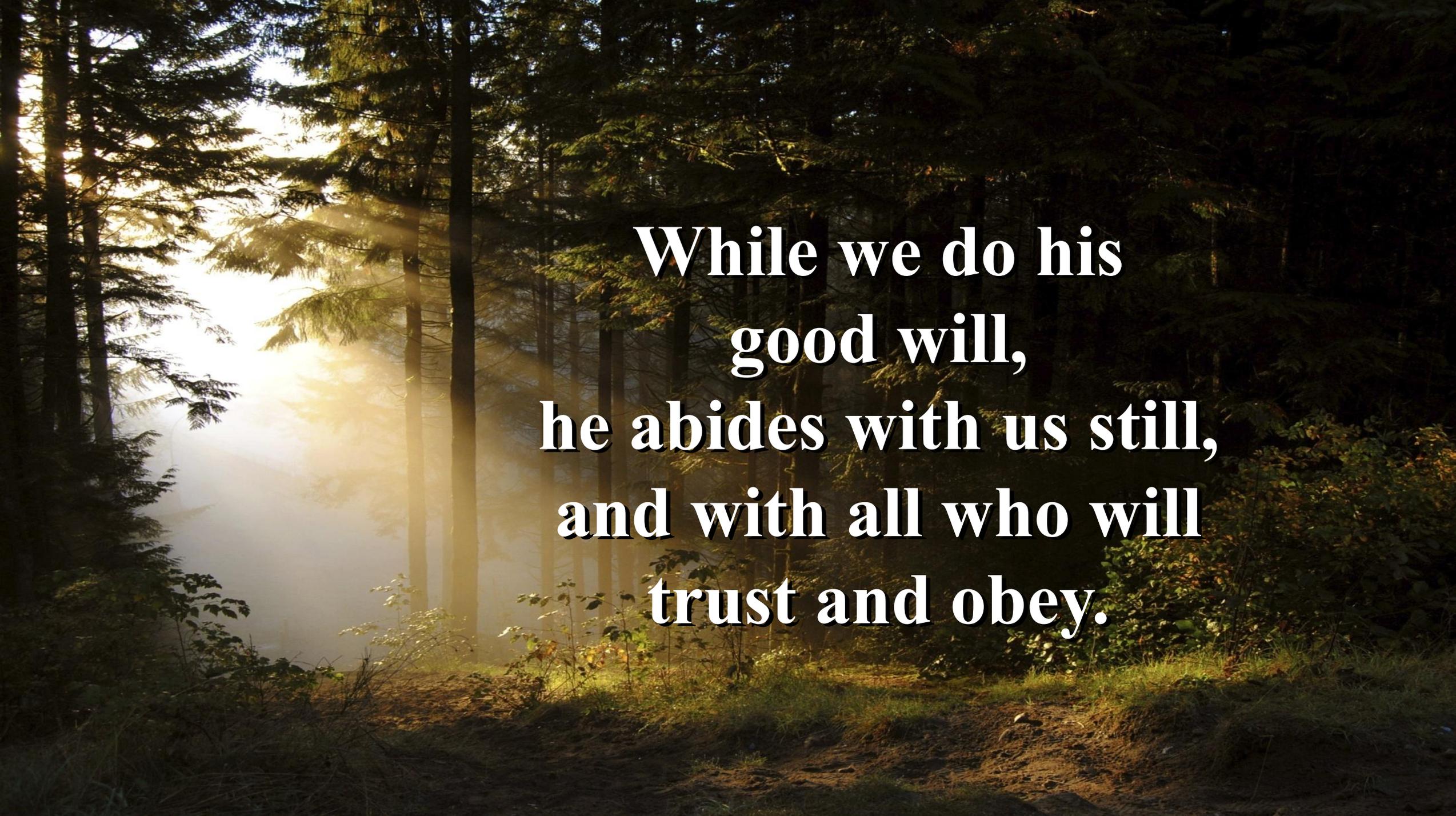
“Trust and Obey”

Trust and Obey

467

WORDS: John H. Sammis, 1887 (1 Jn. 1:7)

**1. When we walk with
the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he
sheds on our way!**

A photograph of a forest with tall evergreen trees. Sunlight is streaming through the trees from the left, creating a hazy, golden glow. The text is overlaid in the center-right of the image.

**While we do his
good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will
trust and obey.**

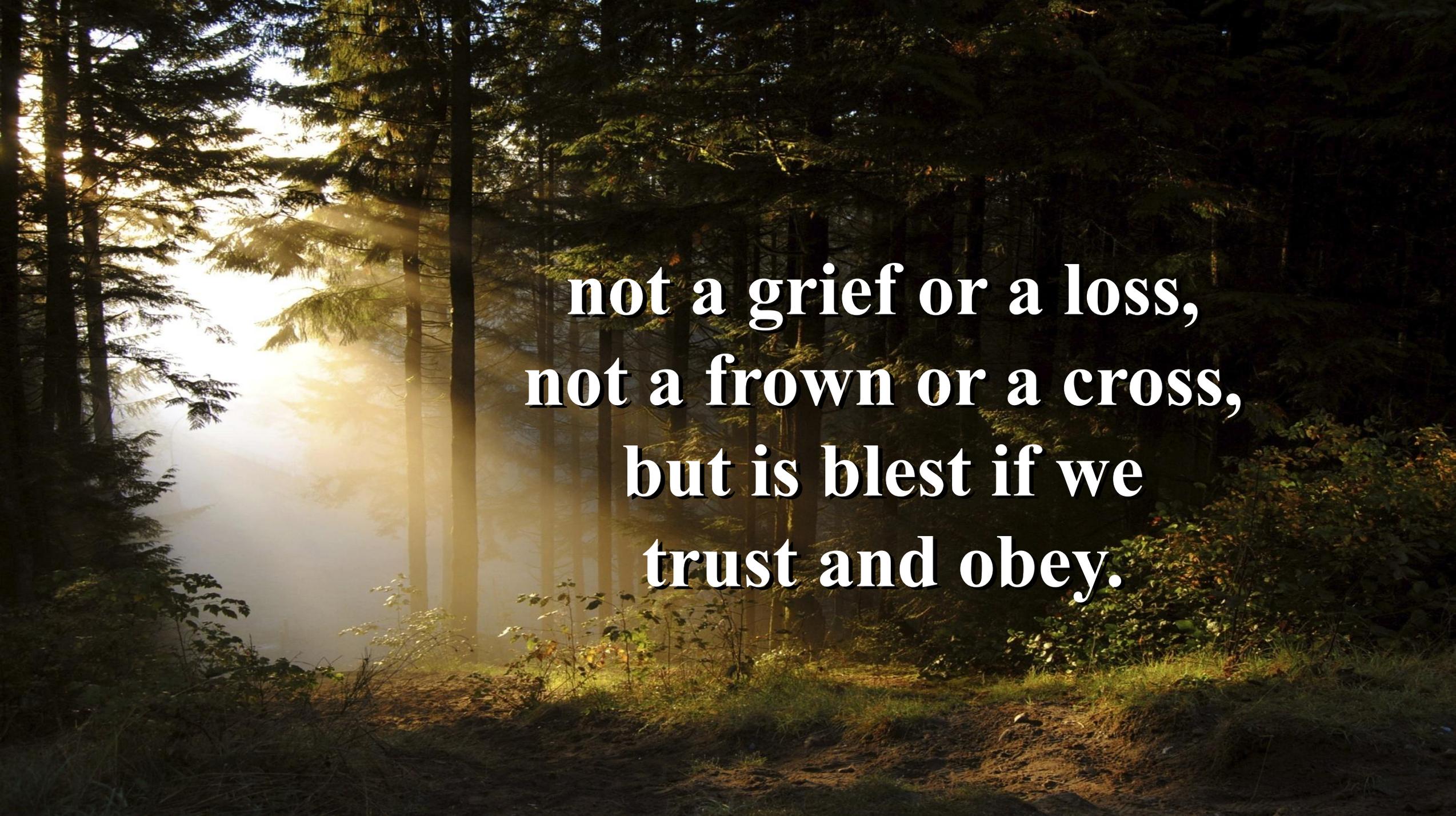
A misty forest scene with sunlight filtering through the trees. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden glow that illuminates the mist and the silhouettes of the evergreen trees. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

Refrain

**Trust and obey,
for there's no
other way
to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.**

A photograph of a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. Sunlight is streaming through the canopy from the left, creating a bright, hazy glow and illuminating the scene. The ground is covered in low-lying vegetation and a dirt path.

**2. Not a burden
we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth
richly repay;**

A misty forest scene with sunlight filtering through the trees. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. The trees are tall and thin, with some evergreens and some deciduous trees. The ground is covered in grass and small plants. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

**not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we
trust and obey.**

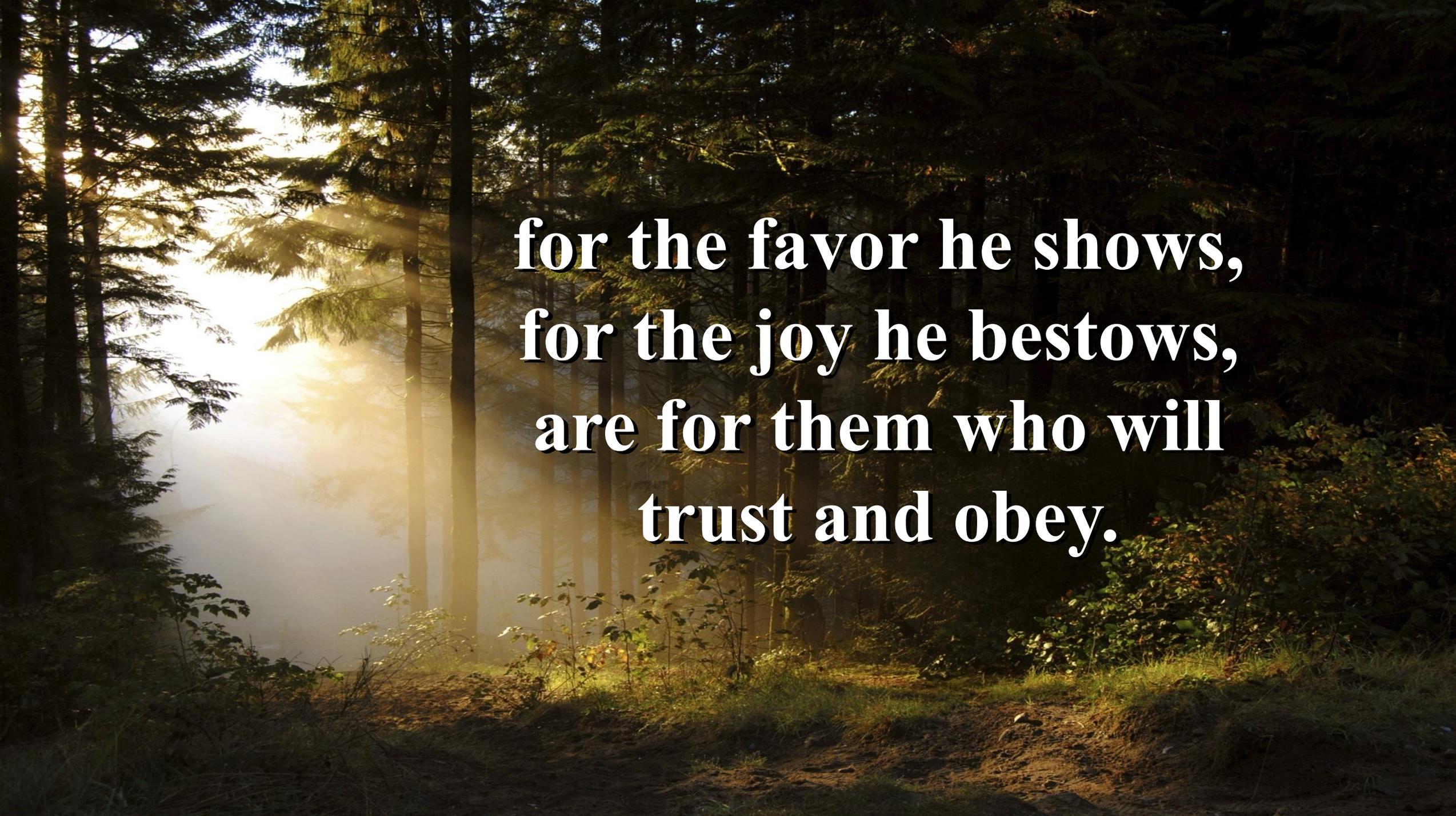


Refrain

**Trust and obey,
for there's no
other way
to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.**

A misty forest scene with sunlight filtering through the trees. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. The trees are tall and thin, with some mist or fog in the air. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

**3. But we never
can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the
altar we lay;**

A photograph of a forest with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a warm and serene atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**for the favor he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will
trust and obey.**

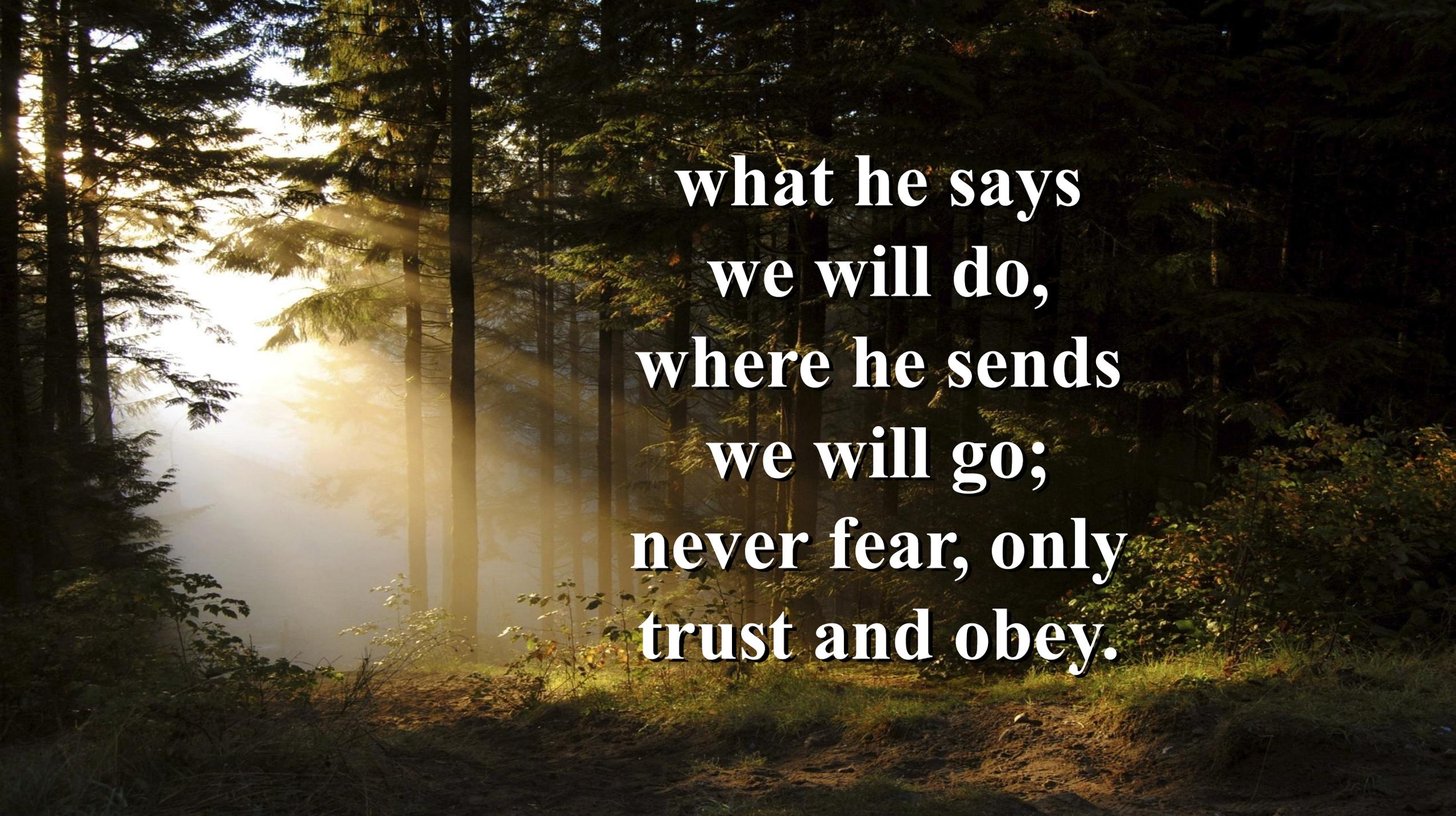


Refrain

**Trust and obey,
for there's no
other way
to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.**

A misty forest scene with sunlight filtering through the trees. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. The trees are tall and thin, with some mist or fog in the air. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

**4. Then in fellowship
sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk
by his side
in the way;**



**what he says
we will do,
where he sends
we will go;
never fear, only
trust and obey.**

A misty forest scene with sunlight filtering through the trees. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. The trees are tall and thin, with some evergreens and some deciduous trees. The ground is covered in grass and small plants. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

Refrain

**Trust and obey,
for there's no
other way
to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.**



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

JOHN 11:1 – 45



11 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) 3 So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” 4 When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So when he heard



that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, 7 and then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” 8 “But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?” 9 Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. 10 It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.” 11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our



friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.” 12 His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” 13 Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. 14 So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, 15 and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” 16 Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” 17 On his arrival, Jesus found that



Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18 Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, 19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. 21 “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” 23 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” 24 Martha



answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” 27 “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” 28 After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” 29 When



Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. 32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 33 When Jesus



saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34 “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. 35 Jesus wept. 36 Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” 37 But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” 38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39 “Take away the stone,” he said.



“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” 40 Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” 41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” 43 When he had said this,



Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”
44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.” 45 Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.



SERMON



“LAZARUS, COME FORTH!”



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We cry to you, O God. It is so easy to be overwhelmed with all that is going on. It is so hard to see any hope. Everywhere we look, we see struggles and loss. We feel we have failed. But where we see death, you breathe new life. Where we



see failure, your forgiving love changes everything. You alone, O God, have the power to bring forth new life, new hope, and new beginnings. Be with us as we wait for you. Teach us to place our trust in your faithful love. Amen.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus promises, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever trusts in me will live.” Let us trust the promise of new life.



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.**





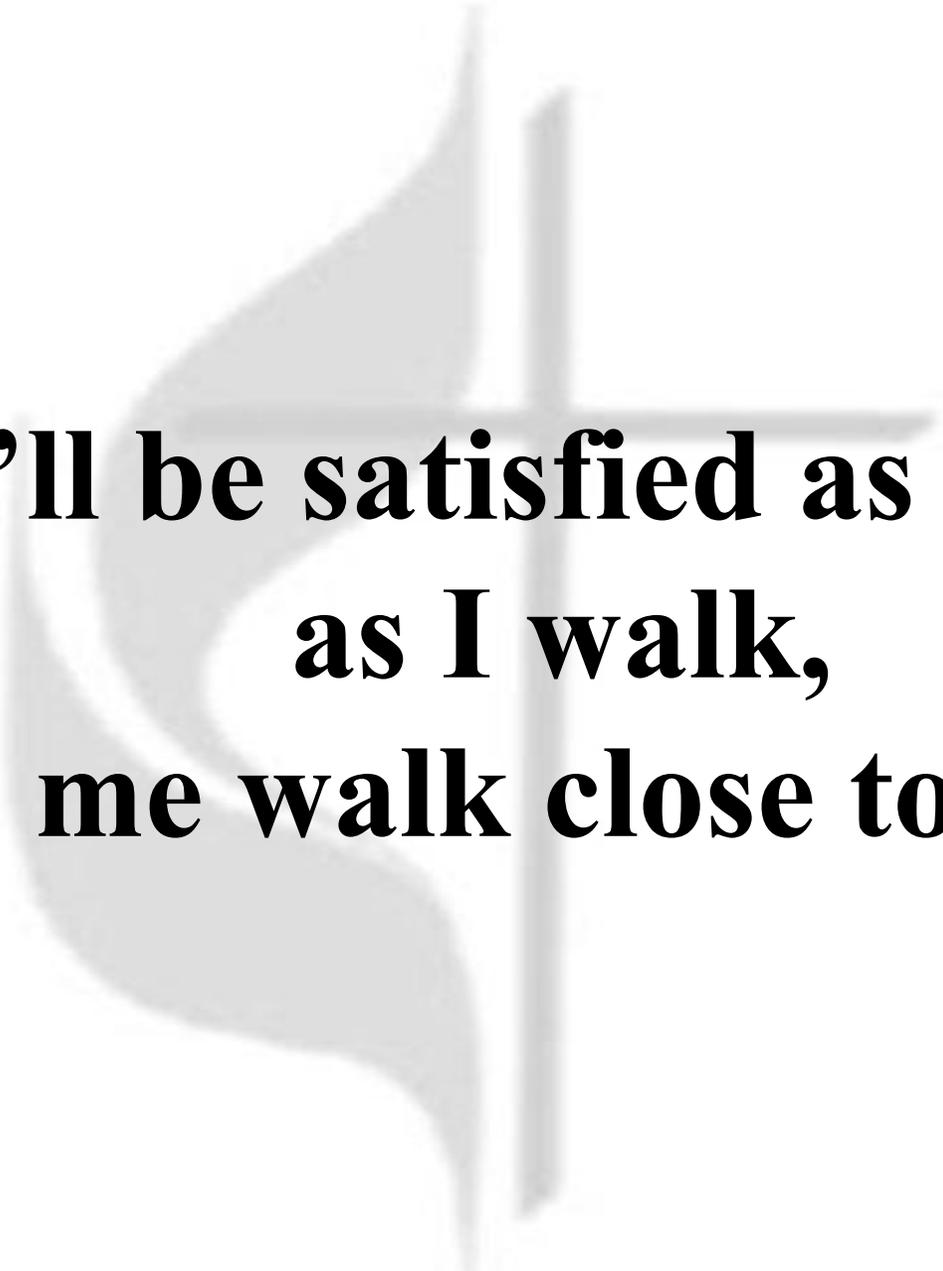
CLOSING SONG

“JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE”

Just a Closer Walk with Thee **2158**

Anon. (James 4:8)

**1. I am weak,
but thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me
from all wrong;**



**I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk,
let me walk close to thee.**

Refrain

**Just a closer walk
with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
Let it be, dear Lord,
let it be.**

**2. Through this world
of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me
my burden shares?
None but thee,
dear Lord, none but thee.**

Refrain

**Just a closer walk
with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
Let it be, dear Lord,
let it be.**

**3. When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy shore,
dear Lord, to thy shore.**

Refrain

**Just a closer walk
with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
Let it be, dear Lord,
let it be.**



BENEDICTION





Where there seems to be no life, God breathes new life. Where there is no hope, God comes with new possibilities. Go forth into the world, knowing that God is at work in every place. Feel the breath of God blowing peace and new life into our kingdom building.



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). The vocal line is on a treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The vocal line consists of three phrases: "A-men," "A-men," and "A - - - men." The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

