

Welcome to Community of the Cross Lutheran Church

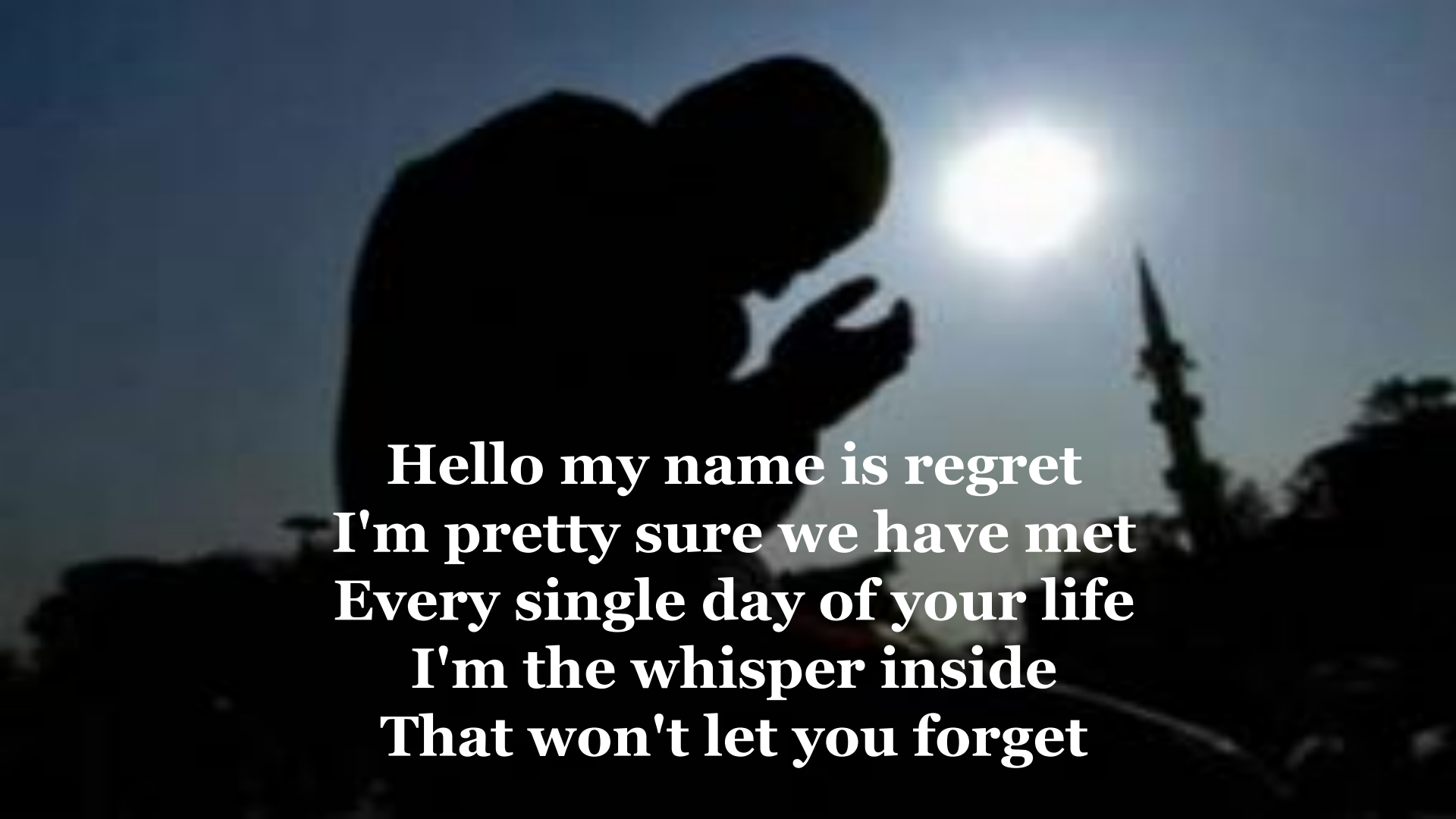


**Fifth Sunday
of Easter and
Confirmation
April 28, 2024**


A silhouette of a person in a prayerful pose, with hands clasped near their face, set against a bright, glowing sun in a clear sky. In the background, the silhouette of a minaret is visible. The overall scene is dark, with the sun providing the primary light source.

Hello My Name Is

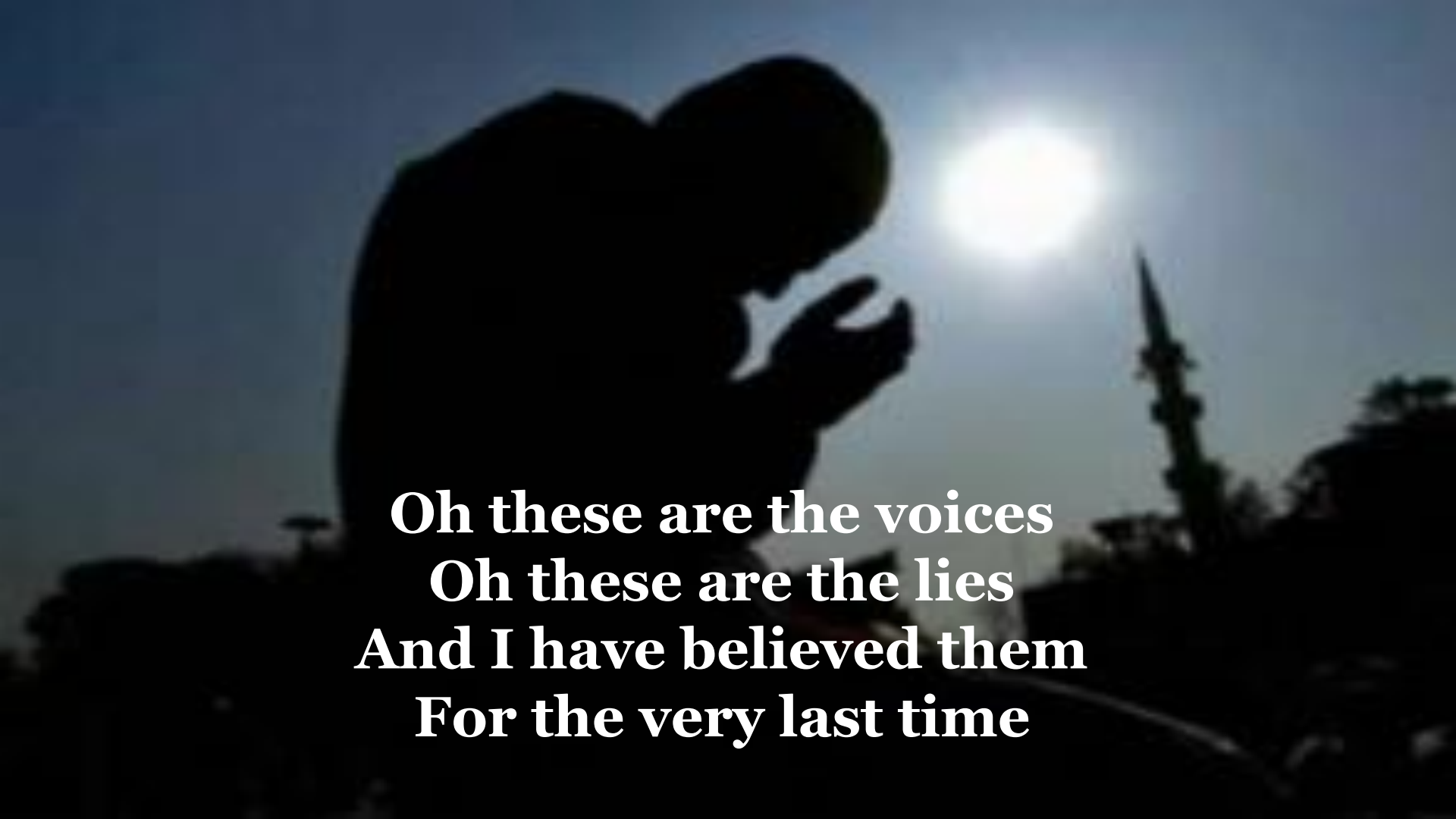
**Woah woah woah
Woah woah woah**

A silhouette of a person in a contemplative pose, possibly a monk or a person in prayer, is shown against a bright sun in a twilight sky. The person is leaning forward with their hands clasped near their face. The background is a clear, light blue sky with the sun as a bright, glowing orb. The overall mood is reflective and serene.

**Hello my name is regret
I'm pretty sure we have met
Every single day of your life
I'm the whisper inside
That won't let you forget**

A silhouette of a person in a prayerful pose, with hands clasped and head bowed, set against a bright sun in a clear sky. The background is dark, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Hello my name is defeat
I know you recognize me
Just when you think you can win
I'll drag you right back down again
'Til you've lost all belief**

A silhouette of a person in a prayerful pose, with hands clasped near their face, set against a bright sun in a clear sky. The person is on the left side of the frame, and the sun is on the right. In the background, there are faint silhouettes of trees and a tall, thin spire or tower.

**Oh these are the voices
Oh these are the lies
And I have believed them
For the very last time**



**Hello my name is child of the one true King
I've been saved I've been changed
I have been set free
Amazing grace is the song I sing
Hello my name is child of the one true King**



Woah woah woah



**I am no longer defined
By all the wreckage behind
The one who makes all things new
Has proven it's true
Just take a look at my life**



**Hello my name is child of the one true King
I've been saved I've been changed
I have been set free
Amazing grace is the song I sing
Hello my name is child of the one true King**



Woah woah woah



**What love the Father has lavished
Upon us that we should be called His children
I am a child of the one true King
What love the Father has lavished
Upon us that we should be called His children**



**Hello my name is child of the one true King
I've been saved I've been changed
I have been set free
Amazing grace is the song I sing
Hello my name is child of the one true King**



Woah woah woah
I am a child of the one true King
Woah woah woah

CCLI Song # 6439969

Matthew West

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Welcome to Community of the Cross Lutheran Church



“Touching Lives with the Love of God”



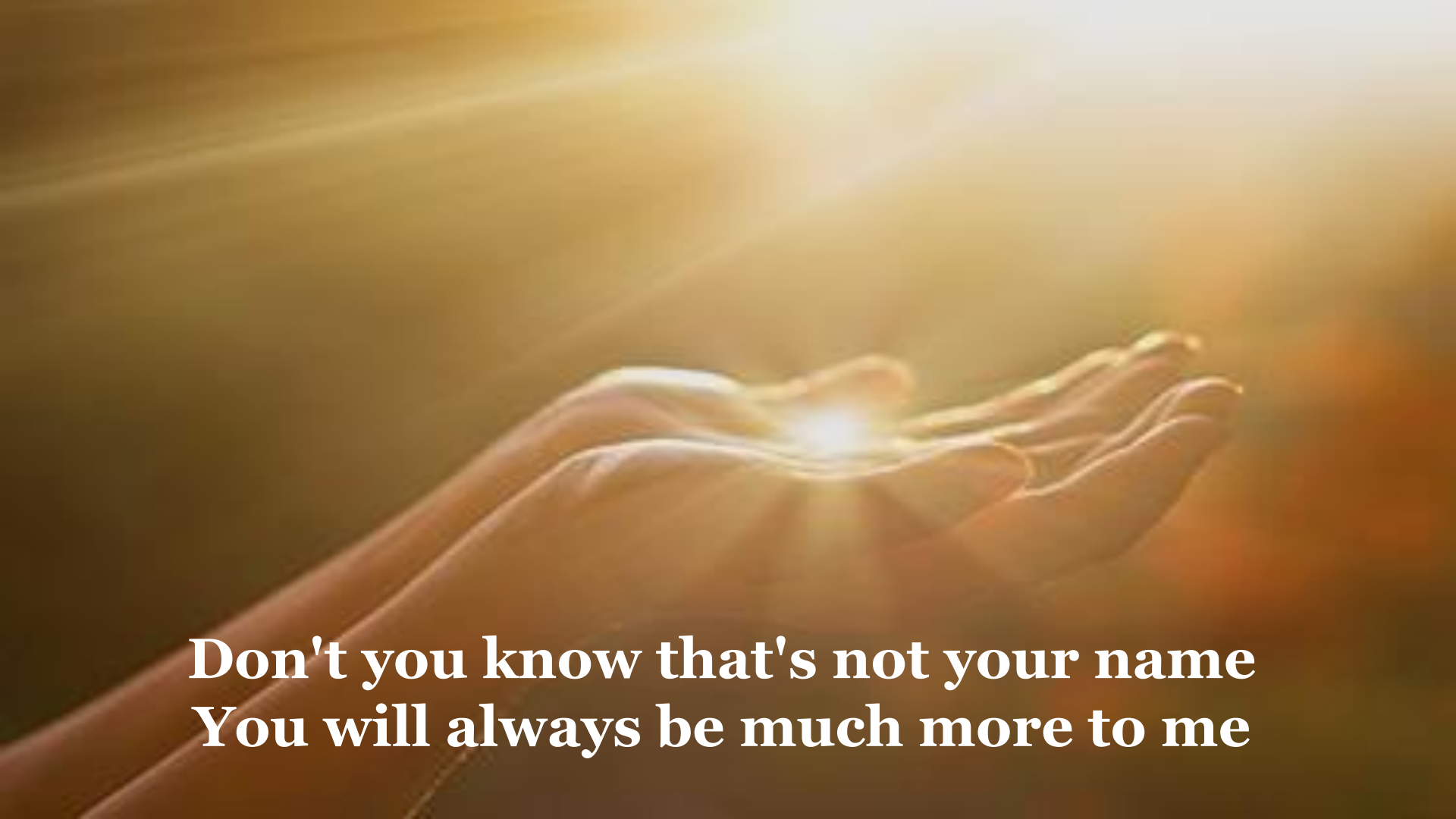
COMMUNITY OF THE CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

- 1) ***Nurture the community*** within our congregation
- 2) ***Encourage the community*** within our neighborhood
- 3) ***Transform the various communities*** where our members live and work with the love of God


A pair of hands is shown from the bottom left, cupping a bright, glowing light source. The background is a soft, golden-yellow gradient with light rays emanating from the top center, creating a warm and ethereal atmosphere. The hands are positioned as if offering or holding the light.

Greater

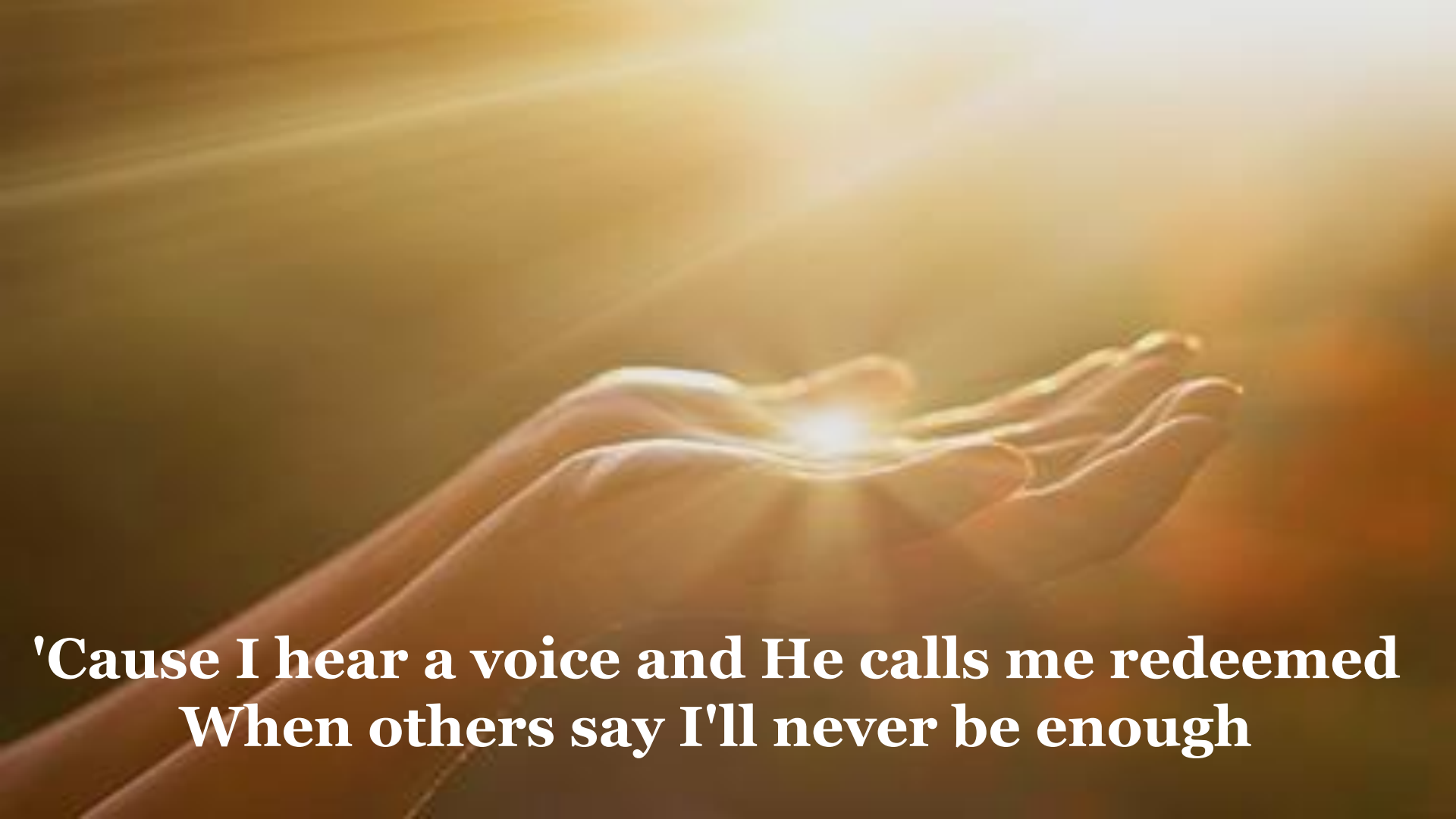
**Bring your tired and bring your shame
Bring your guilt and bring your pain**



**Don't you know that's not your name
You will always be much more to me**

A close-up photograph of two hands, palms up, cupped together. A bright, glowing light emanates from the center of the hands, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a soft, golden-brown gradient, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is one of hope, faith, and resilience.

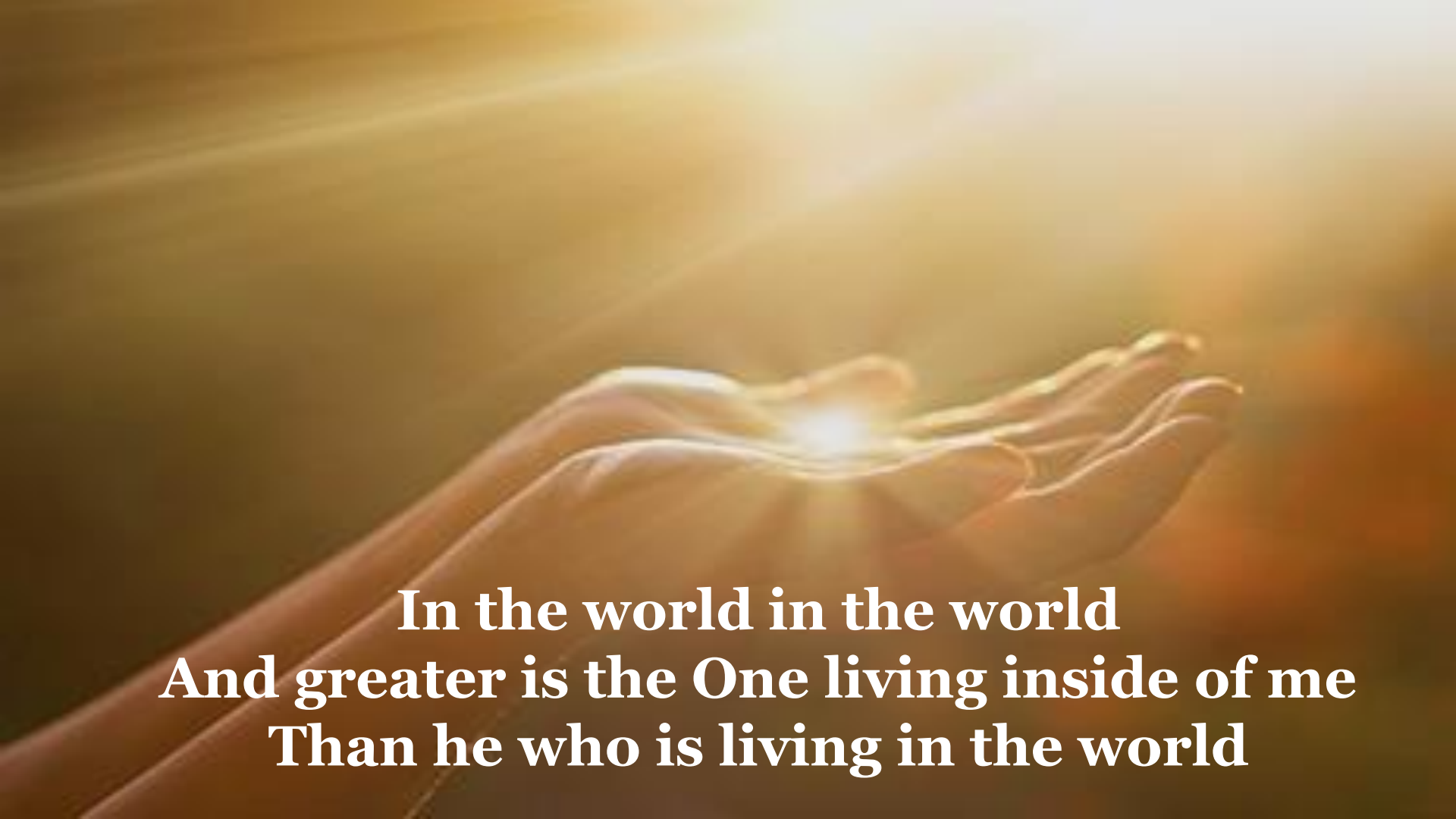
**Every day I wrestle with the voices
That keep telling me I'm not right
But that's alright**



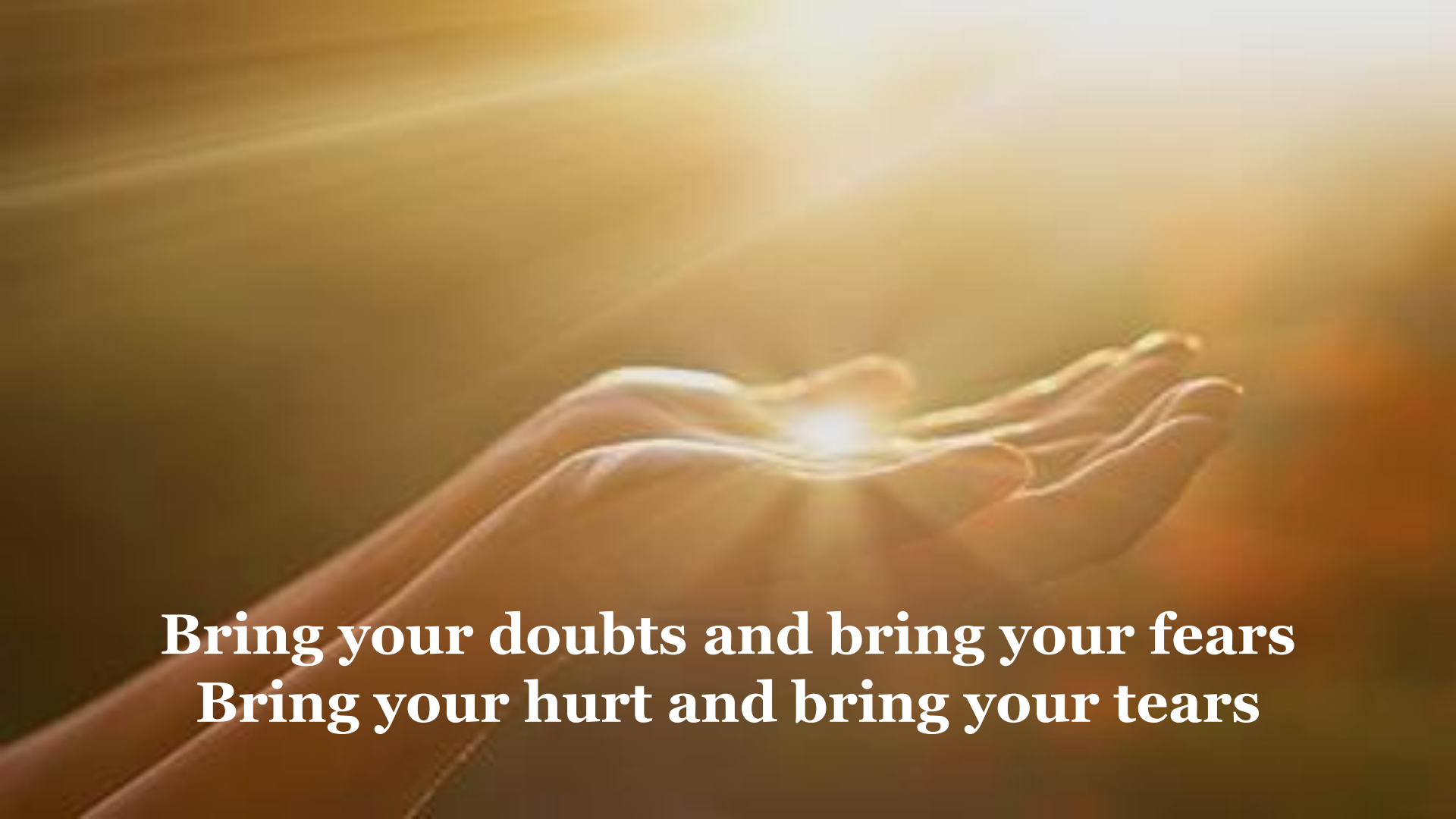
**'Cause I hear a voice and He calls me redeemed
When others say I'll never be enough**

A close-up photograph of two hands, palms up, cupped together. A bright, glowing light emanates from the center where the hands meet, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a soft, golden-yellow gradient, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is warm, hopeful, and spiritual.

**And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world**

A pair of hands is shown from the bottom left, cupping a bright, glowing orb of light. The background is a soft, golden-yellow gradient with light rays emanating from the top, creating a warm and ethereal atmosphere. The hands are rendered in a semi-transparent, glowing style, matching the overall color palette.

**In the world in the world
And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world**



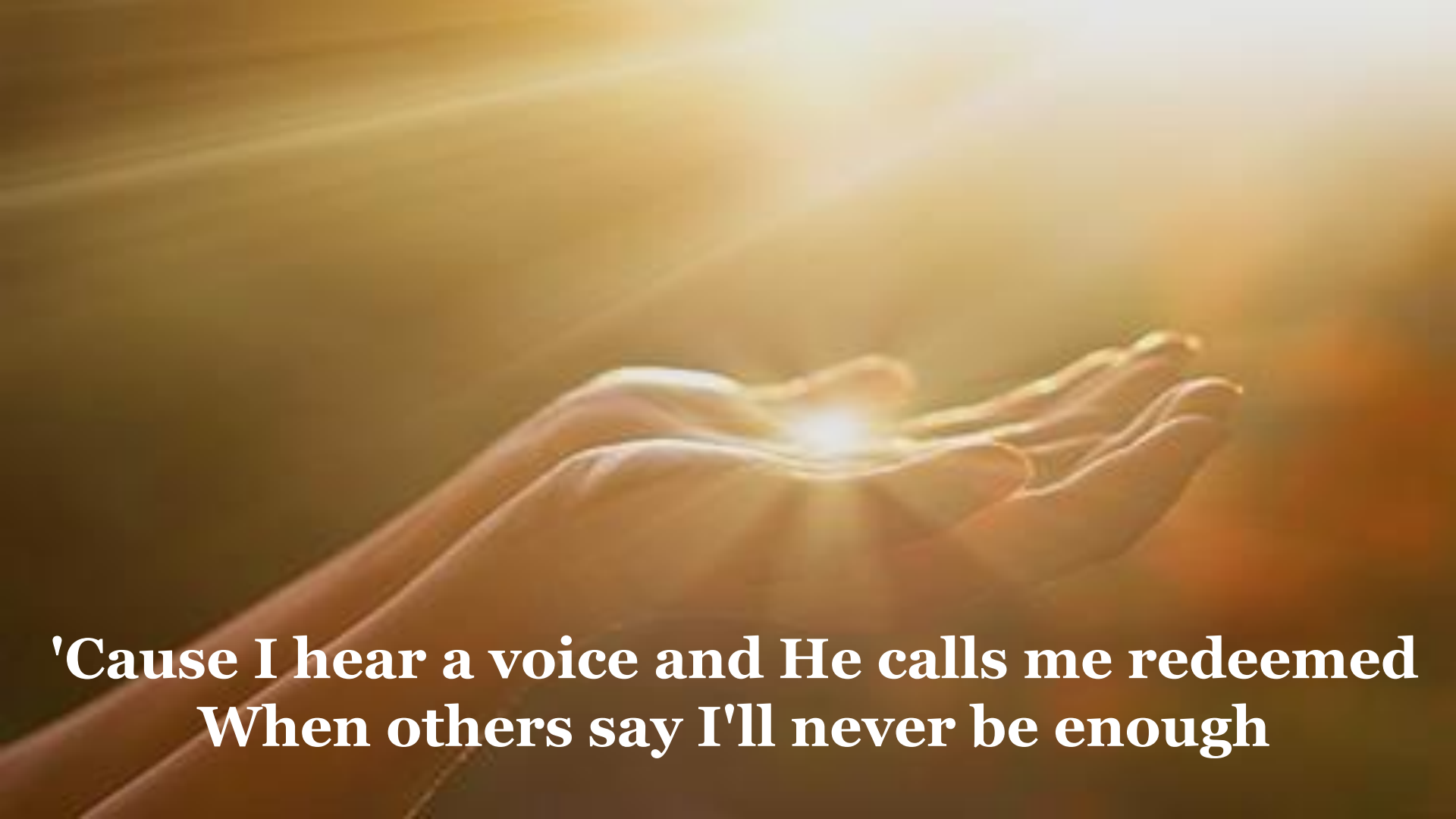
**Bring your doubts and bring your fears
Bring your hurt and bring your tears**

A close-up photograph of two hands, palms up, cupped together. A bright, glowing light emanates from the center of the hands, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a soft, golden-yellow gradient, suggesting a bright light source like the sun. The overall mood is warm, hopeful, and spiritual.

**There'll be no condemnation here
You are holy righteous and redeemed**



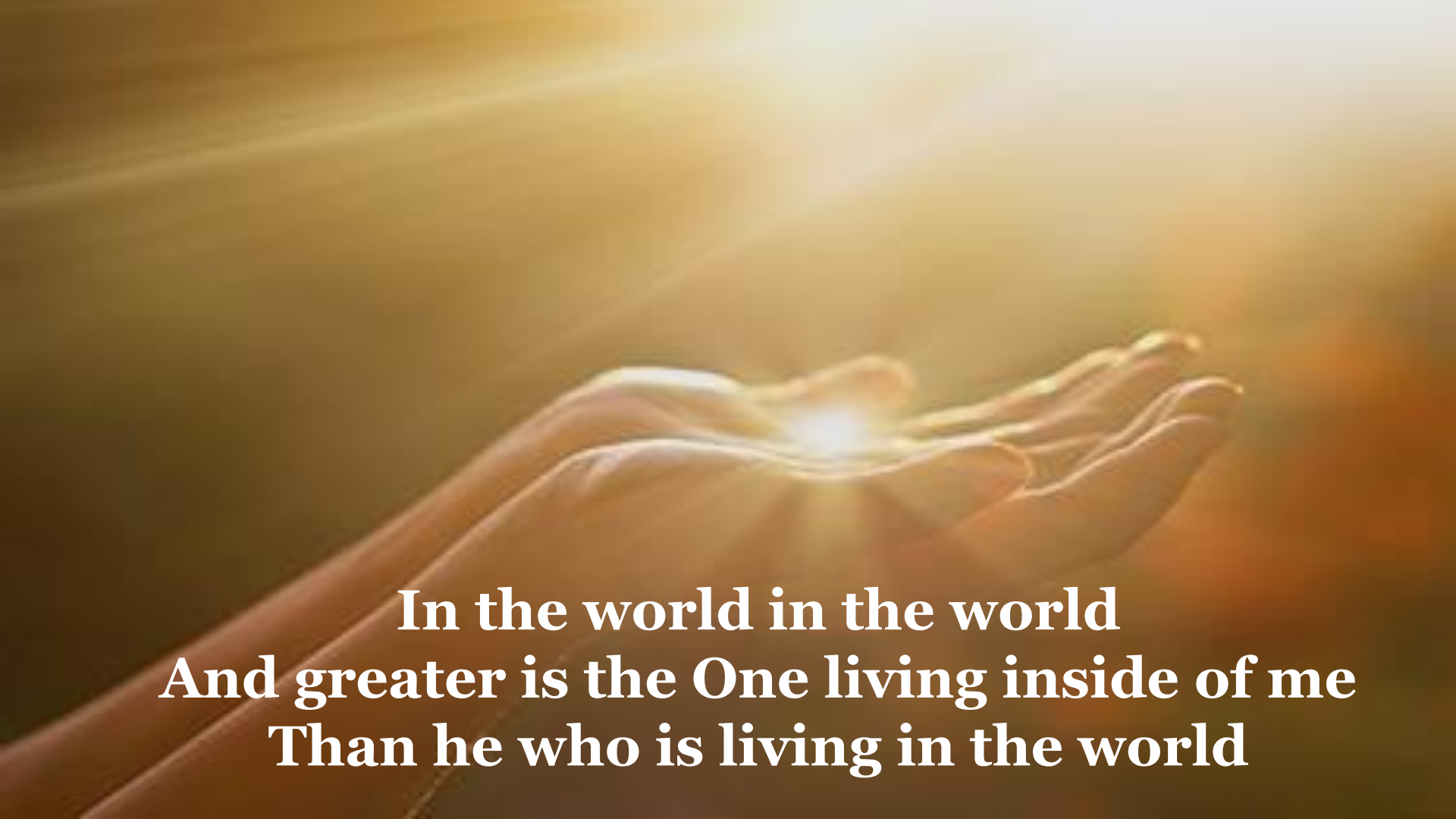
**Every time I fall
There'll be those who will call me a mistake
Well that's ok**



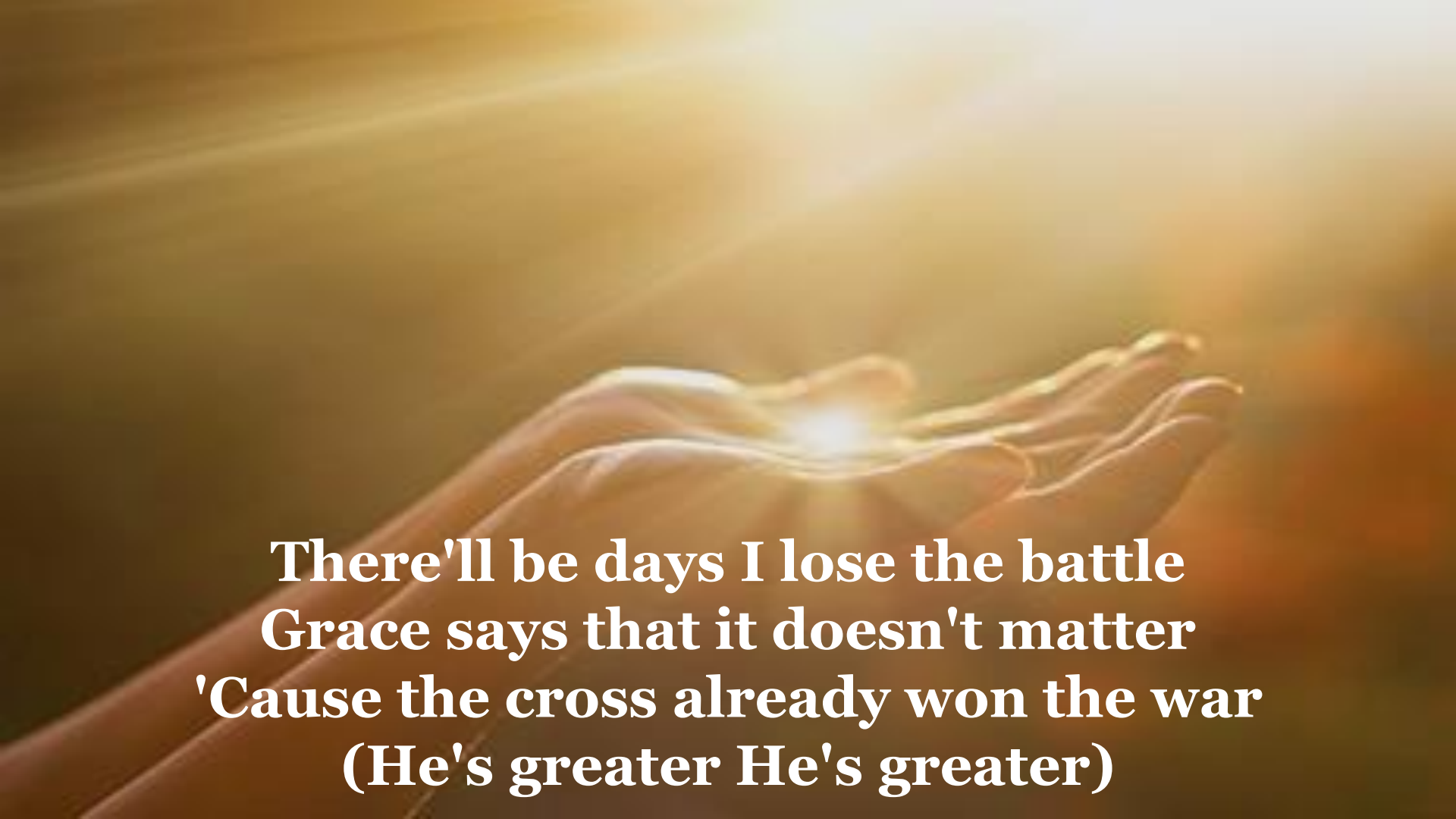
**'Cause I hear a voice and He calls me redeemed
When others say I'll never be enough**

A pair of hands is shown cupped together, holding a bright, glowing light. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color with soft, ethereal light rays emanating from the top, creating a sense of divine presence and inner illumination. The hands are positioned in the lower half of the frame, with the light source centered between them.

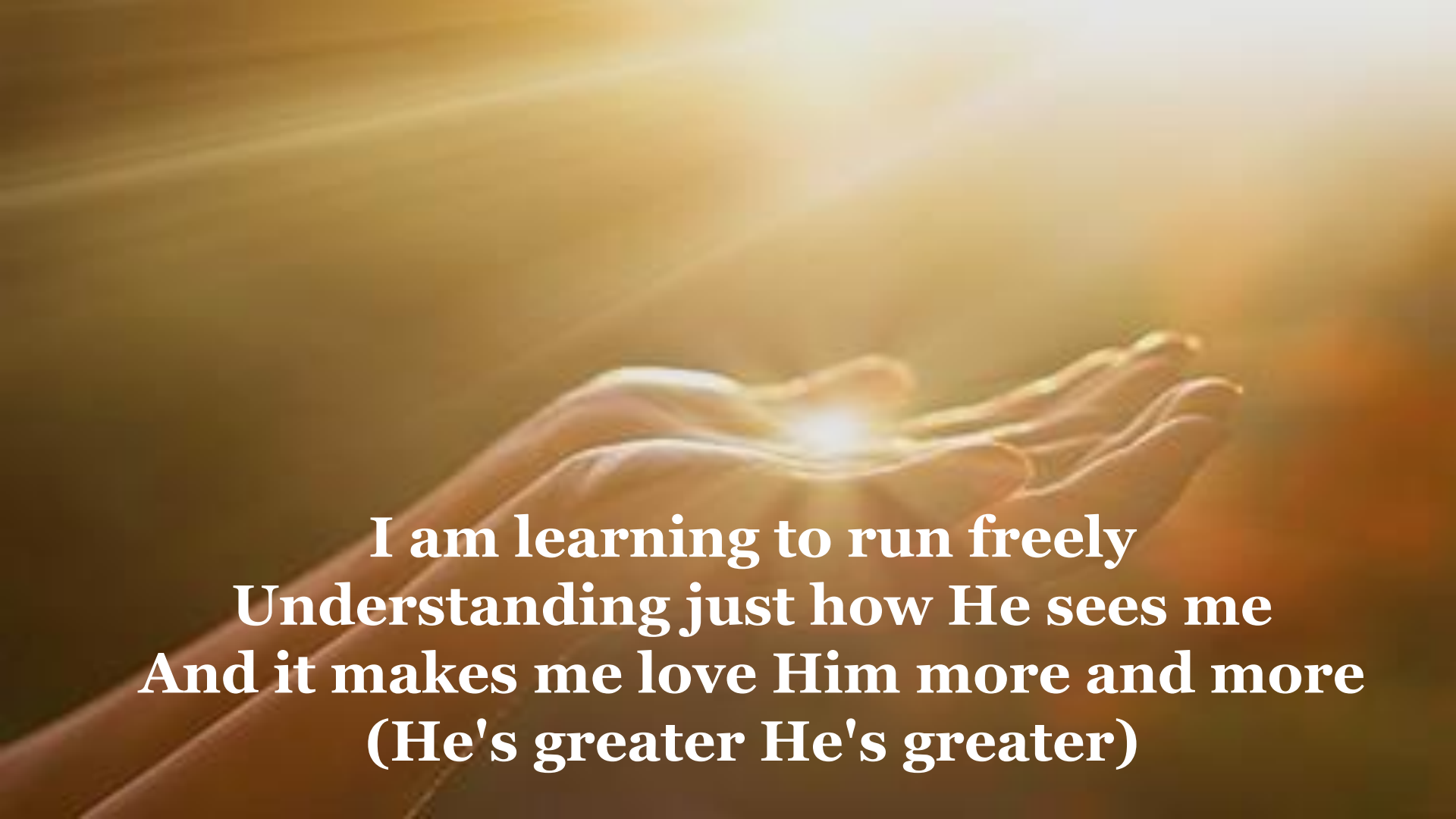
**And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world**

A pair of hands is shown from the bottom left, cupping a bright, glowing light source. The background is a warm, golden-brown gradient with soft, ethereal light rays emanating from the top, creating a sense of divine presence and inner illumination. The hands are positioned as if they are carefully holding or presenting the light.

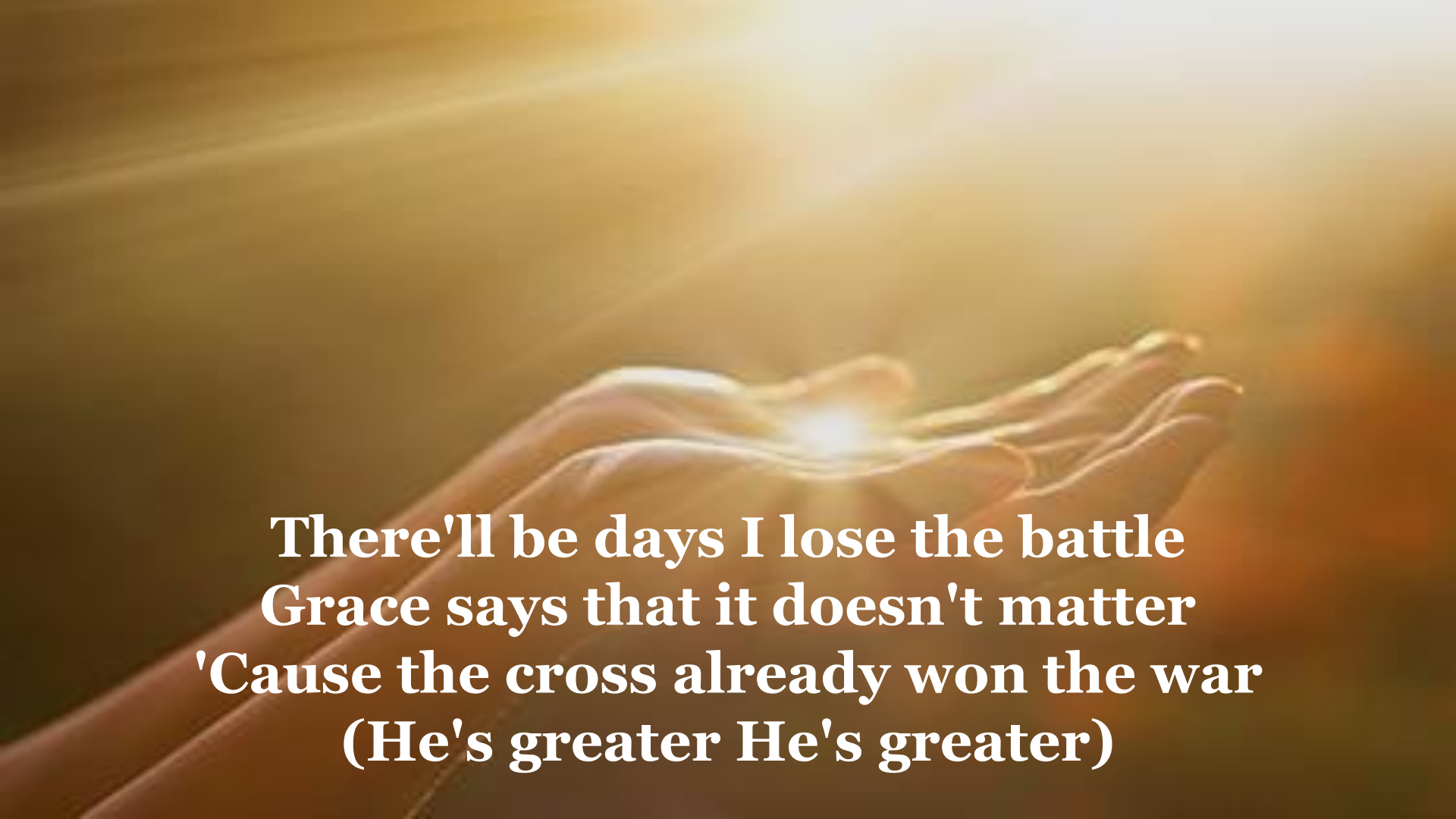
**In the world in the world
And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world**



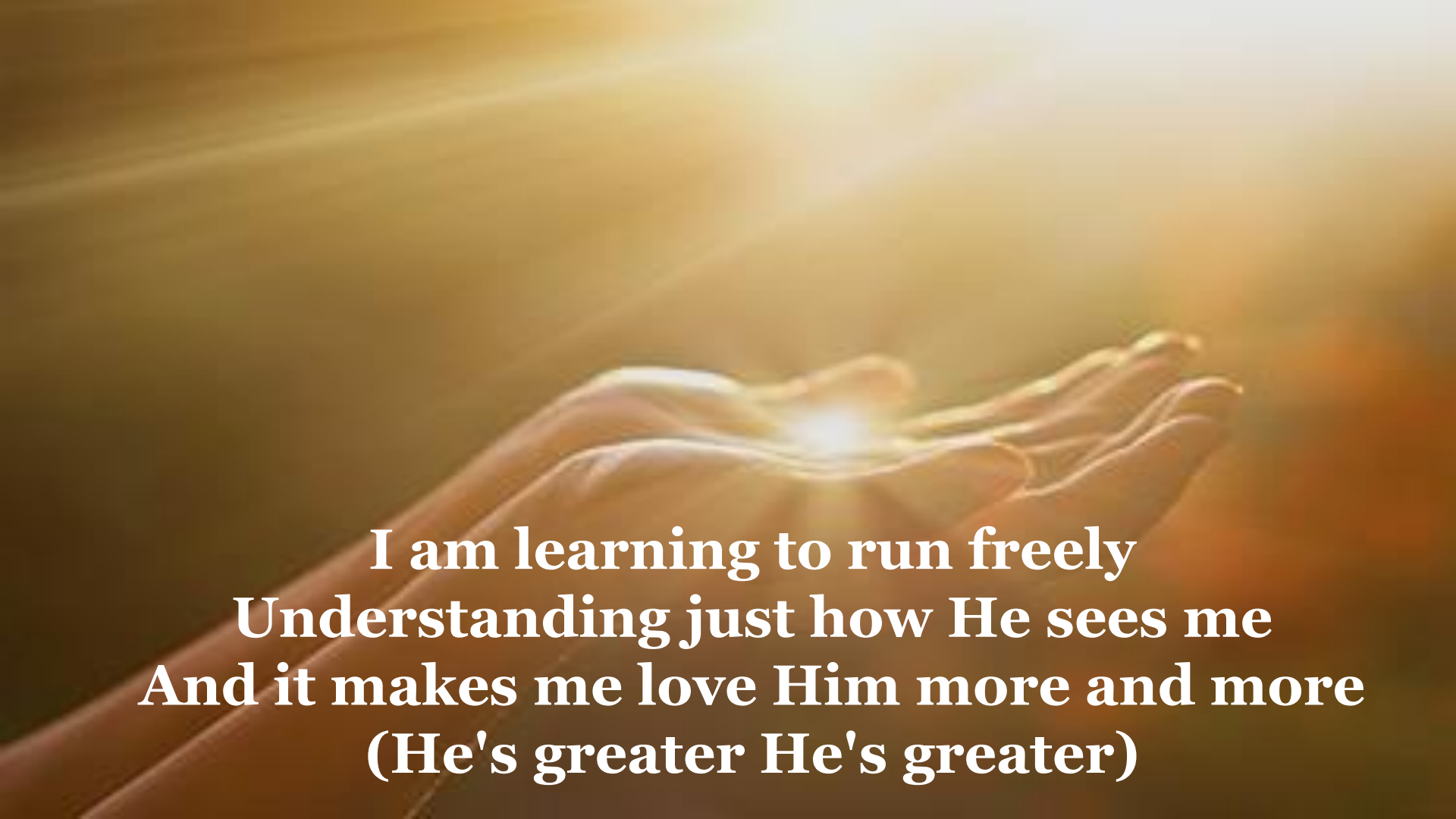
**There'll be days I lose the battle
Grace says that it doesn't matter
'Cause the cross already won the war
(He's greater He's greater)**

A pair of hands is shown from the wrist up, held together in a prayerful or reverent gesture. The hands are positioned in the lower half of the frame, with the fingers slightly spread. A bright, glowing light emanates from the center where the hands meet, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a soft, warm gradient of golden-brown and yellow, with a bright light source at the top center, creating a hazy, ethereal atmosphere. The overall mood is one of hope, faith, and spiritual connection.

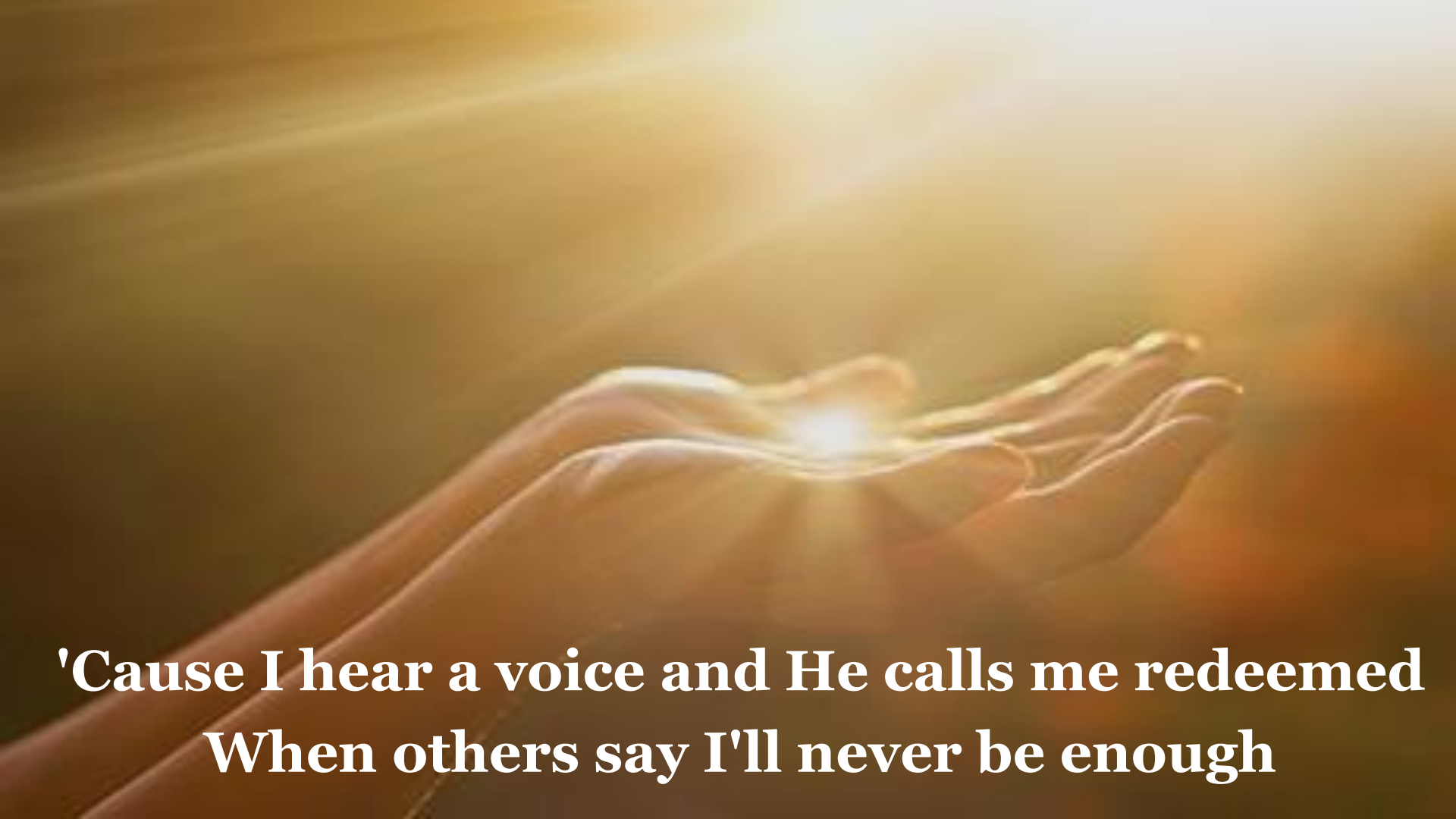
**I am learning to run freely
Understanding just how He sees me
And it makes me love Him more and more
(He's greater He's greater)**



**There'll be days I lose the battle
Grace says that it doesn't matter
'Cause the cross already won the war
(He's greater He's greater)**



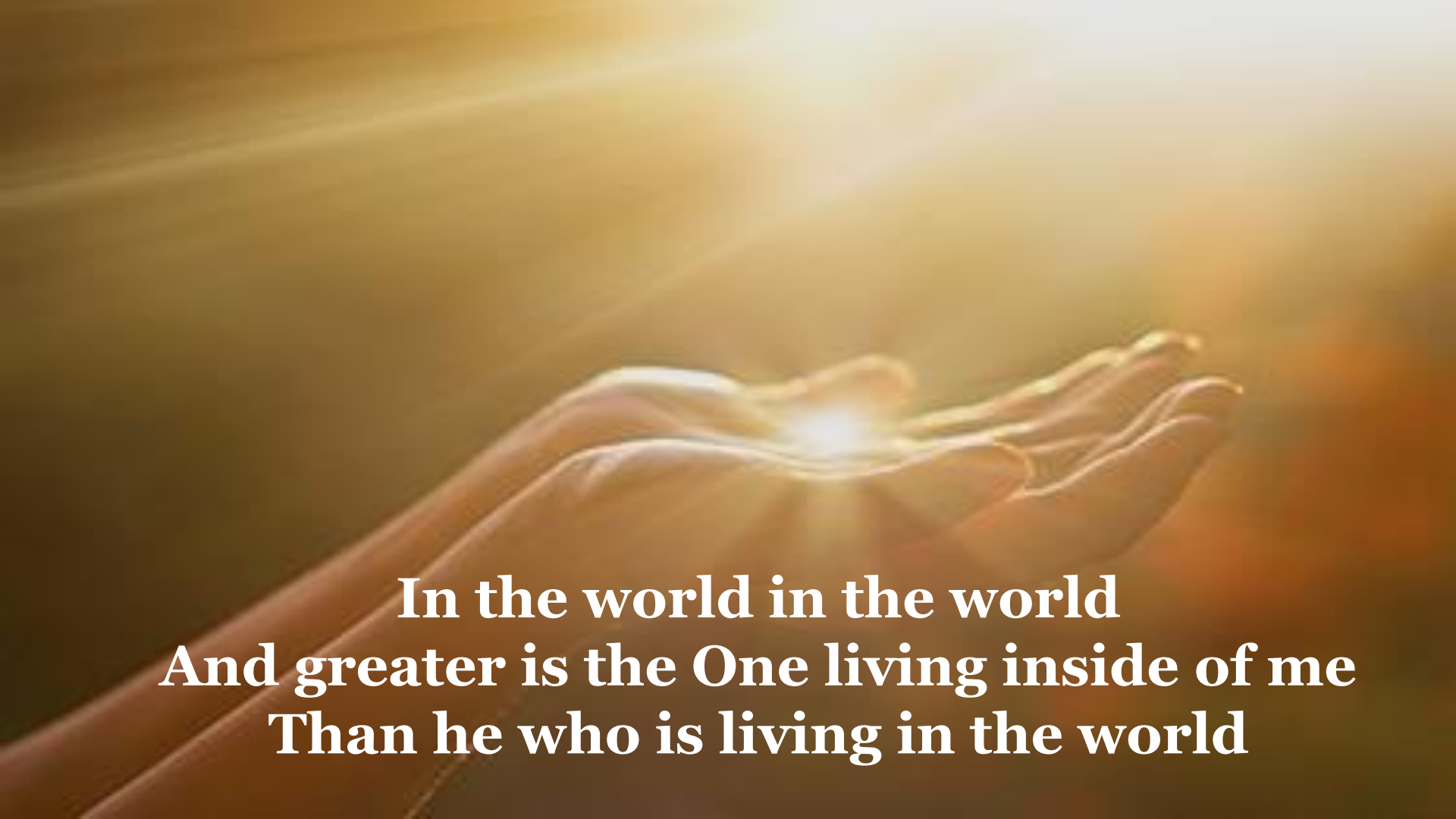
**I am learning to run freely
Understanding just how He sees me
And it makes me love Him more and more
(He's greater He's greater)**



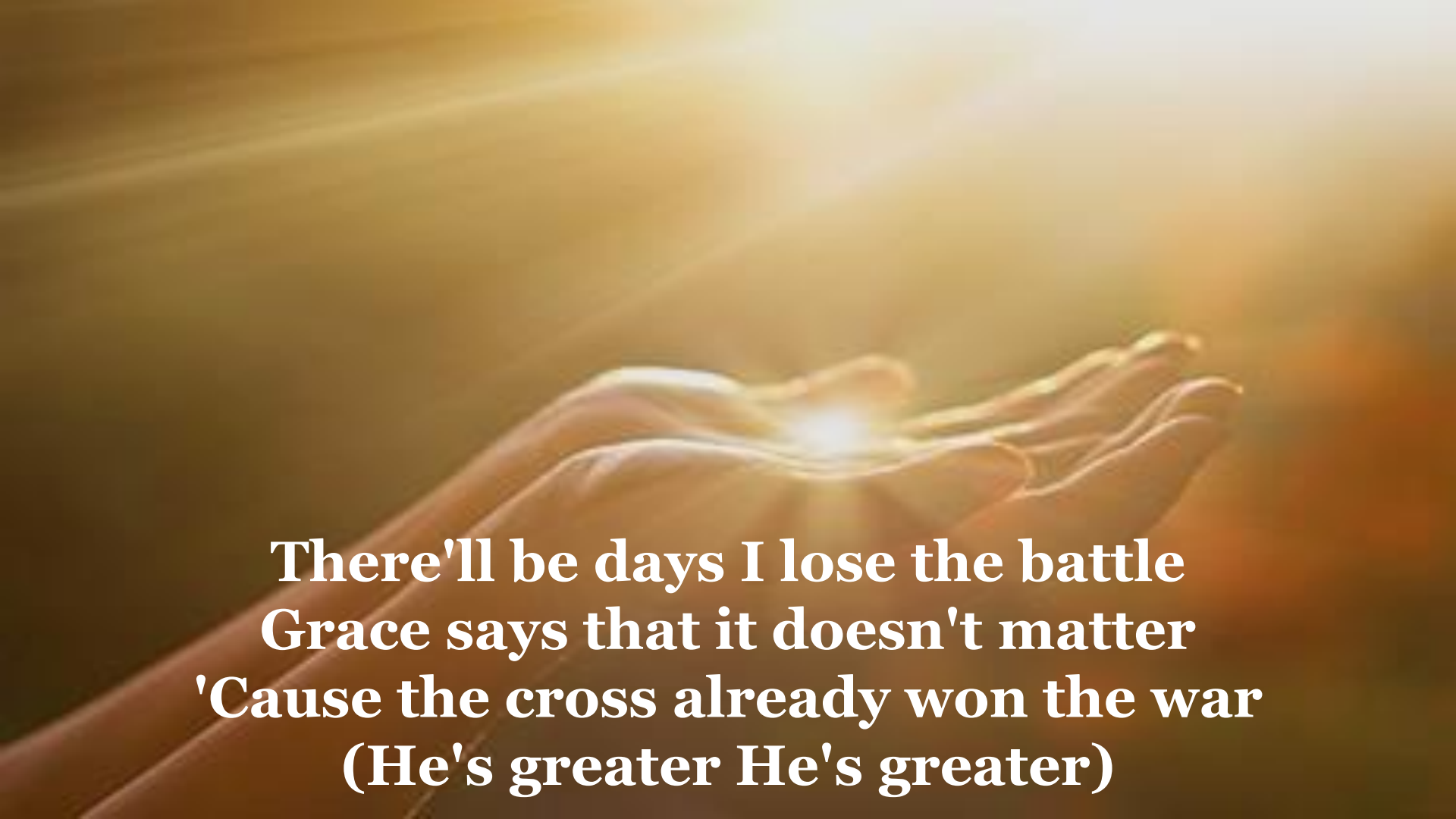
**'Cause I hear a voice and He calls me redeemed
When others say I'll never be enough**

A pair of hands is shown from the bottom left, cupping a bright, glowing light source. The background is a soft, golden-yellow gradient with light rays emanating from the top center, creating a warm and ethereal atmosphere. The hands are positioned as if holding something precious and delicate.

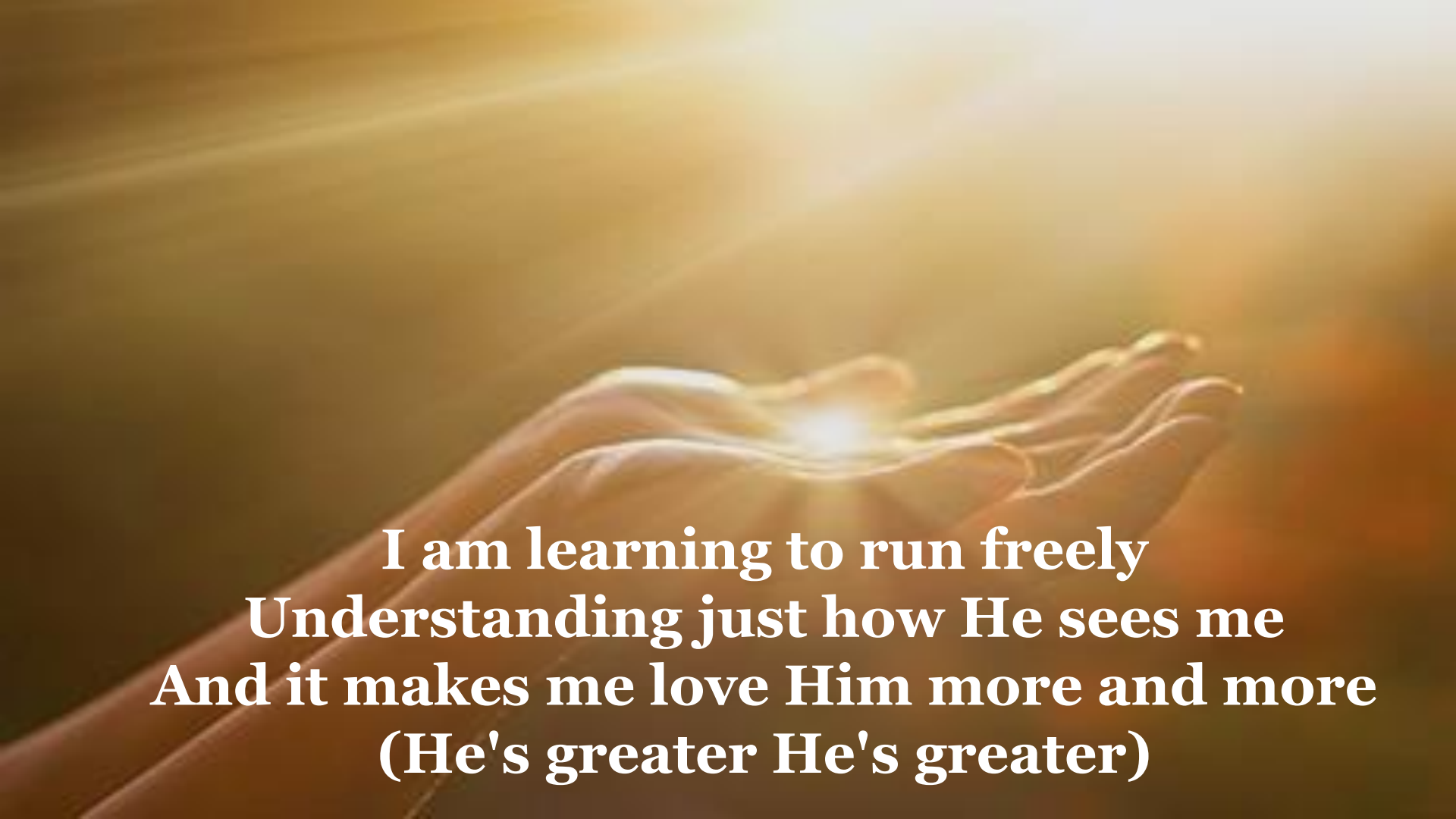
**And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world**

The image features two hands, palms up, cupped together in the center. A bright, glowing light emanates from the space between the hands, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a soft, golden-brown gradient with light rays filtering through, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is warm, hopeful, and spiritual.

**In the world in the world
And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world**

A pair of hands is shown cupped together, holding a bright, glowing light. The background is a warm, golden-brown gradient with soft, ethereal light rays emanating from the top, creating a sense of divine presence and hope. The hands are positioned in the lower half of the frame, with the light source centered between them.

**There'll be days I lose the battle
Grace says that it doesn't matter
'Cause the cross already won the war
(He's greater He's greater)**



**I am learning to run freely
Understanding just how He sees me
And it makes me love Him more and more
(He's greater He's greater)**



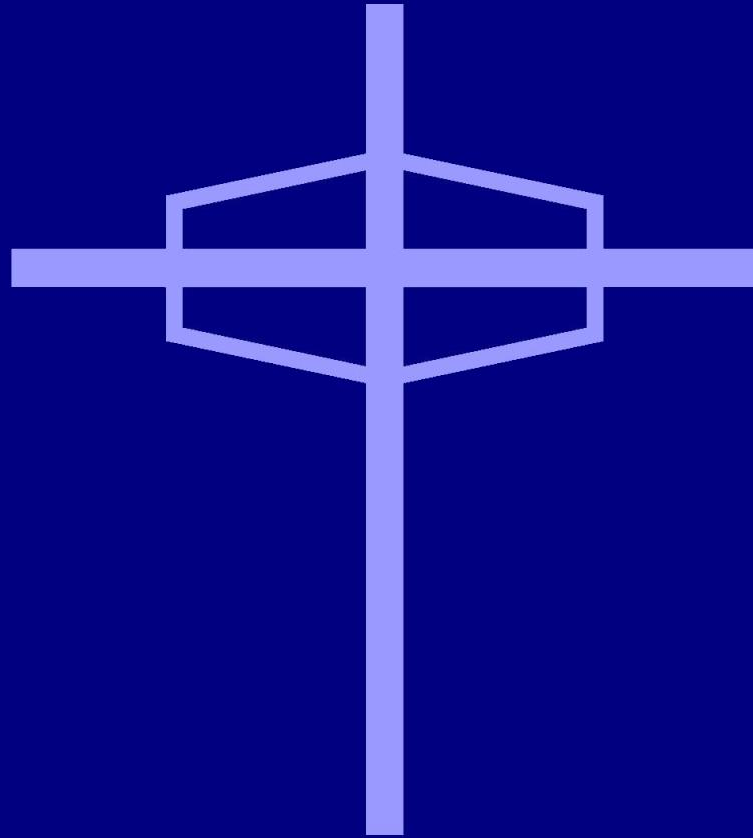
Than he who is living in the world

CCLI Song # 7020475

Barry Graul | Bart Millard | Ben Glover | David Garcia | Mike Scheuchzer | Nathan Cochran | Robby Shaffer
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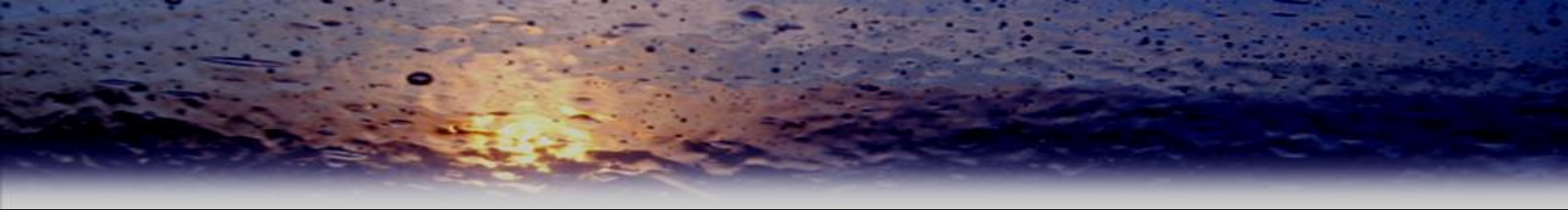
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Confession and Forgiveness

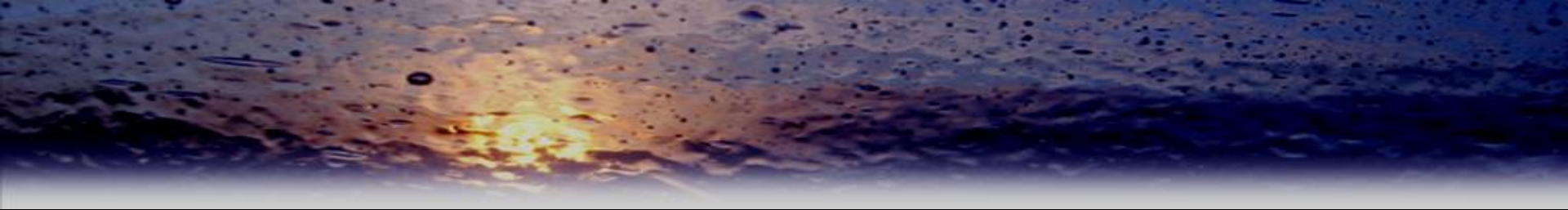
*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, creator of
darkness and light.*

C: Amen.



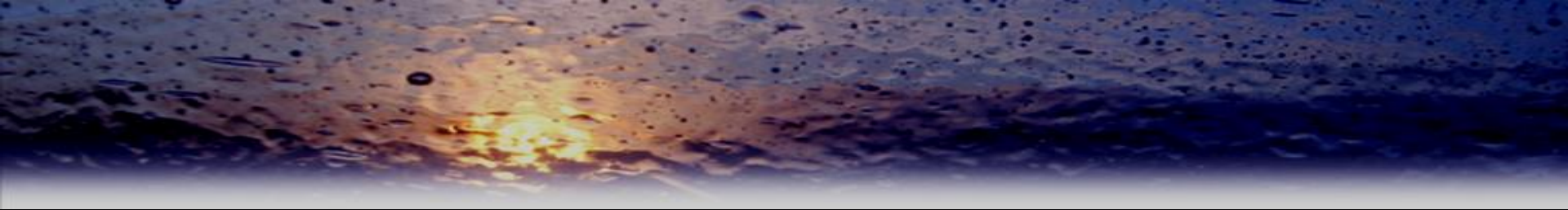
P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection



P: God, our rock and refuge,

C: We pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.



P: In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray:

C: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



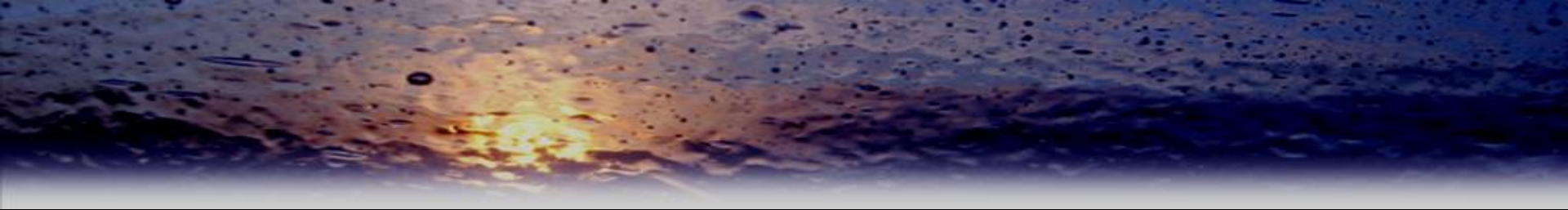
Children's Sermon

Presenter: Jenna Trenbeath



Reading

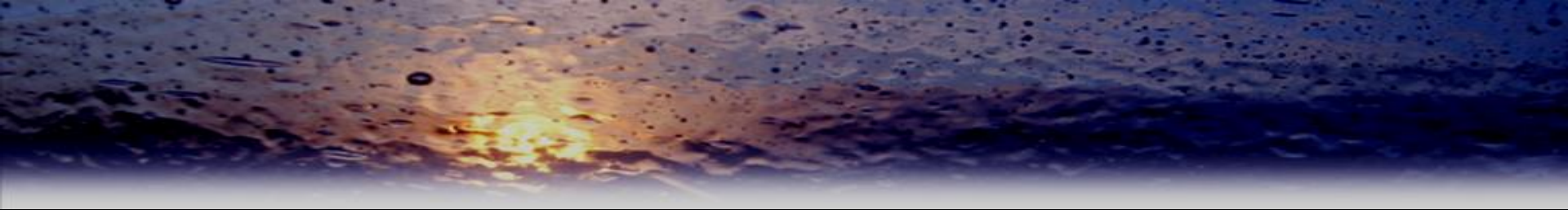
Acts 8:26-40



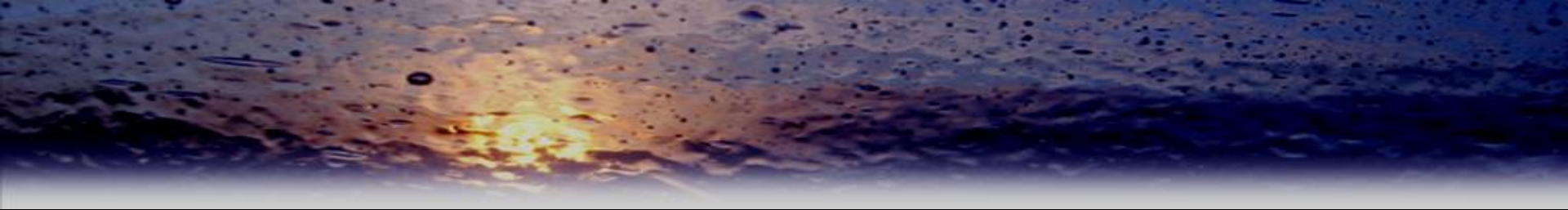
An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury.



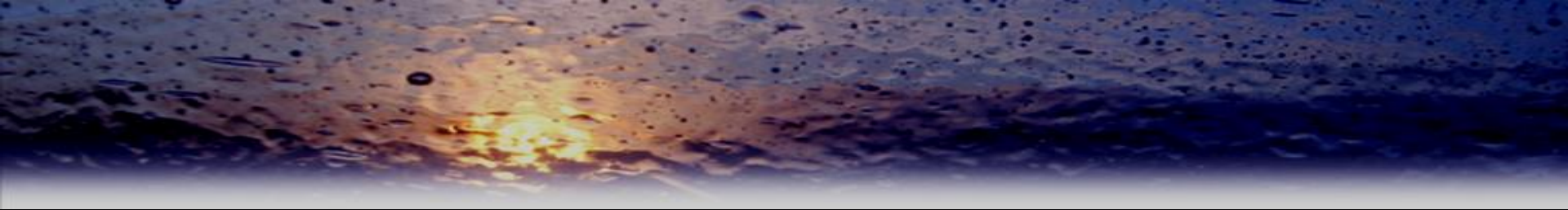
He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah.



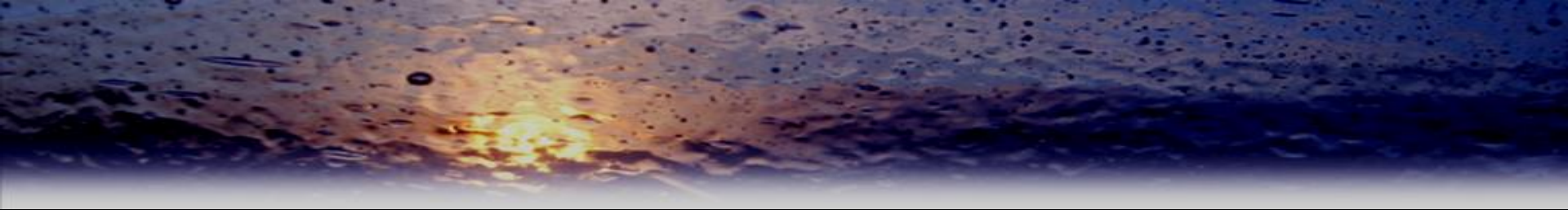
He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”
He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?”
And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now
the passage of the scripture that he was reading was
this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like
a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his
mouth.”



In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.



As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.



When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.



P: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Acclamation



**Alleluia Alleluia
For our Lord God
Almighty reigns
Alleluia Alleluia
For our Lord God
Almighty reigns**

Acclamation



**Alleluia holy
Holy are You Lord
God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb**

Acclamation



**You are holy
Holy are You
Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb Amen**



Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.



[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.



Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.



Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”



P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



Rite of Confirmation

Affirmation of Baptism:

**Davis Boehne
Owen Eslinger
Tiegan McGrath
Sophie Nelson
Peyton Stevens**

**Josie Burfeind
Finley Hove
Carolynn Mork
Olivia Powers
Stella Straka**



Rite of Confirmation

2024 Confirmands share

What My Church Means To Me

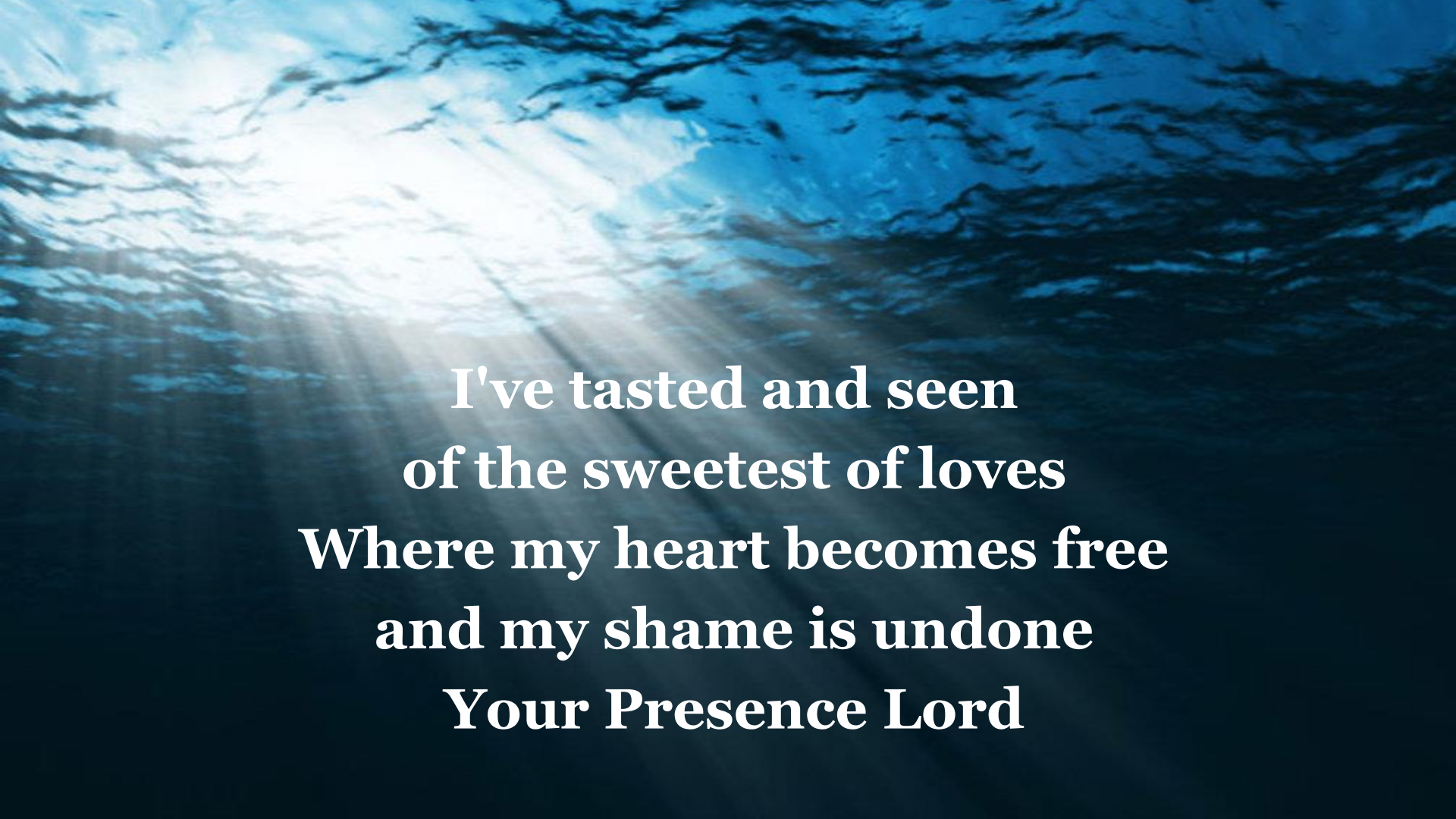
Offering

The background of the image is a deep space scene. On the left side, there is a prominent nebula with a mix of blue and reddish-pink hues, filled with numerous small, bright stars. The rest of the background is a dark, deep blue, also filled with a field of small, distant stars. In the center of the image, there is a large, diamond-shaped (rhombus) pattern composed of many concentric, parallel lines. These lines are a slightly lighter shade of blue than the background, creating a sense of depth and focus towards the center.

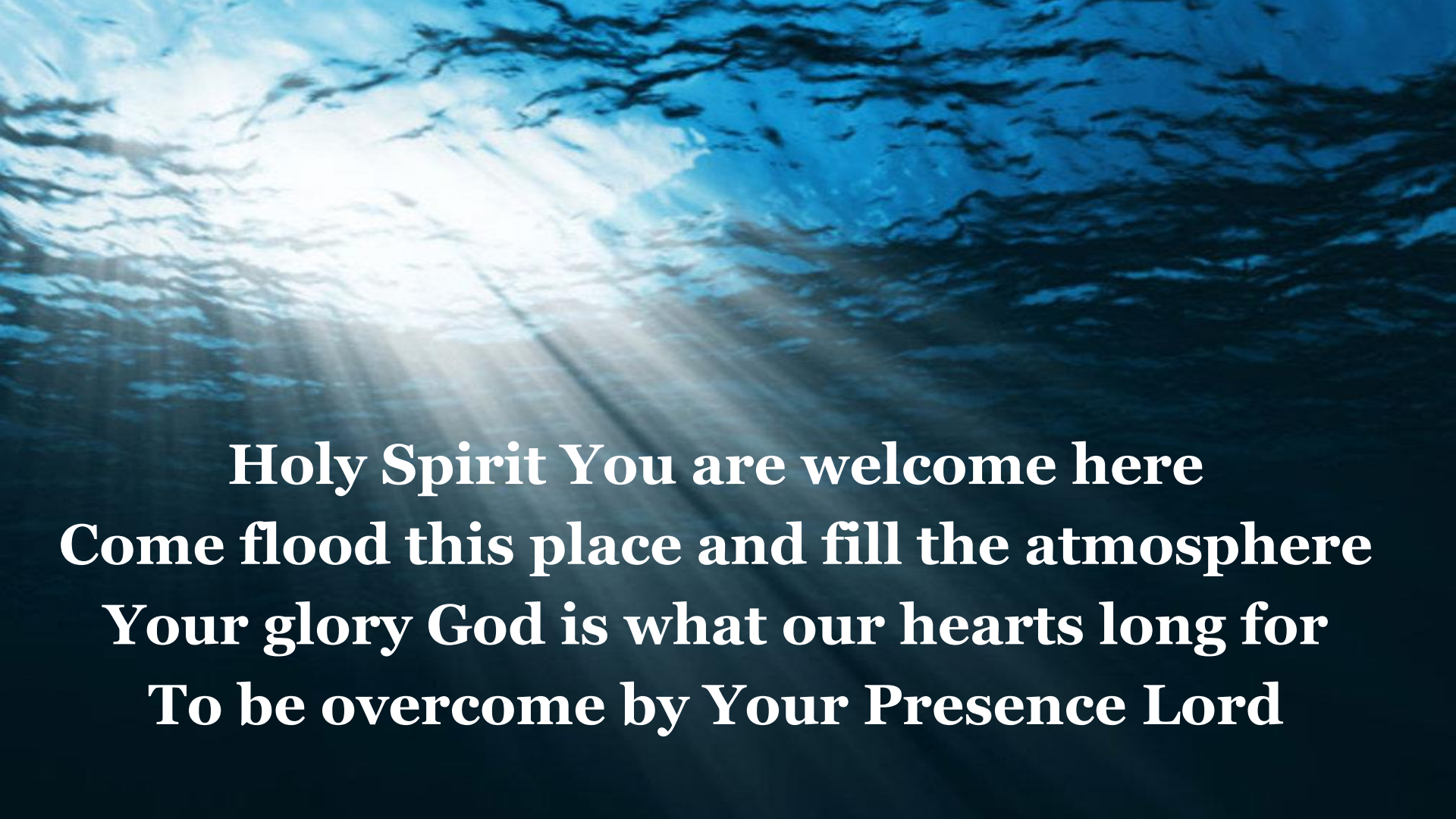
An underwater scene with sunlight rays filtering through the water surface, creating a bright, ethereal atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays create a sense of depth and tranquility.

Holy Spirit

**There's nothing worth more
that will ever come close
No thing can compare
You're our living hope
Your Presence Lord**

An underwater photograph showing sunlight rays filtering through the surface of the water, creating a serene and ethereal atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays are bright and clear, creating a sense of depth and tranquility.

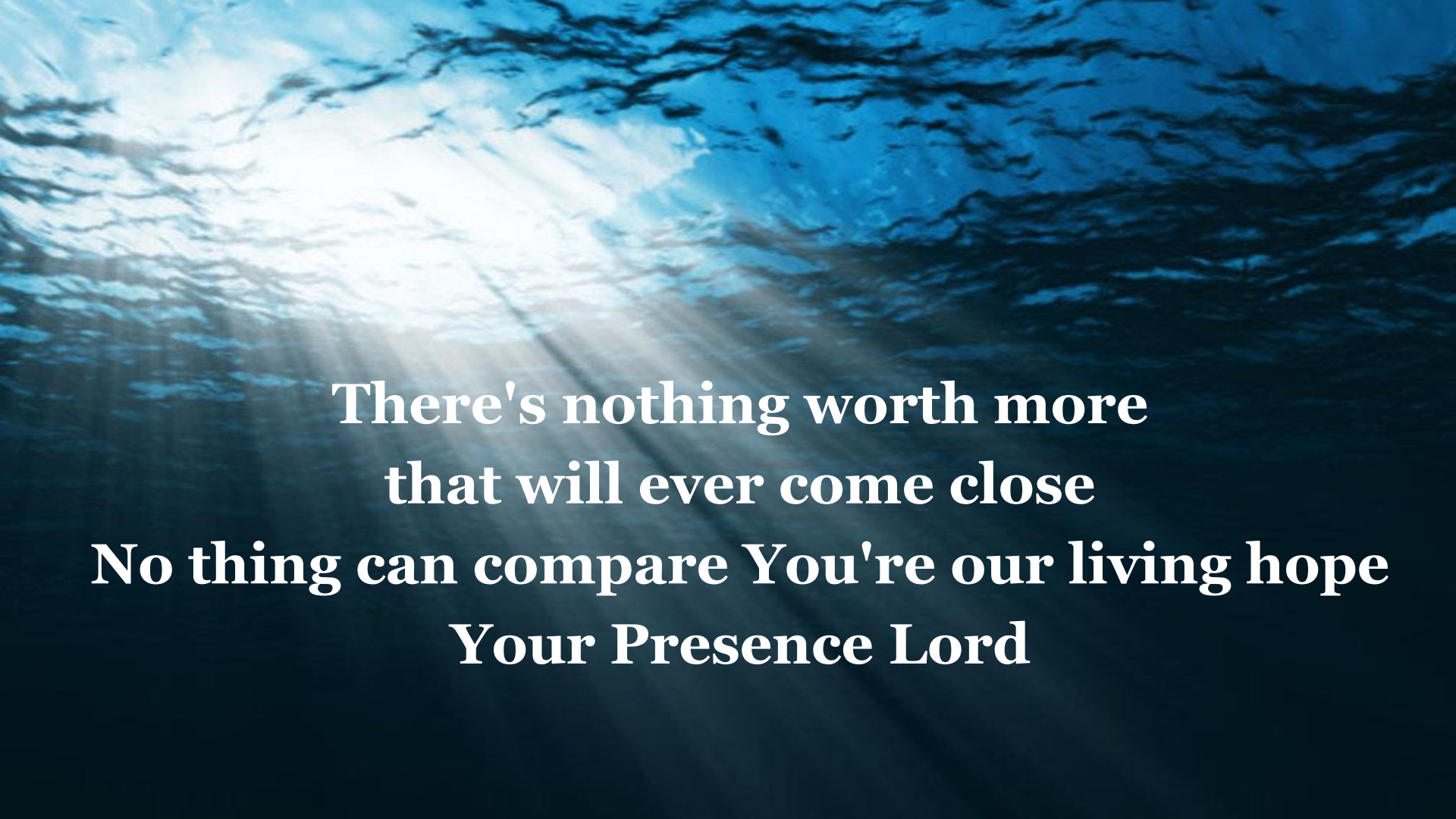
**I've tasted and seen
of the sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free
and my shame is undone
Your Presence Lord**

An underwater photograph showing sunlight rays filtering through the water surface, creating a bright, ethereal atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays are clearly visible as they descend from the surface.

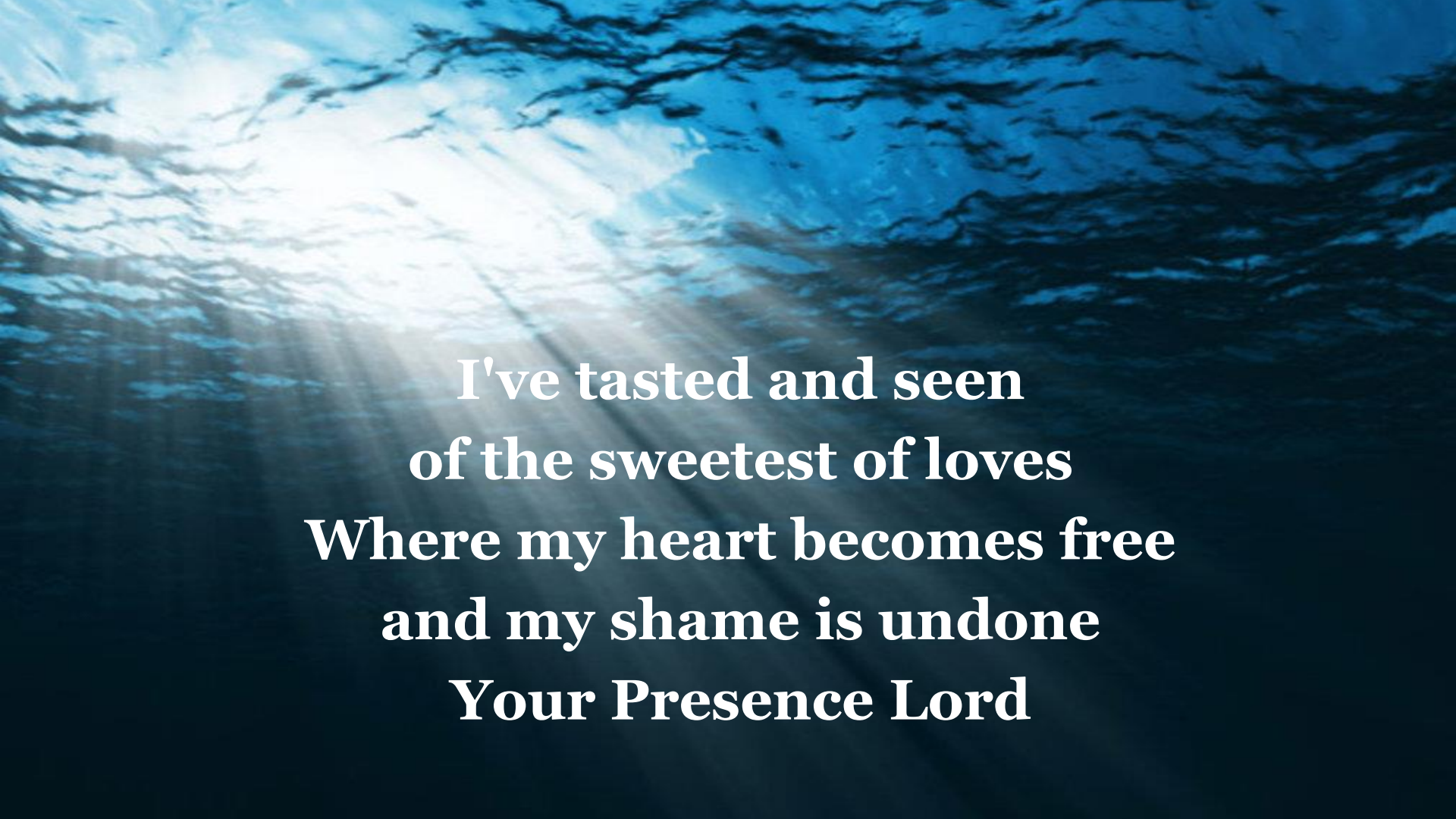
**Holy Spirit You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere
Your glory God is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord**



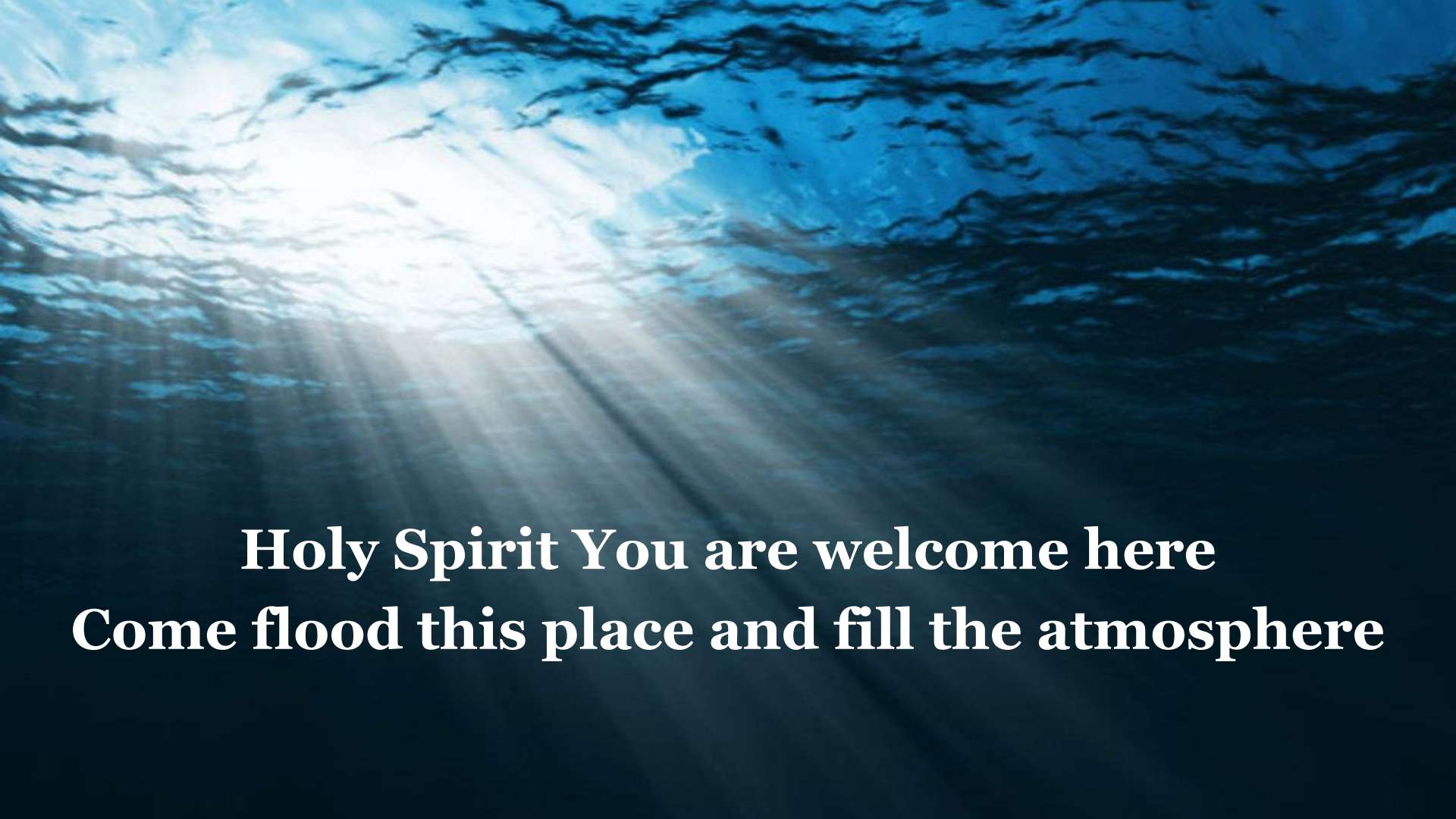
Your Presence Lord

An underwater photograph showing sunlight rays filtering through the surface of the water, creating a serene and hopeful atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays are bright and clear, illuminating the scene from the top left.

**There's nothing worth more
that will ever come close
No thing can compare You're our living hope
Your Presence Lord**

An underwater photograph showing sunlight rays filtering through the water surface, creating a bright, shimmering effect. The water is a deep blue color, and the light rays create a sense of depth and tranquility.

**I've tasted and seen
of the sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free
and my shame is undone
Your Presence Lord**

An underwater photograph showing sunlight rays filtering through the water surface, creating a dramatic and serene atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays are bright and clear, creating a sense of depth and tranquility.

**Holy Spirit You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere**

An underwater photograph showing sunlight rays filtering through the water surface, creating a dramatic and serene atmosphere. The water is a deep blue, and the light rays are bright and clear, creating a sense of depth and tranquility.

**Your glory God is
what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord**



Your Presence Lord



**Let us become more aware of Your Presence
Let us experience the glory of Your Goodness**



**Let us become more aware of Your Presence
Let us experience the glory of Your Goodness**



Let us become more aware of Your Presence
Let us experience the glory of Your Goodness



**Holy Spirit You are welcome here
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere**



**Your glory God is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord**

CCLI Song # 6087919

Bryan Torwalt | Katie Torwalt

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Prayers

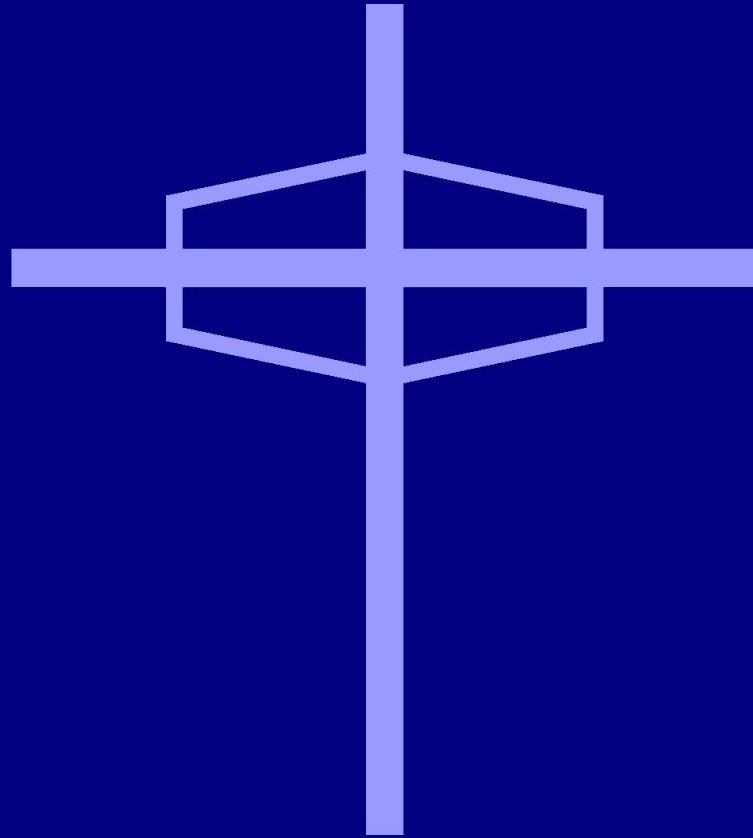
A serene landscape featuring a calm lake that perfectly reflects the surrounding environment. In the background, misty mountains rise, their peaks softened by a light haze. The shoreline is lined with a dense forest of evergreen trees. The overall color palette is a mix of soft blues, greens, and greys, creating a peaceful and contemplative atmosphere.

P: Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

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
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 and ever.
Amen.**



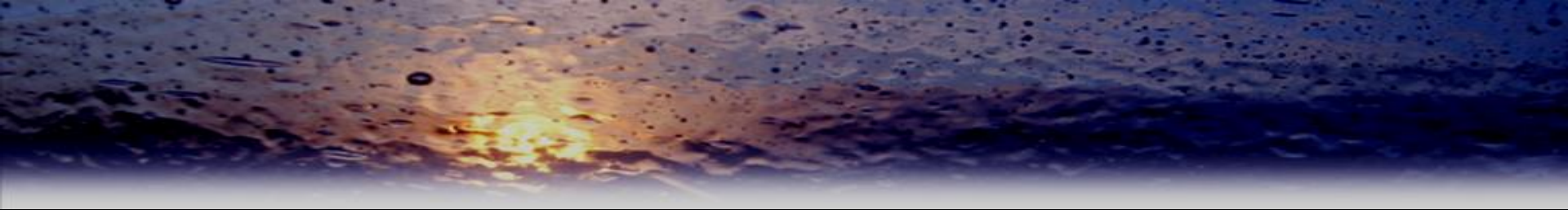


Thanksgiving at the end of a call for Pastor Christine

Aaron Van Hout, Council President

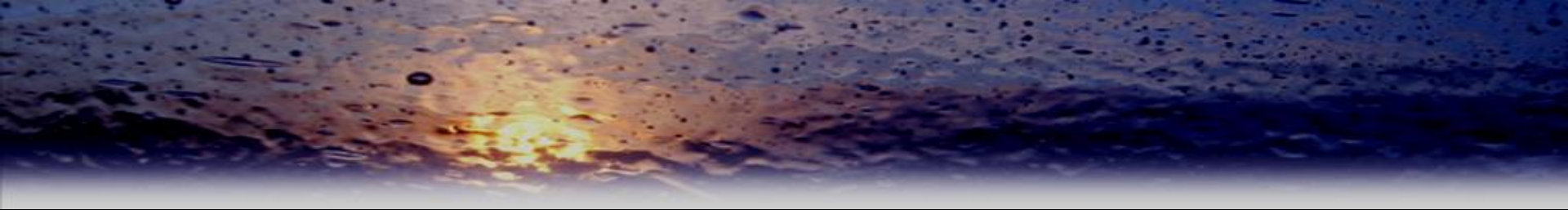
Aaron: People of God, members of Community of the Cross Church, do you release Pastor Christine from service as your pastor?

C: We do, and give thanks to God for our ministry together.



Aaron: Pastor Christine, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with Community of the Cross Church?

Christine: I do, and give thanks to God for our ministry together.



P: The lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Live Like That

Sometimes I think
What will people say of me
When I'm only just a memory
When I'm home where my soul belongs



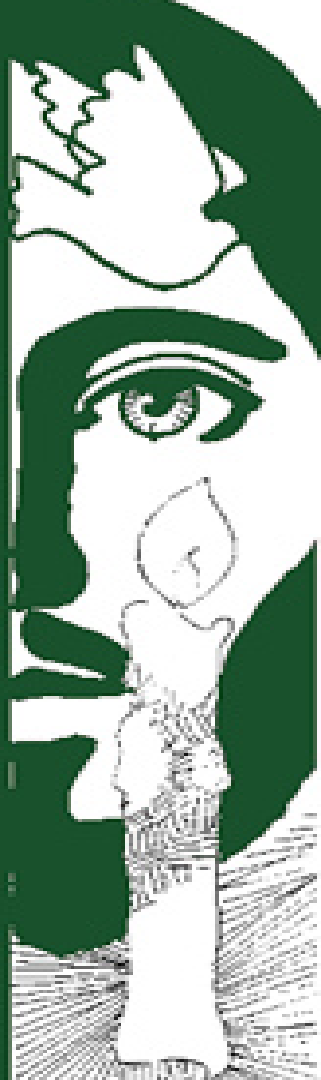
**Was I love
When no one else would show up
Was I Jesus to the least of us
Was my worship more than just a song**



**I wanna live like that
And give it all I have
So that everything I say and do
Points to You**



**If love is who I am
Then this is where I stand
Recklessly abandoned
Never holding back
I wanna live like that**



**Am I proof
That You are who You say you are
That grace can really change your heart
Do I live like Your love is true**



**People pass
And even if they don't know my name
Is there evidence that I've been changed
When they see me do they see You**



**I wanna live like that
And give it all I have
So that everything I say and do
Points to You**



**If love is who I am
Then this is where I stand
Recklessly abandoned
Never holding back
I wanna live like that**



**I wanna show the world the love
He gave for me
(I wanna live like that)
I'm longing for the world to know
The glory of the King**



**I wanna live like that
And give it all I have
So that everything I say and do
Points to You**



**If love is who I am
Then this is where I stand
Recklessly abandoned
Never holding back
I wanna live like that**

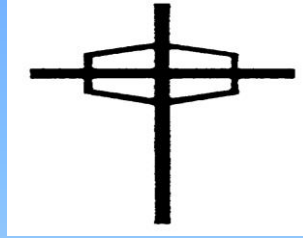


**I wanna live like that
I wanna live like that**

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Touching Lives



with the

Love of God

P: Go in Peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God.