

WELCOME TO SELAH סְלָה

Come in. Have a seat.

Play a game.

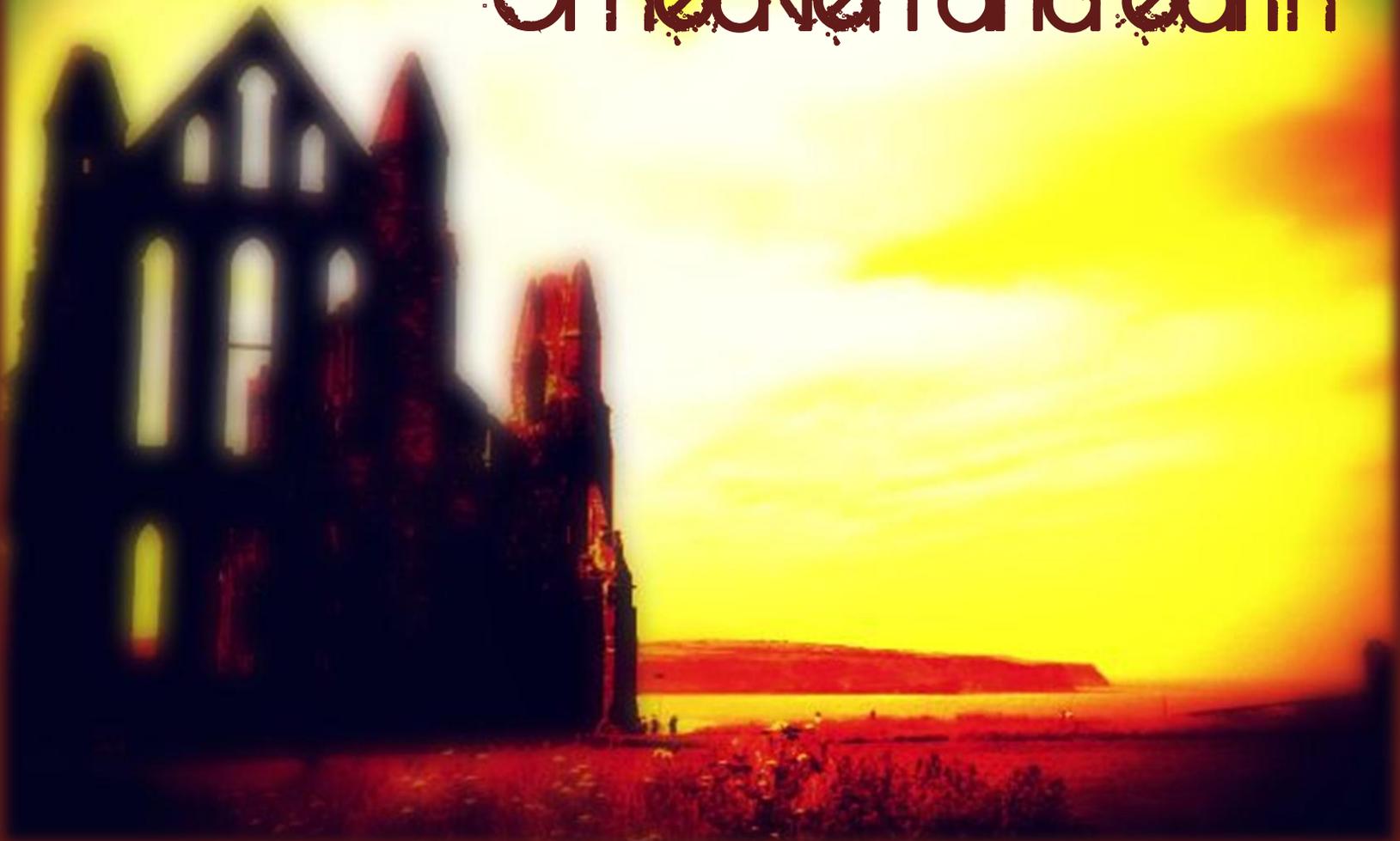
Relax. Take a deep breath.

It's good you're here.

We're really glad you've come.

LIVING ON THE EDGE

Of heaven and earth



Trying to *be* the church as we learn to live life with God in this world.

A photograph of a stone archway in a building, looking out onto a landscape with trees in autumn foliage. The arch is made of dark grey stone with a brick pattern on the left side. The trees outside are in various shades of red, orange, and yellow, with some green still visible. The scene is framed by the arch and some green leaves in the upper left corner.

The Invitatory:

Come on through. - God

Grace and
Peace to you
from God our
Father.

God is here in
this place so ...

The Lord be with you

And also with you.



All that I speak
Be blessed to me O God.

All that I hear
Be blessed to me O God.

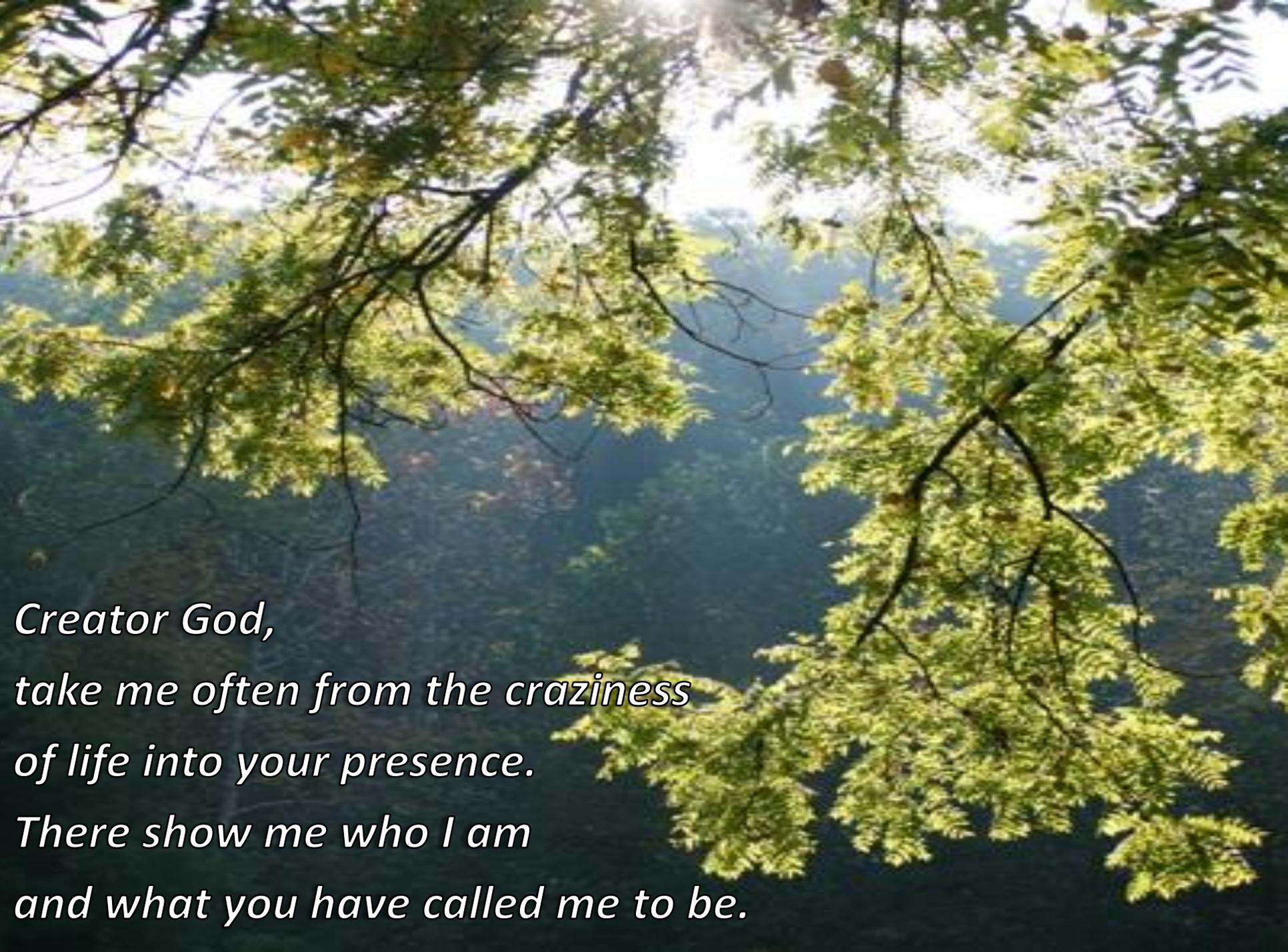
All that I see
Be blessed to me O God.

All that I touch
Be blessed to me O God.

All that I taste
Be blessed to me O God.

All that I find
Be blessed to me O God.





*Creator God,
take me often from the craziness
of life into your presence.
There show me who I am
and what you have called me to be.*

A Versicle: Sound Bite from God

“the lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd and he will guide them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

From the Revelation of John, Ch 7, vs 17.

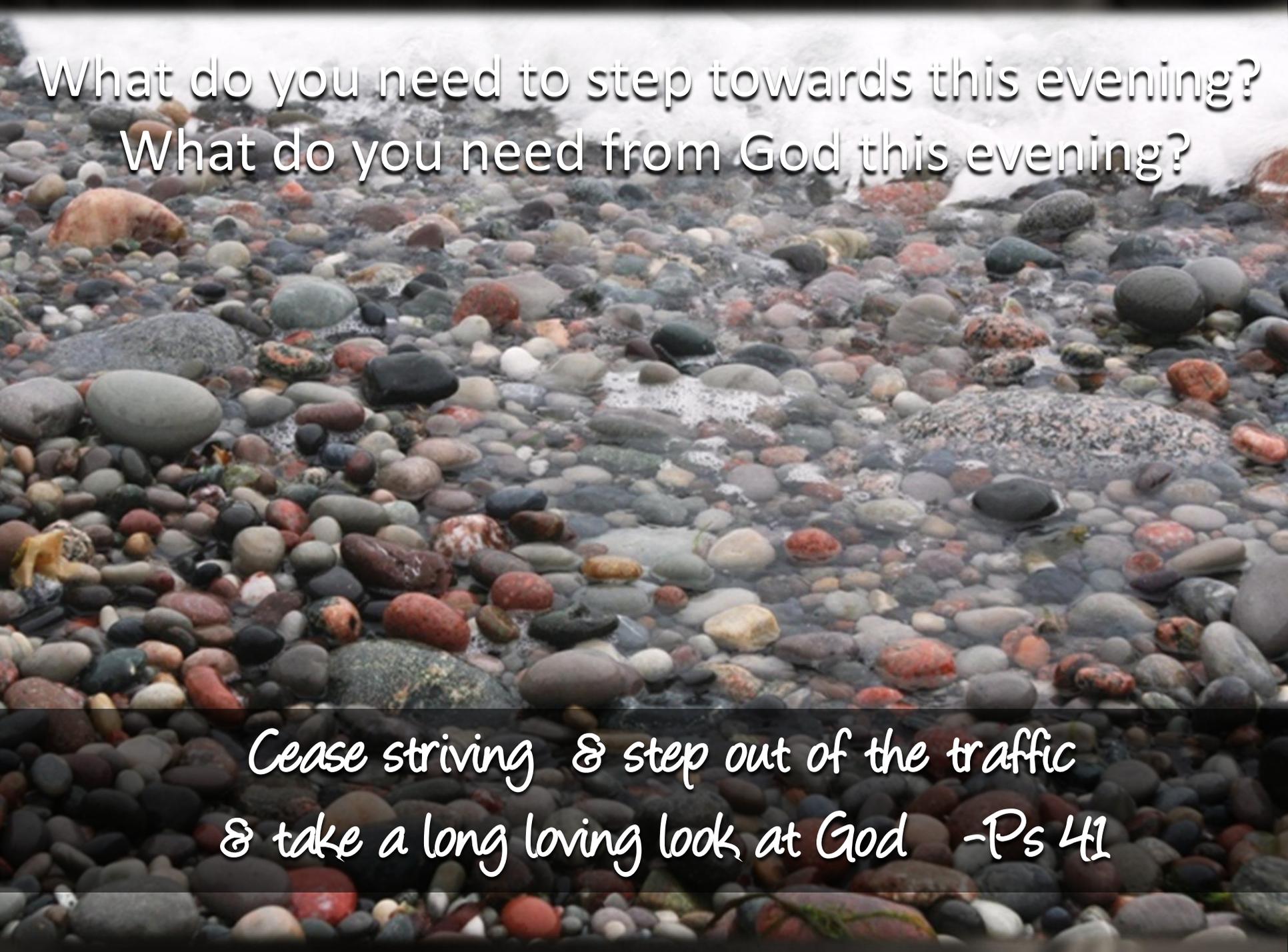
A photograph of a man with grey hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt and dark trousers, sitting on a wooden park bench. He is looking down at an open book in his hands. The bench is set in a lush green park with many trees and bushes in the background. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

Step out of the traffic...

Cease striving. Just be.

Remember what matters. Remember what's real.

What do you need to step away from?

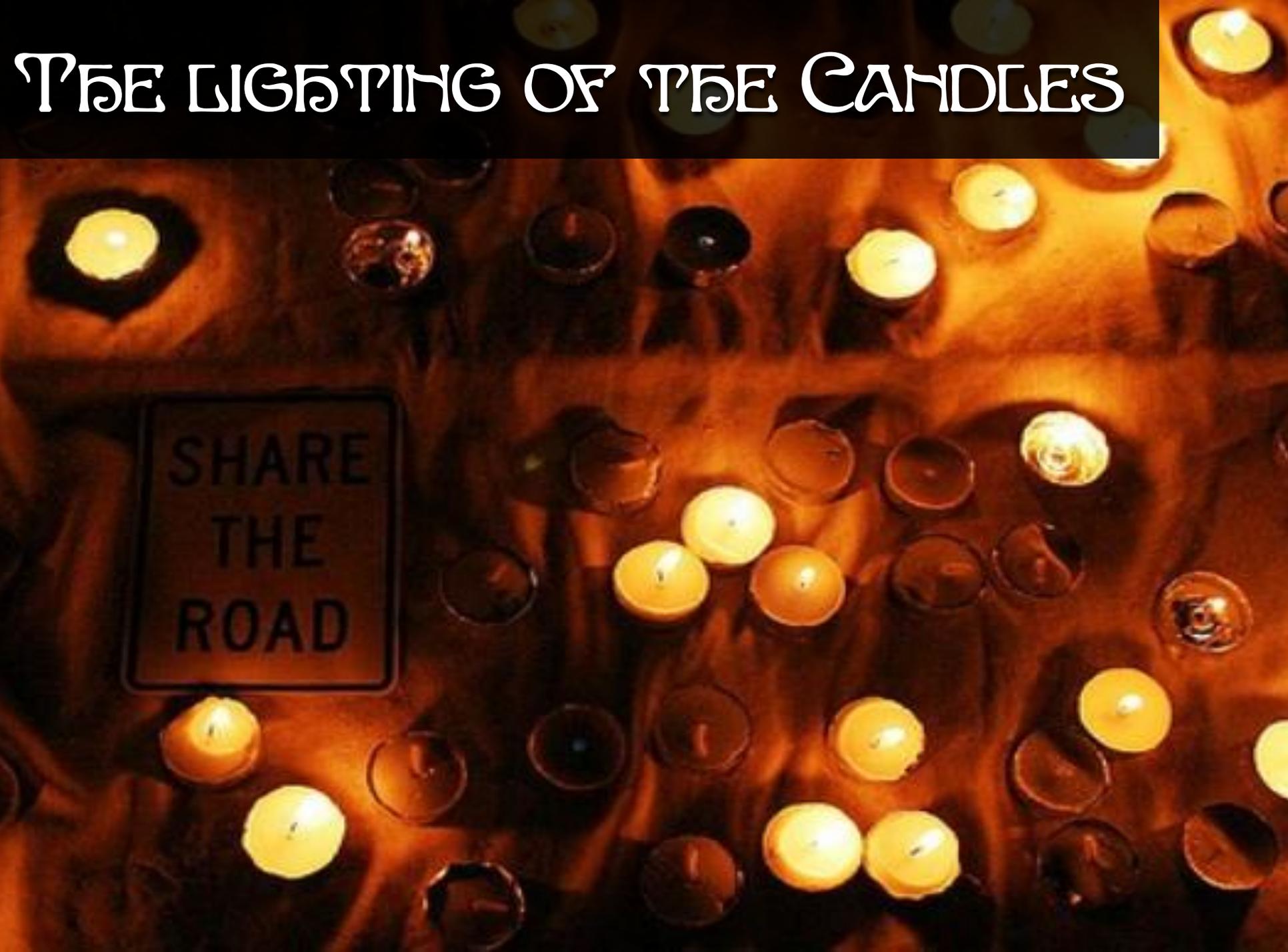


What do you need to step towards this evening?
What do you need from God this evening?

*Cease striving & step out of the traffic
& take a long loving look at God -Ps 41*

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

SHARE
THE
ROAD



Together:



Lord Jesus stay with us for evening is at hand and the day is past. Be our companion in the Way. Kindle our hearts and awaken hope so that we might know you through the scriptures and the breaking of bread.

Being Thankful

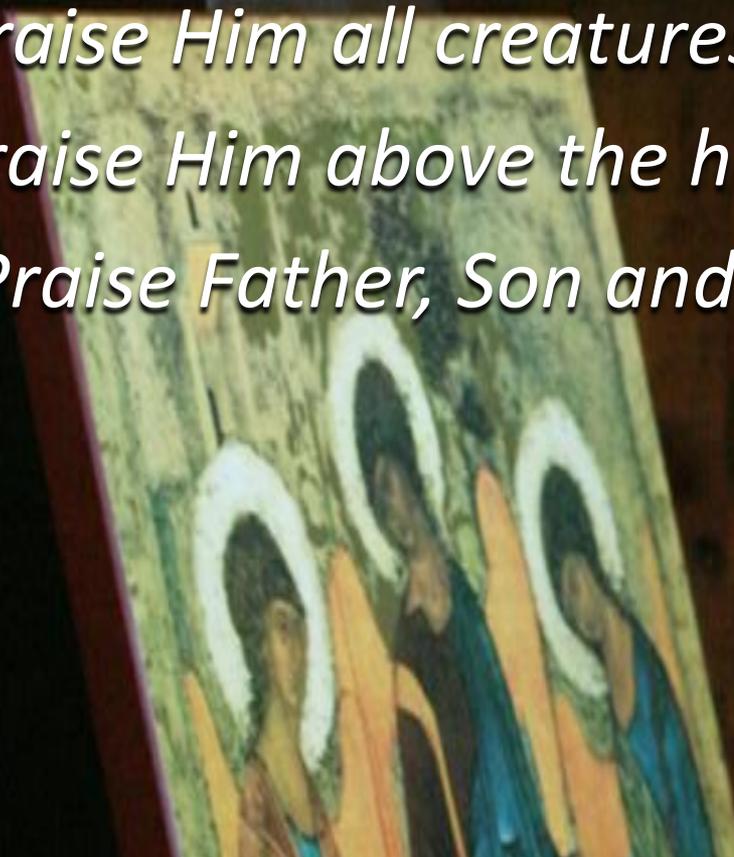
The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above the heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.



A wooden picnic table is centered in a forest. The ground is covered with a thick layer of fallen autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and brown. The trees are mostly bare, with some green foliage visible in the background. The lighting is soft, suggesting an overcast day. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Being the church:
Gathering around the table:

Give thanks for each other being here.

THE SEARCHING

**THE LORD IS WITH YOU WHEN YOU ARE WITH HIM.
IF YOU SEEK HIM, HE WILL BE FOUND BY YOU.**

FROM 2 CHRONICLES 15:2

Living on the Edge: The Practice

are marked in the Bible.

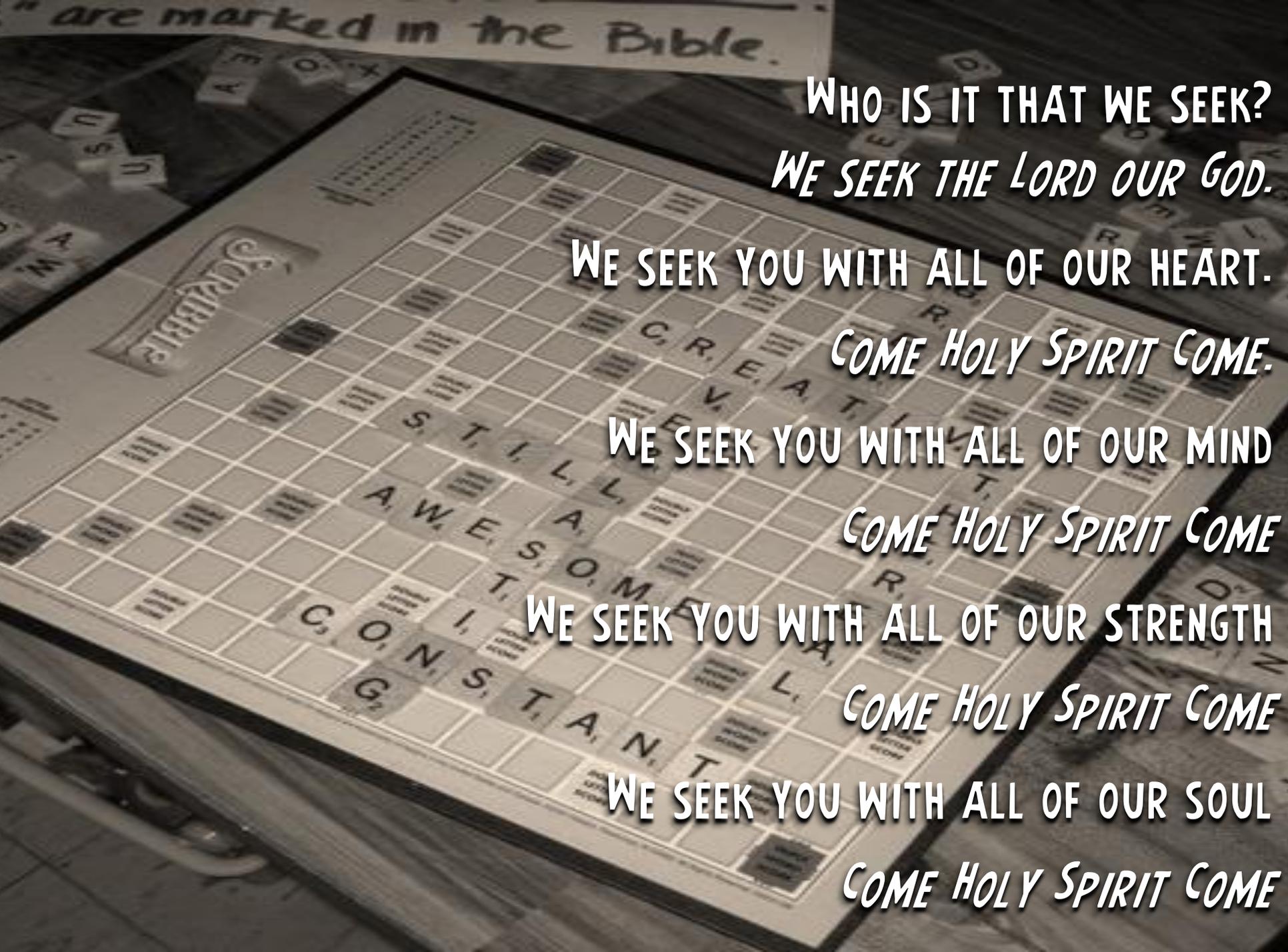
WHO IS IT THAT WE SEEK?
WE SEEK THE LORD OUR GOD.

WE SEEK YOU WITH ALL OF OUR HEART.
COME HOLY SPIRIT COME.

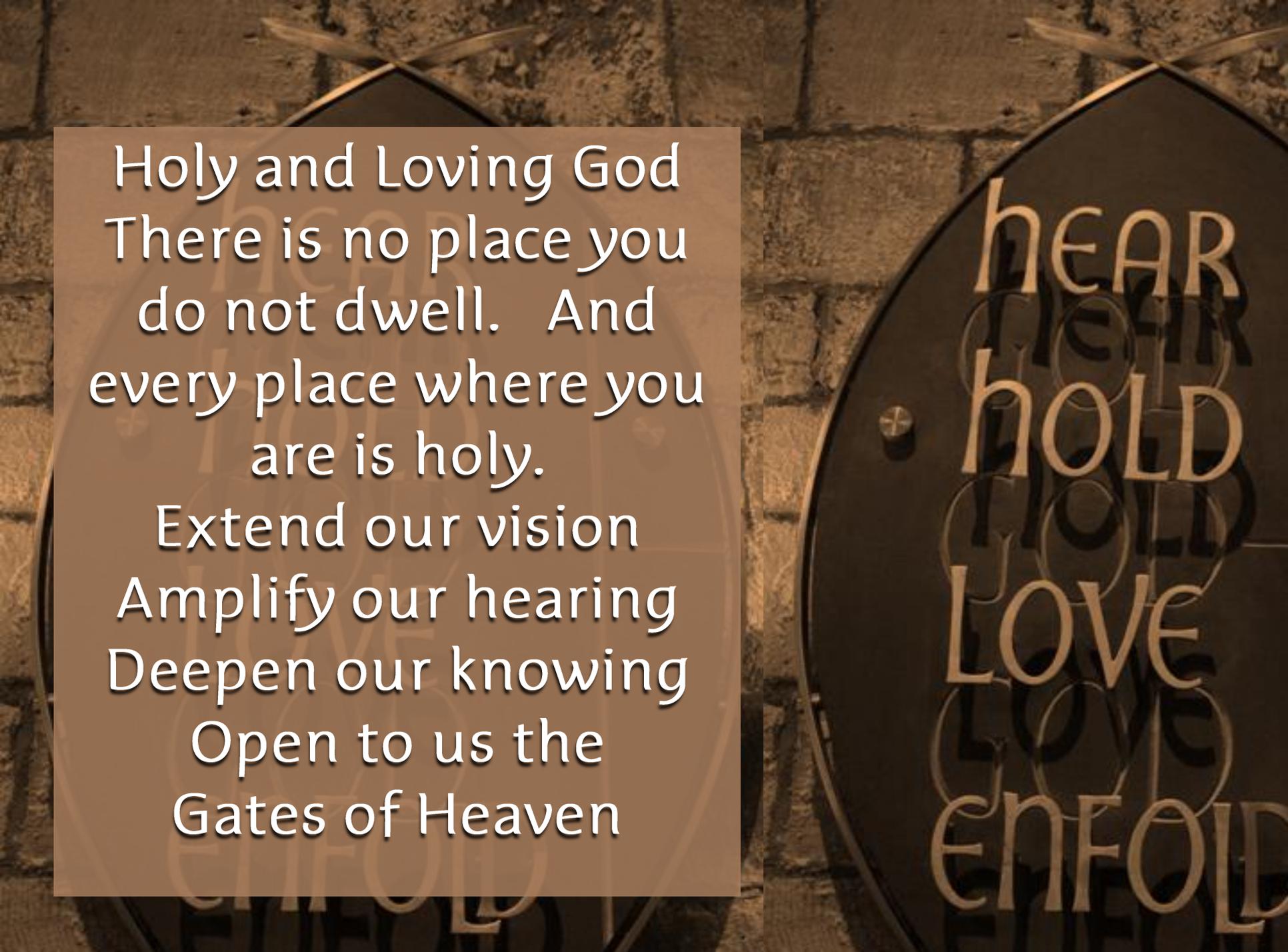
WE SEEK YOU WITH ALL OF OUR MIND
COME HOLY SPIRIT COME

WE SEEK YOU WITH ALL OF OUR STRENGTH
COME HOLY SPIRIT COME

WE SEEK YOU WITH ALL OF OUR SOUL
COME HOLY SPIRIT COME







Holy and Loving God
There is no place you
do not dwell. And
every place where you
are is holy.

Extend our vision
Amplify our hearing
Deepen our knowing
Open to us the
Gates of Heaven

HEAR
HOLD
LOVE
ENFOLD



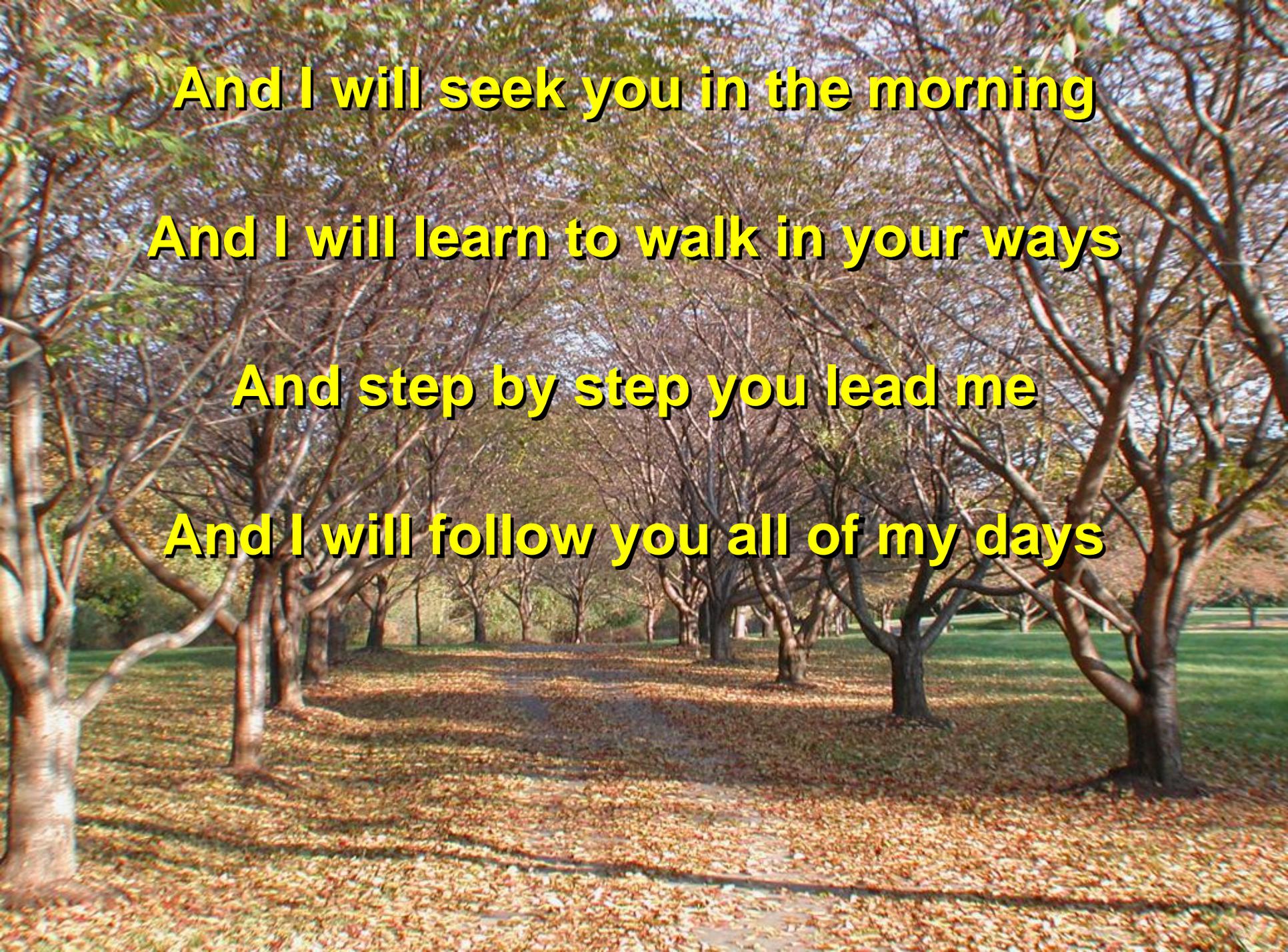
The Spoken Prayers of our Community

i.e. the prayers of the people

Step by Step

**Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise you.**

**Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise you.**

A photograph of a path lined with trees in autumn. The ground is covered in fallen leaves, and the trees have sparse foliage. The path leads into the distance, flanked by rows of trees. The lighting is soft, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting.

And I will seek you in the morning

And I will learn to walk in your ways

And step by step you lead me

And I will follow you all of my days

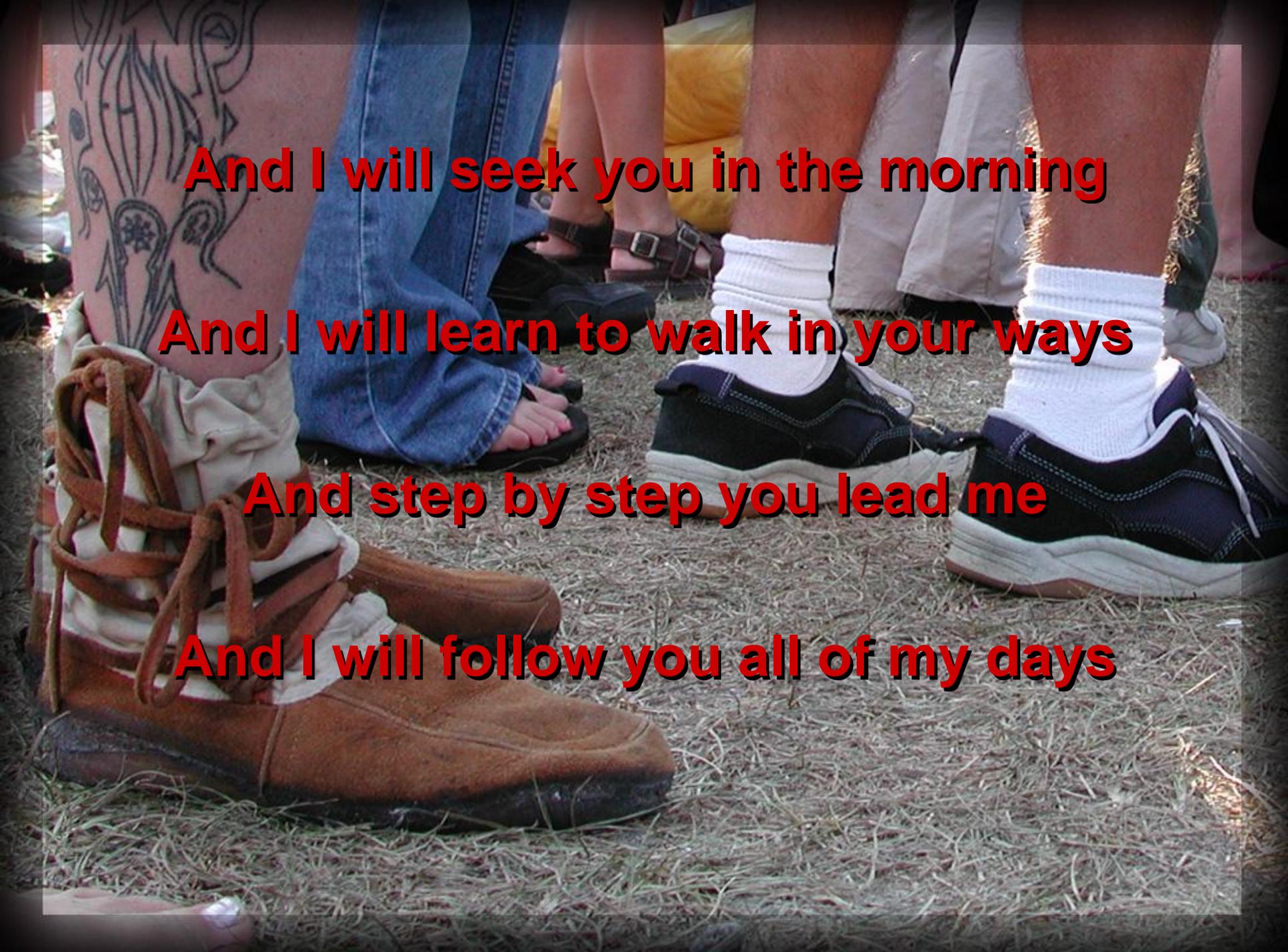


I will follow you all of my days.

I will follow you all of my days.

And step by step you lead me.

And I will follow you all of my days.



And I will seek you in the morning

And I will learn to walk in your ways

And step by step you lead me

And I will follow you all of my days

The Song of Hannah

From 1 Samuel Chapter 2

Hannah prayed: I'm bursting with GOD-news! I'm walking on air. I'm laughing at my rivals. I'm dancing my salvation. Nothing and no one is holy like GOD, no rock mountain like our God.

Don't dare talk pretentiously— not a word of boasting, ever! For GOD knows what's going on. He takes the measure of everything that happens. The weapons of the strong are smashed to pieces, while the weak are infused with fresh strength.

The well-fed are out begging in the streets for crusts, while the hungry are getting second helpings. The barren woman has a houseful of children, while the mother of many is bereft.

GOD brings death and GOD brings life, brings down to the grave and raises up. GOD brings poverty and GOD brings wealth; he lowers, he also lifts up.

He puts poor people on their feet again; he rekindles burned-out lives with fresh hope, Restoring dignity and respect to their lives— a place in the sun!

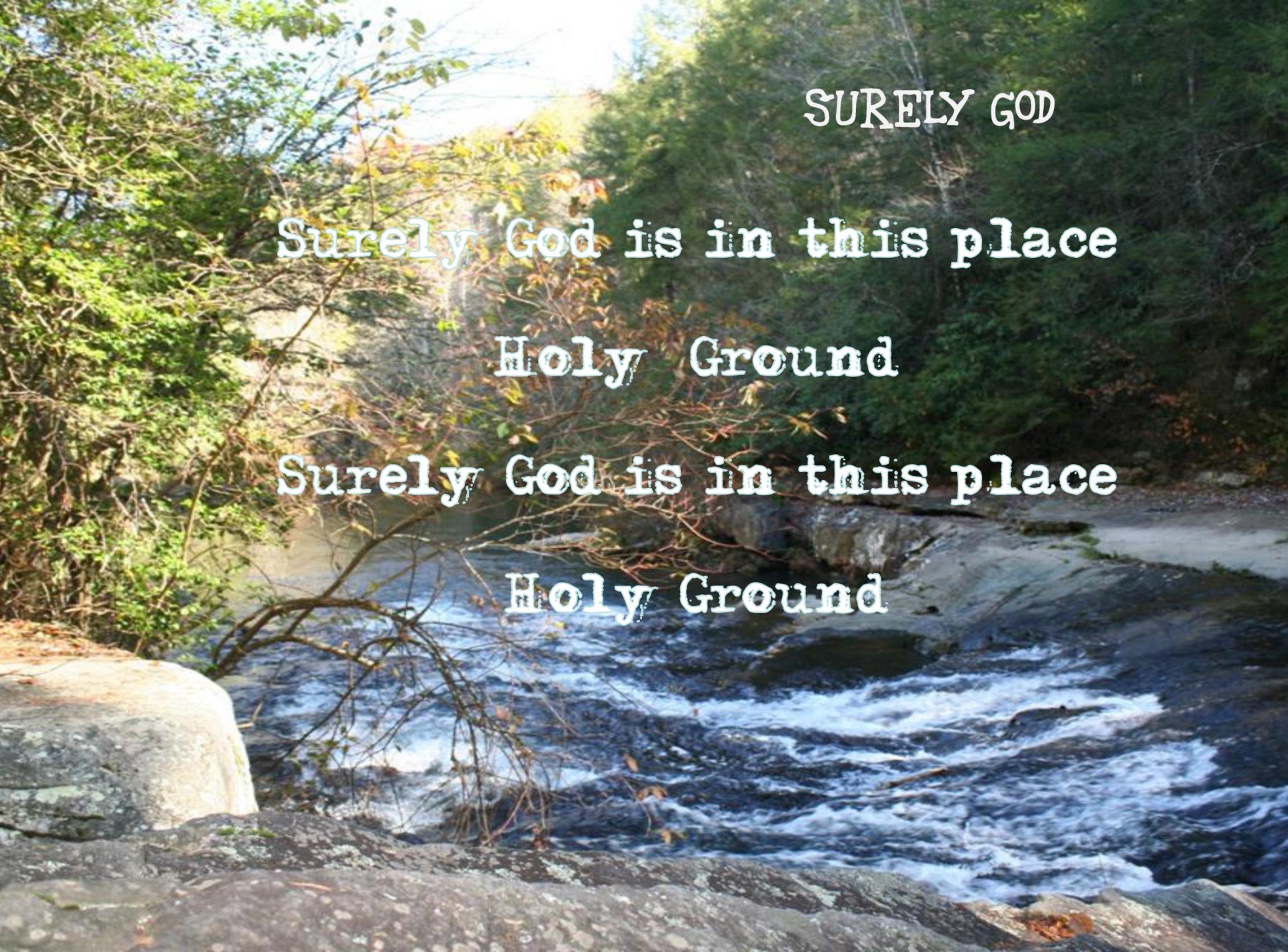
For the very structures of earth are GOD's; he has laid out his operations on a firm foundation. He protectively cares for his faithful friends, step by step, but leaves the wicked to stumble in the dark.

No one makes it in this life by sheer muscle! GOD's enemies will be blasted out of the sky, crashed in a heap and burned. GOD will set things right all over the earth, he'll give strength to his king, he'll set his anointed on top of the world!

PEACE BE STILL

A silhouette of a person with their arms outstretched, standing on a rocky outcrop overlooking the ocean. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of red, orange, and purple, suggesting a sunset or sunrise during a storm. The overall mood is one of peace and resilience.

**Peace be still,
Peace be still,
The storm rages
Peace, be still.**



SURELY GOD

Surely God is in this place

Holy Ground

Surely God is in this place

Holy Ground

BLESS THE LORD

Bless the Lord, my soul,

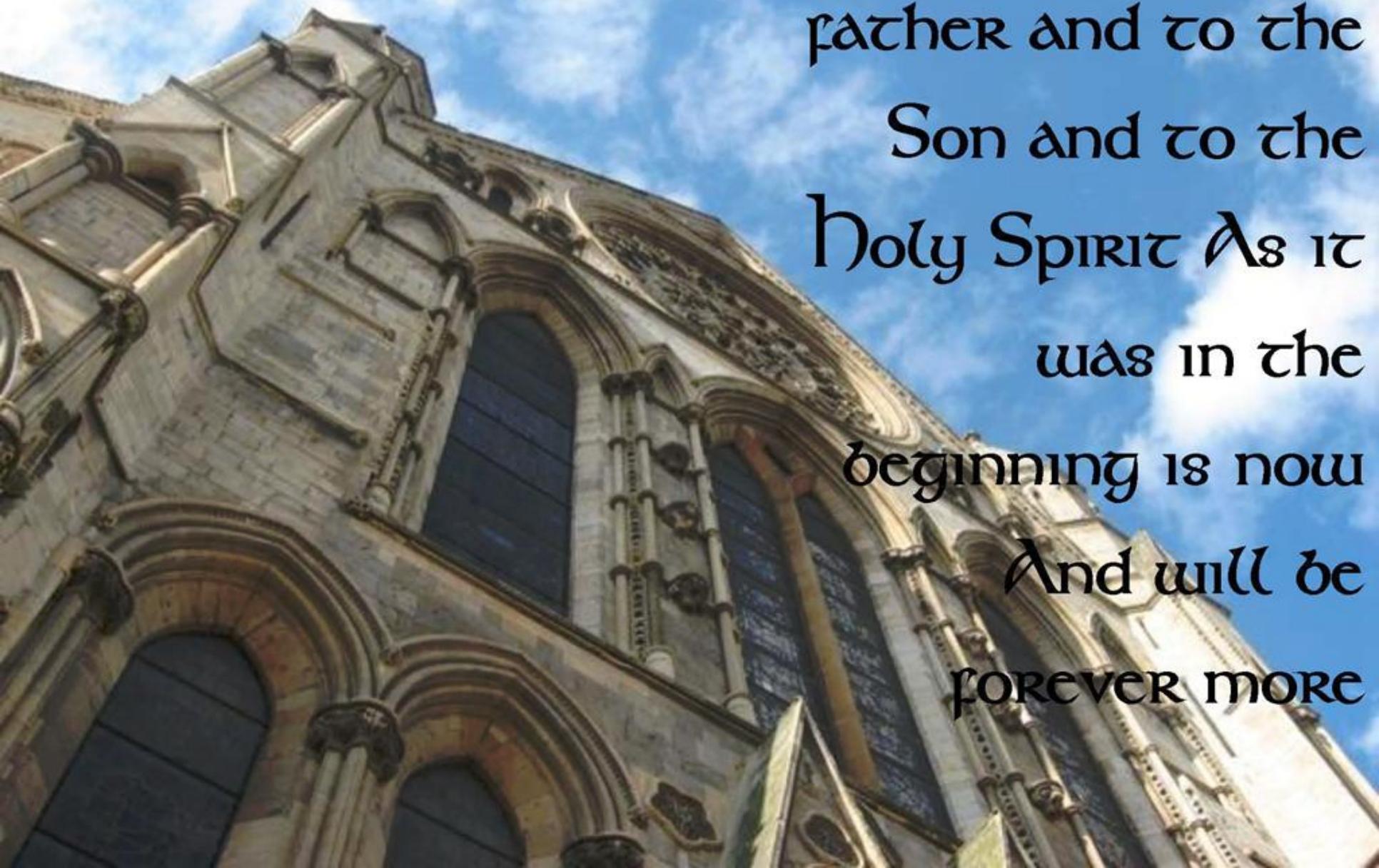
And bless God's holy name.

Bless The Lord, my soul,

Who leads me into life.

Offering together *the Song of the Church:*

GLORY to the
father and to the
Son and to the
Holy Spirit As it
was in the
beginning is now
And will be
forever more



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

From the prophet Isaiah, Ch 1.

IN SEARCH OF: GOOD POSTURE

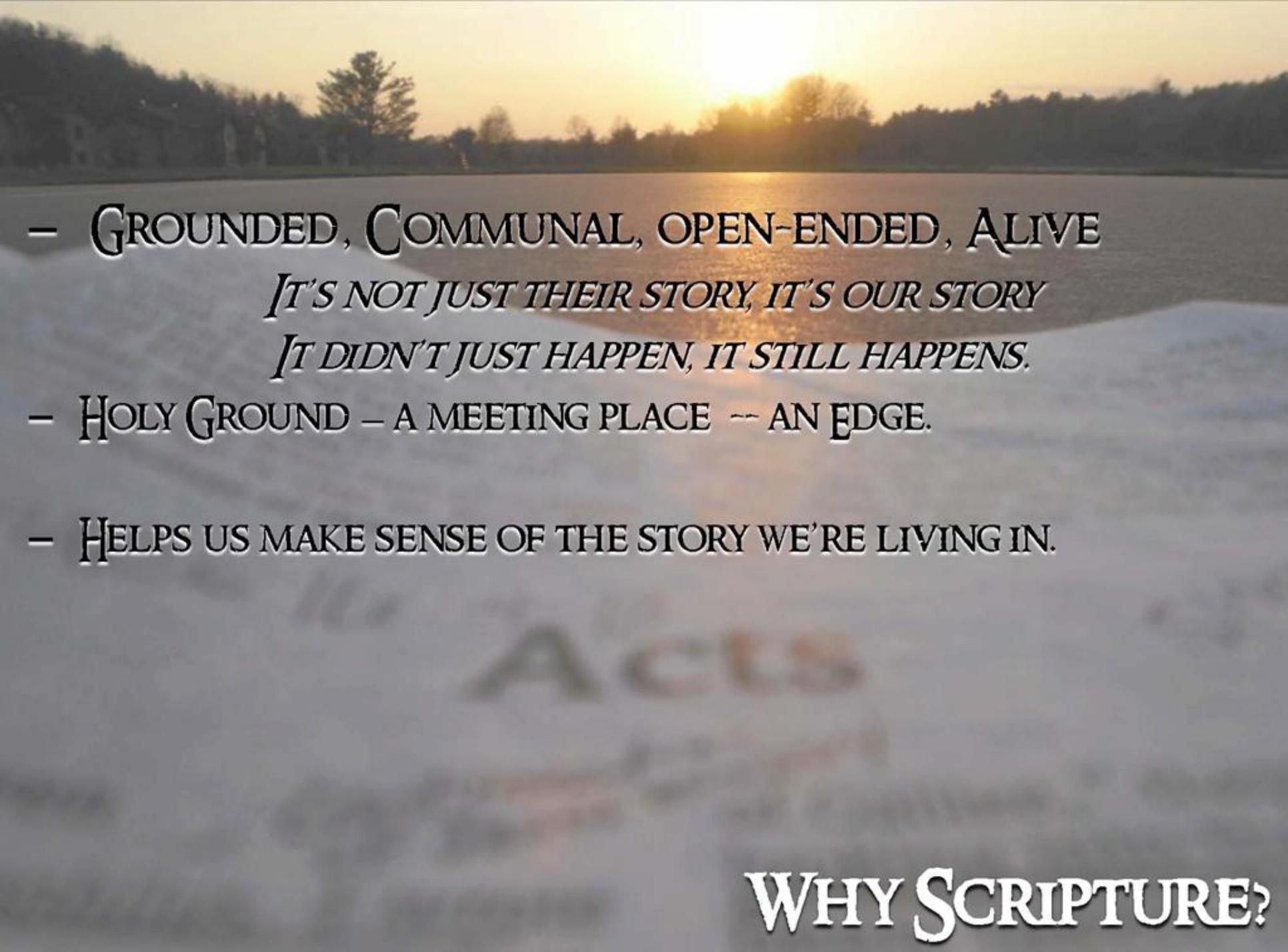


THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

- Author: Luke
- Written: 63-65 AD
- Audience: Theophilus
- Purpose:
 - Reassure and Encourage
 - Historical record

“Supernatural intervention, astounding miracles, powerful preaching, breathtaking Escapes, harrowing journeys, life and death decisions, courtroom dramas, thrilling Rescues, action, mystery adventure.”

This is the life that Jesus came to bring us; the life that Jesus calls us too.



– GROUNDED, COMMUNAL, OPEN-ENDED, ALIVE

IT'S NOT JUST THEIR STORY, IT'S OUR STORY

IT DIDN'T JUST HAPPEN, IT STILL HAPPENS.

– HOLY GROUND – A MEETING PLACE -- AN EDGE.

– HELPS US MAKE SENSE OF THE STORY WE'RE LIVING IN.

WHY SCRIPTURE?

Ekklesia

"Where the church today finds itself stagnant, unattractive, humdrum and shrinking...it's time to read Acts 2:42-47 again, get down on our knees and ask what isn't happening that should be happening. The gospel hasn't changed. God's power hasn't diminished. People still need rescuing. What are we doing about it?"

Nothing to Hide

GOOD POSTURE?

¹⁻⁴While Peter and John were addressing the people, the priests, the chief of the Temple police, and some Sadducees came up, indignant that these upstart apostles were instructing the people and proclaiming that the resurrection from the dead had taken place in Jesus. They arrested them and threw them in jail until morning, for by now it was late in the evening. But many of those who listened had already believed the Message—in round numbers about five thousand! ⁵⁻⁷The next day a meeting was called in Jerusalem. The rulers, religious leaders, religion scholars, Annas the Chief Priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander—everybody who was anybody was there. They stood Peter and John in the middle of the room and grilled them: "Who put you in charge here? What business do you have doing this?"

⁸⁻¹²With that, Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, let loose: "Rulers and leaders of the people, if we have been brought to trial today for helping a sick man, put under investigation regarding this healing, I'll be completely frank with you—we have nothing to hide. By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the One you killed on a cross, the One God raised from the dead, by means of his name this man stands before you healthy and whole. Jesus is 'the stone you masons threw out, which is now the cornerstone.' Salvation comes no other way; no other name has been or will be given to us by which we can be saved, only this one."

¹³⁻¹⁴They couldn't take their eyes off them—Peter and John standing there so confident, so sure of themselves! Their fascination deepened when they realized these two were laymen with no training in Scripture or formal education. They recognized them as companions of Jesus, but with the man right before them, seeing him standing there so upright—so healed!—what could they say against that?

¹⁵⁻¹⁷They sent them out of the room so they could work out a plan. They talked it over: "What can we do with these men? By now it's known all over town that a miracle has occurred, and that they are behind it. There is no way we can refute that. But so that it doesn't go any further, let's silence them with threats so they won't dare to use Jesus' name ever again with anyone."

¹⁸⁻²⁰They called them back and warned them that they were on no account ever again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John spoke right back, "Whether it's right in God's eyes to listen to you rather than to God, you decide. As for us, there's no question—we can't keep quiet about what we've seen and heard."

²¹⁻²²The religious leaders renewed their threats, but then released them. They couldn't come up with a charge that would stick, that would keep them in jail. The people wouldn't have stood for it—they were all praising God over what had happened. The man who had been miraculously healed was over forty

One Heart, One Mind

²³⁻²⁶As soon as Peter and John were let go, they went to their friends and told them what the high priests and religious leaders had said. Hearing the report, they lifted their voices in a wonderful harmony in prayer: "Strong God, you made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them. By the Holy Spirit you spoke through the mouth of your servant and our father, David:

Why the big noise, nations? Why the mean plots, peoples?

Earth's leaders push for position, Potentates meet for summit talks,

The God-deniers, the Messiah-defiers!

²⁷⁻²⁸"For in fact they did meet—Herod and Pontius Pilate with nations and peoples, even Israel itself!—met in this very city to plot against your holy Son Jesus, the One you made Messiah, to carry out the plans you long ago set in motion.

²⁹⁻³⁰"And now they're at it again! Take care of their threats and give your servants fearless confidence in preaching your Message, as you stretch out your hand to us in healings and miracles and wonders done in the name of your holy servant Jesus."

³¹While they were praying, the place where they were meeting trembled and shook. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak God's Word with fearless confidence.

GOOD POSTURE?

One Heart, One Mind

³²⁻³³The whole congregation of believers was united as one—one heart, one mind! They didn't even claim ownership of their own possessions. No one said, "That's mine; you can't have it." They shared everything. The apostles gave powerful witness to the resurrection of the Master Jesus, and grace was on all of them.

³⁴⁻³⁵And so it turned out that not a person among them was needy. Those who owned fields or houses sold them and brought the price of the sale to the apostles and made an offering of it. The apostles then distributed it according to each person's need.

³⁶⁻³⁷Joseph, called by the apostles "Barnabas" (which means "Son of Comfort"), a Levite born in Cyprus, sold a field that he owned, brought the money, and made an offering of it to the apostles.

GOOD POSTURE?

Conversations: Our response to God

THE OFFERING: A POSTURE

Because we don't want to just talk about it, we want to work it into the details of our everyday lives.

And because *WE'RE IN THIS THING TOGETHER.*

Announcements:

- **Next Week Sunday: Processional Cross dedication as our invitatory.**
- **Friday Night Lights this FRIDAY!!!**
- **Thanksgiving Weekend: No Se*lah; Advent Wreathes at 10am.**

THE OFFERING.



The Blessing

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

May you find new ways this week to remember God amidst your crazy busy days finding edges & gates & doors & windows to Heaven everywhere

May you find Peter and John's posture to speak with boldness, courageously led by the Spirit knowing undoubtedly that you don't need a diploma or a title or even a collar to be a vocal and active part of God's plan for Resurrection in this world!

And may you remember as you leave here, that just like Peter and John, Jesus chooses you.

The PEACE OF THE LORD be always with you!