



WELCOME!
ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OPEN DOORS WITH LOVING HEARTS
MAY 31, 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.**

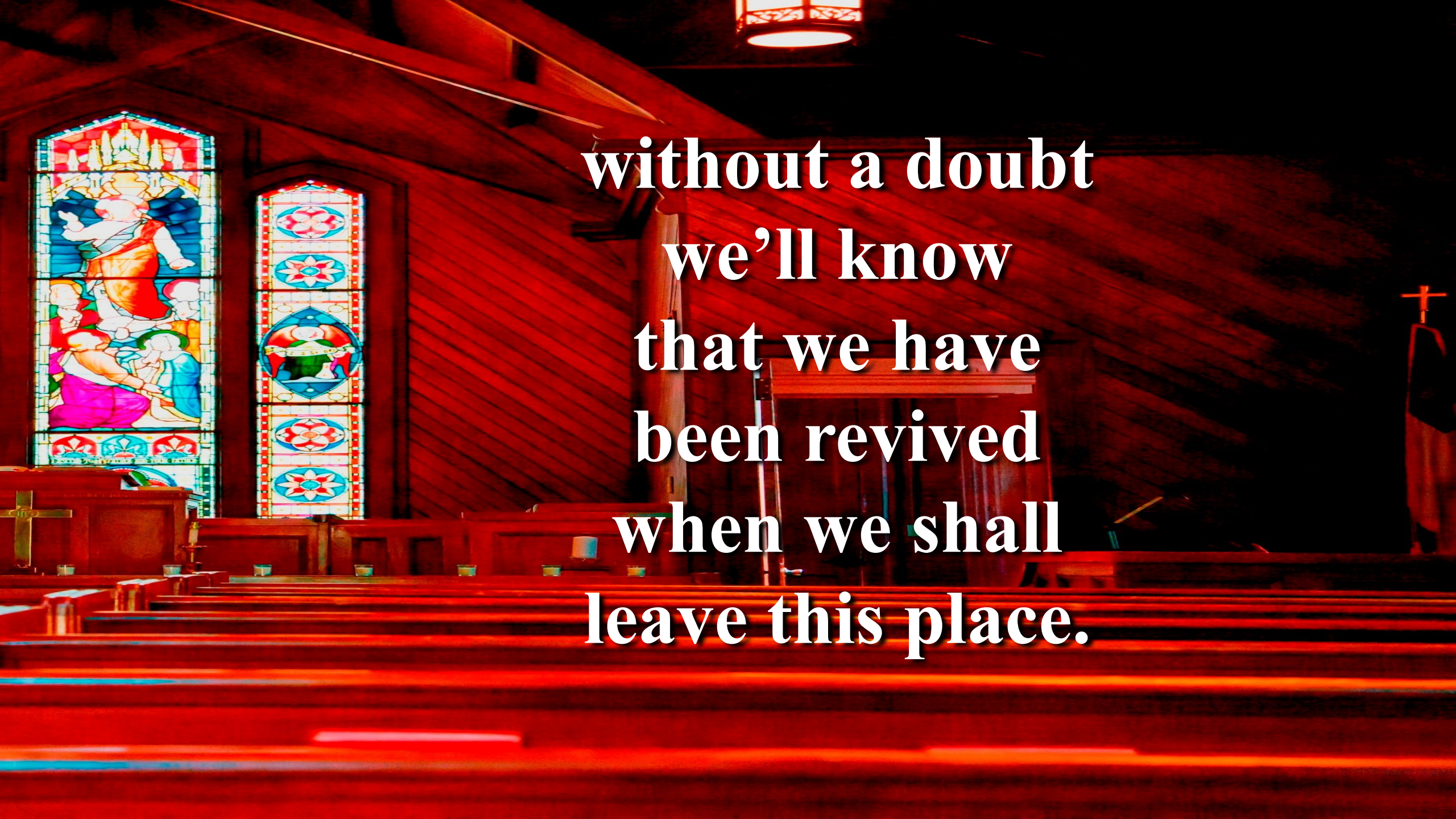
The image shows the interior of a church with dark wood paneling and pews. A large, colorful stained glass window on the left depicts the Pentecost, with the Holy Spirit as a dove and tongues of fire. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

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.**

GATHERNING SONG




“We Shall Overcome”

We Shall Overcome

533

WORDS: African American spiritual

**1. We shall overcome,
we shall overcome,
we shall overcome
someday!**

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 mood is one of hope and optimism.


**Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
we shall overcome
someday!**




**2. We'll walk hand in hand,
we'll walk hand in hand,
we'll walk hand in hand
someday!**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear blue sky, with dark, silhouetted mountains visible at the bottom. The text is centered in a white, serif font with a black outline.

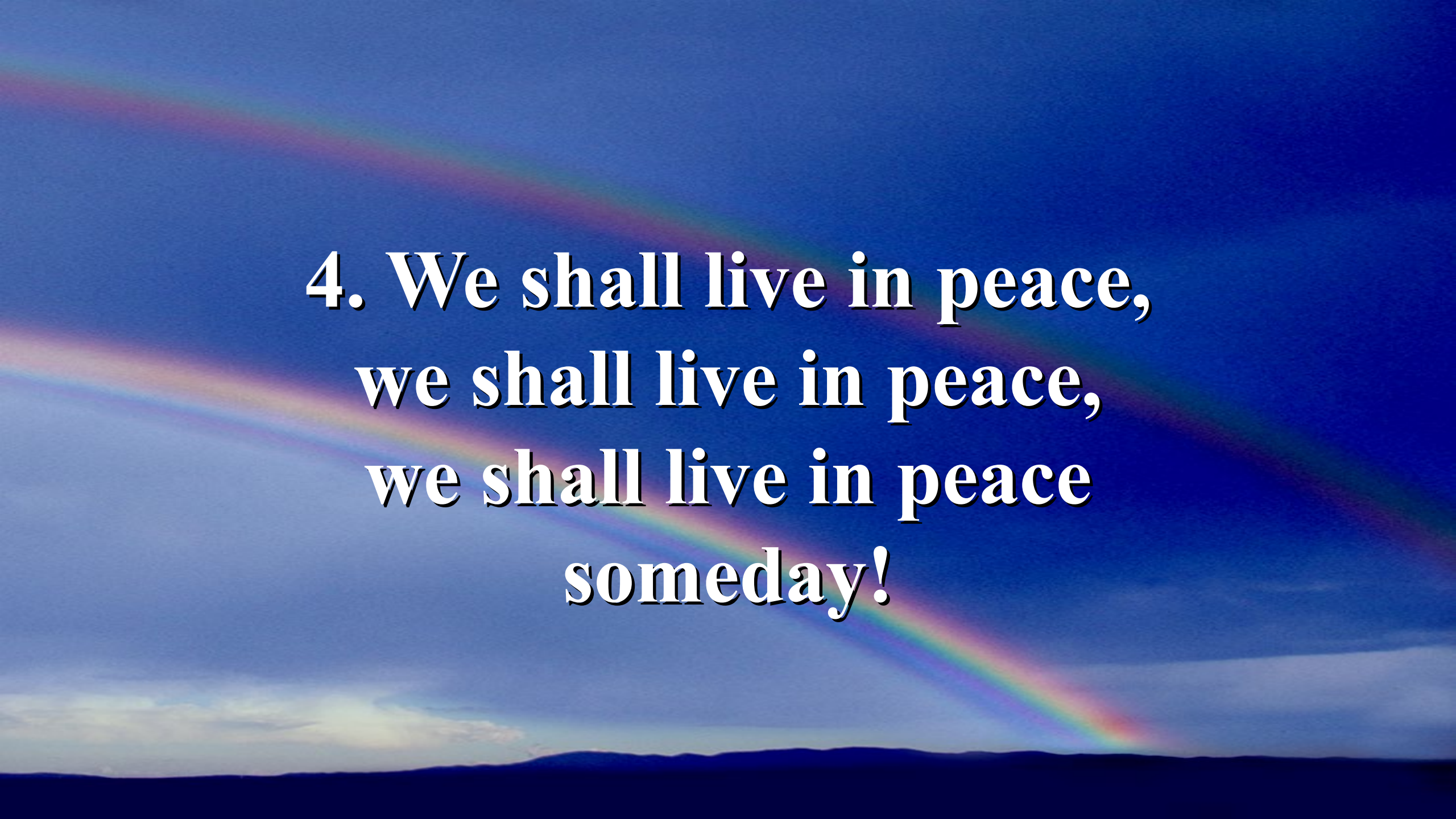
**Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
we'll walk hand in hand
someday!**



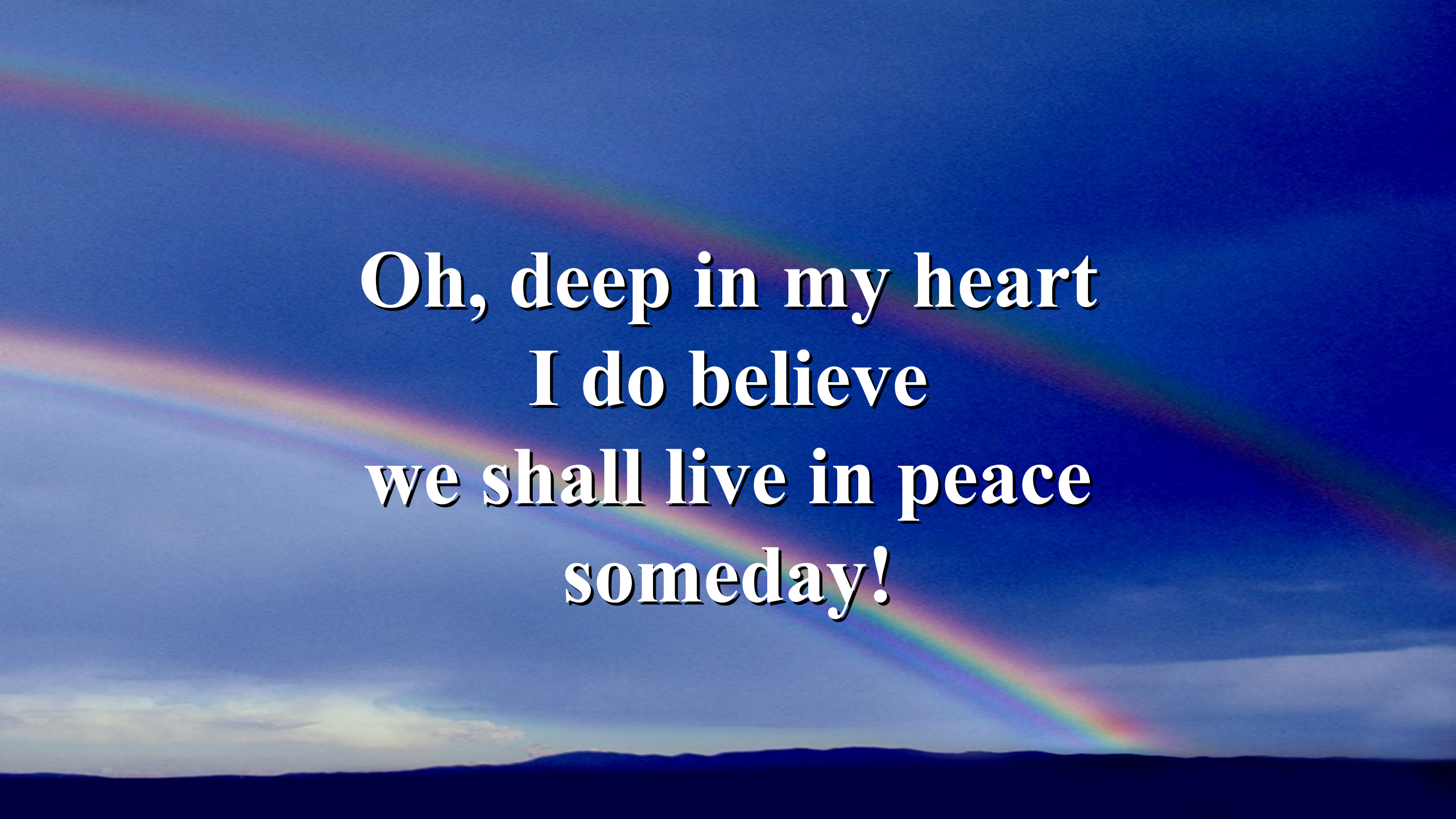
**3. We shall all be free,
we shall all be free,
we shall all be free
someday!**




**Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
we shall all be free
someday!**




**4. We shall live in peace,
we shall live in peace,
we shall live in peace
someday!**



**Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
we shall live in peace
someday!**



**5. The Lord will
see us through,
the Lord will see us through,
the Lord will see us through
someday!**

A vibrant rainbow arches across a clear blue sky, with dark, silhouetted mountains visible in the foreground. The text is centered in a white, serif font with a black outline.

**Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
the Lord will see us
through someday!**



PRELUDE



**WELCOME
&
ANNOUNCEMENT**



Birthday/Anniversary



CALL TO WORSHIP



Leader: In the beginning...

People: God created mortals and asked us to care for all creation.

Leader: In the fullness of time, God sent Jesus...

People: Jesus showed us how to love as God loves.



Leader: In our time, and throughout eternity...

All: Jesus commands us to lead others to follow in the name of the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.





OPENING SONG
“Guide My Feet”

Guide My Feet

African American spiritual

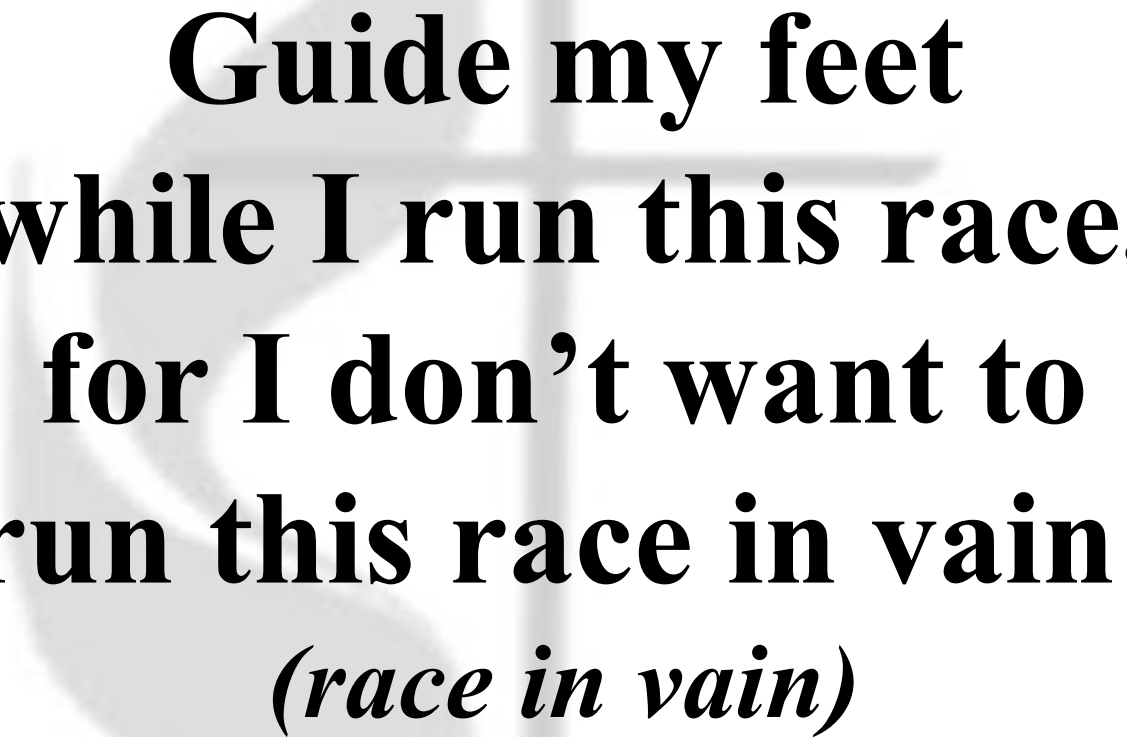
2208

**1. Guide my feet
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)

**Guide my feet
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)



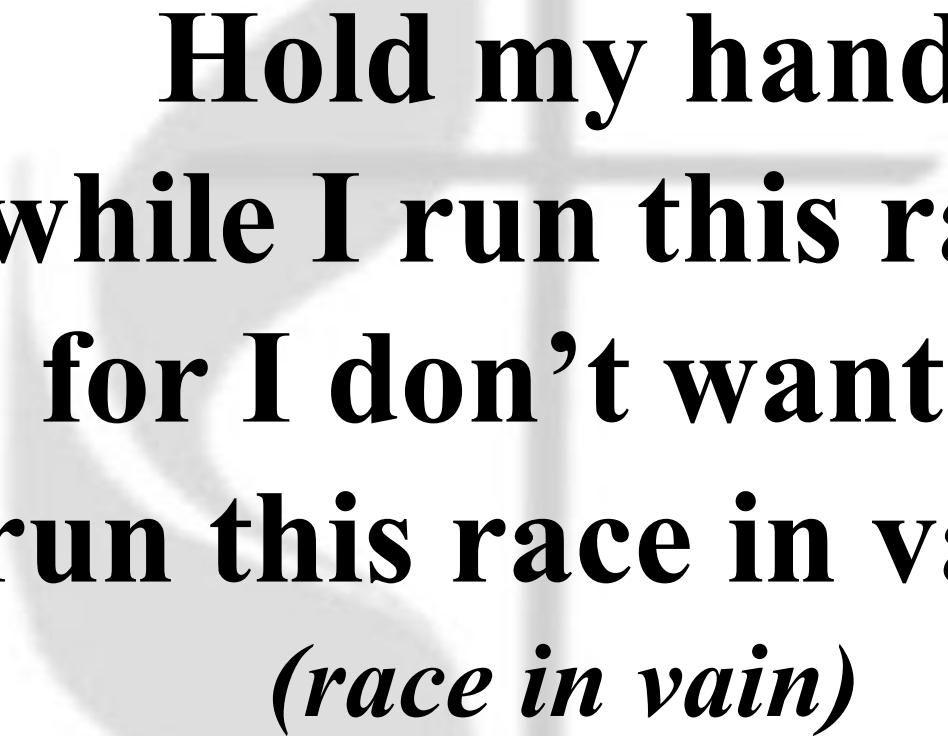
**Guide my feet
while I run this race,
for I don't want to
run this race in vain!**
(race in vain)

**2. Hold my hand
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)

**Hold my hand
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)



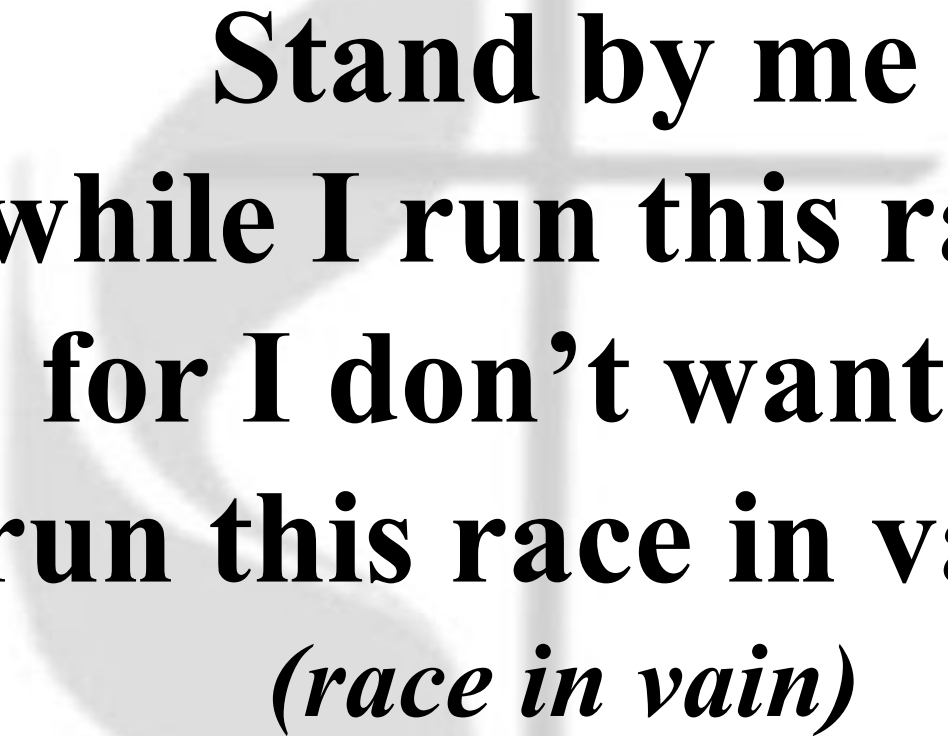
**Hold my hand
while I run this race,
for I don't want to
run this race in vain!**
(race in vain)

**3. Stand by me
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)

**Stand by me
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)



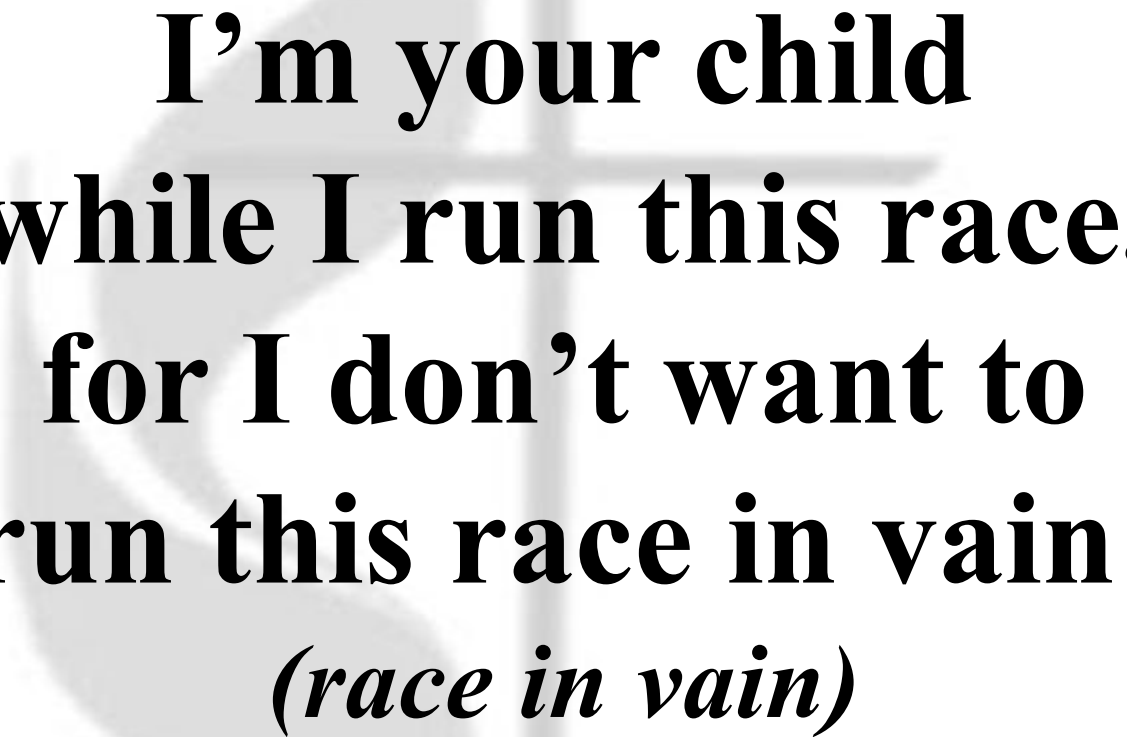
**Stand by me
while I run this race,
for I don't want to
run this race in vain!**
(race in vain)

**4. I'm your child
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)

**I'm your child
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)



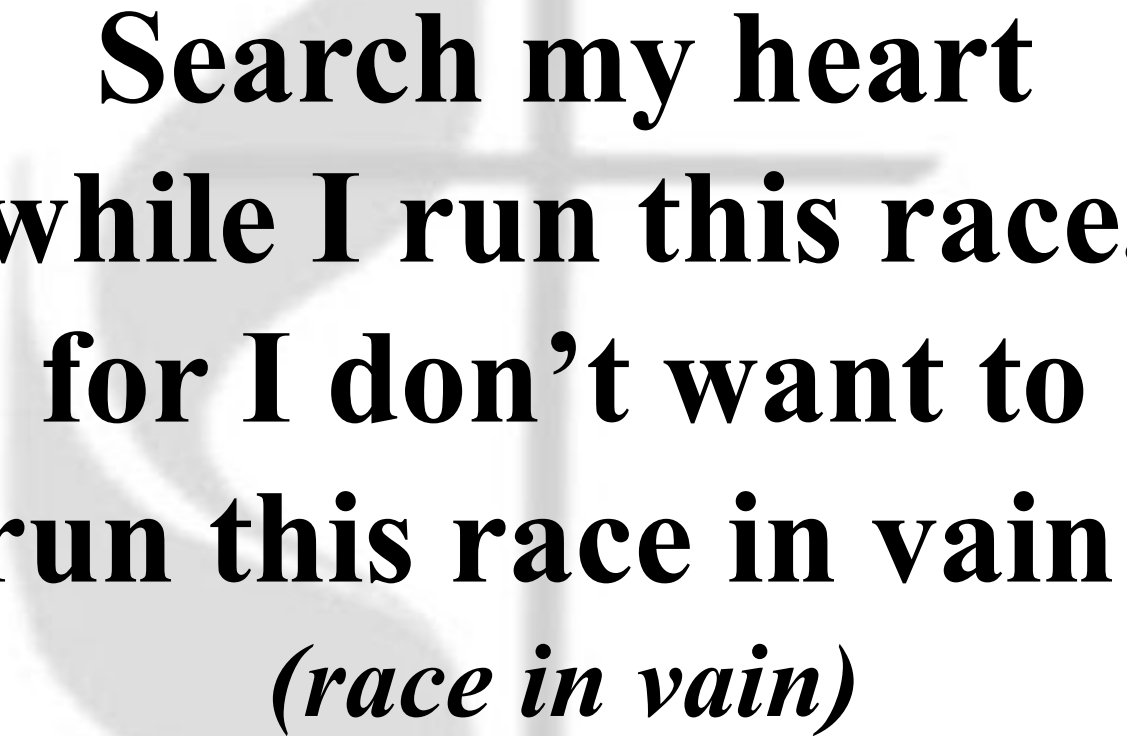
**I'm your child
while I run this race,
for I don't want to
run this race in vain!**
(race in vain)

**5. Search my heart
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)

**Search my heart
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)



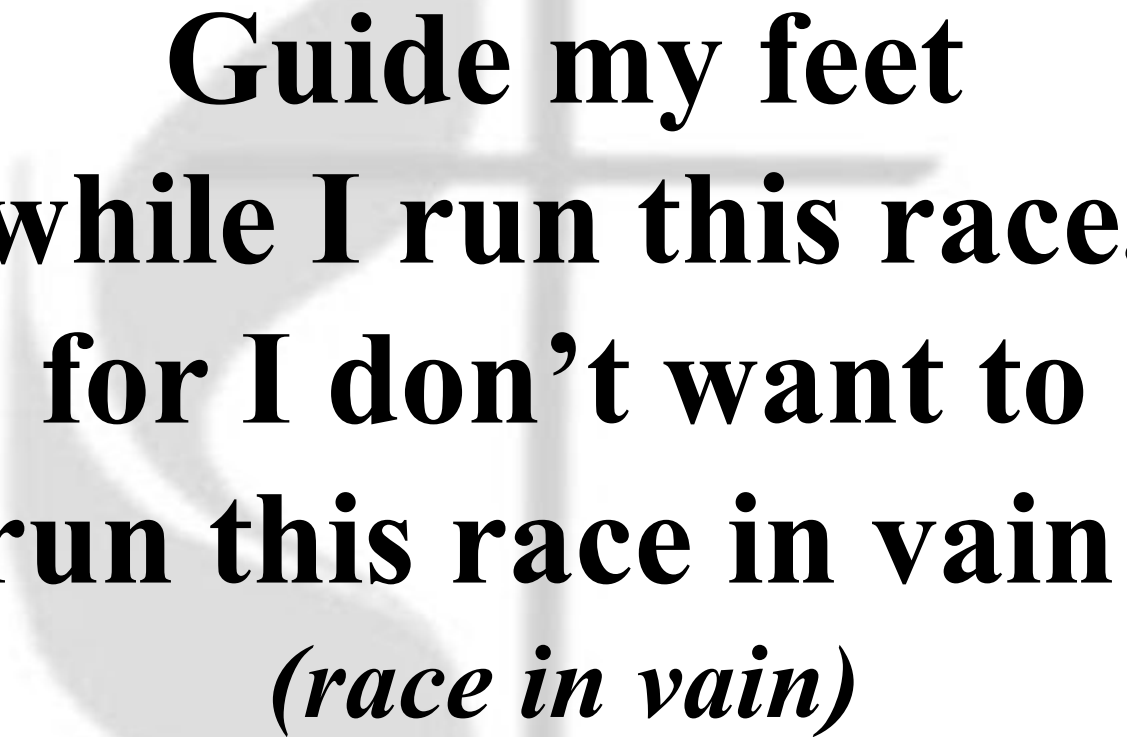
**Search my heart
while I run this race,
for I don't want to
run this race in vain!**
(race in vain)

**6. Guide my feet
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)

**Guide my feet
while I run this race.**

(Yes, my Lord!)



**Guide my feet
while I run this race,
for I don't want to
run this race in vain!**
(race in vain)



OPENING PRAYER



Loving God, in that first spark of creativity, you set the cosmos in motion. Time after time, your creative presence brings new life and hope. We experience your love, as we see the marvels of nature. We experience your love, as we study the ethics and compassion of Christ. We experience your love through the ever-presence of your Holy Spirit,



who was with you in the beginning, was with Christ throughout his ministry, and is with us to the end of the age. For your loving presence in all your infinite ways, we give you thanks. Amen.





“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”




Holy, Holy, Holy!

64

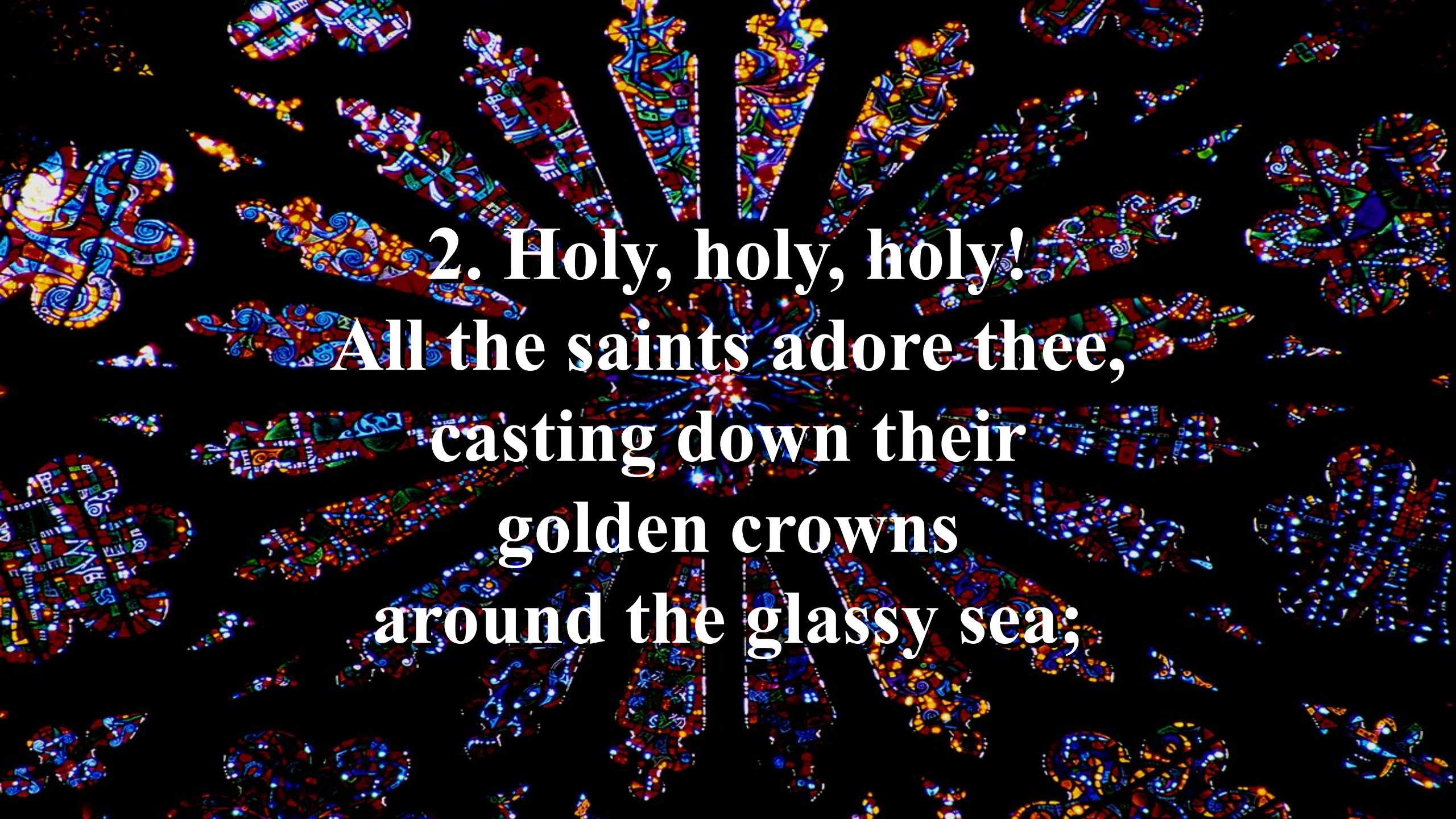
Lord God Almighty

WORDS: Reginald Heber, 1826 (Rev. 4:8-11)


**1. Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song shall rise to thee.**



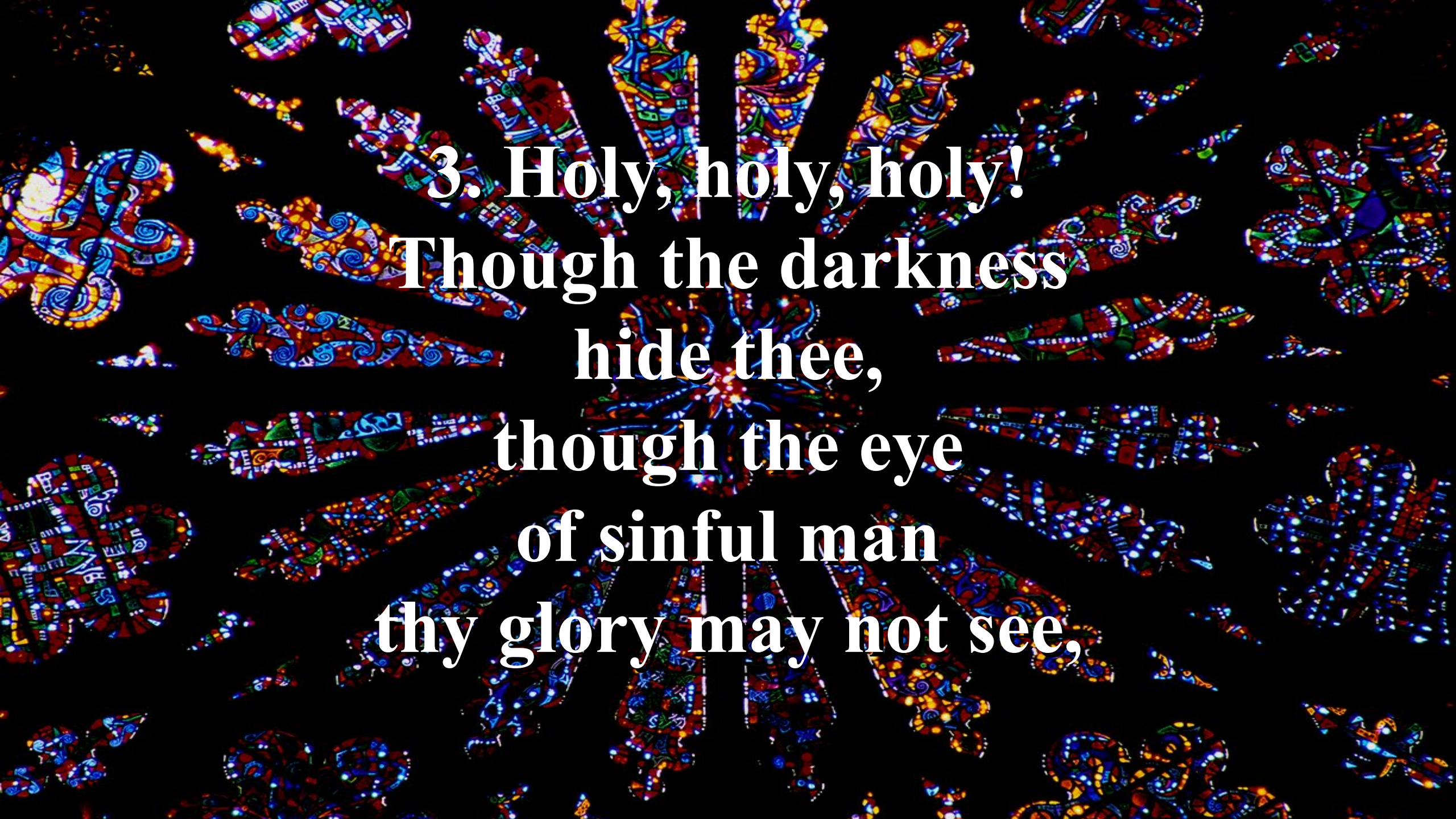
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity!



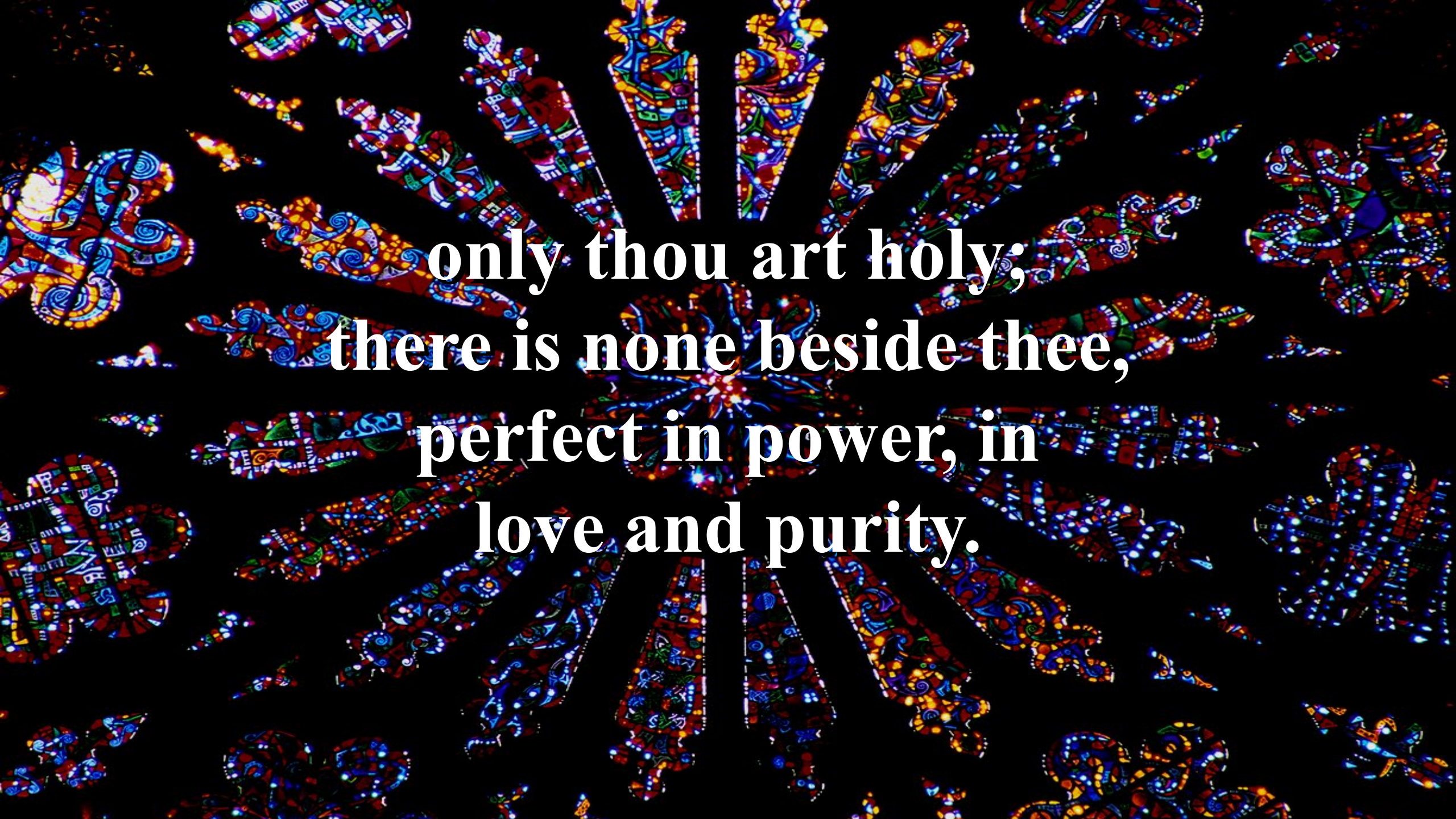
2. Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore thee,
casting down their
golden crowns
around the glassy sea;

The background is a complex, colorful stained glass pattern. It features numerous stylized figures, likely cherubim and seraphim, arranged in a radial, sunburst-like pattern. The figures are rendered in a variety of colors including red, blue, green, yellow, and orange, set against a dark background. The overall effect is one of intricate detail and vibrant light.


**cherubim and seraphim
falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and
evermore shalt be.**




**3. Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness
hide thee,
though the eye
of sinful man
thy glory may not see,**



**only thou art holy;
there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in
love and purity.**



**4. Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall
praise thy name,
in earth and sky and sea.**



Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity.



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 28:16–20



16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



THE *Great* COMMISSION

SERMON

“WHOSE AUTHORITY WILL YOU FOLLOW?”



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator of us all, when we look to the heavens and bask in the light of the sun and the moon and the stars, we feel small. Still, you call us to care for one another and all that your creativity set in motion. We yearn to hear the rush of your Spirit sweeping.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

over the depths of our lives, guiding us and breathing into us vitality to answer your call to be disciples and to welcome others to faith in you. Meet us in your many forms. We yearn to respond with love. Amen.



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus said: “Remember, I am with you always to the end of the age.”






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**

A red flame icon with a black crosshair, positioned to the left of the text.

**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

“SHALOM TO YOU”

Shalom to You

666

WORDS: Elsie S. Eslinger, 1980

Shalom to you now,
shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies
bless you, my friends.

**In all your living,
and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom,
Christ be your shalom.**



BENEDICTION





Go forth with God's Spirit, eternally present, even before the first instant of creation. Go forth with Christ, present with us to the end of the age. Go forth with God, joining God's creativity in wonder and awe. 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 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 piano part features chords and single notes, with a final cadence. The vocal part has a melodic line with a long note for "A" in the final phrase.

CARRY OUT THE LIGHT

