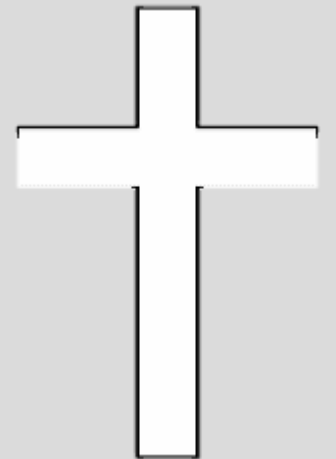




Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Christ Church with St Mary's
Sunday 7th November 2021



We say together
the words in **bold**

Welcome and Introduction:

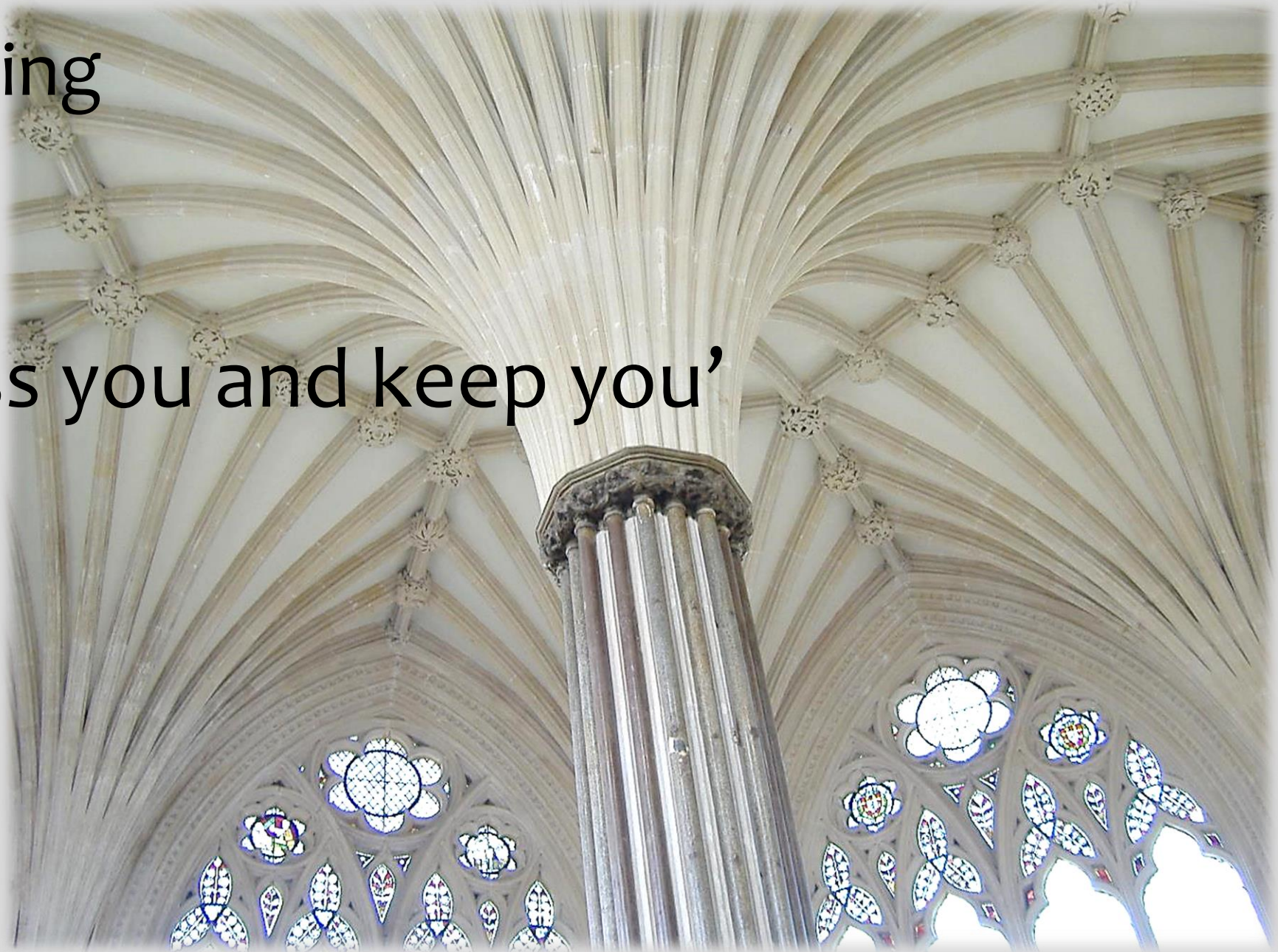
We have come together at this service to remember our many loved ones, to reflect on all they have meant to us and to draw comfort from the precious memories we have of them.

We believe that there is hope and new life to be found in Jesus, through death as well as in life, and so we ask God to strengthen our faith and life in him.

The choir will sing

‘The Lord bless you and keep you’

by John Rutter



Opening prayer – we join together to say

**Heavenly Father, in your Son Jesus Christ, you have
given us a true faith and a sure hope.**

**Strengthen this faith and hope in us, that we may
live as those who believe in the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection
to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

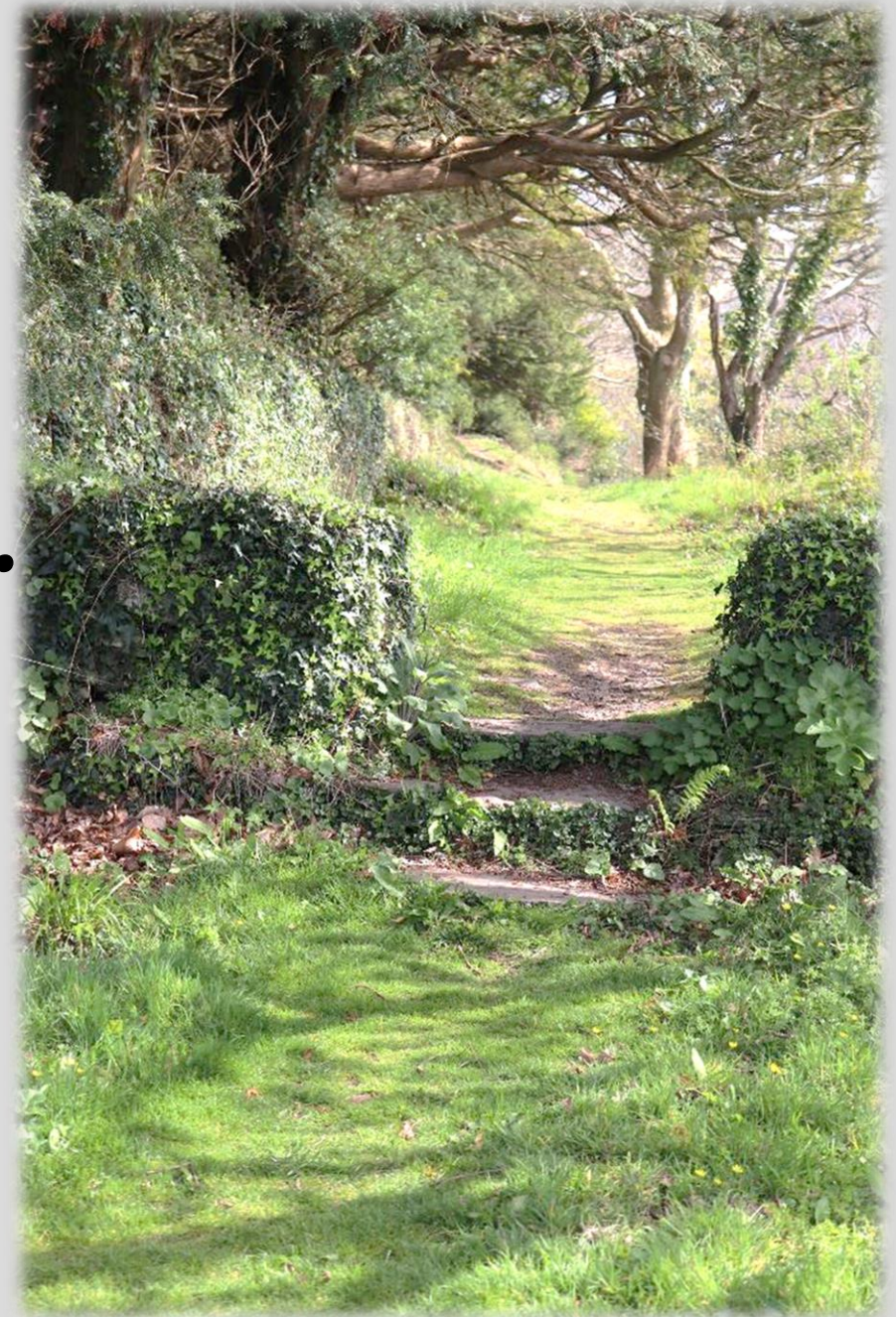
**1 In heav'nly love abiding
no change my heart shall fear
and safe is such confiding
for nothing changes here.
The storm may roar without me
my heart may low be laid
but God is round about me
and can I be dismayed?**



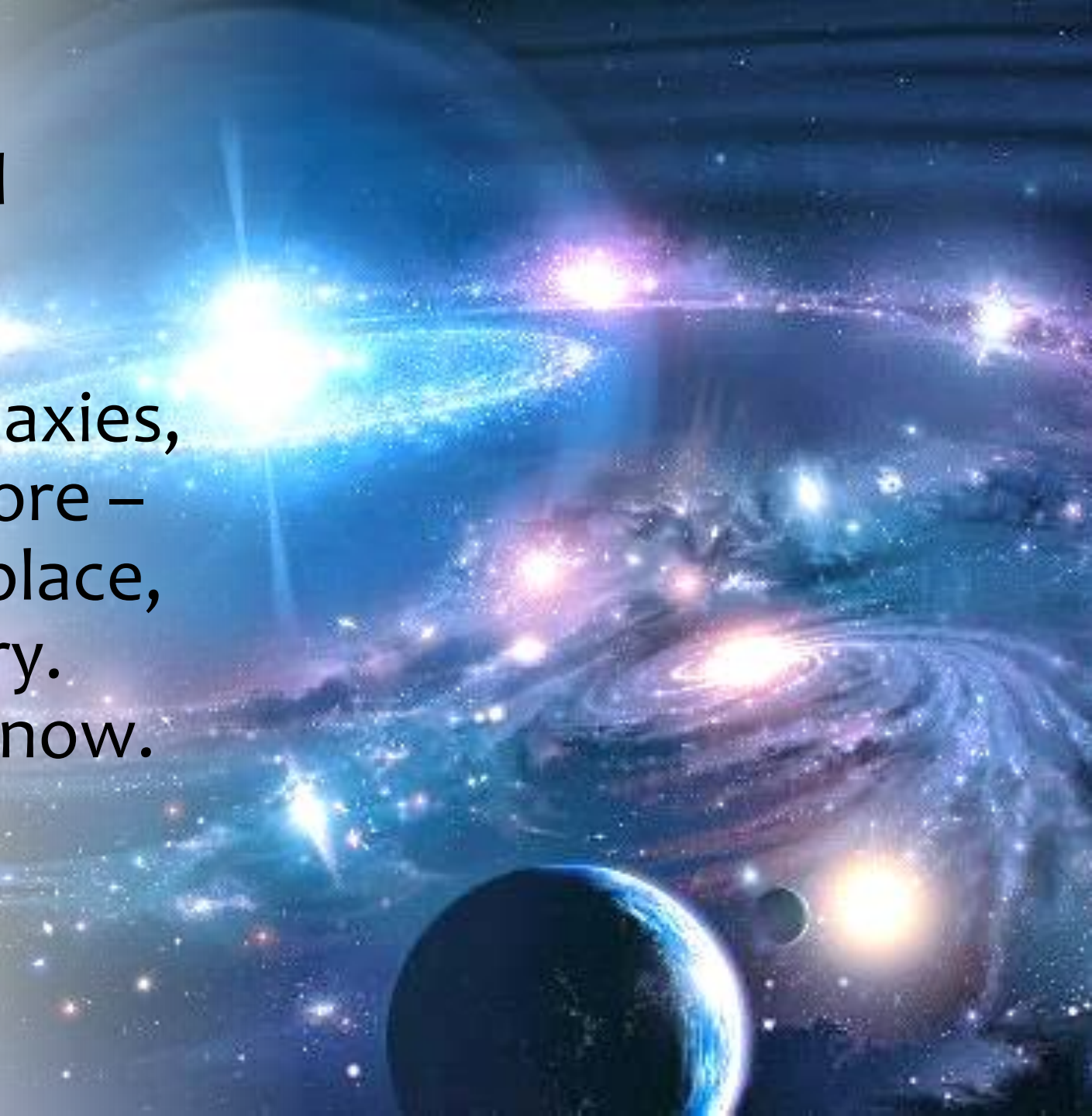
**2 Wherever he may guide me
no want shall turn me back
my Shepherd is beside me
and nothing can I lack.
His wisdom ever waketh
his sight is never dim
he knows the way he taketh
and I will walk with him.**



**3 Green pastures are before me
which yet I have not seen
bright skies will soon be o'er me
where the dark clouds have been.
My hope I cannot measure
my path to life is free
my Saviour is my treasure
and he will walk with me.**



God of all creation,
who cannot be contained
by our boundaries
or by our definitions –
light from beyond the galaxies,
seas without a farther shore –
you are present in every place,
in every moment in history.
You are here and with us now.



Help us to know today that those from
whom we are separated in death
by its long silence, its aching presence,
are each of them in your presence
that beyond our horizons,
beyond our boundaries,
beyond our understanding,
they are held in your embrace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen

Reading from the Bible

Romans 8 : 31-35, 37-39.



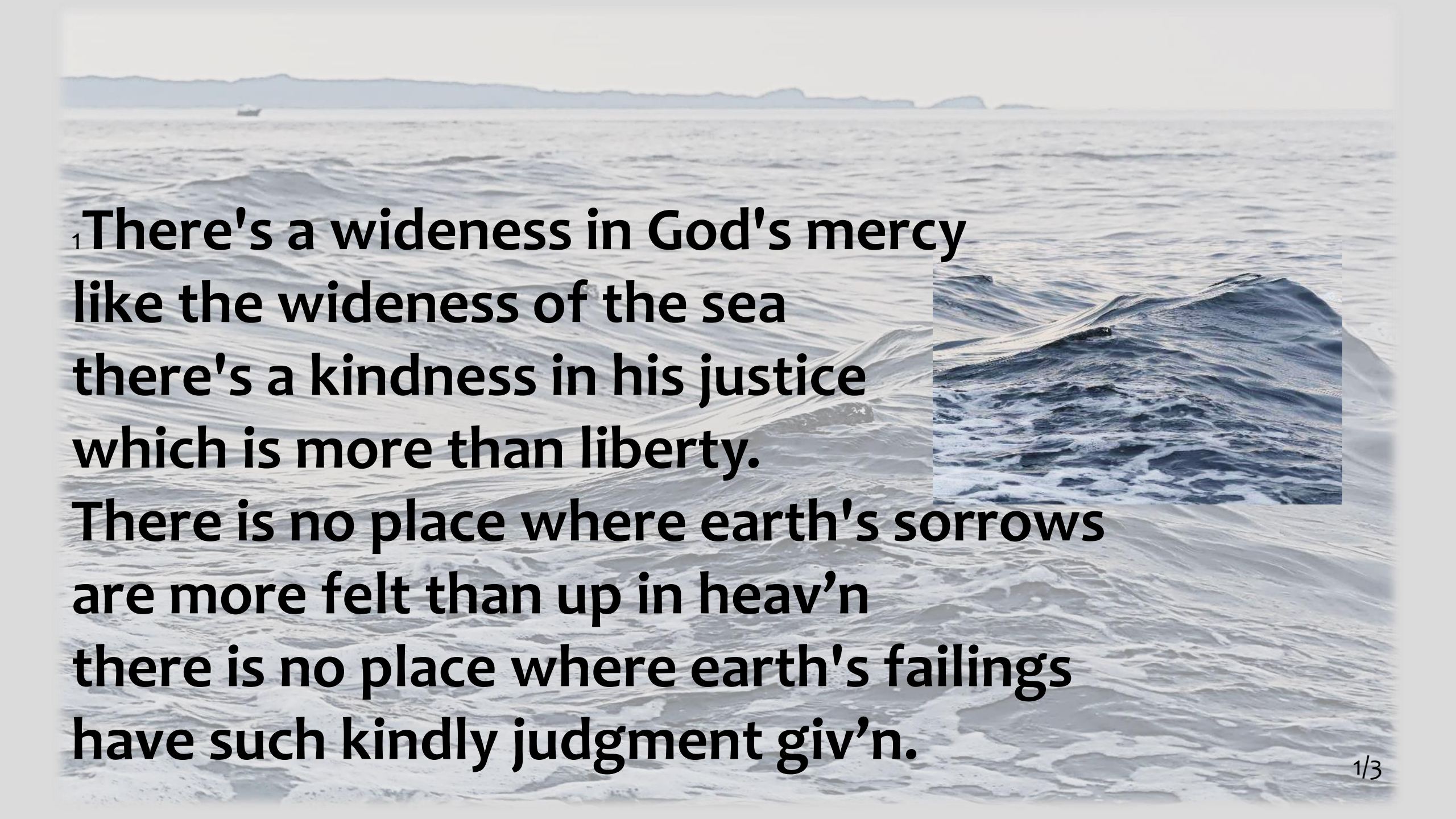
A Meditation on Fallen Leaves





The prophet Jeremiah said
“Blessed is everyone who trusts in the Lord.
They will be like a tree planted by the waterside,
that sends out its roots along a stream.
Its leaves never fade, it does not fail to bear fruit.”

These leaves have fulfilled their purpose.
They have done their work.



**1 There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea
there's a kindness in his justice
which is more than liberty.**

**There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.**

**²But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.
There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.**



**3 For the love of God is broader
than the scope of human mind
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple
we should take him at his word
and our hearts find assurance
in the promise of the Lord.**



The laying of leaves and the lighting of candles



(We say in our hearts)

Heavenly Father, I have lit a candle in memory of _____.

May they be a memory that forever shines in my heart.

**May they be a memory that is never extinguished,
may they be a memory that never fades.**



**Heavenly Father, be my light in times of darkness,
Be my shield in times of vulnerability,
be my companion in times of loneliness.
I pray all these things in the name of the
Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen**





In Memoriam

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that men and women are made in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the lives of the many loved ones we remember today – for the love and mercy they received from you and showed among us. We thank you for every memory of them – for the lessons they have taught us, the example they have been and for the love they have shared.



The names of our loved ones

A special prayer for All Saints Day

God of holiness

Your glory is proclaimed in every age

As we rejoice in the faith of your saints

Inspire us to follow their example

With boldness and joy

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



We gather all of our prayers and memories
into one and pray as Jesus taught us:

**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, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**¹The Lord's my Shepherd
I'll not want
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green
He leadeth me
the quiet waters by**



**²My soul He doth restore again
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness
e'en for His own name's sake**



**³Yea though I walk
in death's dark vale
yet will I fear no ill
for Thou art with me
and Thy rod and staff
me comfort still**



**⁴My table Thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes
my head Thou dost with oil anoint
and my cup overflows**



**5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling place shall be**



Reading from the Bible

John 11 : 18-25a



Talk –

Rev Daphne Hardwick



The choir will sing

And I saw a New Heaven

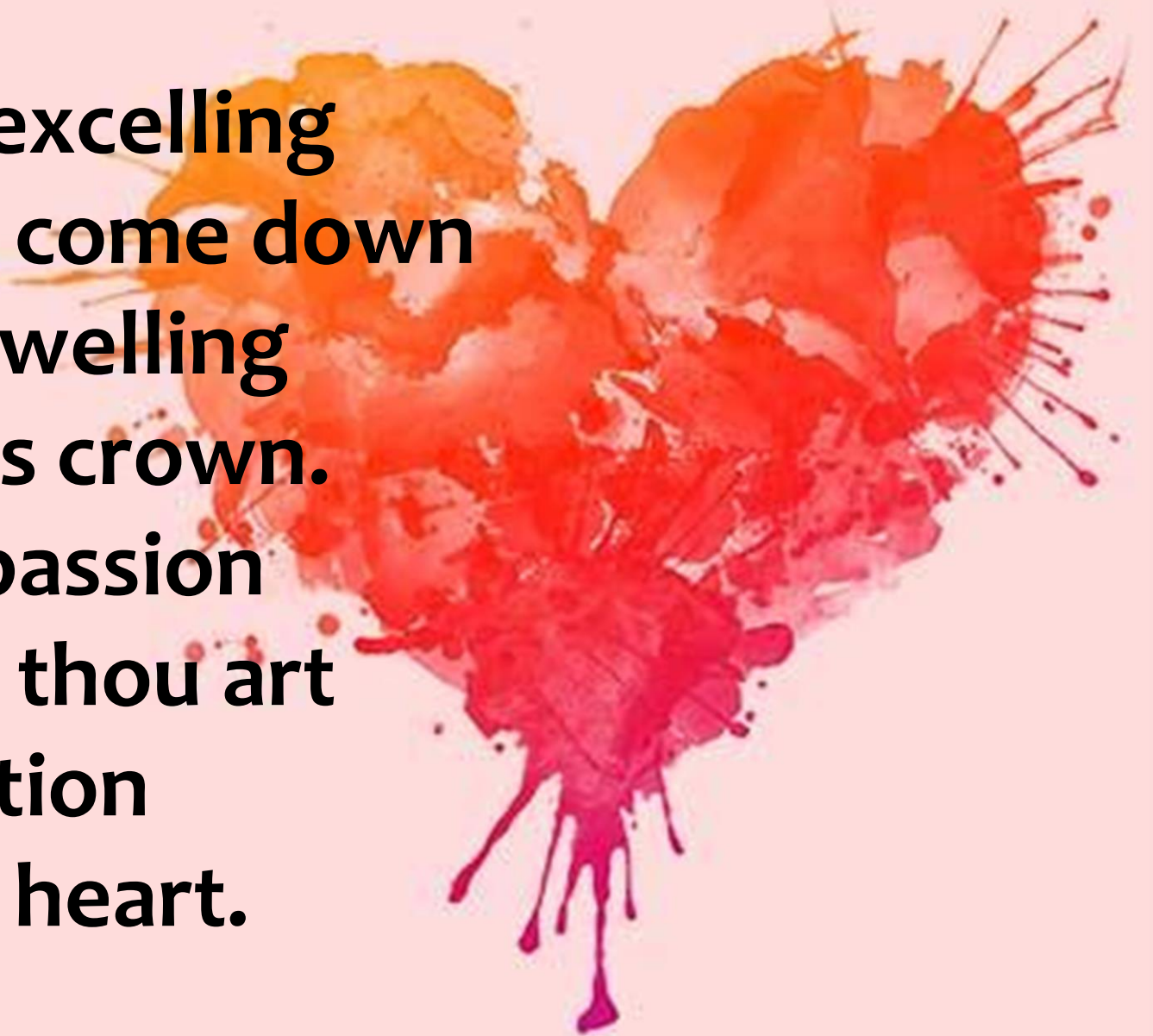
by Malcolm Archer



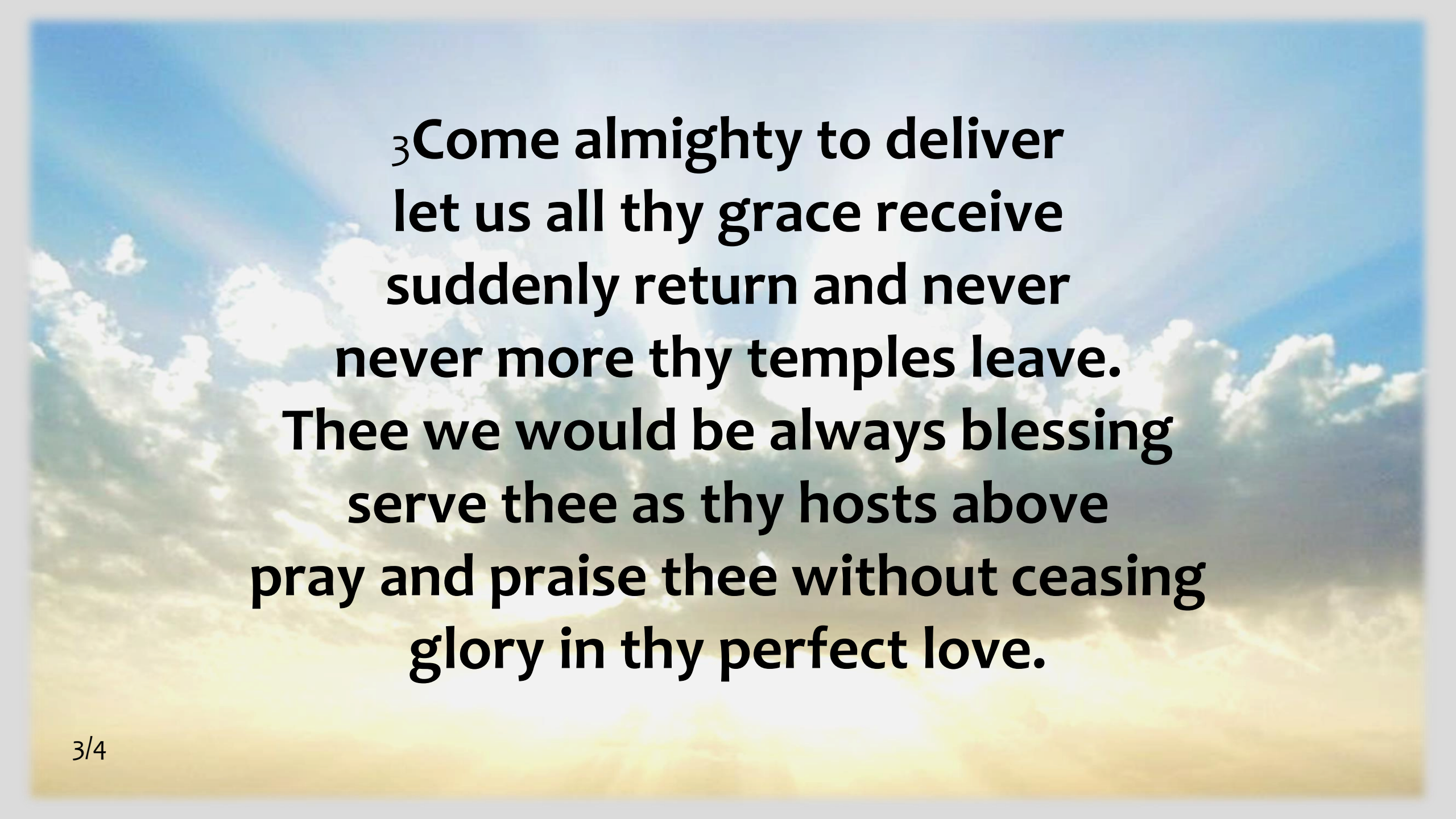


Prayers

**¹Love divine all loves excelling
joy of heav'n to earth come down
fix in us thy humble dwelling
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu thou art all compassion
pure unbounded love thou art
visit us with thy salvation
enter ev'ry trembling heart.**



**2 Breathe O breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast
let us all in thee inherit
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning
Alpha and Omega be
end of faith as its beginning
set our hearts at liberty.**



**³Come almighty to deliver
let us all thy grace receive
suddenly return and never
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing
serve thee as thy hosts above
pray and praise thee without ceasing
glory in thy perfect love.**

**4 Finish then thy new creation
pure and spotless let us be
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory
till in heav'n we take our place
till we cast our crowns before thee
lost in wonder love and praise.**



Dismissal

Lord Jesus Christ, you comforted your
disciples when you were going to die:
now set our troubled hearts at rest and
banish our fears.

You are the way to the Father: help us to follow you.

You are the truth: bring us to know you.

You are the life: give us that life,
to live with you now and for ever.

Amen

The Choir will sing

God be in my head

by Walford Davies

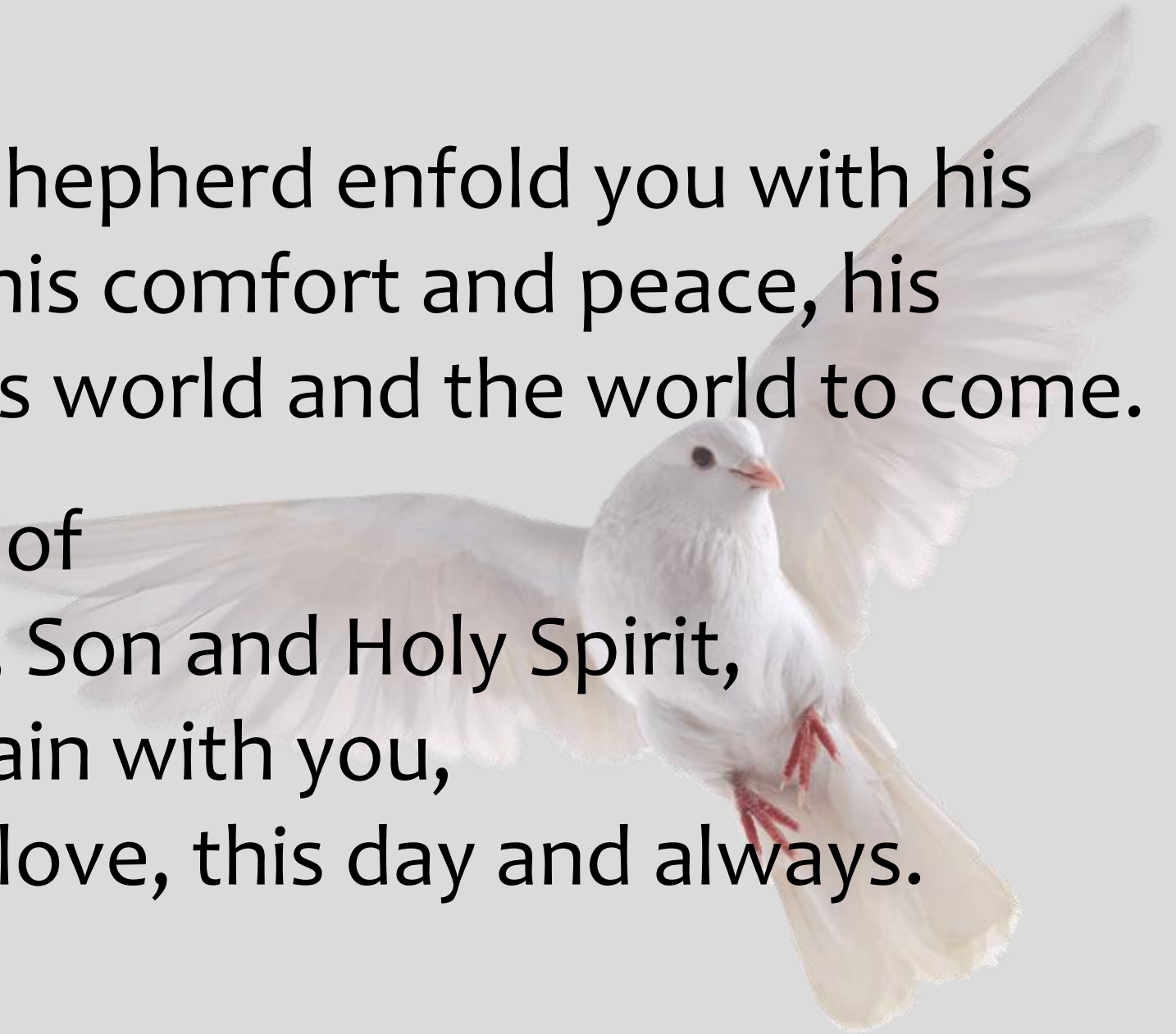


Blessing

May Jesus the Good Shepherd enfold you with his love and fill you with his comfort and peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the world to come.

And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, and those whom you love, this day and always.

Amen.



**You are welcome to remain in
Church for as long as you wish.**

**If you would like someone to pray with you after this
service, please let us know and our prayer ministry team
will be pleased to help.**

**Do make contact with us today or at any time
in the future if we can be of assistance.**

Revd Canon Simon Stevenette on 01793 529166

Revd Norma McKemey) Via the Church

Revd Daphne Hardwick) Office on

Revd David Day) 01793 522832