



2026 CONFERENCE ON MINISTRY

Connecting • Sustaining • Reforming

John 15:1-5

A decorative graphic of a vine with several leaves, some green and some yellow, extending across the upper right portion of the slide.

Closing Worship

Connecting ● Sustaining ● Reforming

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
Creator of the stars of night,
Companion at the evening table,
Breath over the deep waters. Amen.

Let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

Holy and gracious God,

**We confess that we have sinned
against You this day.**

**Some of our sin we know – the thoughts and
words and deeds of which we are ashamed –
but some is known only to You.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we ask
forgiveness. Deliver and restore us,
and give us your peace. Amen.**



By the mercy of God we are united
with Christ Jesus,
In whom we are forgiven and set free.
Amen.

Gathering Song

Christ is the Life

All Creation Sings #962



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.



The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

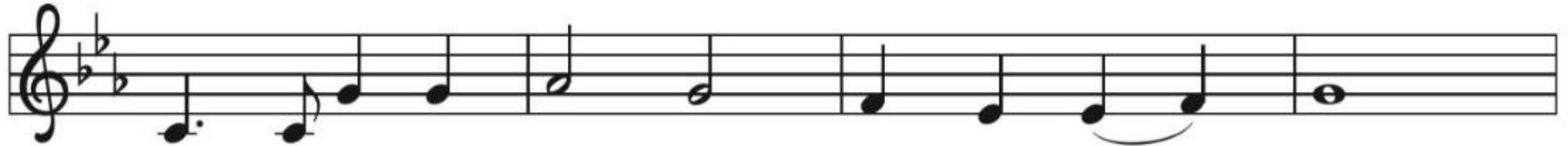
And also with you.

Kyrie

ACS Setting 12



Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria

ACS Setting 12





1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.



Prayer of the Day



Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34



The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant with the
house of Israel and the house of Judah.

³² It will not be like the covenant that I made
with their ancestors when I took them by the
hand to bring them out of the Land of Egypt

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34



– a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put their law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34



No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord”, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46



God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the
earth be moved, and though the
mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

Psalm 46



Though its waters rage and foam, and though
the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad
the city of God, the holy habitation of the
Most High.**

Psalm 46



God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage,
and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

Psalm 46



The Lord of hosts is with us,
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
What desolations God has brought
upon the earth;**

Psalm 46



Behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
And burns the shields with fire.

**Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.**

Psalm 46



The Lord of hosts is with us,
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

2nd Reading: Romans 3:19-28



Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

2nd Reading: Romans 3:19-28



But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;

2nd Reading: Romans 3:19-28



they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he has passed over the sins previously committed;

2nd Reading: Romans 3:19-28



it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the Law of faith.

For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

A decorative graphic of a vine with several leaves, rendered in a light green and yellow color scheme, extending from the right side of the slide towards the center.

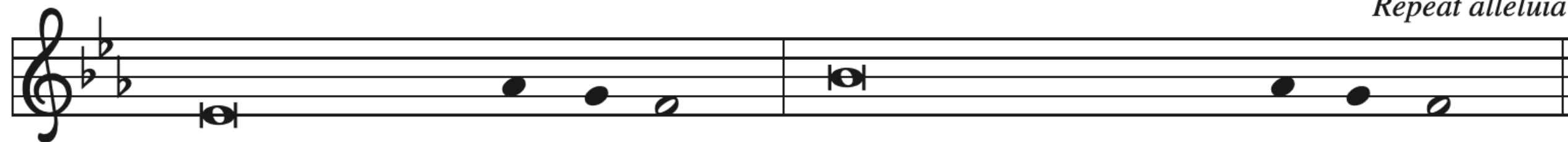
Gospel Acclamation

ACS Setting 12

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

John 8:31-32



The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

John 8:31-32



The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.



2026 CONFERENCE ON MINISTRY

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John 15:1-5

Sermon: ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry



Renewal of Ordination Vows

Connecting ● Sustaining ● Reforming

Renewal of Ordination Vows



Rostered ministers stand

....do you recommit yourself to the various ministries of our Lord Jesus Christ to which you have been called under the pastoral oversight of your bishop?

I do, with God's help.

Renewal of Ordination Vows



To the Ministers of Word and Sacrament

Will you who are ministers of word and sacrament continue to preach and teach the Word of God in accordance with the Confessions of our Church, and to administer the Holy Sacraments after the ordinance of Christ, and to serve all people?

I will, with God's help.

Renewal of Ordination Vows



To the Ministers of Word and Service

Will you who are ministers of word and service
continue to proclaim the gospel through word and
deed in accordance with the Confessions of our
Church, and to serve all people?

I will, with God's help.

Renewal of Ordination Vows



To all Rostered Ministers

Will you adorn the teaching of our God and Savior
by a holy life and conversation?
I will, with God's help.

Renewal of Ordination Vows



To all Rostered Ministers

Will you bear faithful witness before the world,
that God's love may be seen in all you do?
I will, with God's help.

Renewal of Ordination Vows



Bishop rededicates himself to the service of God's people.

**Almighty God, who has given us the will to do
these things,**

**✝ bless us with the faith, strength and
determination to accomplish them.**

Amen.

Hymn of Response

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

ELW #722





- 1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
- 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
- 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
- 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!



Intercessory Prayers



Relying upon the renewing Spirit of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's own. *Brief silence.*

Incarnate Truth, you speak to us, and by your grace, you speak through us.

Intercessory Prayers



Enlighten us with your wisdom and inspire us
to proclaim it boldly. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Intercessory Prayers



Creator of all, we pray for the healing of our home – the gift that is this marvelous planet. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Make us faithful in the stewardship of natural resources, and curb any impulse towards exploitation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Intercessory Prayers



Liberating God, we remember our siblings who are incarcerated. May they come to know the freedom you alone can provide, regardless of circumstances. Spread your compassion among those who are able to advocate for more justice within the system that bears that name.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Intercessory Prayers



Restoring Christ, continue to bring new life to people and places in need. Work through those whom you have given gifts of healing.

We remember before you this day those members of your parishes who await your mercy. Be the balm that soothes their every ill, and make us healers too.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Intercessory Prayers



Reforming One, we are ever in need of your holy change. Do not let us convince ourselves that we have the singular claim upon truth in this church.

Remind us instead of humble witness of our brother, Martin, who was willing to take an honest inventory of the church's shortcomings, and then work to improve upon them.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Intercessory Prayers



Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh upon us now, as you have in every generation before our own. Continue to guide us, inspired by the legacy of those who lived and died in the faith. May we build upon their witness, be guided by their example, correct their errors, and be comforted that, one day, You will send more faithful to correct our mistakes as well.

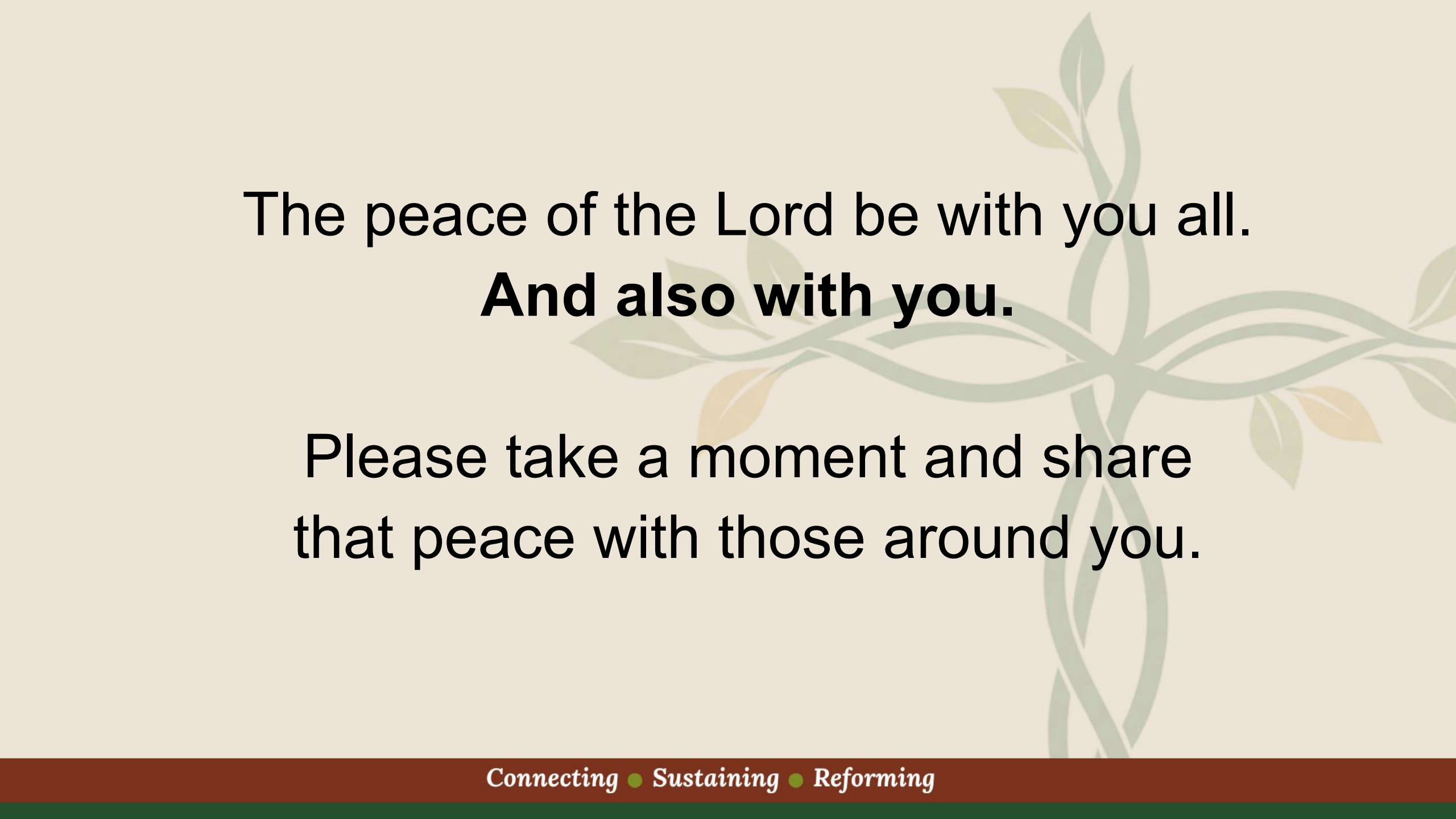
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Intercessory Prayers



Since you have brought us this far, O God, we trust that you will not leave us. Receive all these prayers, those of our hearts, and any which have yet to take on words, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.

Please take a moment and share
that peace with those around you.

Offertory

Christ in Me, Arise

Trevor Tomson | CCLI Song No. 5917286

Offertory Prayer



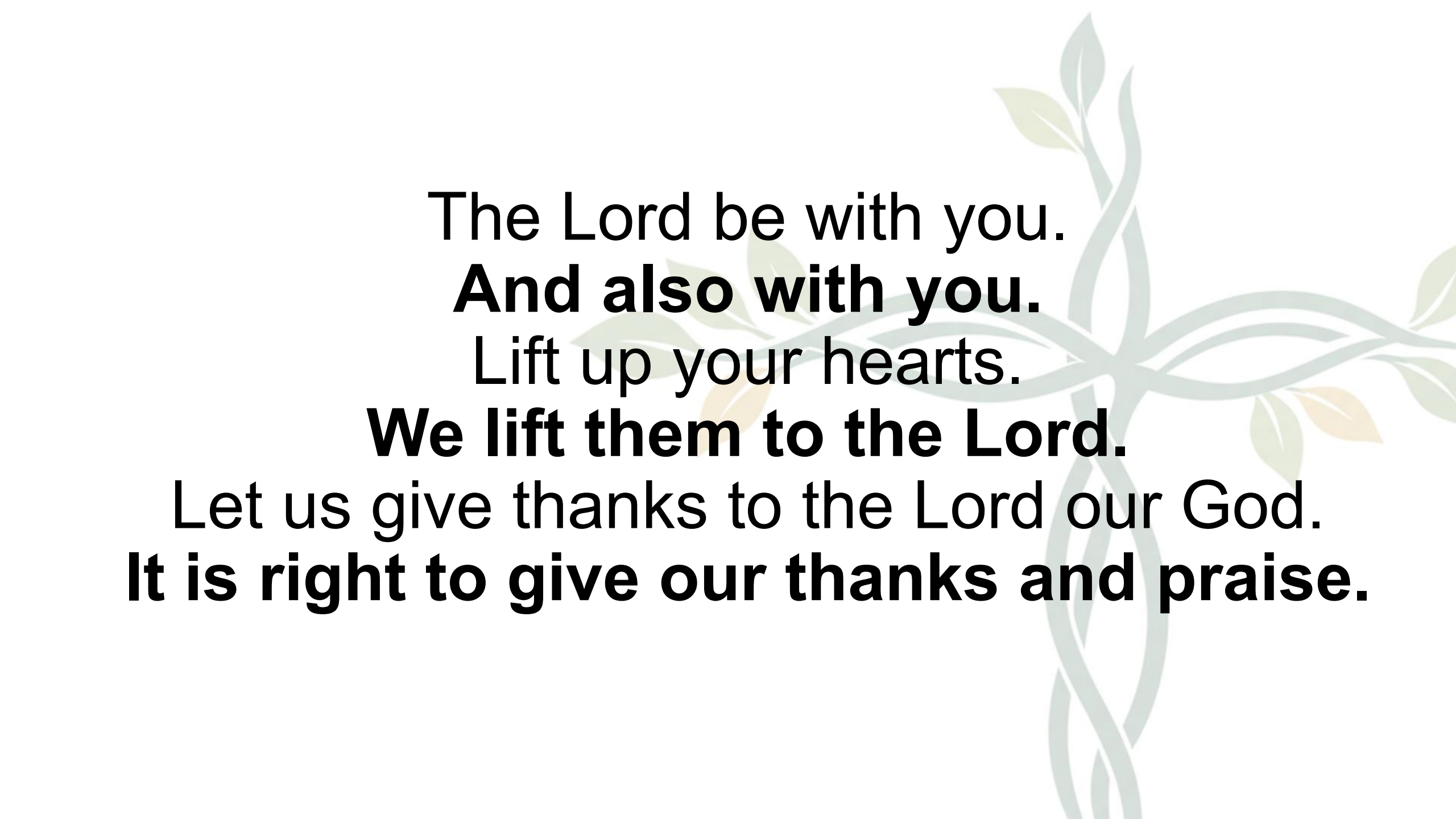
Let us pray.

**God of goodness and growth,
all creation is yours, and your faithfulness
is sure. Word and water, wine and bread:
these are signs of your abundant grace.**

Offertory Prayer



**Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us
to proclaim your abiding love in our
communities and in the world, through
Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
Amen.**



The Lord be with you.

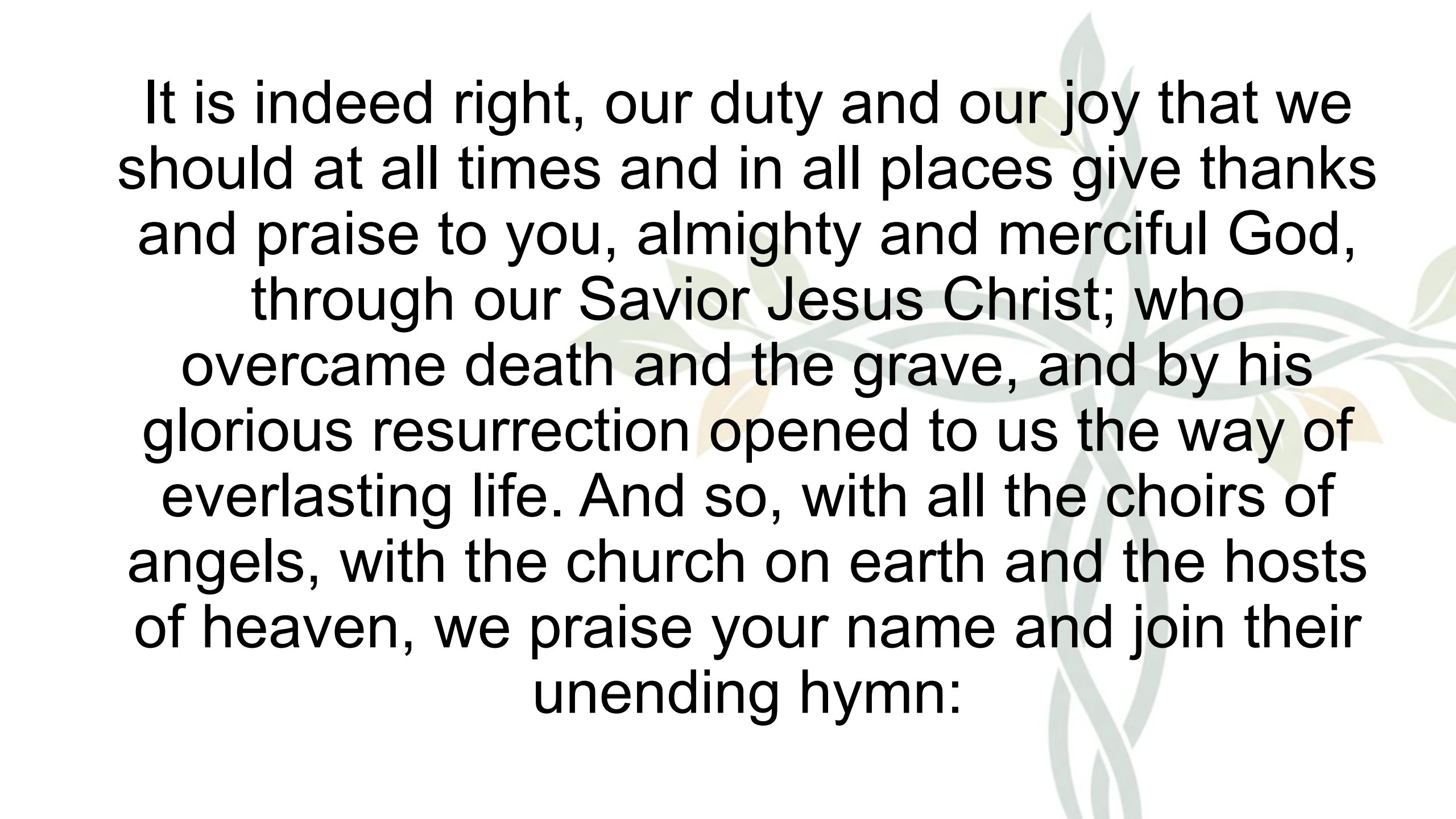
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

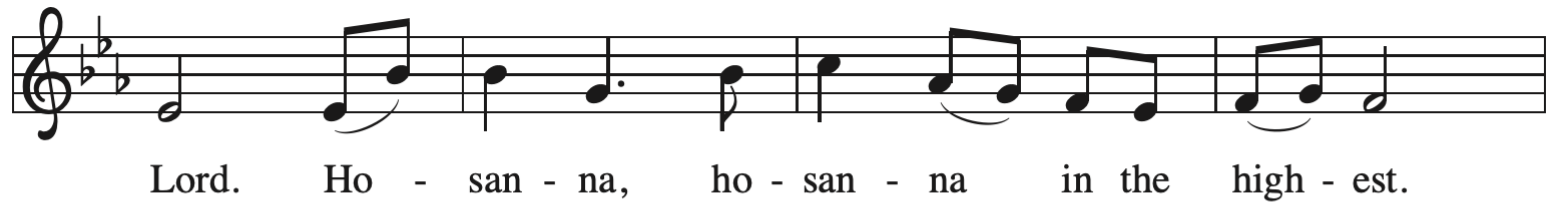
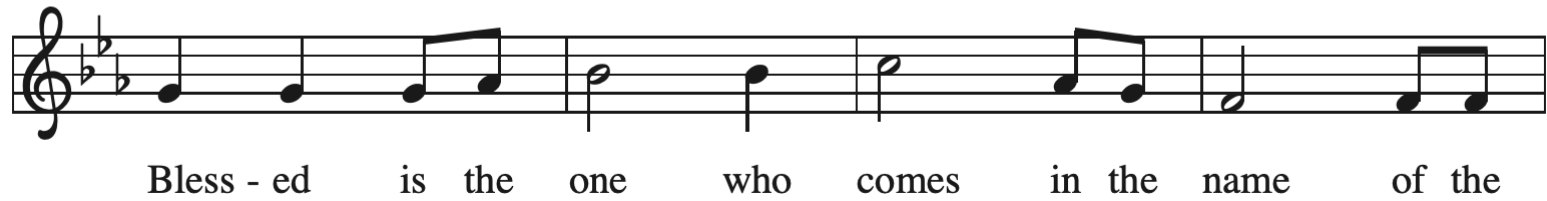
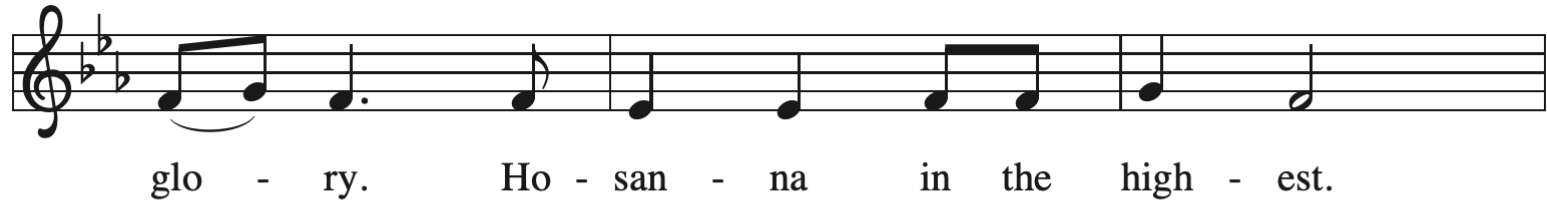
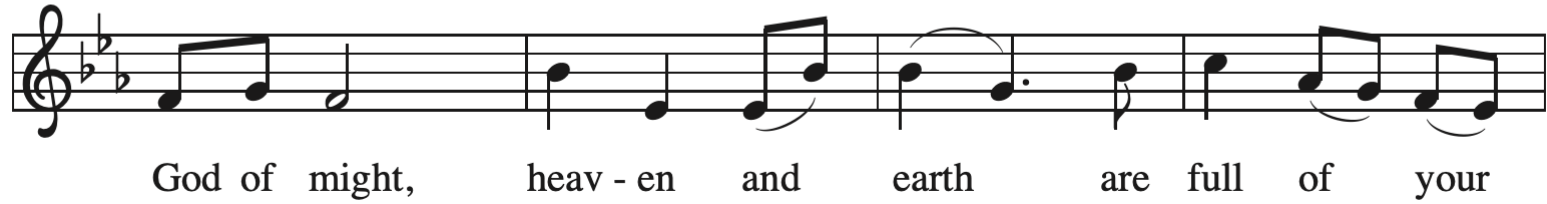
We lift them to the Lord.

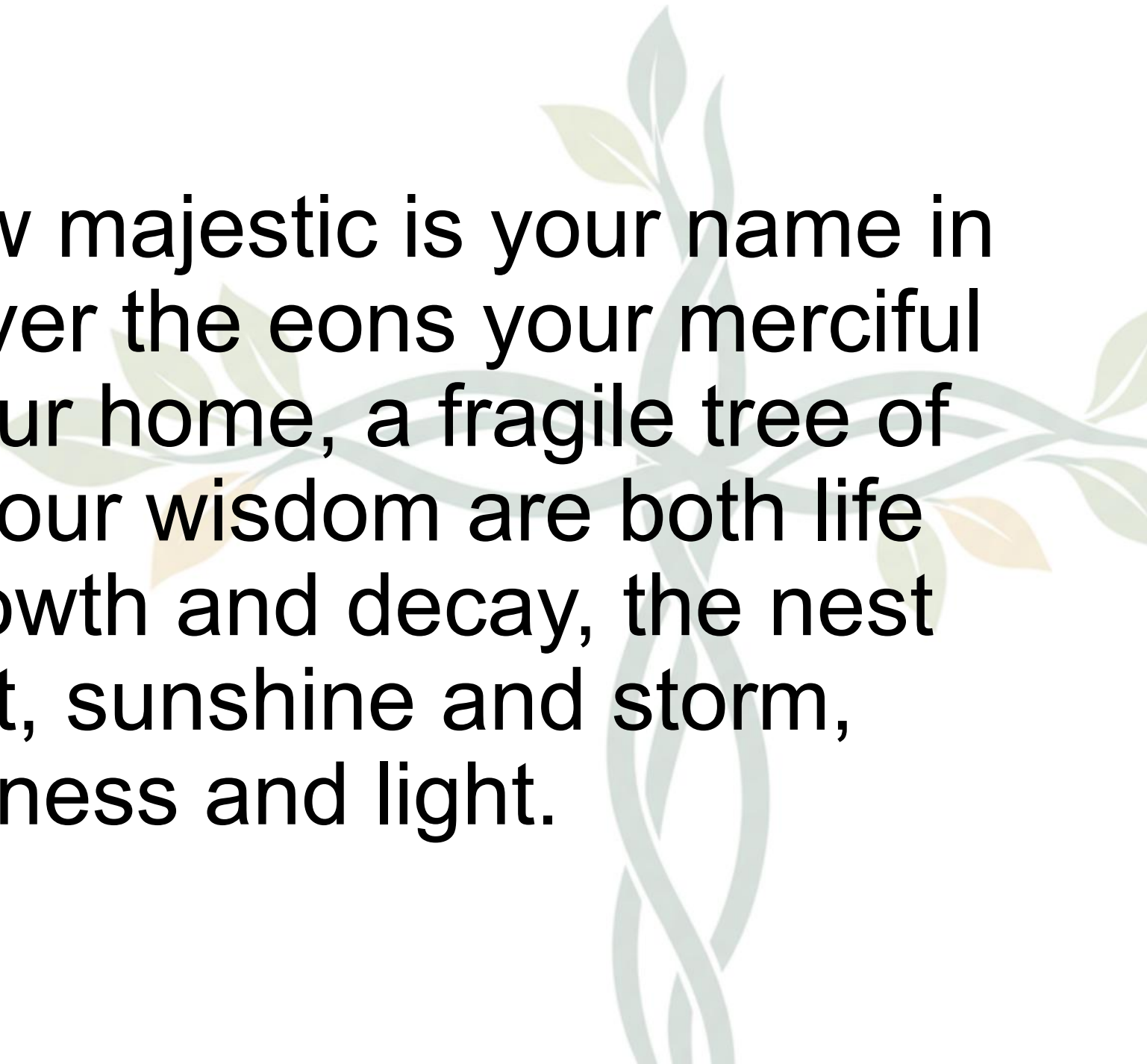
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

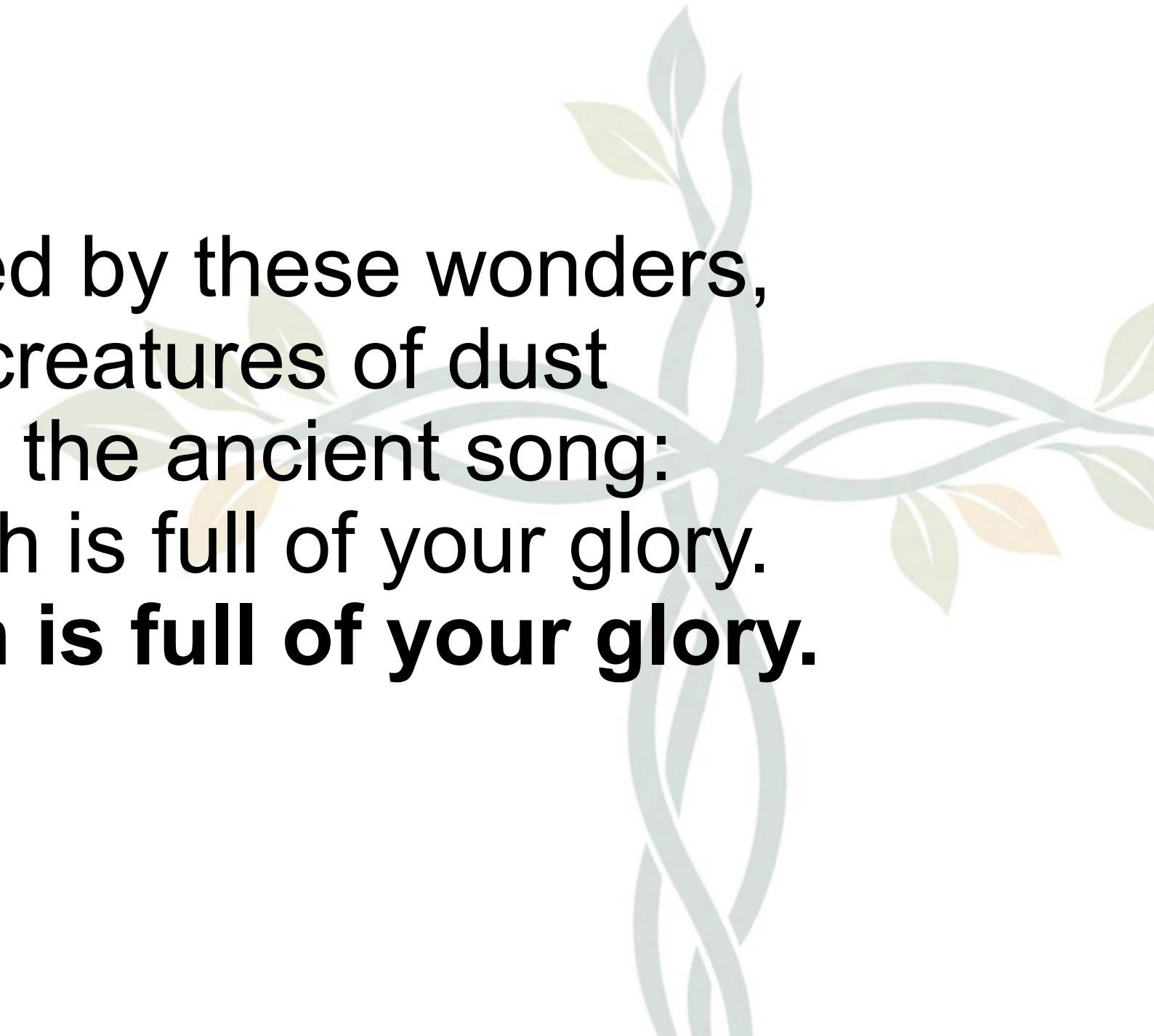


It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

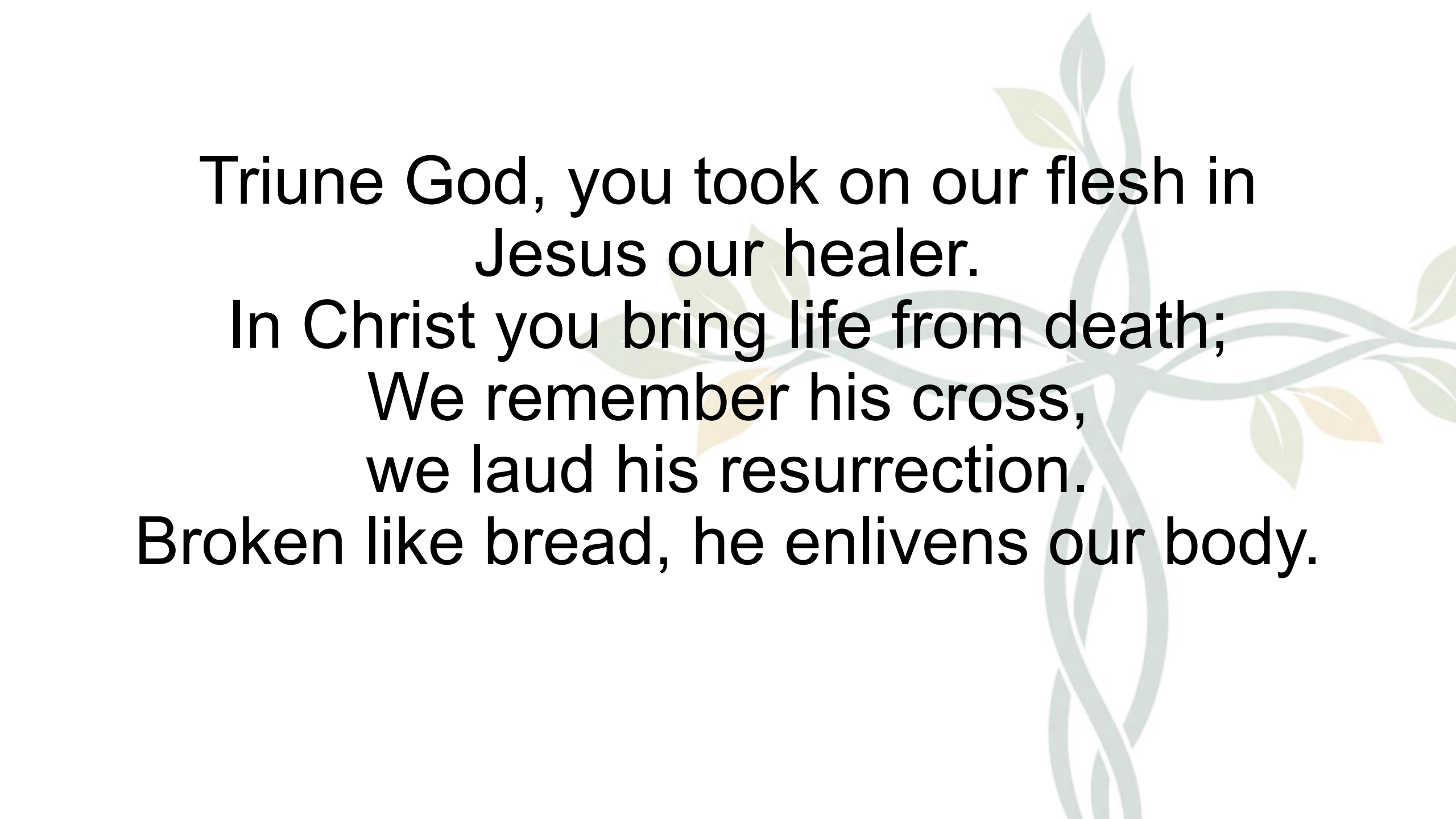




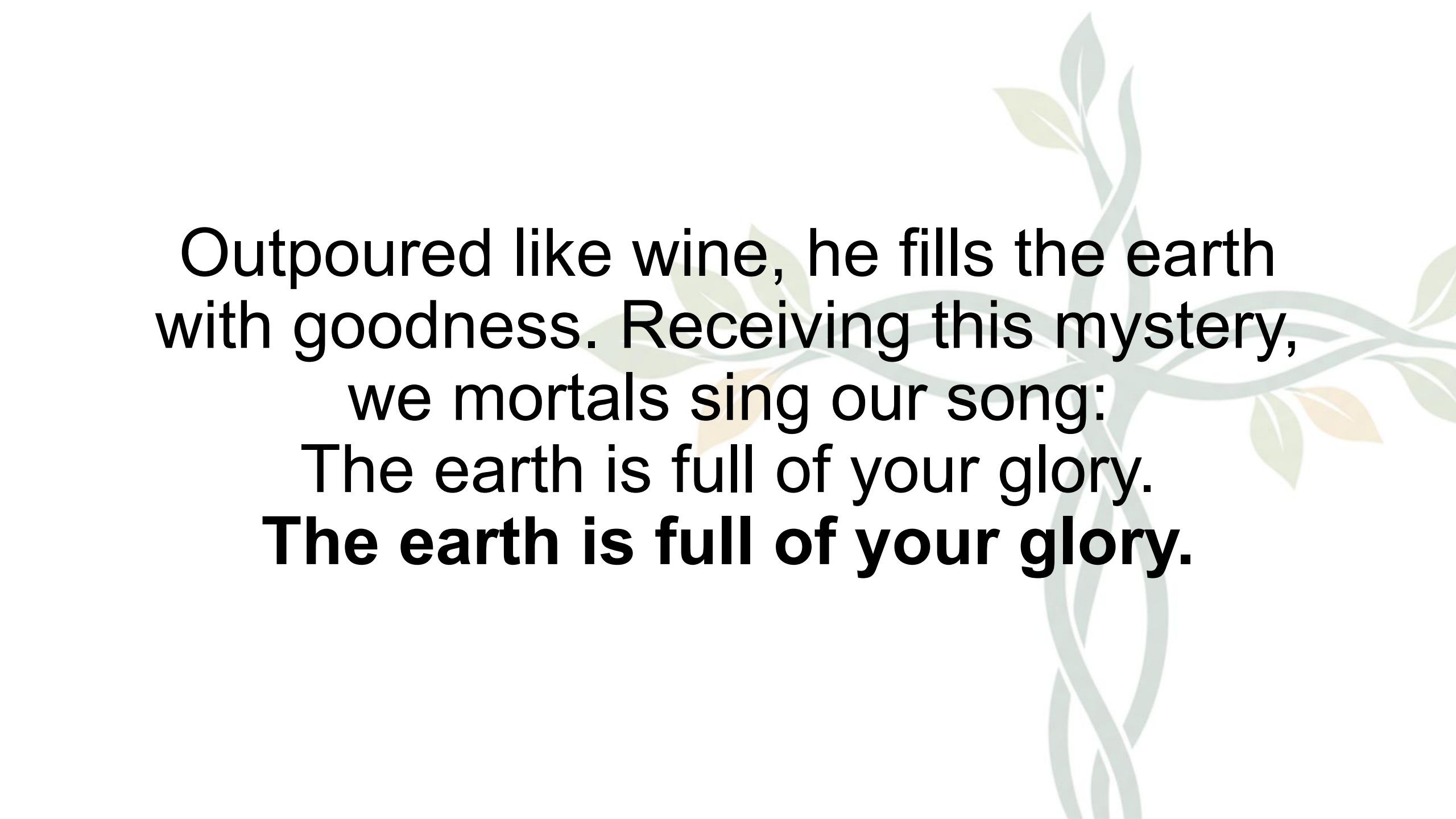
Triune God, how majestic is your name in
all the earth. Over the eons your merciful
light evolved our home, a fragile tree of
life. Here by your wisdom are both life
and death, growth and decay, the nest
and the hunt, sunshine and storm,
darkness and light.



Sustained by these wonders,
we creatures of dust
join in the ancient song:
The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.



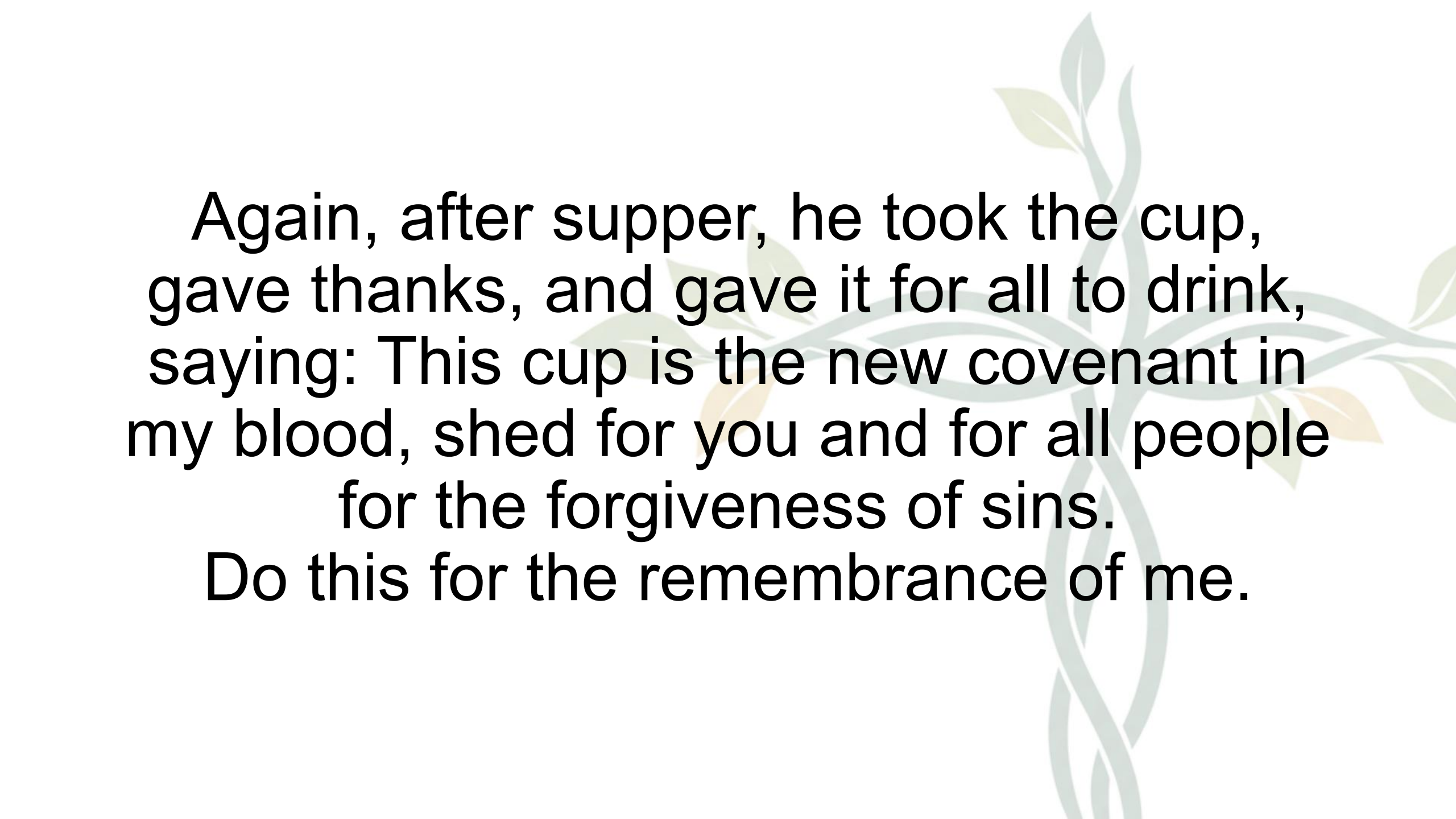
Triune God, you took on our flesh in
Jesus our healer.
In Christ you bring life from death;
We remember his cross,
we laud his resurrection.
Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.



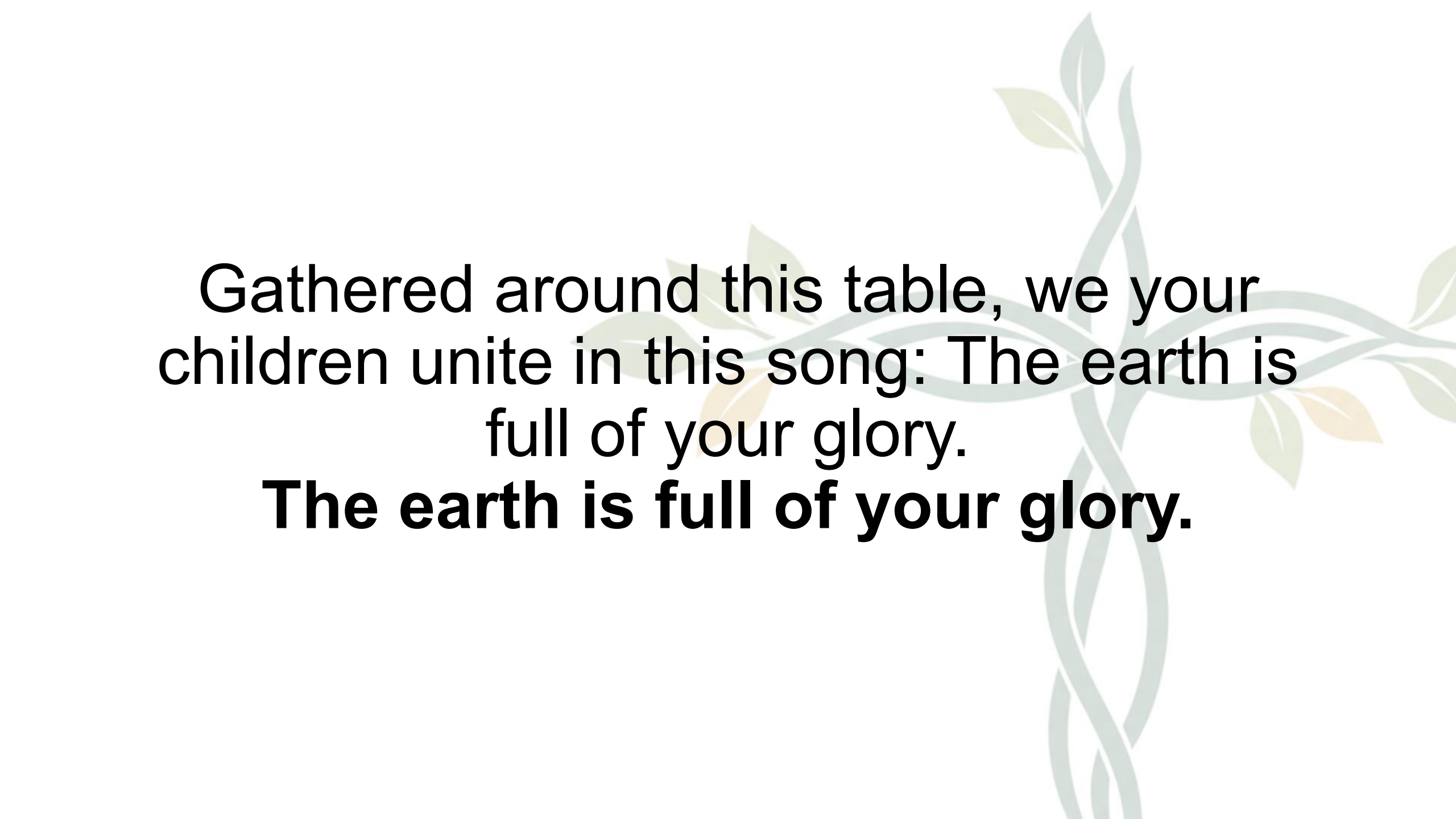
Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth
with goodness. Receiving this mystery,
we mortals sing our song:
The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so
filled with your love for this earth.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our
Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
This is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

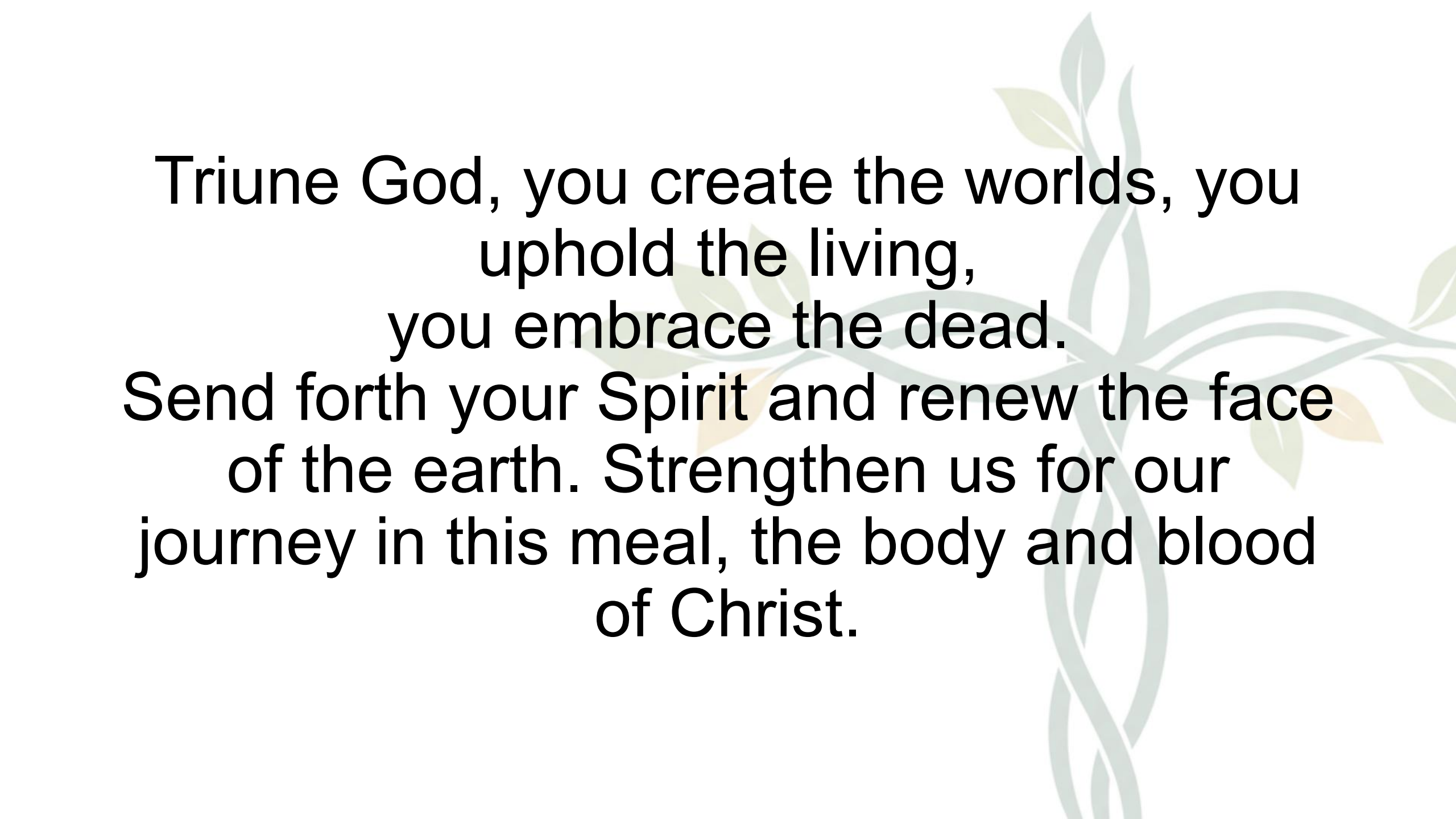


Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup is the new covenant in
my blood, shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

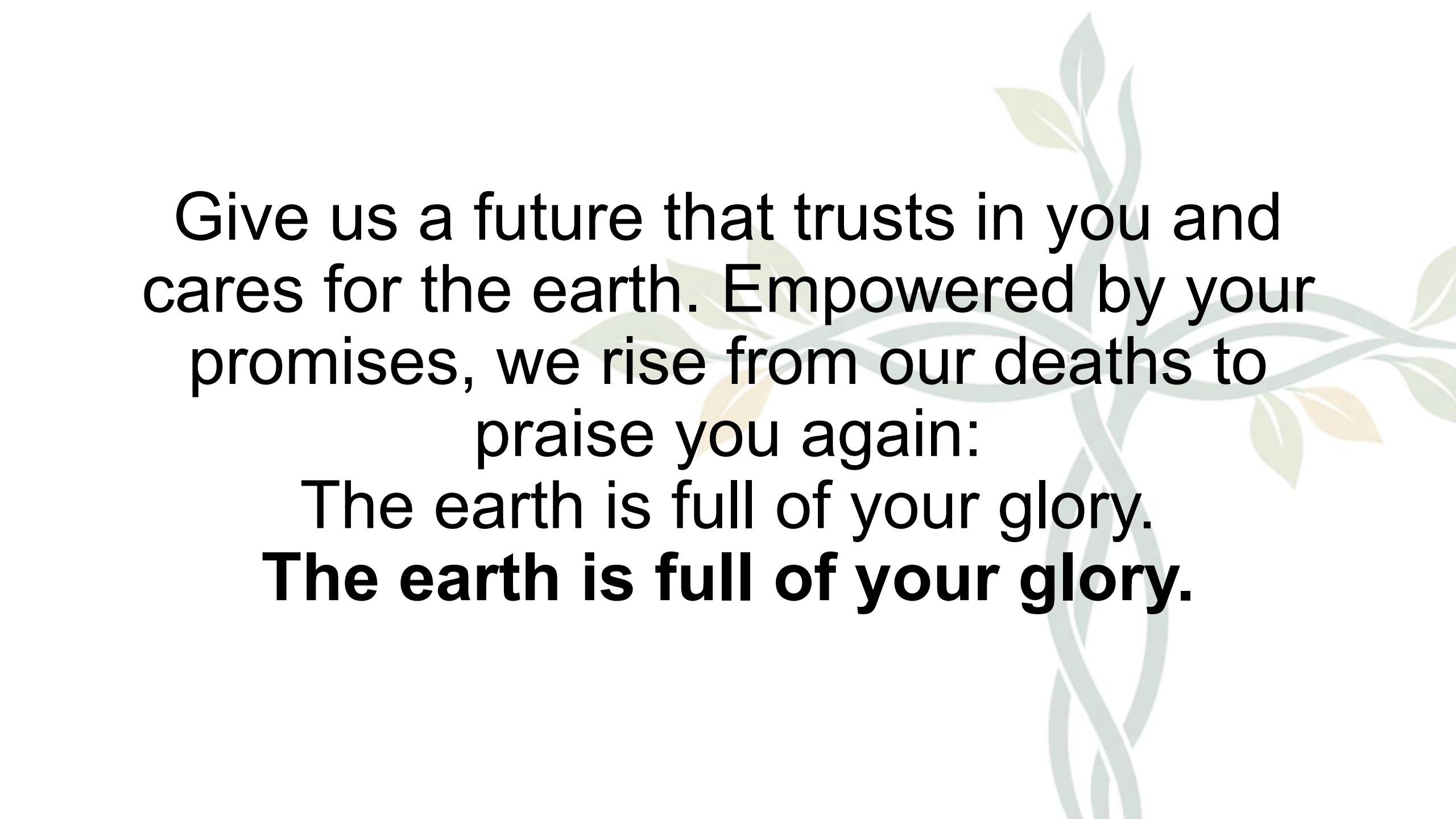


Gathered around this table, we your
children unite in this song: The earth is
full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.



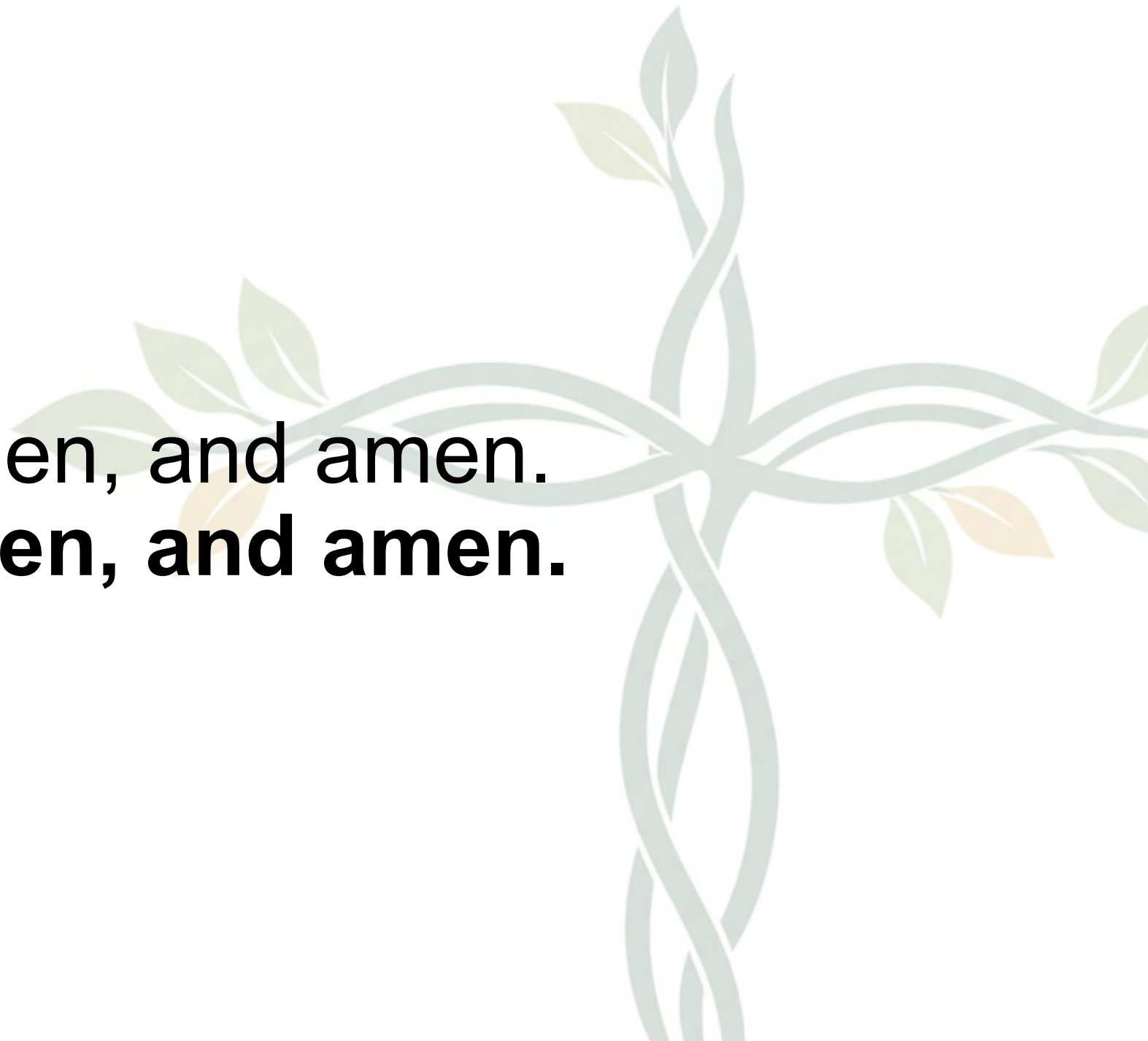
Triune God, you create the worlds, you
uphold the living,
you embrace the dead.
Send forth your Spirit and renew the face
of the earth. Strengthen us for our
journey in this meal, the body and blood
of Christ.



Give us a future that trusts in you and
cares for the earth. Empowered by your
promises, we rise from our deaths to
praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen.
Amen, and amen.



The Lord's Prayer



**Father in heaven, hallowed by your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us.**

The Lord's Prayer



**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.**



Holy Communion

Connecting ● Sustaining ● Reforming

Lamb of God

ACS Setting 12

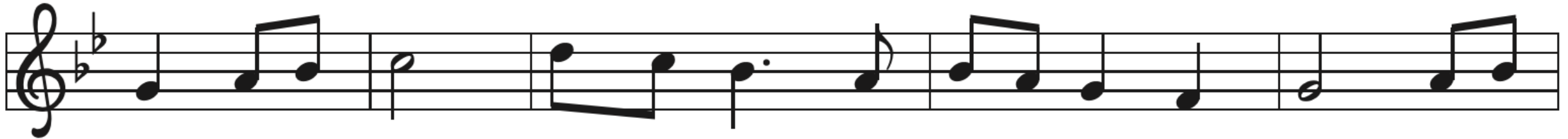




Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

ELW #470



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.





Bind Us Together

The Porter's Gate

**Isaac Wardell, Kate Bluett, Paul Zach,
Nick Chambers, Leslie Jordan, 2024.**

G Am/G D D7

1. Bind us to - ge - ther with - in Your love. Bind us to - ge - ther with - in Your
 2. Bind us to - ge - ther and be our peace. Bind us to - ge - ther and be our
 3. Bind us to - ge - ther and give us hope. Bind us to - ge - ther and give us
 4. Bind us to - ge - ther and make us one. Bind us to - ge - ther and make us

4 Em D G/B C

ho - ly love. As we share in our sorrows, we will
 per - fect peace. Though the temp - est may rage, we will
 end - less hope. Though our tears were our bread, we will
 tru - ly one. In Your love, in Your peace, in Your

6 D Em C D G

share in Your joy. Bind us to - ge - ther in love.
 rest in Your joy. Bind us to - ge - ther in peace.
 feast in Your joy. Bind us to - ge - ther in hope.
 hope, in Your joy, bind us to - ge - ther as one.

Communion Blessing



The body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you
in his grace.

Amen!

Consecration of Sacred Chrism

“Almighty God, we ask You to sanctify this oil. Set it apart for Your holy purposes. May it carry Your healing, protection, and blessing to all who are anointed with it. Let Your Spirit work through this act of faith. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

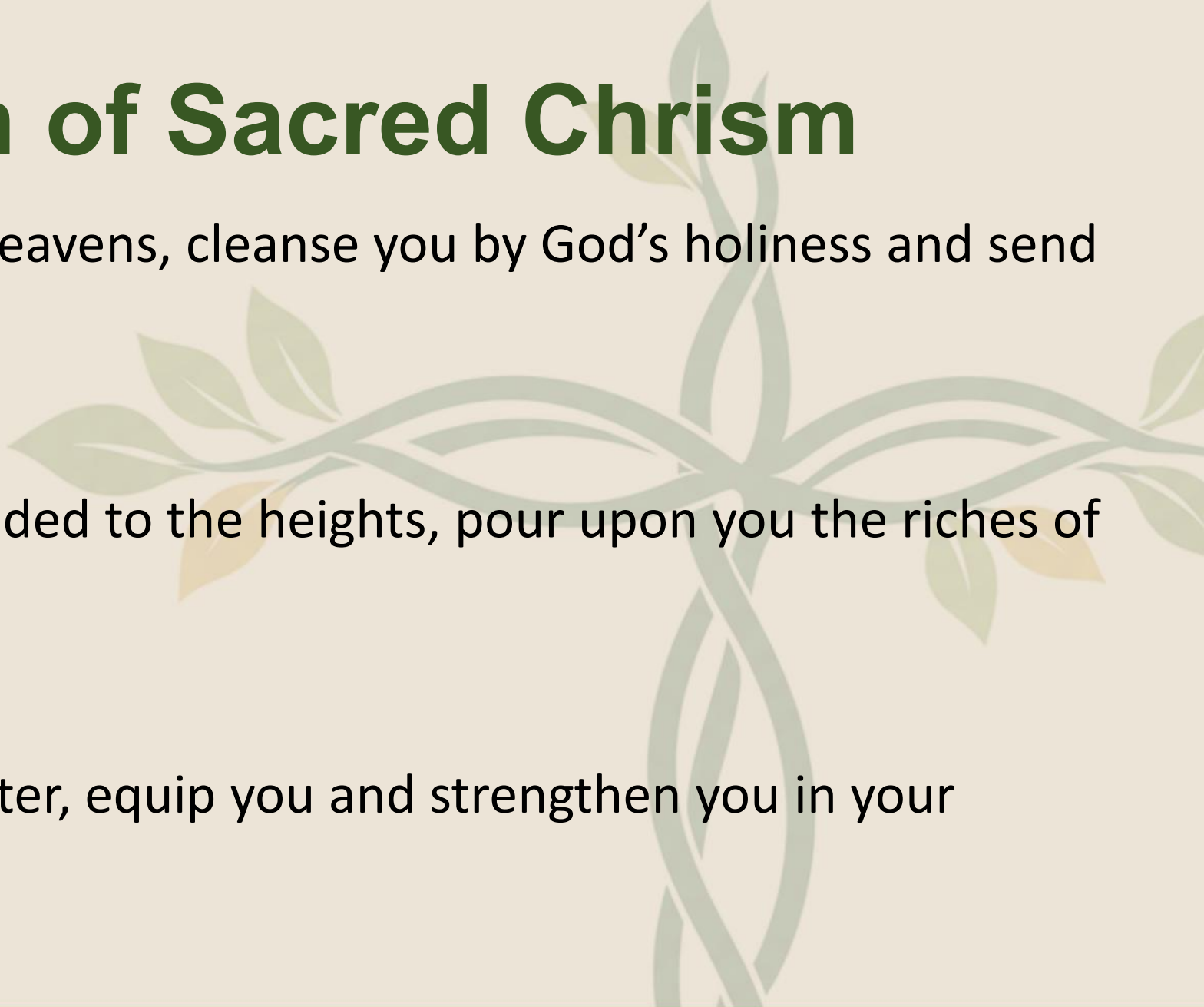
Our help is in the name of the Lord

C: who made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord

C: now and forever.

Consecration of Sacred Chrism



God, whose glory fills the heavens, cleanse you by God's holiness and send you to proclaim his word.

C: Amen.

Jesus Christ, who has ascended to the heights, pour upon you the riches of his grace.

C: Amen.

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

C: Amen.

A decorative graphic of a vine with several leaves, some green and some yellow, extending from the right side of the slide towards the center.

Sending Hymn

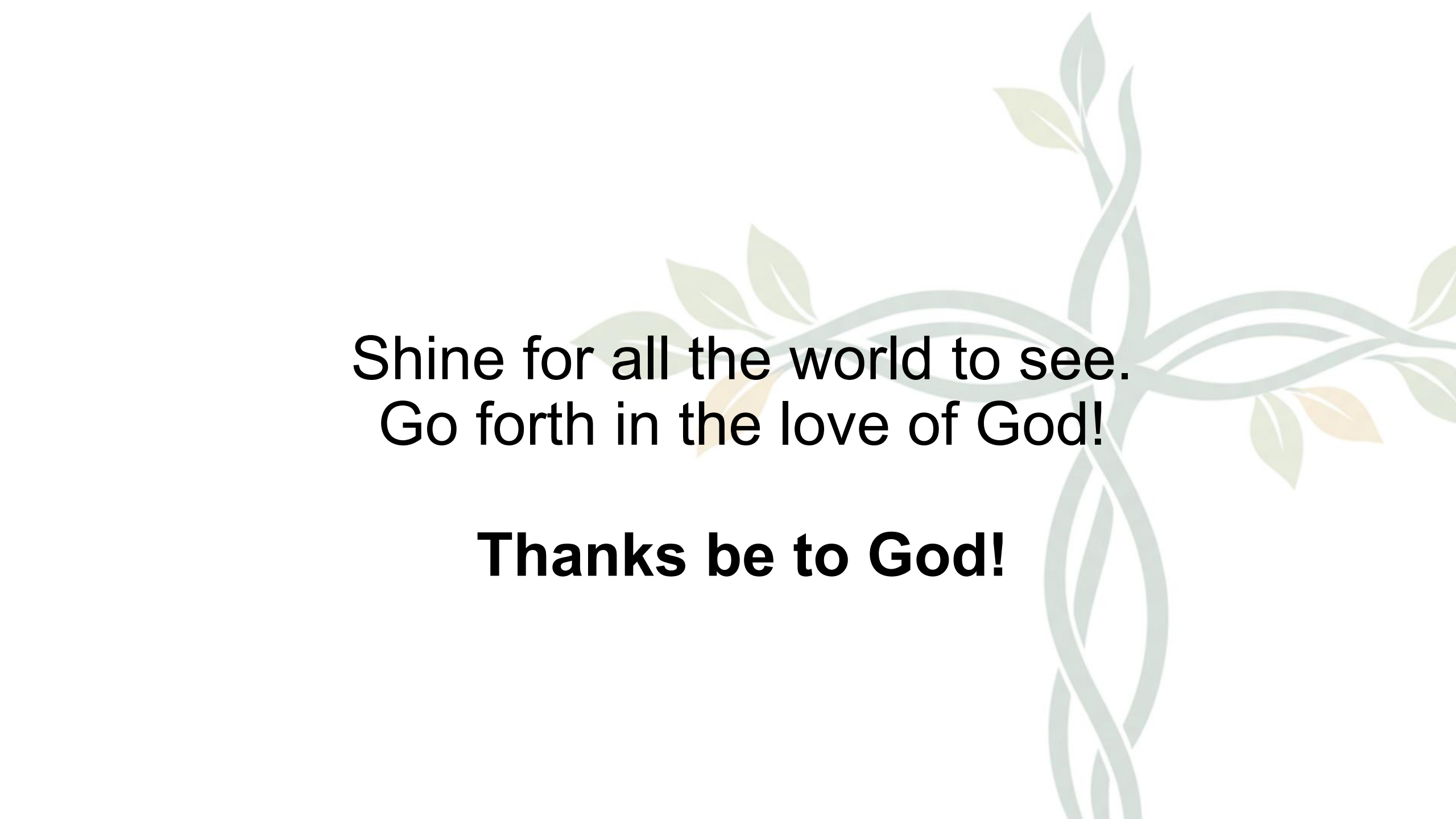
For The Fruit of All Creation

ELW #679

Benediction



The God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace in believing;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain
with you always.
Amen.



Shine for all the world to see.
Go forth in the love of God!

Thanks be to God!