



WELCOME  
TO  
SELAH  
סלה

*Our annual journey to the cross is here*

*Relax. Rest. Breathe. For the next two hours nothing else matters but you, us, & God.*

# THE JOURNEY CONTINUES



LENT









*A reminder of invitation in this  
season of Lent*

*We are a community of seekers trying to live with God in this world*

# The Invitatory



I'm waiting for you to cross the road.

- God



COME.  
STEP OUT OF THE TRAFFIC...

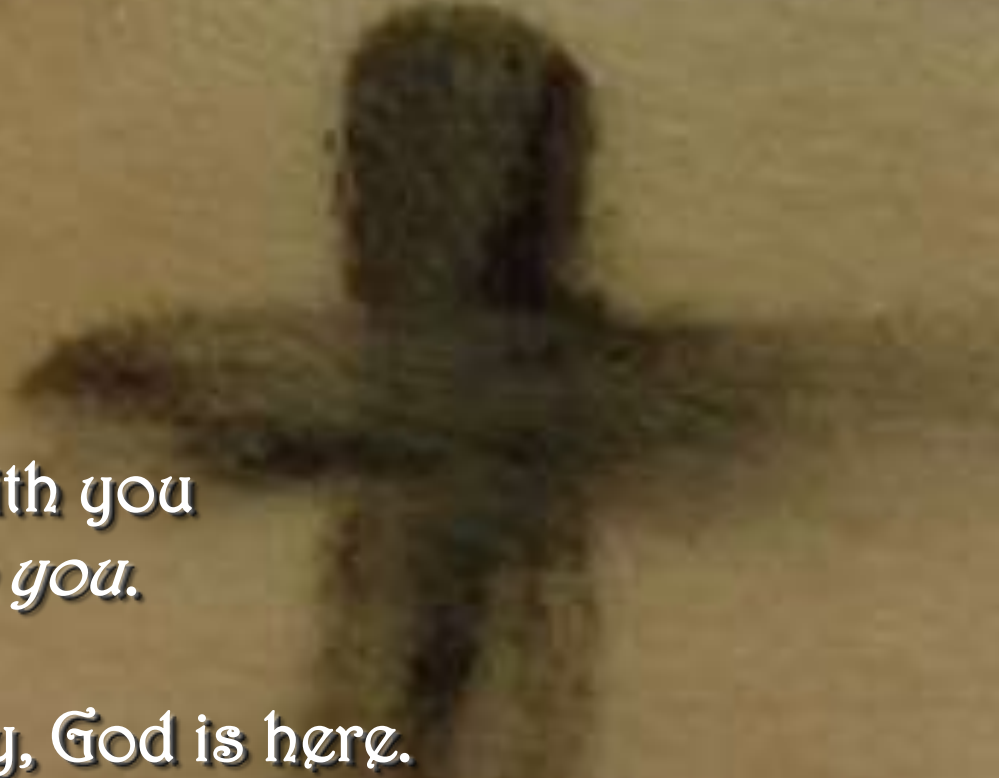
FOR TWO HOURS STEP AWAY FROM... FOR TWO HOURS STEP OUT OF...  
FOR TWO HOURS LEAVE BEHIND...  
FOR TWO HOURS...



*Step out of the traffic & take a long loving look at God*



*Be here. Be with each other. Be with God.*



The Lord be with you  
*And Also with you.*

Breathe deeply, God is here.  
*Here is this place of rest and refuge.*

God we return to you  
*Restore us so we might help you restore this world.*

All that I am Lord, *I place into your hands*  
All that I do Lord, *I place into your hands*  
All that I work for Lord, *I place into your hands*  
All that I hope for Lord, *I place into your hands*  
The troubles that worry me Lord, *I place into your hands*  
The worries that weary me Lord, *I place into your hands*  
All that I care for Lord, *I place into your hands*  
All that I pray for Lord, *I place into your hands*



*A Sound bite from God: A Versicle*

Do not remember  
the former things,  
or consider the  
things of old.  
I am about to do  
a new thing...

*God thru the Prophet Isaiah  
Ch 43.*





the lighting of the candles

## Praying with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century Church

### Original Greek Lamp Lighting Hymn:

Φῶς ἱλαρὸν ἁγίας δόξης ἀθανάτου Πατρός,  
οὐρανόυ, ἁγίου, μάκαρος, Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ,  
ἐλθόντες ἐπὶ τὴν ἡλίου δύσιν,  
ἰδόντες φῶς ἑσπερινόν,  
ὑμνοῦμεν Πατέρα, Υἱόν, καὶ ἅγιον  
Πνεῦμα, Θεόν. Ἄξιόν σε ἐν πᾶσι καιροῖς  
ὑμνεῖσθαι φωναῖς αἰσῖαις,  
Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ζωὴν ὁ διδοὺς· διὸ ὁ κόσμος σε δοξάζει.

*O Gladsome Light of the Holy Glory of the Immortal Father, Heavenly, Holy, Blessed Jesus Christ! Now that we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we praise God Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise. O Son of God and Giver of Life, therefore all the world doth glorify Thee.*

We are a thankful people.

We give thanks to God:

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

PRAISE HIM ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW

PRAISE HIM ABOVE YE HEAVENLY HOSTS

PRAISE FATHER, SON AND HOLY GHOST.





We are a thankful people.

We pause to remember our friend Affisu  
And our commitment  
To be community with him.





Gathering around the table a little differently

# *the Searching*

*Hear God's invitation  
Hear God's call*



*In lent we are encouraged to care for those things which ultimately matter and to leave behind those things which inhibit our participation in the life of God and the life around us"*

*- Steven Purcell*

# *The Lenten Practice.*





**A Song of Ascents.**

**<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.**

**<sup>2</sup>Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then they said among the nations,**

**"The LORD has done great things for them."**

**<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us;  
we are glad. <sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like streams in the Negeb!**

**<sup>5</sup> Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with shouts of joy!**

**<sup>6</sup>He who goes out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
bringing his sheaves with him.**

# LIGHT THE FIRE

A man with dark hair, wearing a dark sweater, is shown in profile, looking down with his hands clasped in prayer. The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of glowing blue and purple light trails, creating a sense of movement and energy. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

I stand to praise you  
But I fall to my knees

My spirit is willing  
But my flesh is so  
weak.



So light the fire

*(light the fire)*

In my soul

*(in my weary soul)*

Fan the flame

*(fan the flame)*

Make me whole

*(make my spirit whole)*



Lord you know

*(Lord you know)*

Just where I've been

*(where I've been)*

So light the fire in my heart  
again.



**I feel your arms around me**

**As the power of your  
healing begins**

**Your Spirit moves through  
me**

**Like a mighty rushing  
wind.**



*Handwritten signature*



So light the fire

*(light the fire)*

In my soul

*(in my weary soul)*

Fan the flame

*(fan the flame)*

Make me whole

*(make my spirit whole)*



Lord you know

*(Lord you know)*

Just where I've been

*(where I've been)*

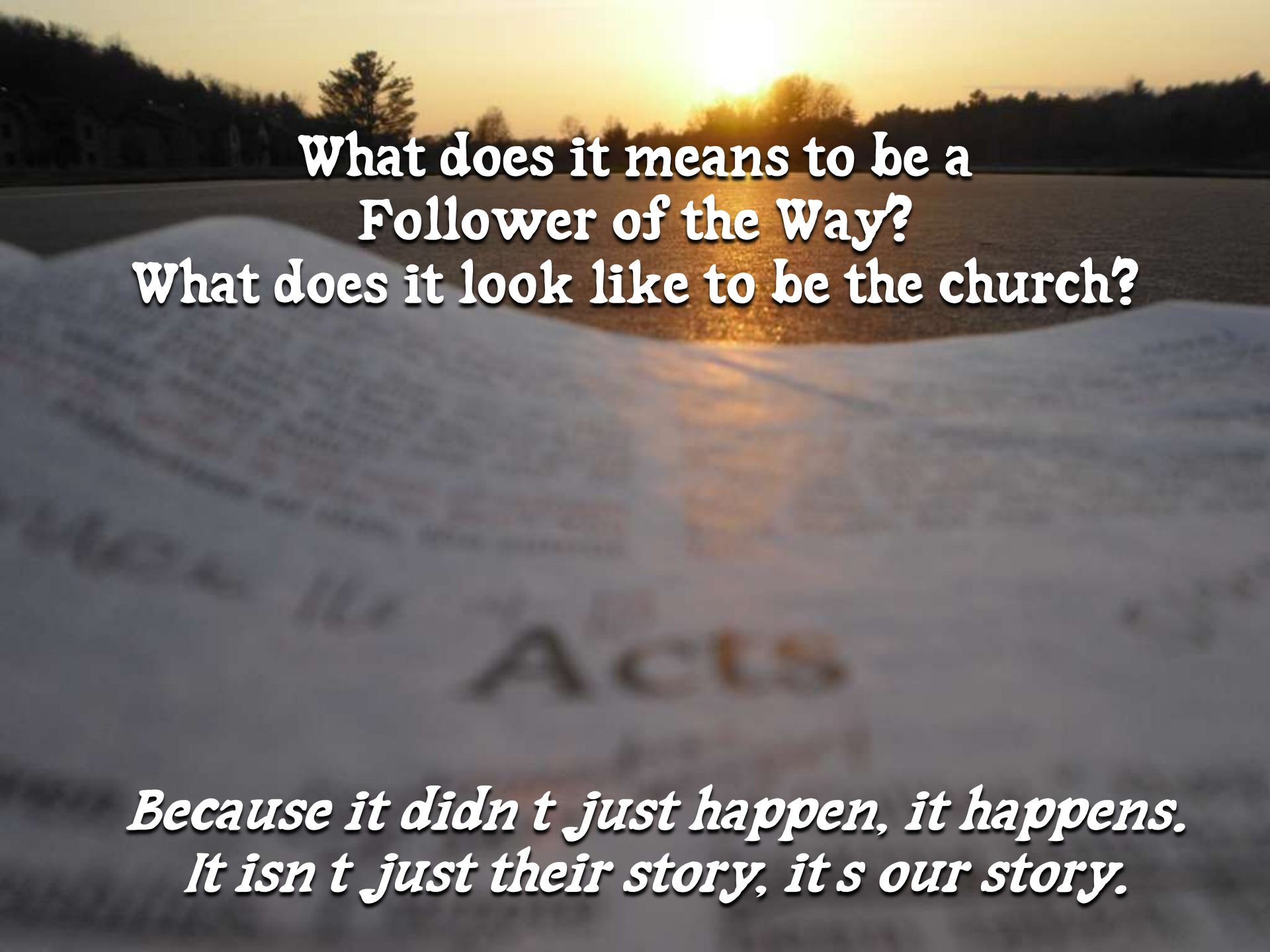
So light the fire in my heart  
again.

***“Come let us reason together”  
says the Lord.***

*From the prophet Isaiah, Ch 1.*

**IN SEARCH OF: A NEW SONG**



A photograph of a snowy landscape at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. A path of snow leads from the foreground towards the sun. The background shows a line of trees under a hazy sky.

**What does it mean to be a  
Follower of the Way?  
What does it look like to be the church?**

*Because it didn't just happen, it happens.  
It isn't just their story, it's our story.*

# Early Churches



## **Saul Proclaims Jesus in Synagogues**

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. <sup>20</sup>And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." <sup>21</sup>And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" <sup>22</sup>But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

## **Saul Escapes from Damascus**

<sup>23</sup> When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, <sup>24</sup>but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, <sup>25</sup>but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

## **Saul in Jerusalem**

<sup>26</sup>And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. <sup>27</sup>But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. <sup>28</sup>So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. <sup>29</sup>And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. <sup>30</sup>And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. <sup>31</sup>So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

## The Healing of Aeneas

<sup>32</sup>Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda. <sup>33</sup>There he found a man named Aeneas, bedridden for eight years, who was paralyzed. <sup>34</sup>And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. <sup>35</sup> And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. **Dorcas**



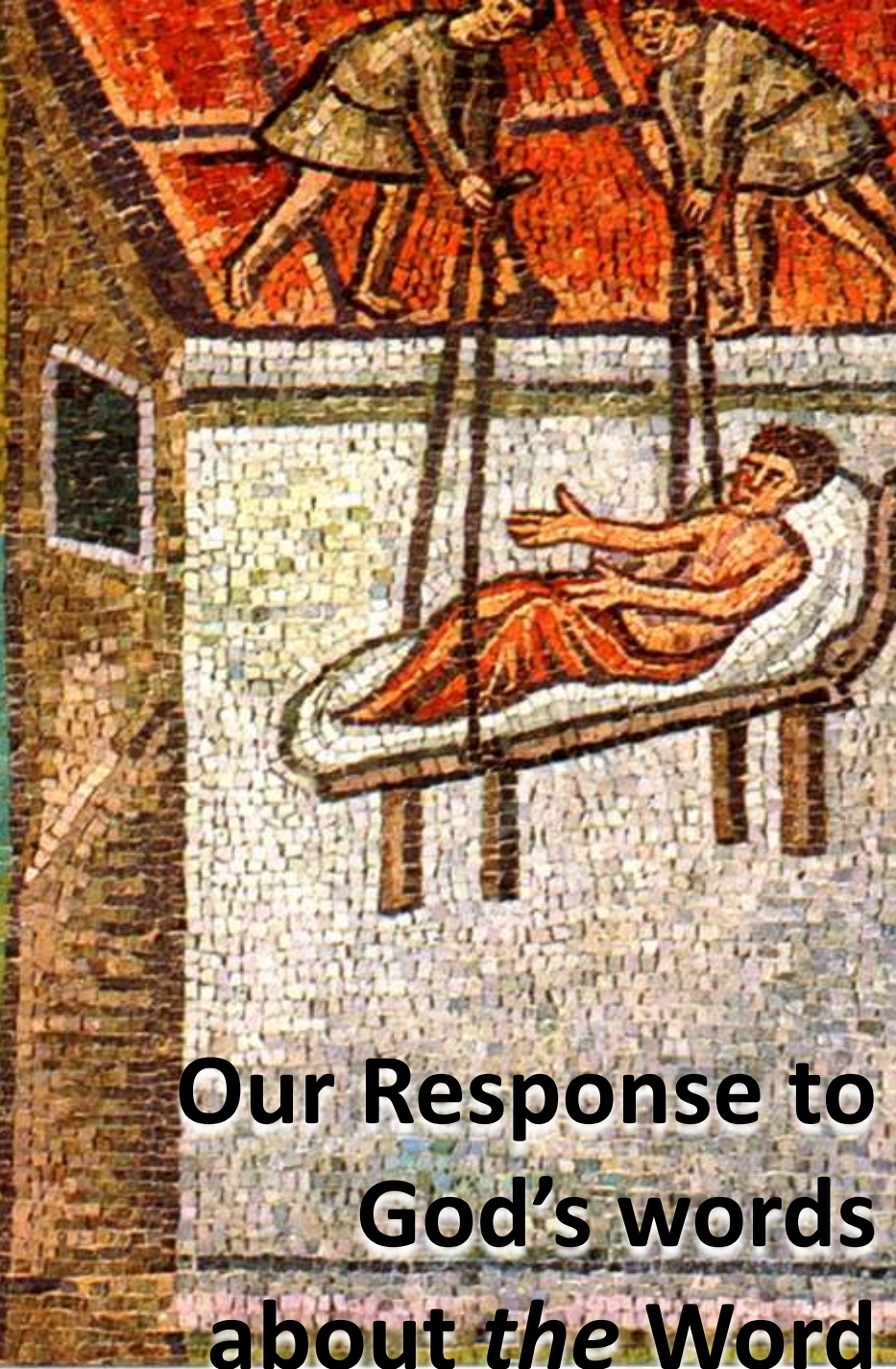
## **Restored to Life**

<sup>36</sup>Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup>And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. <sup>42</sup>And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner.



***"The ministry of healing  
is the Church's fundamental  
ministry and the world's  
fundamental need."***

**-Bishop Thompson**



**Our Response to  
God's words  
about *the Word***

# Responding to God's words to us

*Listening and Conversing with God.*

- Reading
- Ruminating
- Responding
- Resting

Lectio  
Divina



# *The Practice of Healing*



We come to you, Lord,  
for you alone can heal and restore us.

We are not able to heal ourselves,  
We are not able to forgive ourselves,  
We are not able to restore ourselves,  
We are not able to sanctify ourselves,  
We are not able to satisfy ourselves

We come to you, Lord,  
for you alone can make us whole.

A low-angle photograph of a ruined Gothic cathedral. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy white clouds. The stone ruins are dark and weathered, with intricate carvings and arches visible. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

*As it was in the beginning,*

*Is now and will be*

*FOREVER MORE.*

*Amen.*

# CONVERSATIONS

Because *WE'RE IN THIS THING TOGETHER.*



And we don't want to just talk about life with God but we want  
*To work this out into the details of our everyday life.*



# Announcements:

- **Mtn TOP training, this coming Sat.**
  - ***Palm Sunday – Mar 28<sup>th</sup>:  
A Messianic Passover Meal – need to know by  
Thursday! Go tell Brett now if you're planning  
on it.***
- **Easter Help: Egg Hunts & Flowering of Cross**

A mosaic-style image of Jesus Christ with a beard and long hair, wearing a blue robe and a red sash. He is looking directly at the viewer with a calm expression. The background is a textured mosaic of various colors including gold, brown, and blue.

# The Blessing

May you go from here with the strength and joy to *be* the church out there in the world.

May you live believing that the same Spirit that was given to the first Christians is given to you.

May you have the courage to pray like Peter & our Matthew.

May you take part in Jesus healing of the world around you.

And may you take up your mat and walk from here in the confidence of what Jesus is healing in you.

***The PEACE OF THE LORD be always with you!***

SHALOM



Peace Be Unto You