

A terracotta sculpture of a man sitting and holding a child. The man is depicted from the waist up, seated on a low, rounded base. He has a short, curly beard and is looking down at the child he is holding. The child is seated on the man's lap, facing him. The sculpture is made of a reddish-brown material and is set against a plain, light-colored background.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60 • Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 • 1 Peter 2:2-10 • John 14:1-14

Territorial Acknowledgement

In this holy time and place, we acknowledge with respect that we gather on the traditional, ancestral territories of the Abenaki and Mohawk first peoples.

May the living Christ lead us always on pathways of reconciliation and peace.



On this Mother's Day, we give thanks to God for the divine gift of motherhood in all its diverse forms.

Let us pray for all the mothers among us today; for our own mothers, those living and those who have passed away; for the mothers who loved us and for those who fell short of loving us fully; for all who hope to be mothers some day and for those whose hope to have children has been frustrated; for all mothers who have lost children; for all women and men who have mothered others in any way—those who have been our substitute mothers and we who have done so for those in need; for the earth that bore us and provides our sustenance. We pray this all in the name of God, our great and loving Mother. Amen.

– from *Women's Common Prayers: Our Lives Revealed, Nurtured, Celebrated*
(Morehouse Publishing, 2000)



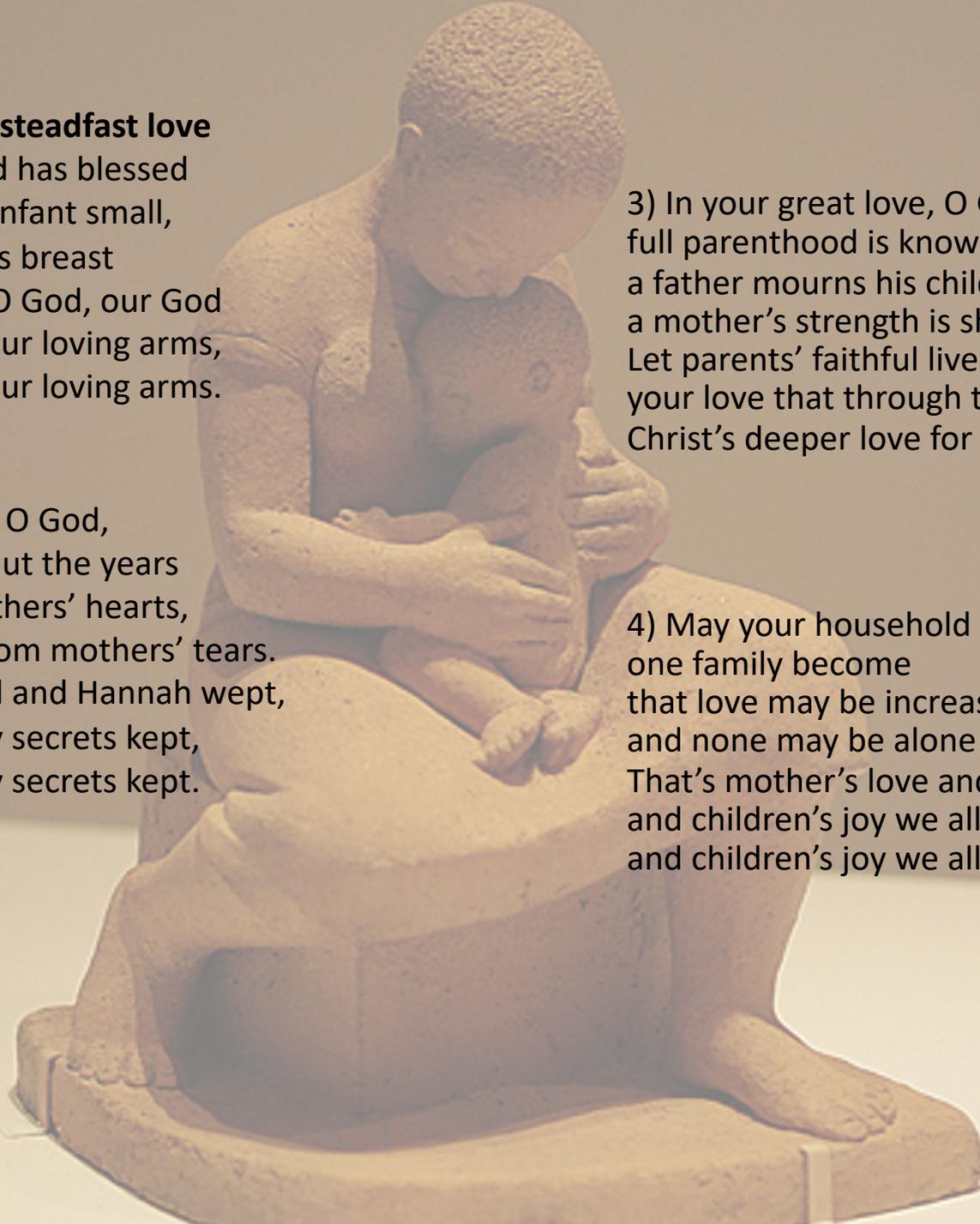
1) O God whose steadfast love

true motherhood has blessed
who shields the infant small,
upon its mother's breast
Embrace us too O God, our God
and hold us in your loving arms,
and hold us in your loving arms.

2) Your promises O God,
so sure throughout the years
have lived in mothers' hearts,
have bloomed from mothers' tears.
So Sarah laughed and Hannah wept,
and singing Mary secrets kept,
and singing Mary secrets kept.

3) In your great love, O God,
full parenthood is known:
a father mourns his child,
a mother's strength is shown.
Let parents' faithful lives unbind
your love that through them we might find
Christ's deeper love for humankind.

4) May your household of faith
one family become
that love may be increased
and none may be alone
That's mother's love and father's care
and children's joy we all may share,
and children's joy we all may share.



Morning Worship

O Lord, open our lips,
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will
be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

Venite *Psalm 95.1–7*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our
salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with
thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him
with psalms.**

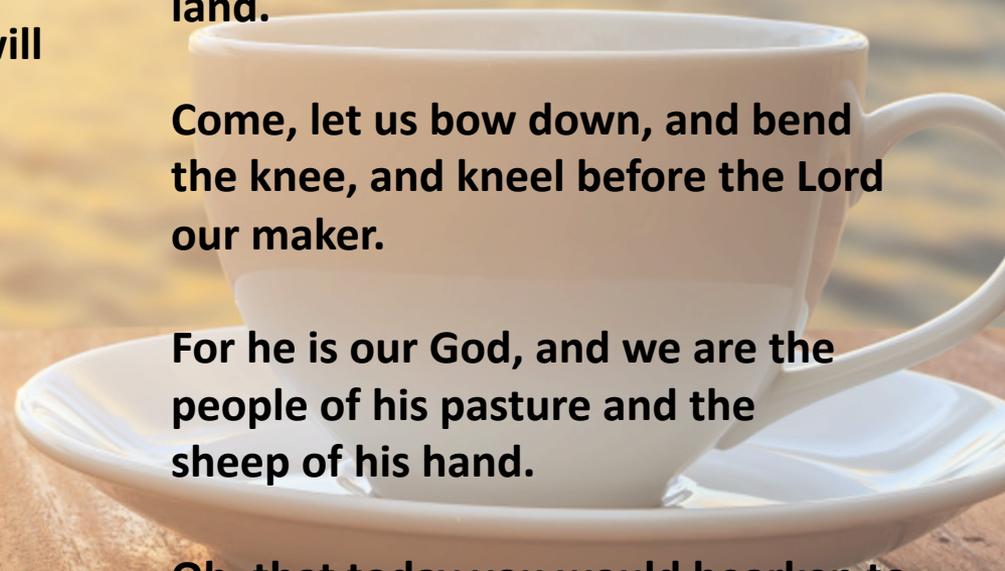
**For the Lord is a great God,
and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the
earth, and the heights of the hills are
his also.**

**The sea is his for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry
land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend
the knee, and kneel before the Lord
our maker.**

**For he is our God, and we are the
people of his pasture and the
sheep of his hand.**

**Oh, that today you would hearken to
his voice!**



Our Collect

O God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see
the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go forward with good
courage, not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(by Eric Milner-White, 1884-1963)



The Stoning of Stephen

Acts 7:54-60

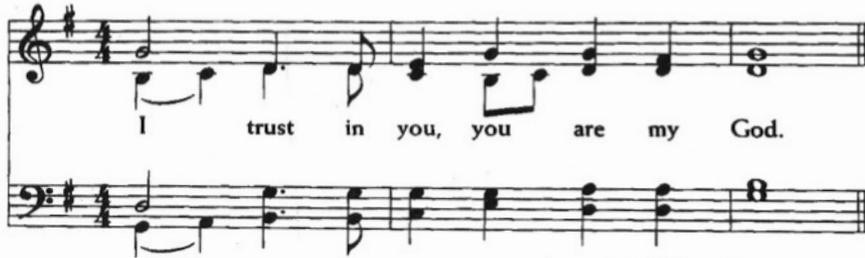
When the crowd heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.



Psalm 31

Refrain

La Scala Santa, Ireland 1681
arr. Erik Routley 1985



Arrangement copyright © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

In you, O God, I have taken refuge, let me never be put to shame.

**Deliver me in your righteousness,
 incline your ear, come quickly to my rescue. (Refrain)**

Be my rock of refuge a stronghold to keep me safe.

**You are indeed my rock and fortress,
 lead me and guide me for your own name's sake.**

Release me from the net that they have hid for me, for you are my protector.

**Into your hands I commend my spirit,
 for you have redeemed me, O God of truth. (Refrain)**

My times are in your hands,

deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.

**Let your face shine on your servant,
 and save me, for your mercy's sake. (Refrain)**



Jesus the Cornerstone

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation- if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.



Alleluia!

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast, Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. **Alleluia!**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So also consider yourselves dead to sin, and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alleluia!

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Alleluia!

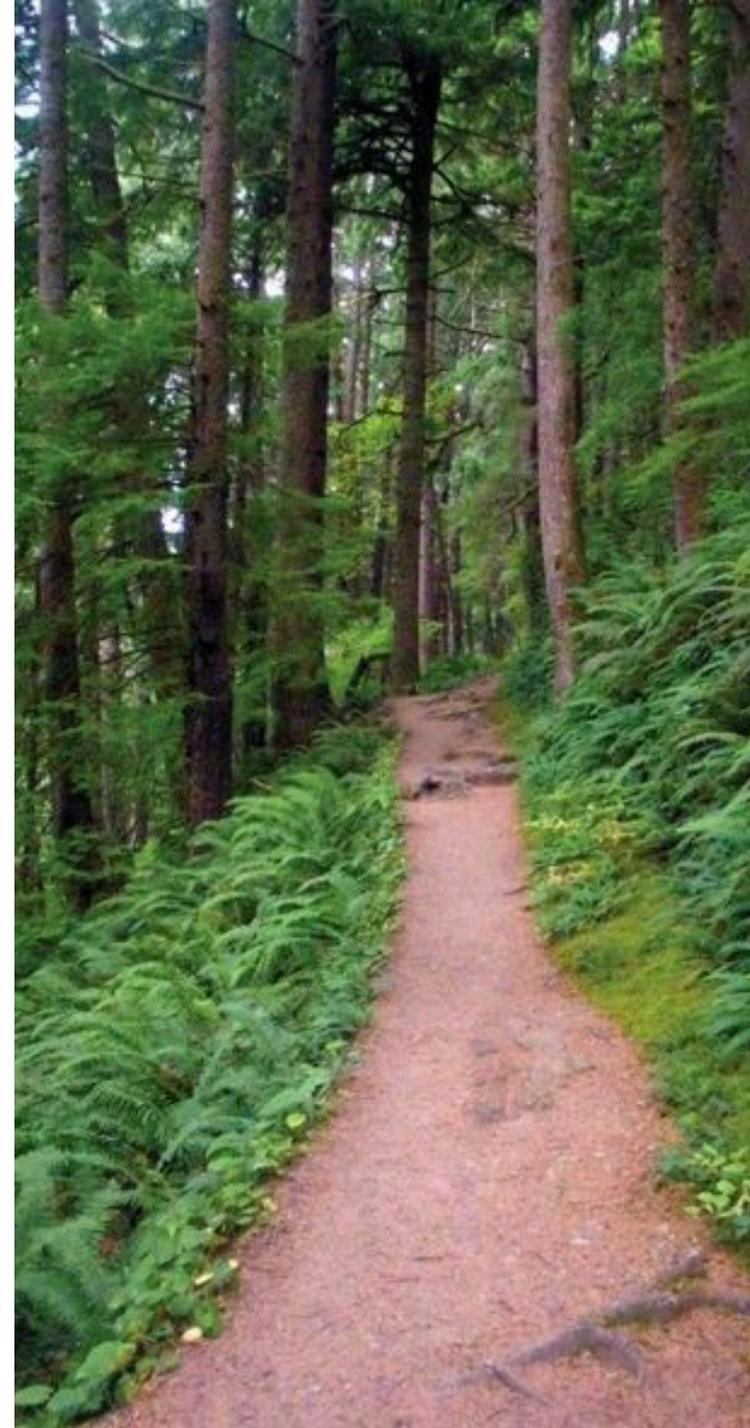


The Way, the Truth and the Life

John 14:1-14

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.





**Sermon by The Rev.
Tyson L. Røsberg**

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

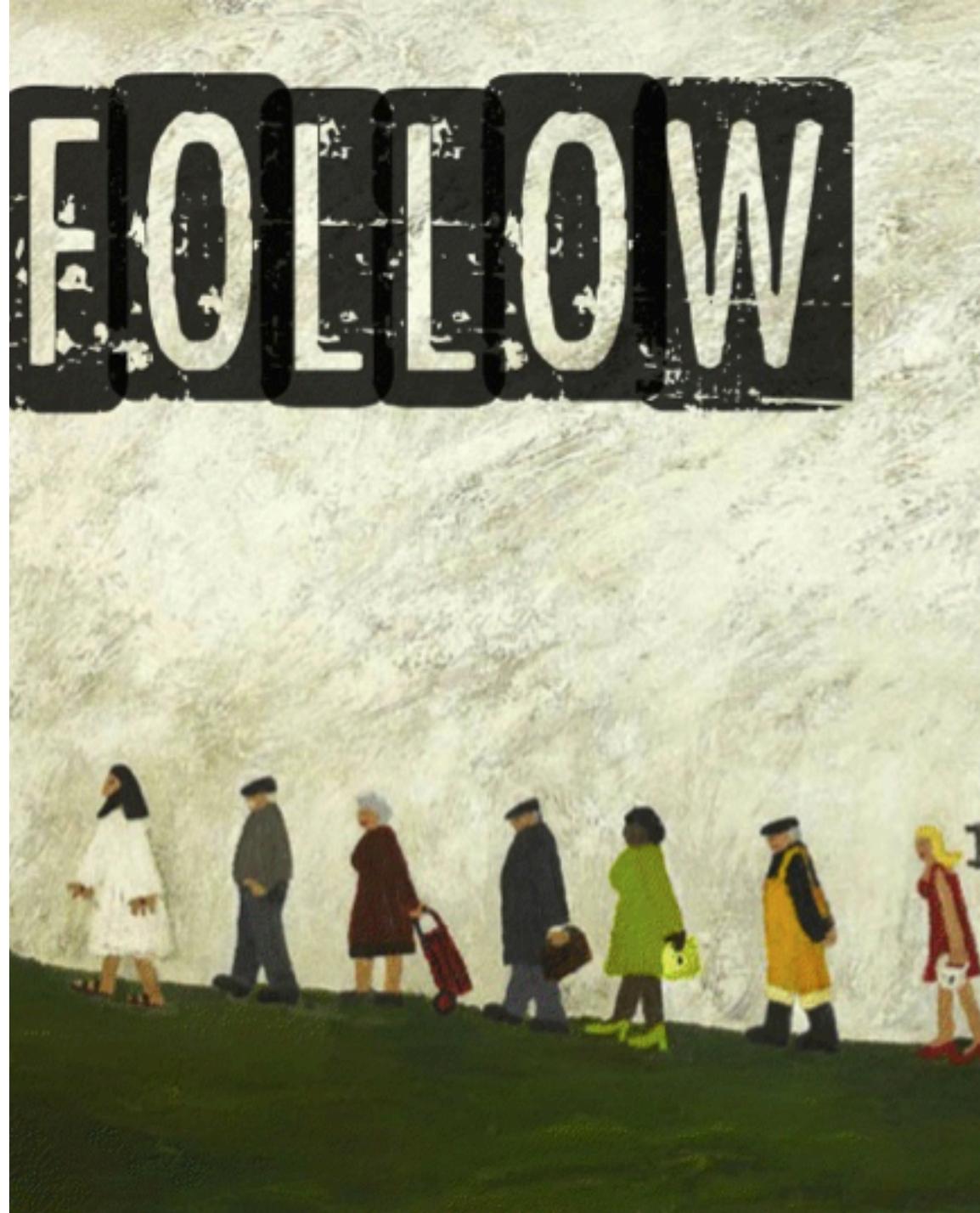
How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!

It soothes our sorrow, heals our
wounds,
and drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole
and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul,
and to the weary rest.

Dear name the rock on which I build
my shield and hiding place,
my never-failing treasury filled
with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus my shepherd, brother, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.



Affirmation of Faith

(from the Prayer Book of New Zealand)

You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel
in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.



A high-angle, close-up photograph of a group of people's hands clasped together in prayer. The hands are arranged in a circle on a dark, rustic wooden table. The lighting is warm and focused on the hands, creating a sense of unity and solemnity. The people are wearing various clothing, including a white shirt, a blue patterned shirt, a light green shirt, and a blue checkered shirt. One person has a gold ring on their finger, and another has a silver watch. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy/
Hear our Prayer

Seigneur en ta tendresse/
Ecoute nos prières

The Prayer of Jesus

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

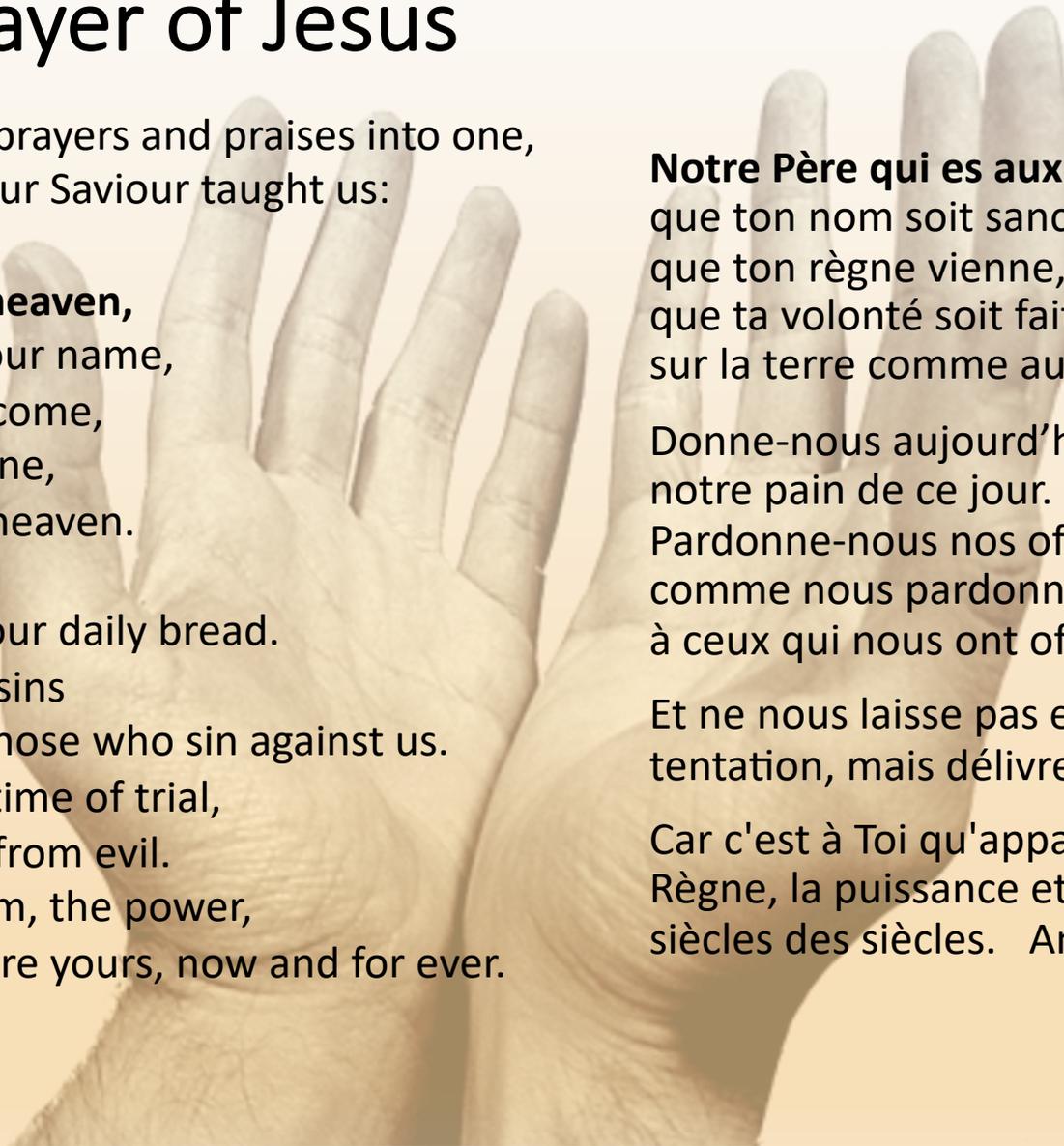
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen

Notre Père qui es aux cieux,
que ton nom soit sanctifié,
que ton règne vienne,
que ta volonté soit faite
sur la terre comme au ciel.

Donne-nous aujourd'hui
notre pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,
comme nous pardonnons aussi
à ceux qui nous ont offensés.

Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en
tentation, mais délivre-nous du Mal.

Car c'est à Toi qu'appartiennent le
Règne, la puissance et la gloire aux
siècles des siècles. Amen.



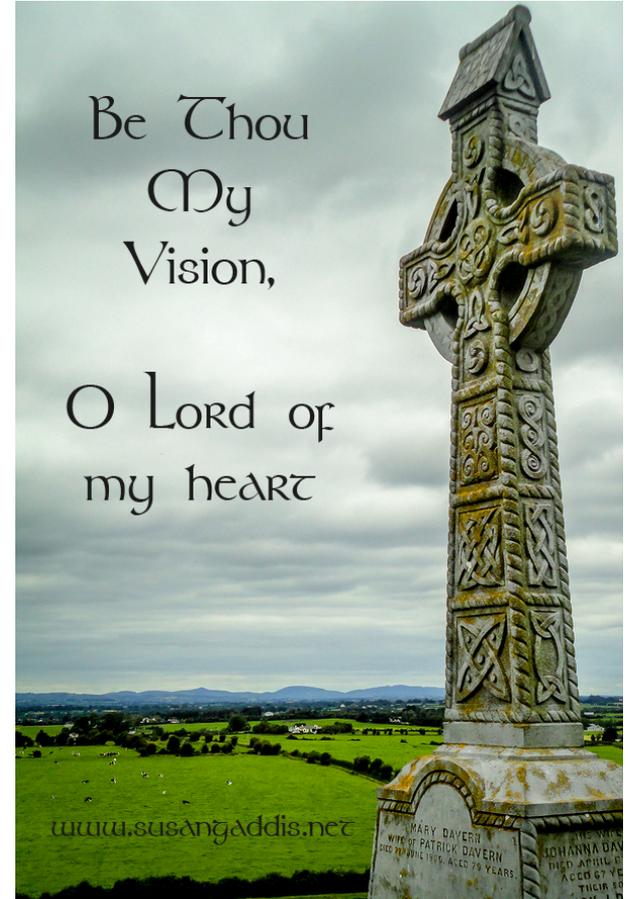
Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art,
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not,
nor the world's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.



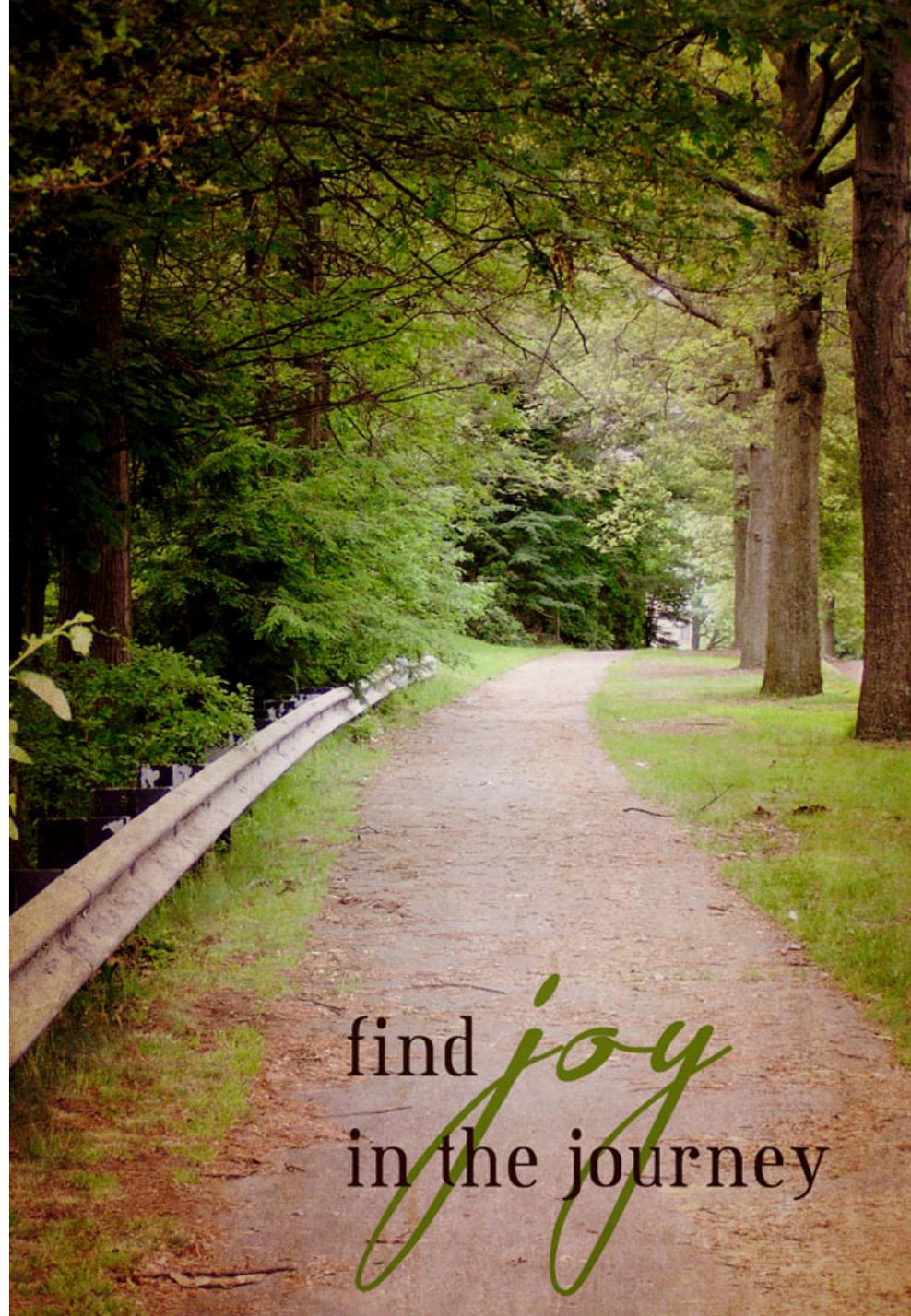
Closing Prayer

Bless to me O God
The earth beneath my feet.

Bless to me O God,
The path on which I go.

Bless to me O God,
The People whom I meet.

O God of all gods,
bless to me my life.



find *joy*
in the journey

Mother and Child

Elizabeth Catlett, Museum of
Modern Art, New York

