



**WELCOME!**  
**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
*OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS*  
**MARCH 8, 2026**

# CENTERING SONG

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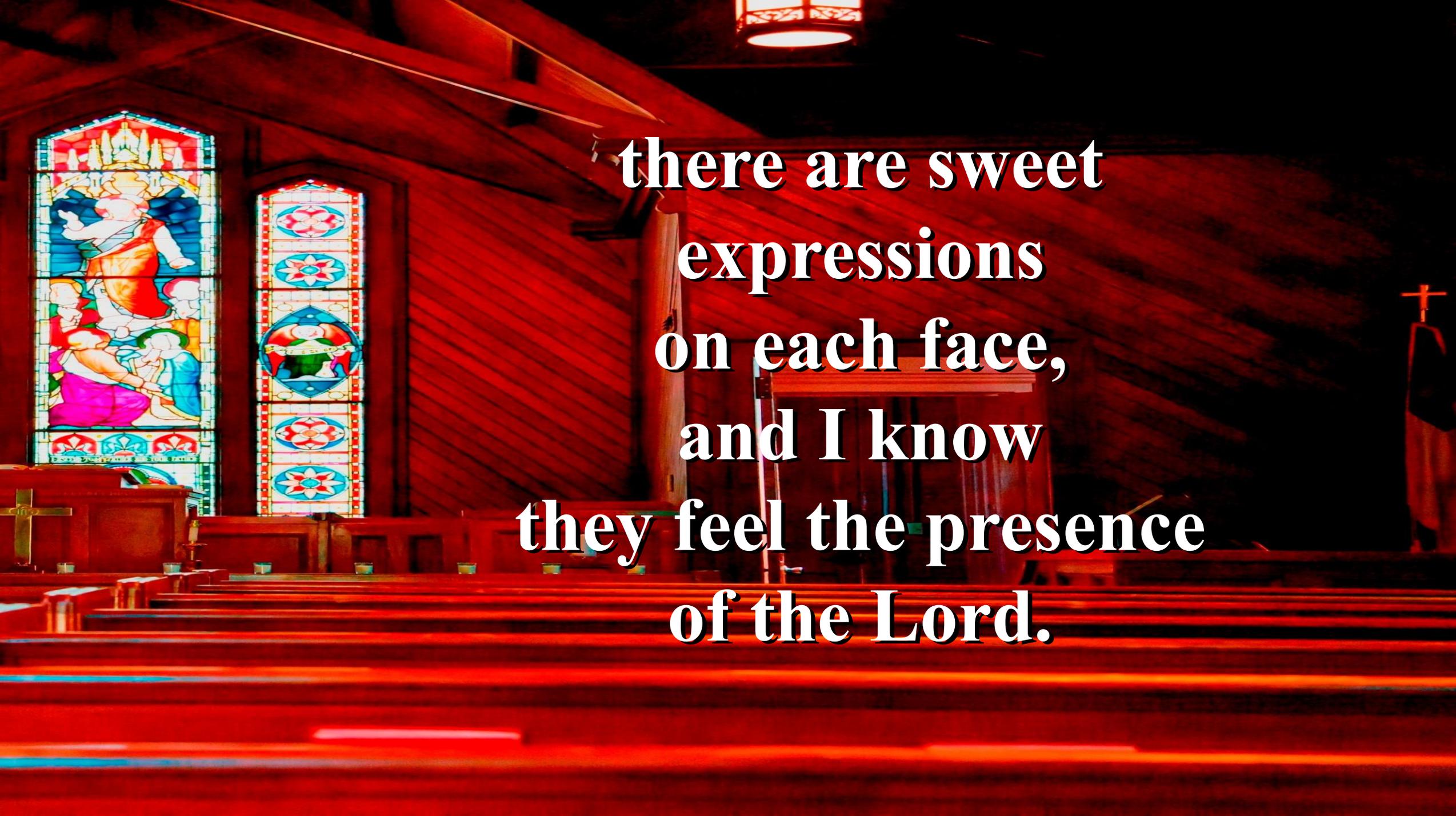
**SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT**  
**UMH 334**

# 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.**

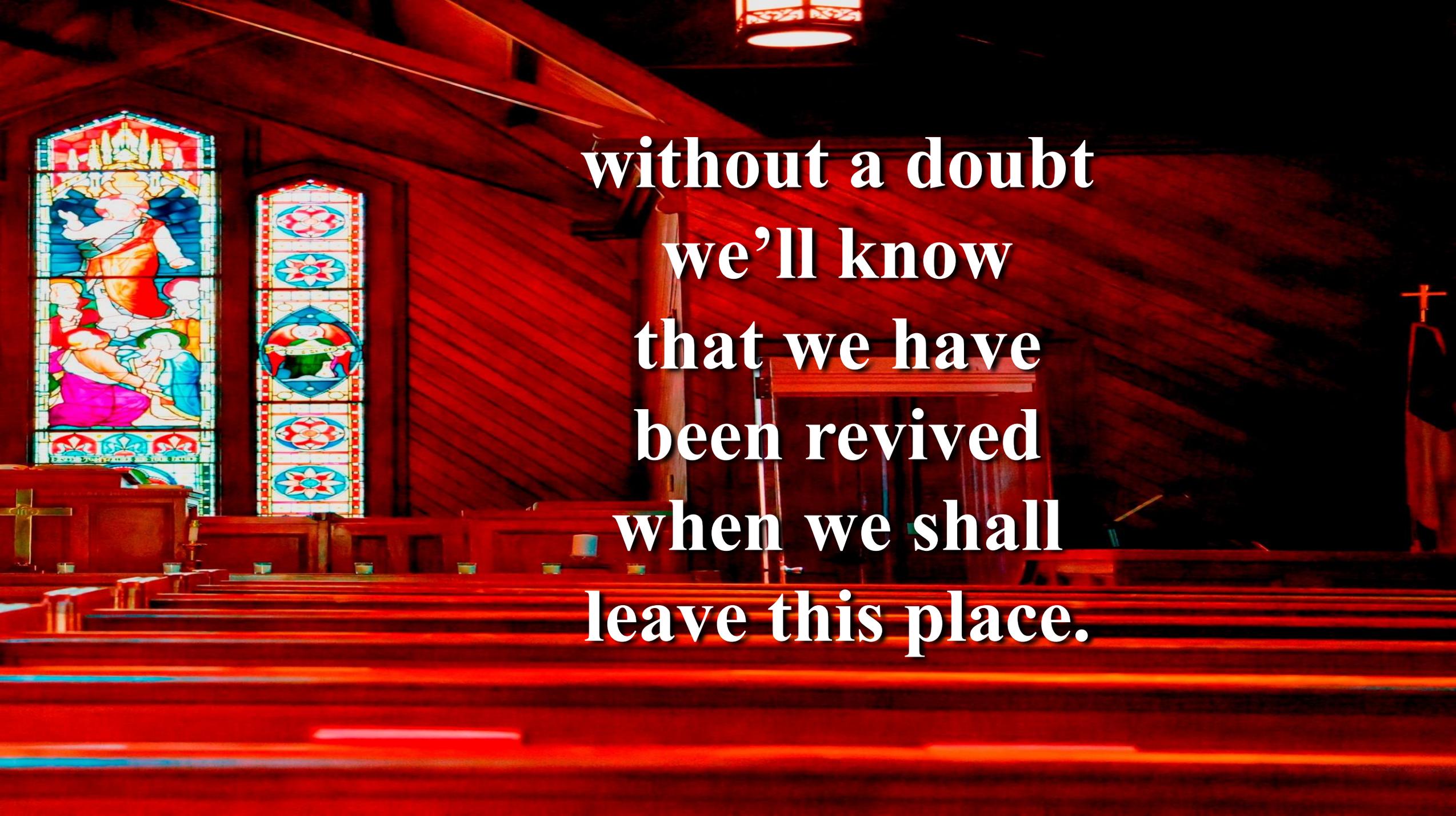
A photograph of a church interior with wooden walls and pews. Two large stained glass windows are visible on the left. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*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

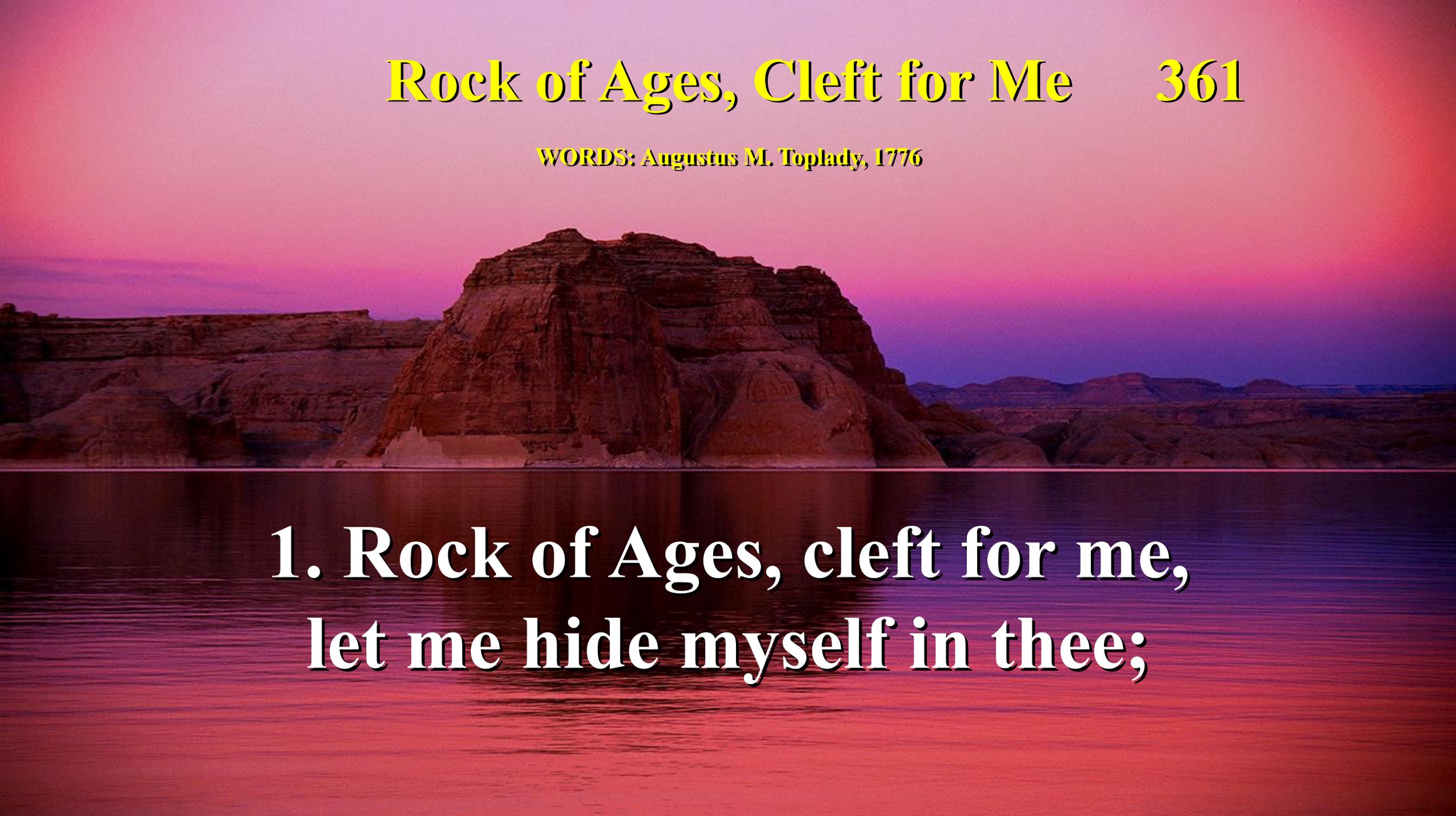
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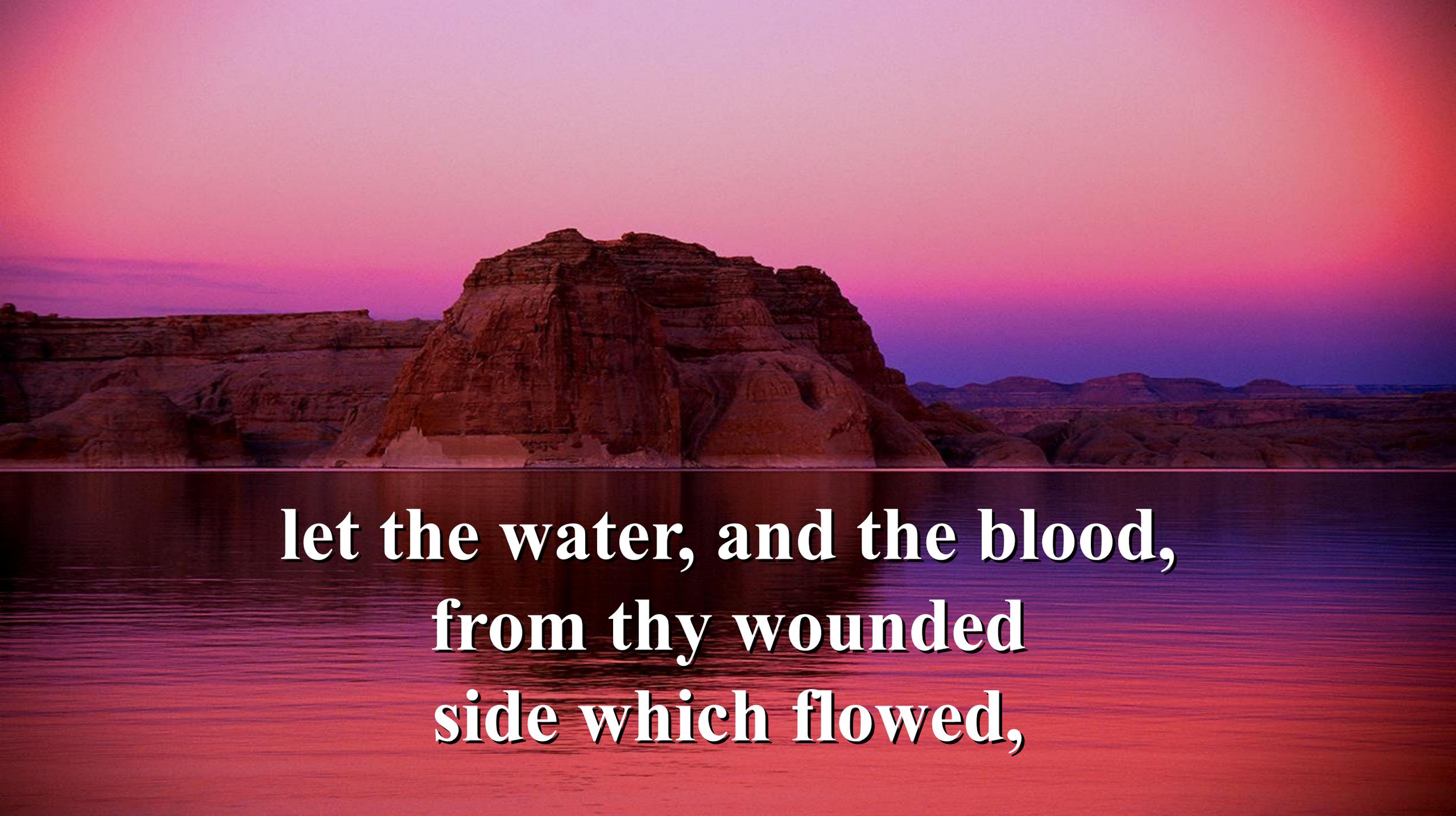
**Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

# Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me 361

WORDS: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776



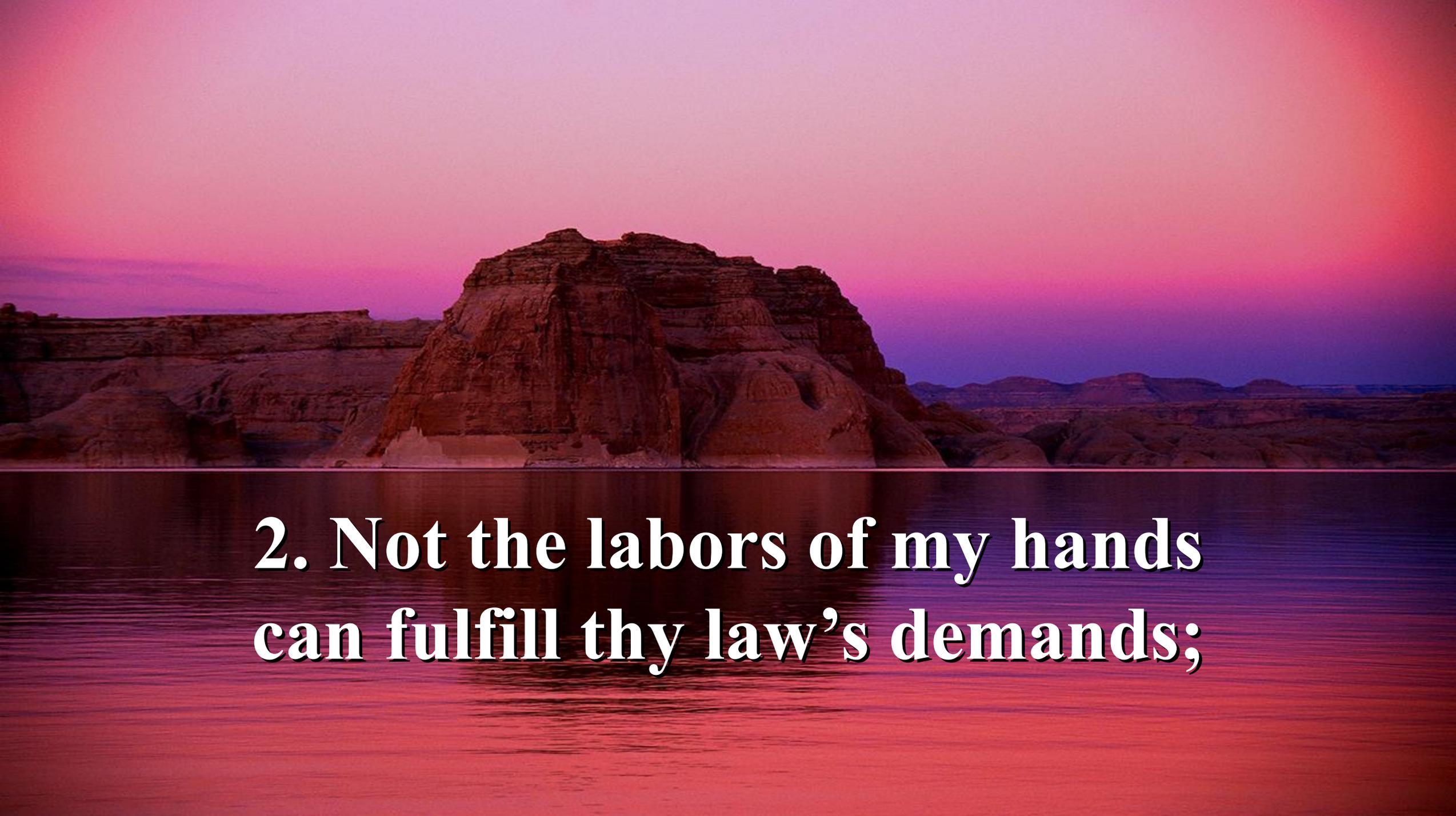
1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;

A large, layered rock formation stands in a desert landscape under a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the horizon to a bright pink and orange at the top. The rock formation is dark and textured, with distinct horizontal layers. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the colors of the sky and the rock formation. Overlaid on the water is the text:

**let the water, and the blood,  
from thy wounded  
side which flowed,**



**be of sin the double cure;  
save from wrath,  
and make me pure.**

A large, layered rock formation stands prominently in a desert landscape under a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the horizon to a bright orange at the top. The rock formation is reflected in the calm water in the foreground. The text "2. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;" is overlaid on the water in a white, serif font with a black outline.

**2. Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;**

A landscape photograph featuring a large, layered rock formation in the center, set against a vibrant sunset sky with shades of purple, pink, and blue. The scene is reflected in a body of water in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the water.

**could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,**



**all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.**

A large, layered rock formation stands prominently in a desert landscape under a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the horizon to a lighter pink and purple at the top. The rock formation is dark and textured, with distinct horizontal layers. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the colors of the sky and the rock formation. Overlaid on the water is the text:

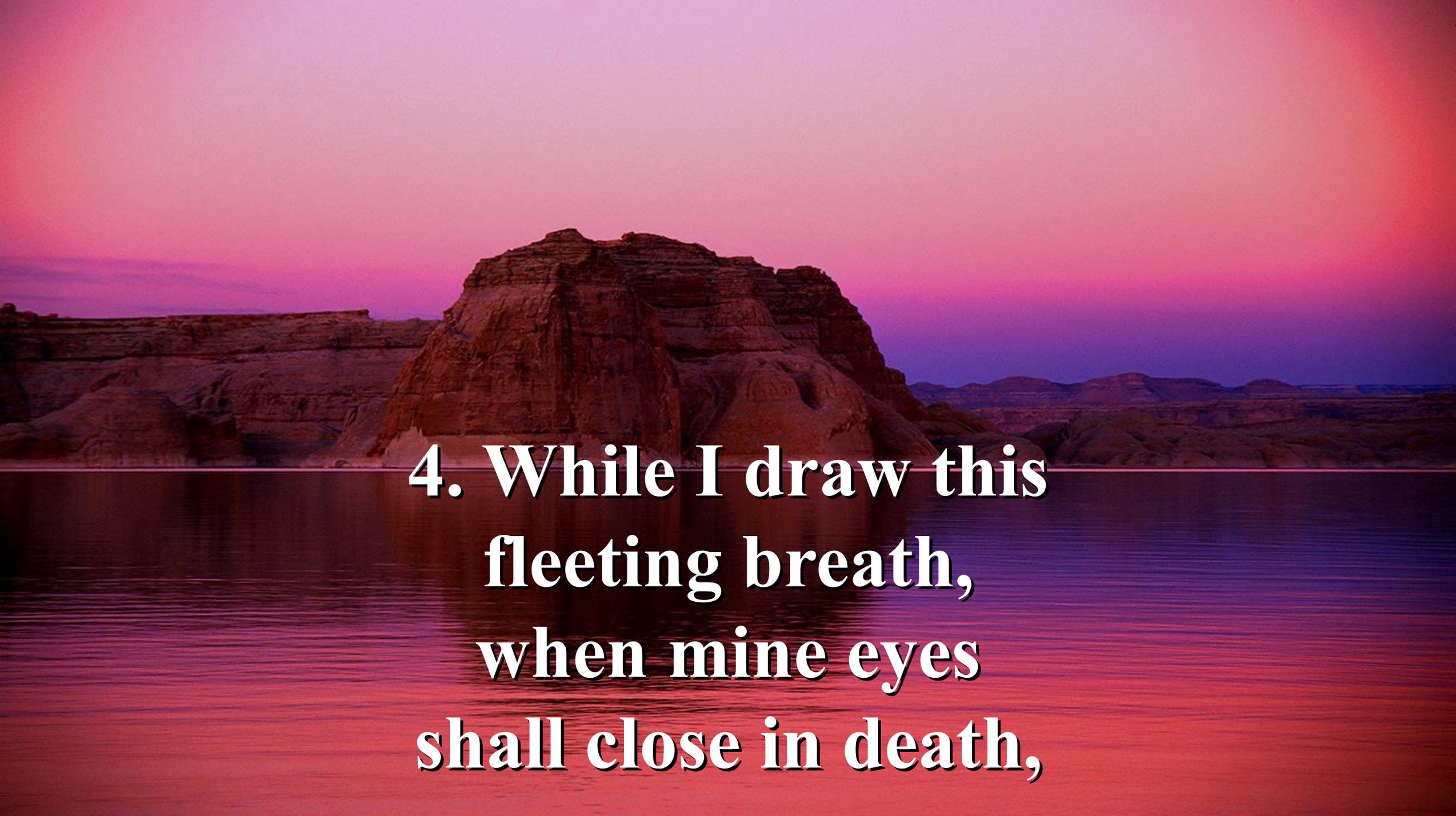
**3. Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to the cross I cling;**



**naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;**



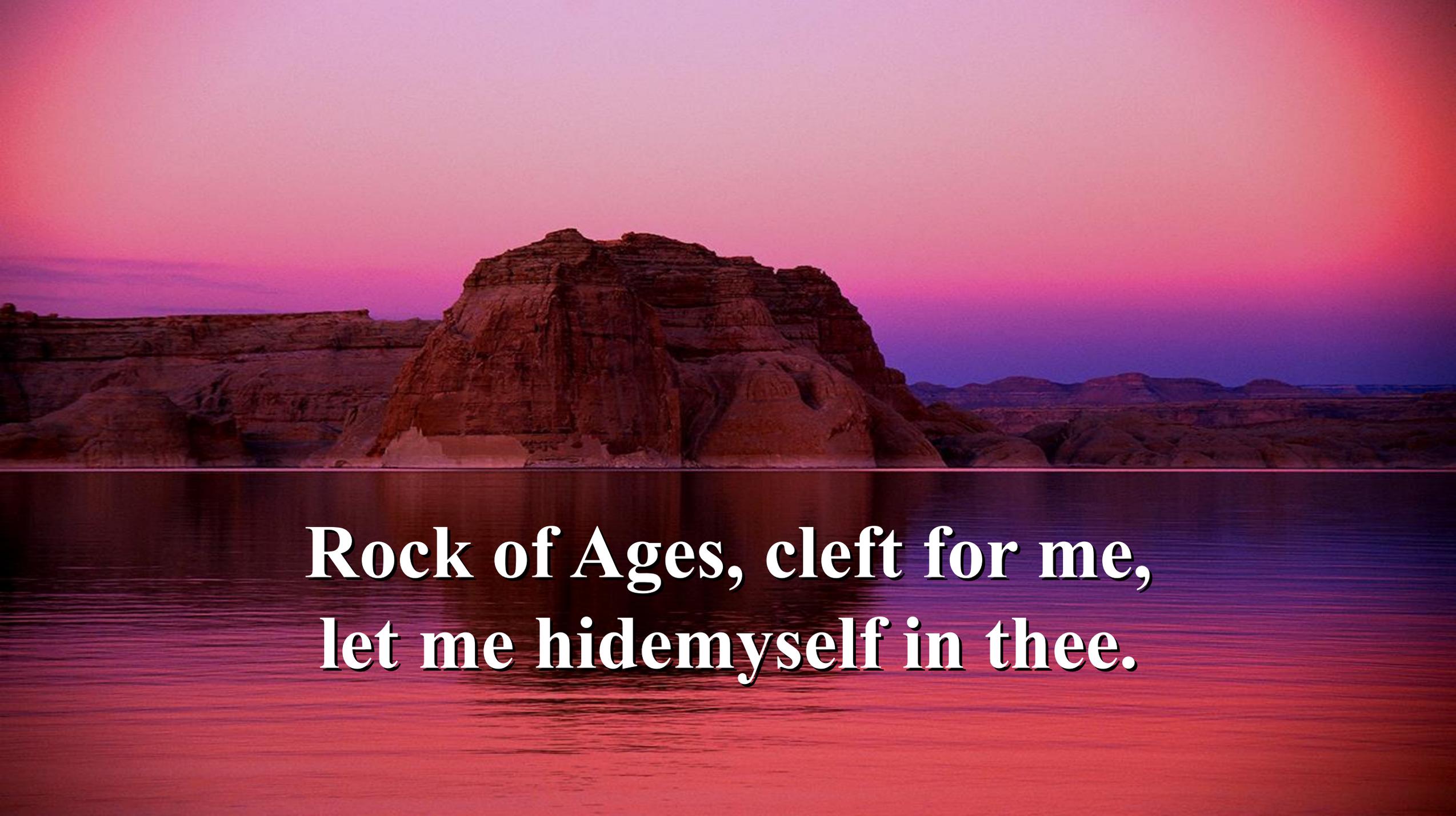
**foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.**

A large, layered rock formation stands in the middle of a calm body of water. The sky is a gradient of purple and pink, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water reflects the colors of the sky and the rock. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

**4. While I draw this  
fleeting breath,  
when mine eyes  
shall close in death,**



**when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,**

A large, layered rock formation, known as the Rock of Ages, stands prominently in the center of the image. The rock is dark and shows distinct horizontal strata. It is reflected in the calm water in the foreground. The sky is a vibrant mix of purple, pink, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall scene is serene and majestic.

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hidemysself in thee.**



# PRELUDE



**WELCOME  
&  
ANNOUNCEMENT**



**Birthday/Anniversary**



**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** Worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

**People:** Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

**Leader:** We are the sheep of God's pasture.

**People:** We are the lambs of God's flock.

**Leader:** Come!

**All:** Let us worship the Lord.





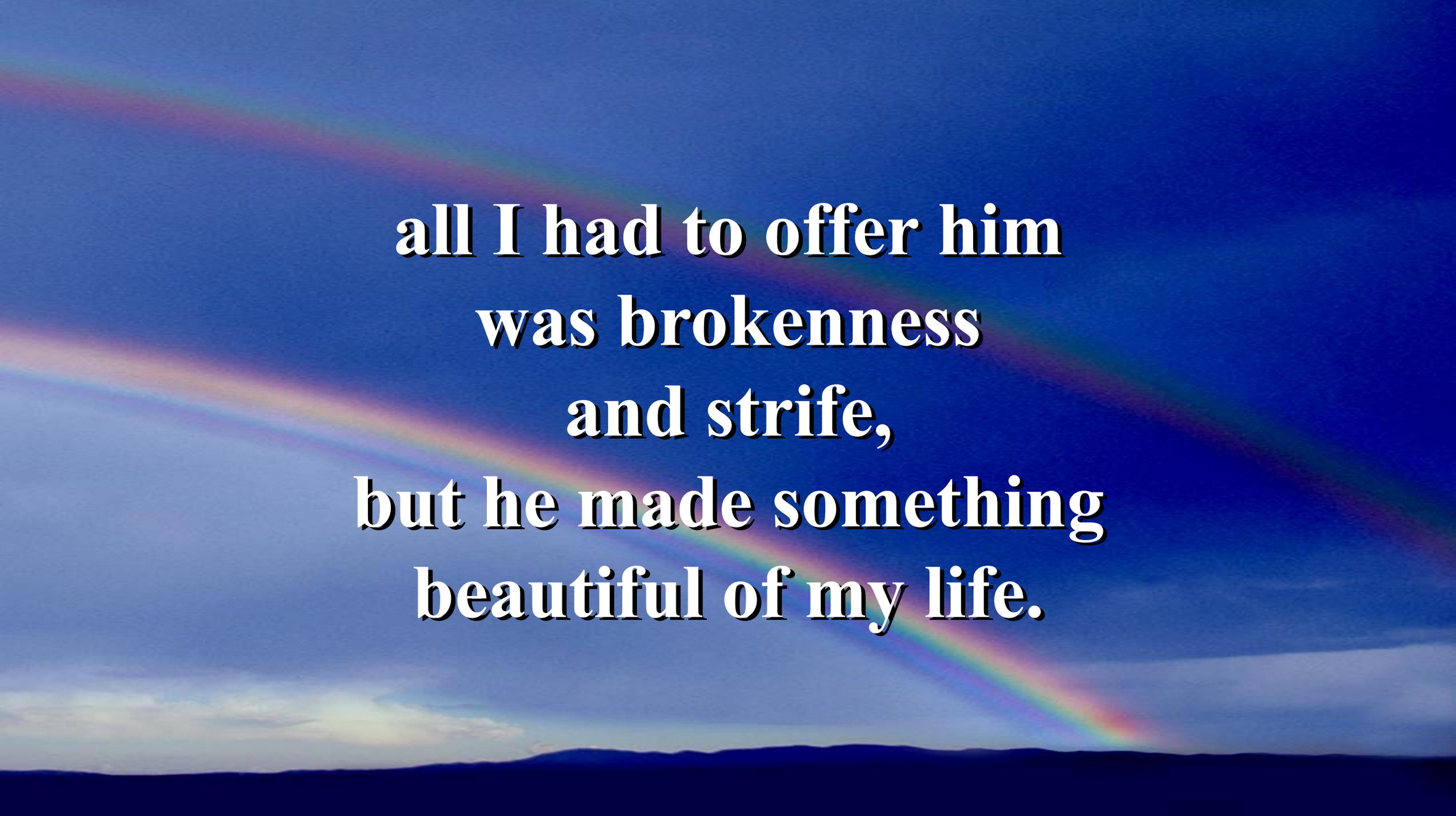
**OPENING SONG**  
**“Something Beautiful”**

# Something Beautiful

394

WORDS: Gloria Gaither, 1971

Something beautiful,  
something good;  
all my confusion  
he understood;

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.

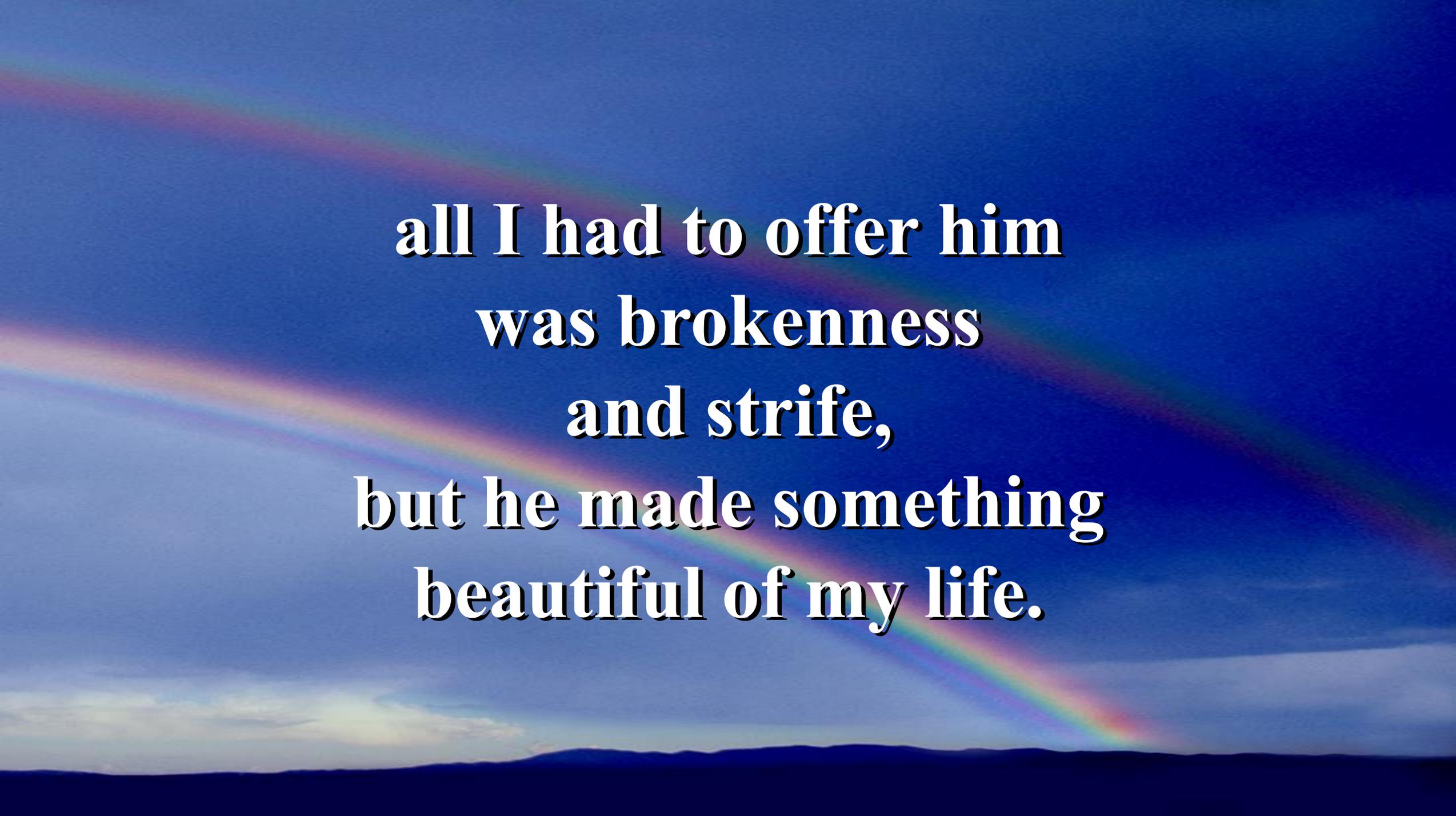
**all I had to offer him  
was brokenness  
and strife,  
but he made something  
beautiful of my life.**

# Something Beautiful

394

WORDS: Gloria Gaither, 1971

Something beautiful,  
something good;  
all my confusion  
he understood;

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

**all I had to offer him  
was brokenness  
and strife,  
but he made something  
beautiful of my life.**



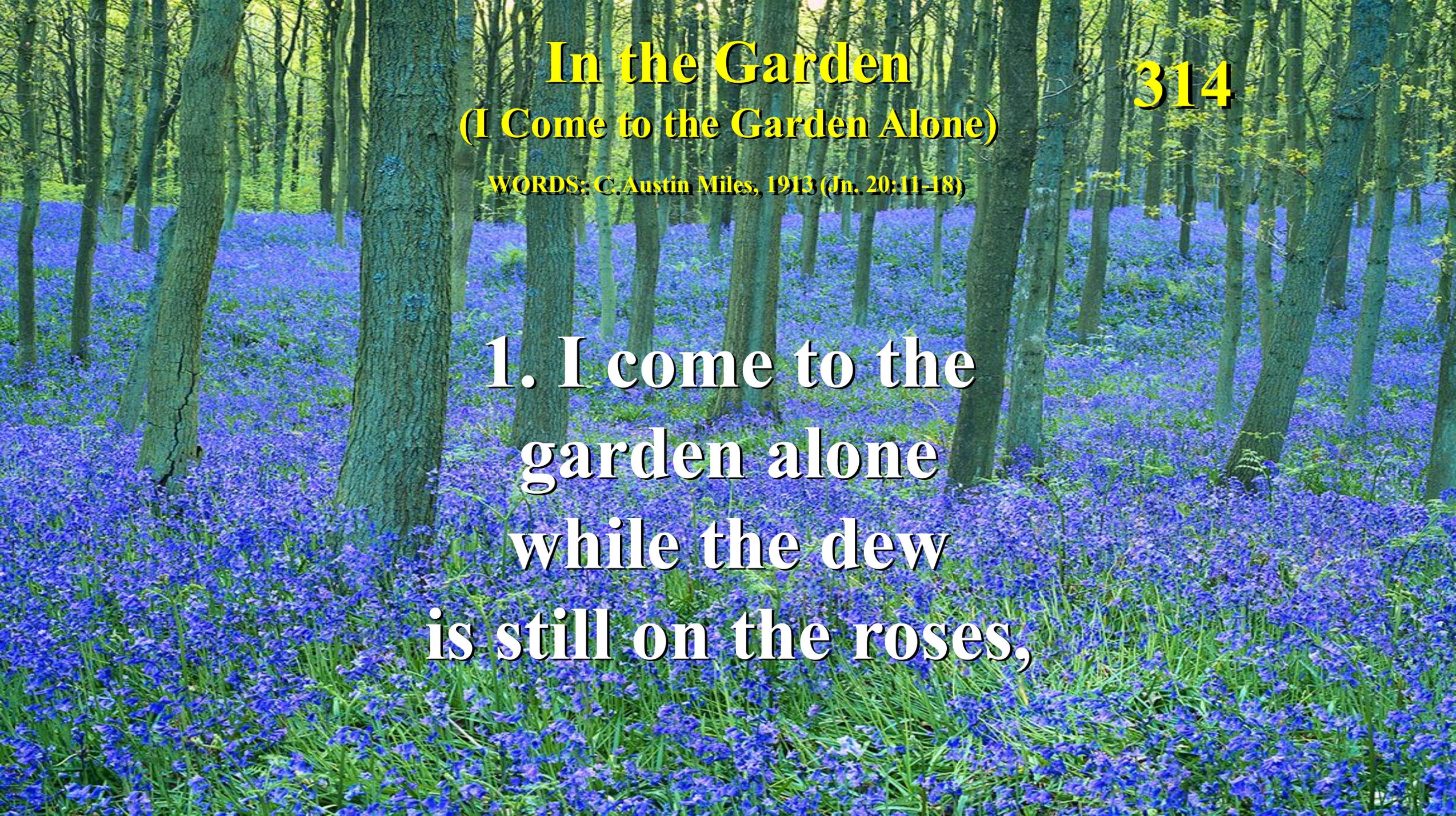
# OPENING PRAYER



**Living water, flow through our hearts today. Quench our thirst in our desert wanderings and strengthen us for the road ahead. Bathe us in your fountain of eternal life, that our spirits may flow with faith and love, through the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.**



**“In the Garden”**

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with their trunks visible against the bright background. The lighting is soft and natural, suggesting a sunny day in a woodland.

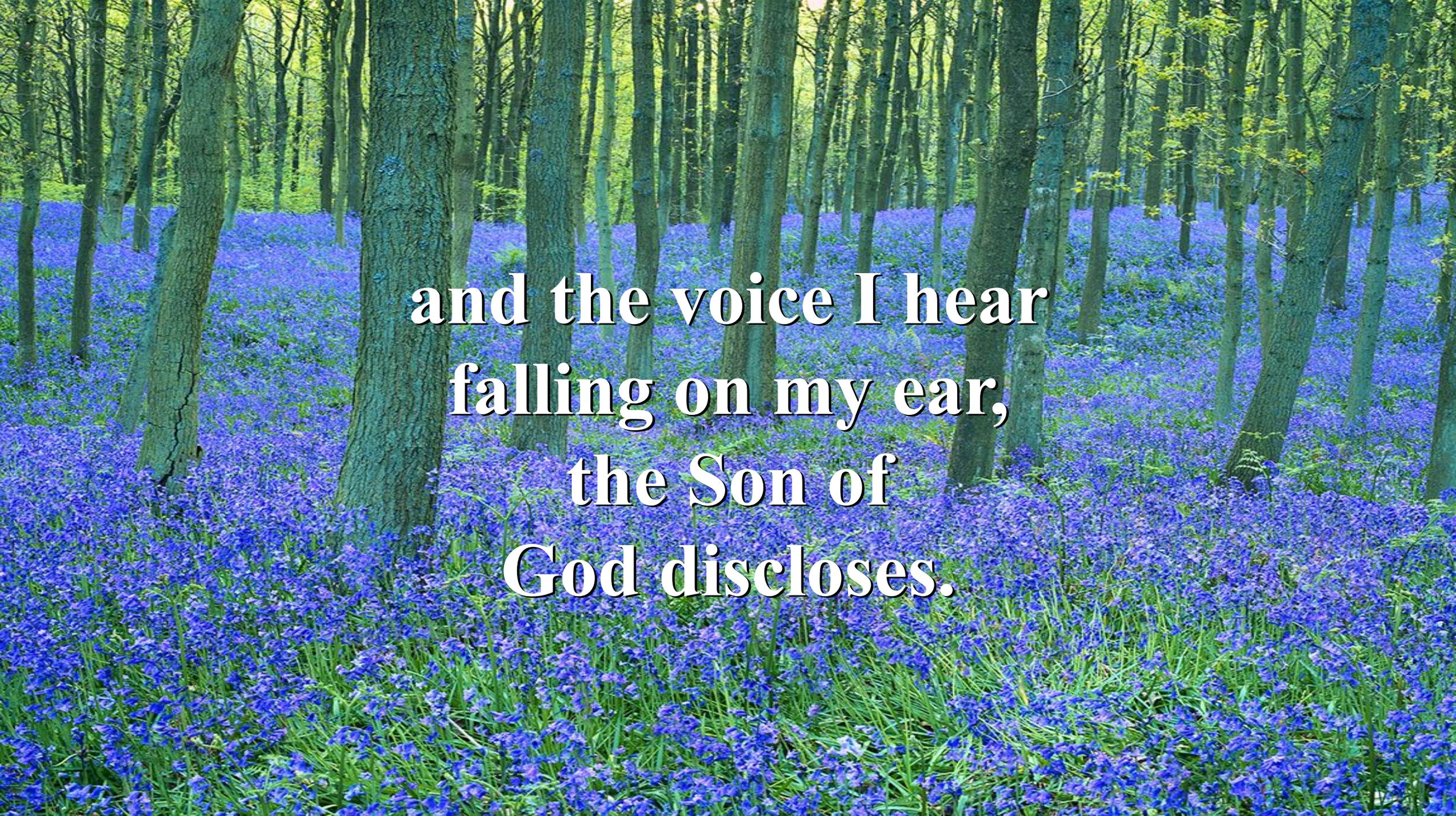
# In the Garden

(I Come to the Garden Alone)

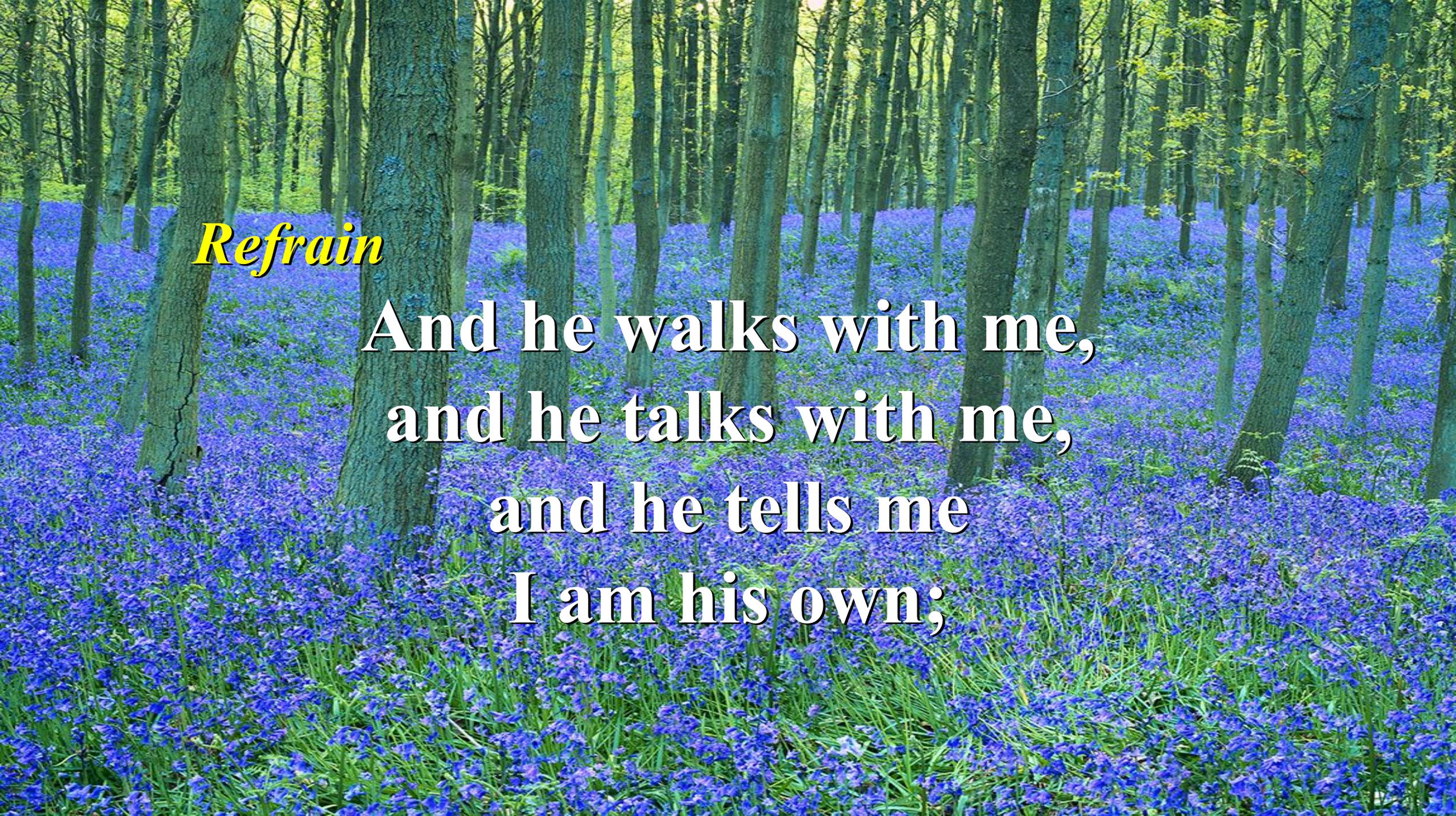
314

WORDS: C. Austin Miles, 1913 (Jn. 20:11-18)

1. I come to the  
garden alone  
while the dew  
is still on the roses,

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy, creating a dappled light effect. The text is centered over the image in a white, serif font with a black outline.

and the voice I hear  
falling on my ear,  
the Son of  
God discloses.

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The flowers are a vibrant blue color and are interspersed with green grass. In the background, numerous tall, slender tree trunks rise vertically, creating a sense of depth and a canopy of light filtering through the leaves. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

*Refrain*

And he walks with me,  
and he talks with me,  
and he tells me  
I am his own;

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text is centered over the image.

and the joy we share  
as we tarry there,  
none other  
has ever known.

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

2. He speaks, and the  
sound of his voice  
is so sweet the  
birds hush their singing,

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with their trunks visible against the background. The lighting is soft and natural, suggesting a sunny day. The text is centered over the image in a white, serif font with a black outline.

and the melody  
that he gave to me  
within my  
heart is ringing.

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The flowers are a vibrant blue color and are interspersed with green grass. In the background, numerous tree trunks of varying heights and thicknesses stand vertically, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is soft and natural, suggesting a sunny day in a wooded area.

*Refrain*

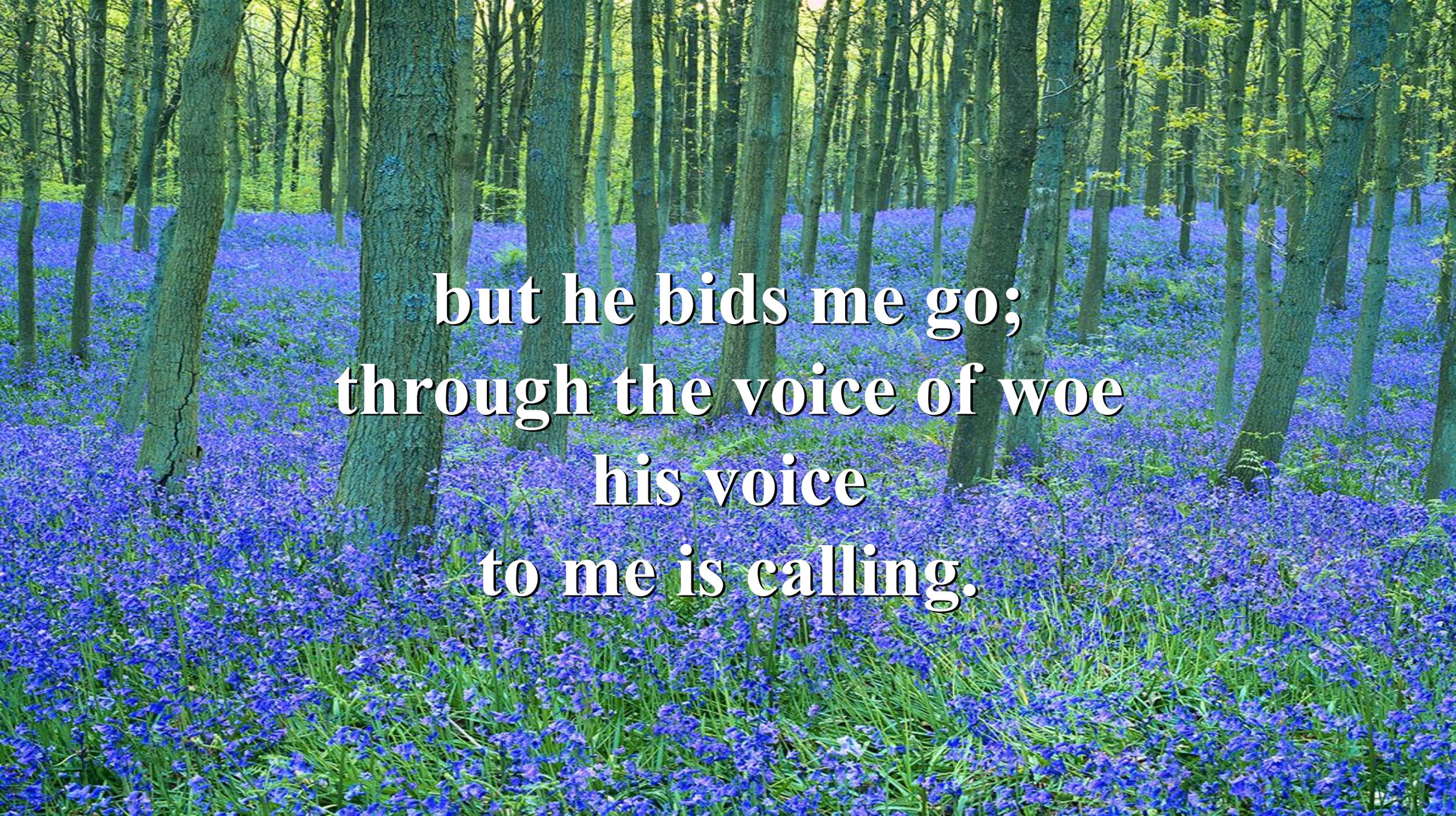
And he walks with me,  
and he talks with me,  
and he tells me  
I am his own;

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text is centered over the image.

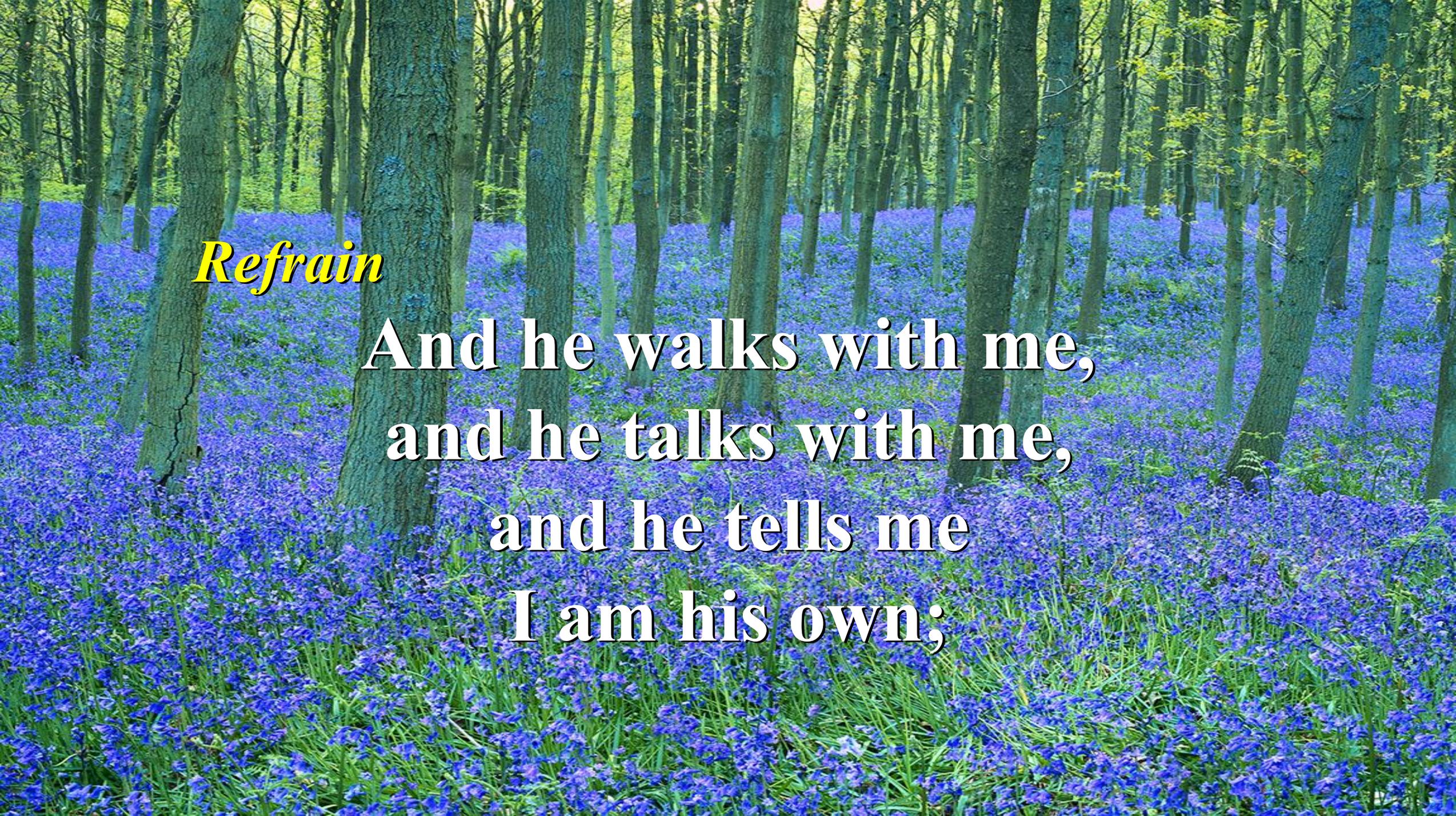
and the joy we share  
as we tarry there,  
none other  
has ever known.

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The flowers are a vibrant blue color and are interspersed with green grass. In the background, numerous tall, slender tree trunks rise vertically, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is soft and natural, suggesting a bright day with some shade from the trees.

3. I'd stay in the  
garden with him  
though the night  
around me be falling,

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

but he bids me go;  
through the voice of woe  
his voice  
to me is calling.



*Refrain*

And he walks with me,  
and he talks with me,  
and he tells me  
I am his own;

A photograph of a forest floor covered in a dense carpet of bluebells. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text is centered over the image.

and the joy we share  
as we tarry there,  
none other  
has ever known.



# 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 4:1-45



1 Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. 3 So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. 4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. 7 When a Samaritan



woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” 11 “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and



the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?” 13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” 15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw



water.” 16 He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.” 17 “I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.” 19 “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.” 21 “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe



me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” 25 The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he



comes, he will explain everything to us.” 26 Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.” 27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?” 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him. 31 Meanwhile his



disciples urged him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

32 But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.” 33 Then his disciples

said to each other, “Could someone have brought him food?” 34 “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.

35 Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36 Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower

A red decorative graphic consisting of a vertical line on the left and a curved, flame-like shape on the right, positioned at the top left of the text.

and the reaper may be glad together. 37 Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. 38 I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.” 39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. 41 And because of his words many more became believers. 42 They said



to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.” 43 After the two days he left for Galilee. 44 (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) 45 When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there.



# SERMON “LIVING WATER”

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Wellspring of salvation, quench our thirst this day. When our souls are parched, we long to taste the healing waters of your grace. When our spirits are as dry as desert sands, we yearn to find renewal in the well of your mercy and your love. Shower us in your living water that we may be washed clean in the river of your forgiveness and your grace. Amen.**

# WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Those whose souls drink of Christ's living water will never thirst again.

Those who refresh themselves in Christ will have a spring of water welling up to eternal 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**

**“CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD”**



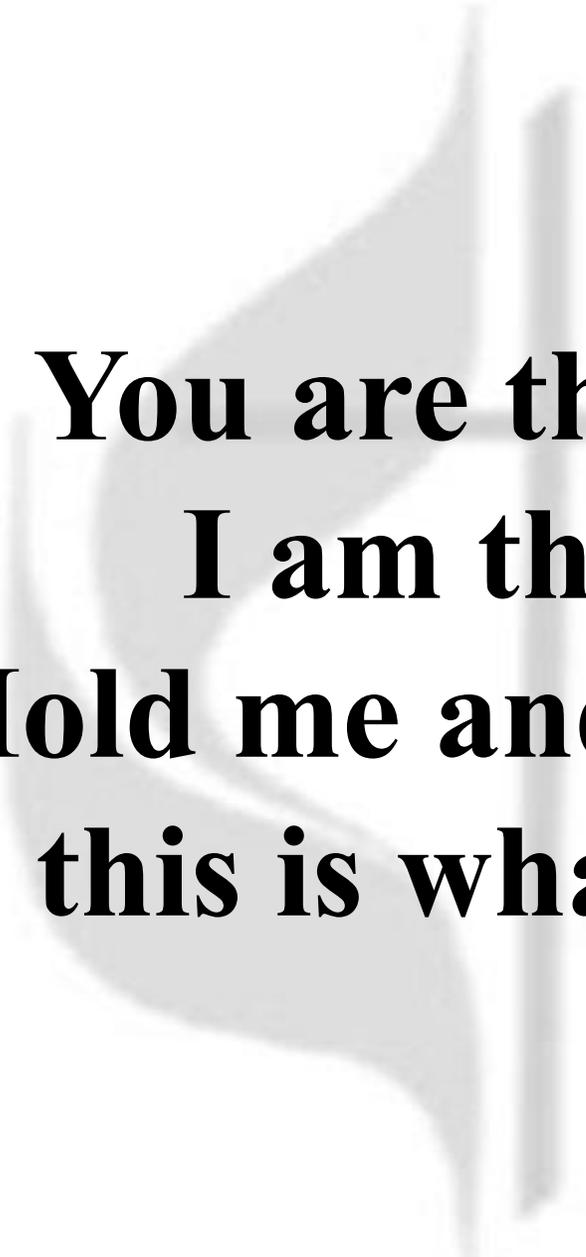
# Change My Heart, O God

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





Bathe in the river of God's love.  
Swim in the waters of Christ's  
baptism. Ride the ocean currents of  
the Holy Spirit. Be renewed in the  
warm springs of our God.



# 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 the vocal melody. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains the piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with two measures of chords, followed by a melodic line for the words "A-men, A-men, A - - - men." The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

# CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

