

# Welcome to Chapel

don't  
give up  
because  
GOD's  
love and glory  
is always  
there  
and  
will never  
EVER  
fail  
you

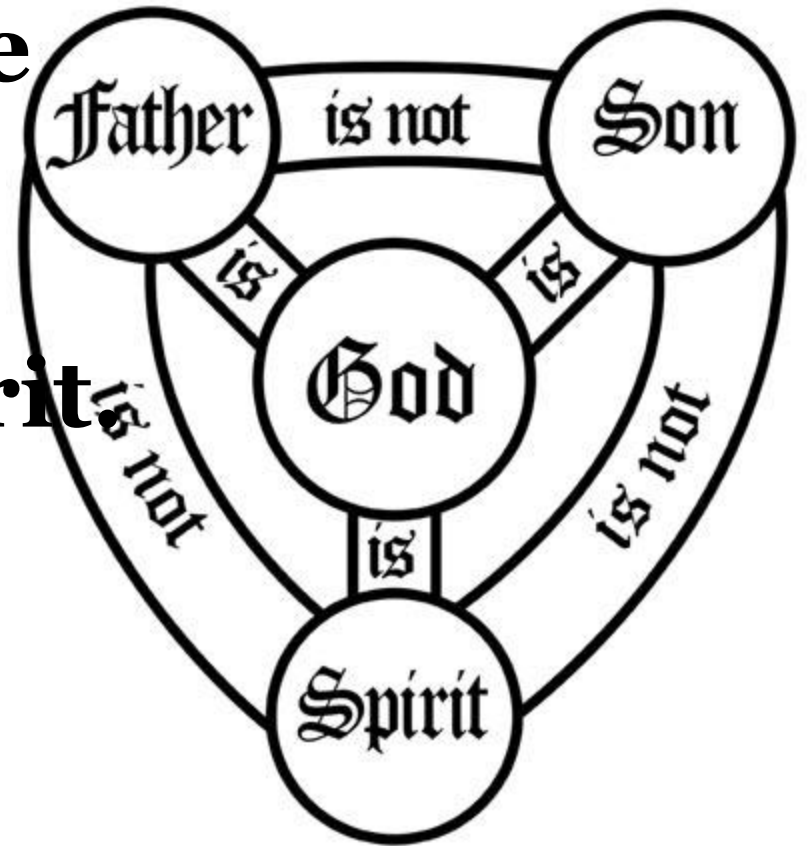


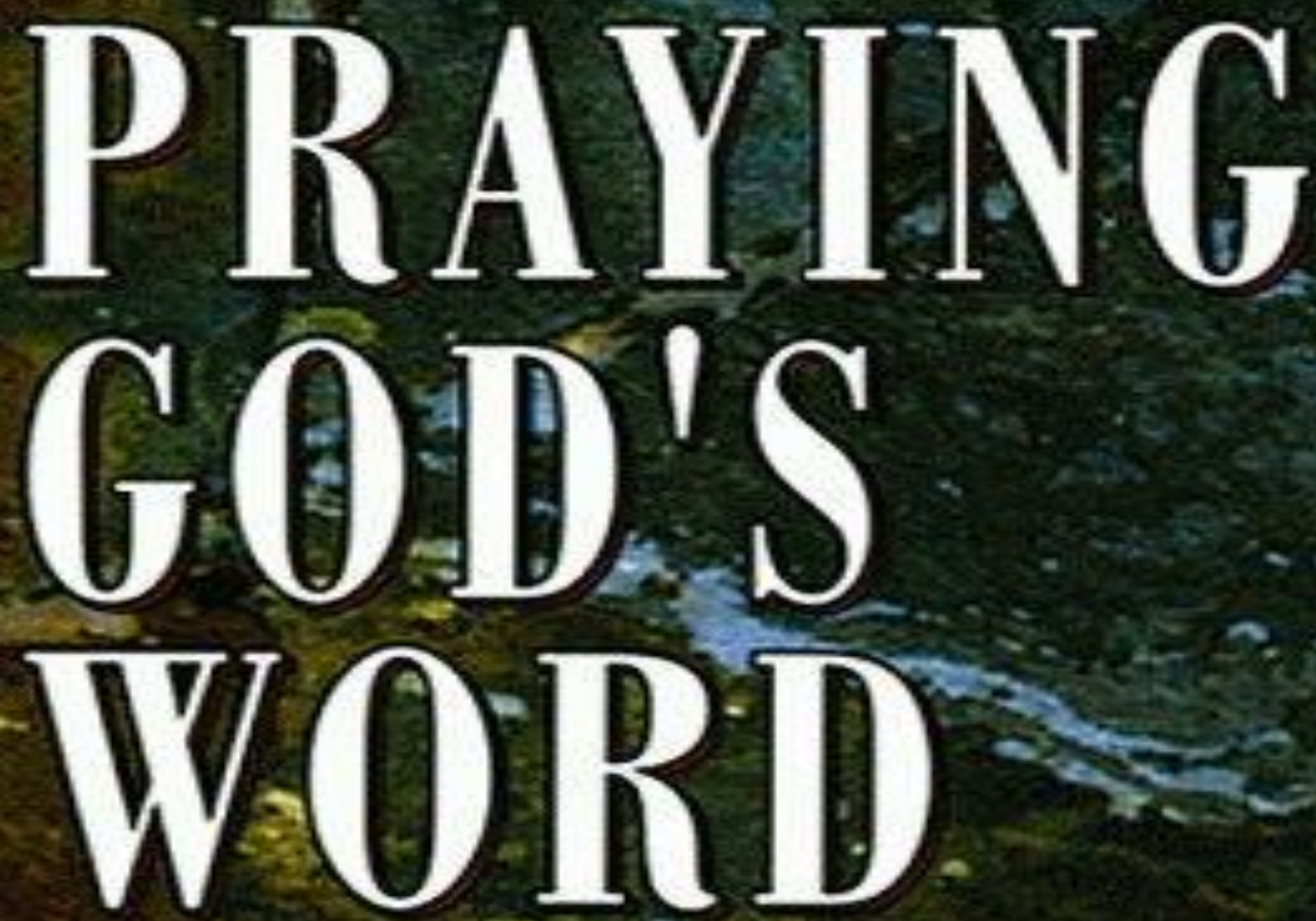
ruel.me

# Please stand for the invocation

**Leader: In the name  
of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit**

**Saints: Amen.**





PRAYING  
GOD'S  
WORD

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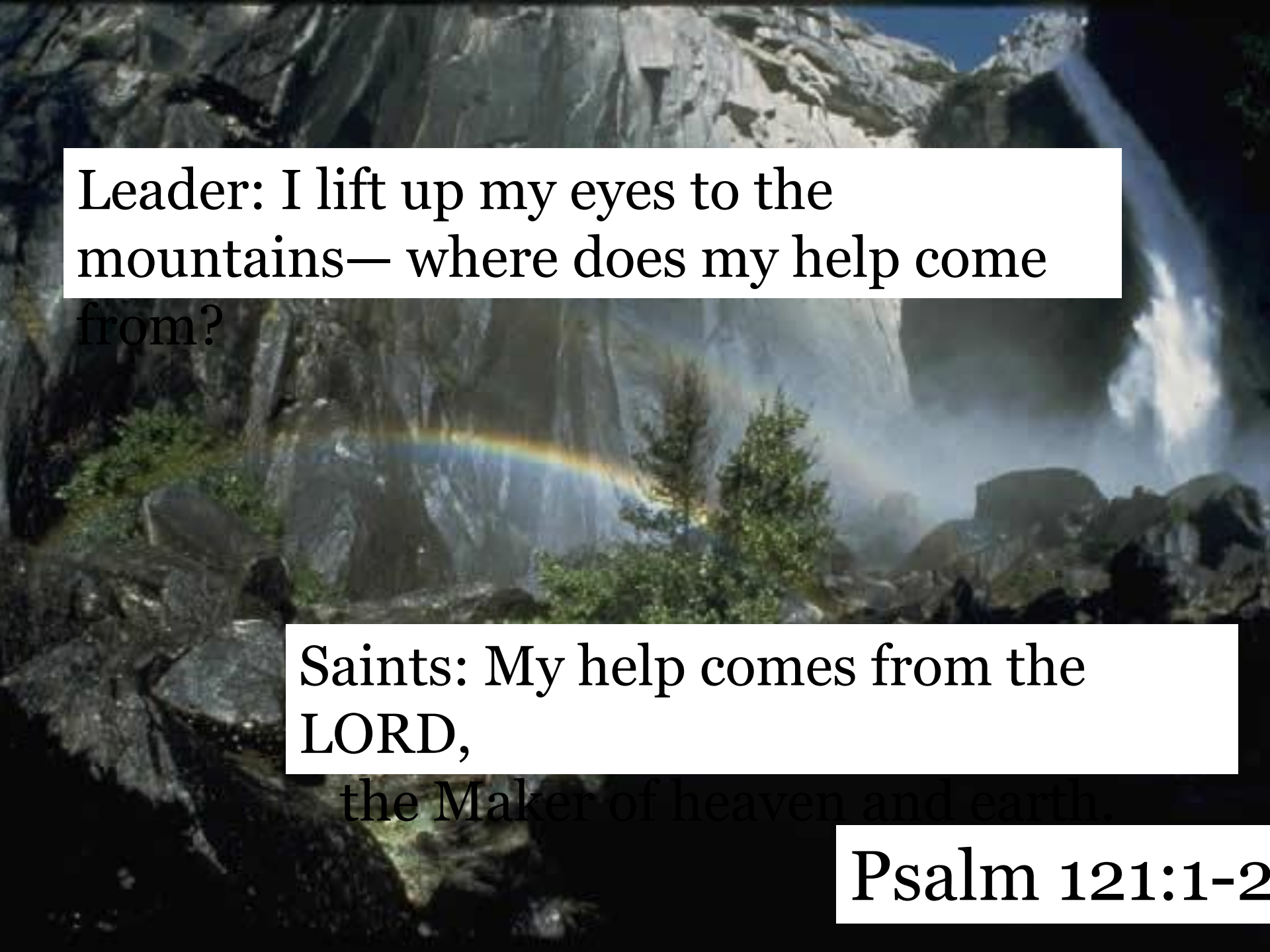


Leader: I love you, LORD, my strength.

**Saints: The LORD is my rock, my fortress and  
deliverer; my God is my rock,  
in whom I take refuge,  
my shield and the horn of my salvation  
my stronghold**

**Psalm 18:1-2**



A dramatic mountain landscape with a rainbow and a waterfall. The scene features steep, rocky cliffs, a vibrant rainbow arching across the middle ground, and a waterfall cascading down the right side. The sky is filled with dark, moody clouds, and the overall atmosphere is majestic and awe-inspiring.

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the  
mountains— where does my help come  
from?

Saints: My help comes from the  
**LORD,**  
the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1-2

**Leader: Lord, we get stressed with the pressures of school.**

**Saints: But you tell us, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”**




**Philippians 4:6**



**Leader: We are hard pressed on every side, but we are not crushed or defeated.**

**Saints: LORD, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me.**

**2 Corinthians 4: 8, Psalm 22**



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

**Leader: Lord, we know people with cancer.**

**Saints: We know people who have had surgeries,  
or will have surgeries.**

**Leader: Lord, we have lost loved ones,  
or know people who have.**

**Saints: We sometimes don't understand why we s**

**All: But we know that you have promised  
to work all things for good for  
those who love you,  
who you have called  
for your purposes.**

**Amen!**

*Romans 8:28*



**WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER,  
ATTENDETH MY WAY;  
WHEN SORROWS LIKE SEA  
BILLOWS ROLL**

**WHATEVER MY LOT, THOU HAS  
TAUGHT ME TO SAY,  
IT IS WELL, IT IS WELL WITH  
MY SOUL!**

**Though Satan should buffet,  
though trials should come,**

**Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul!**





**It is well (*it is well*),  
with my soul (*with my soul*)**

**It is well, it is well  
with my soul!**



**He lives! Oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;**

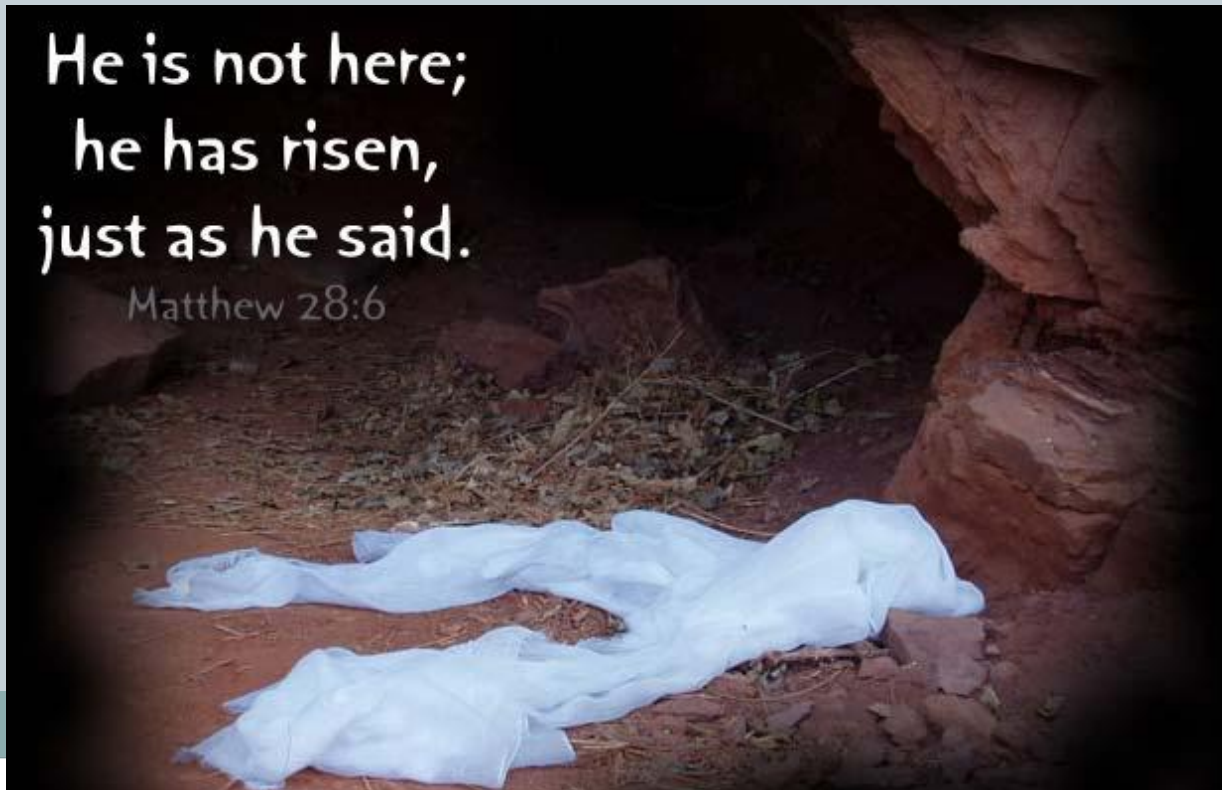
**My sin, not in part, but the whole,**

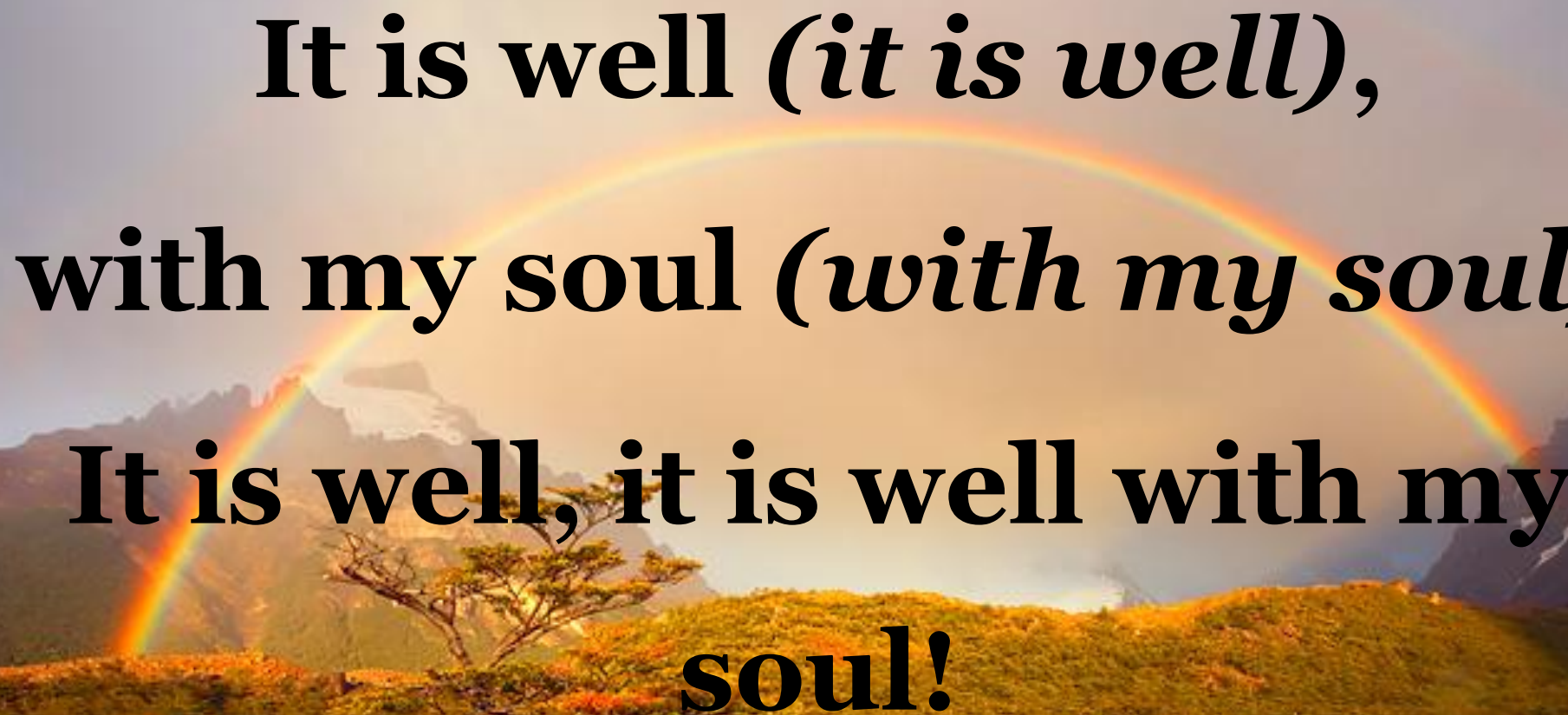
**Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!**

**He is not here;  
he has risen,  
just as he said.**

*Matthew 28:6*



A vibrant rainbow arches over a lush green forest. In the foreground, a large, detailed tree with dense green foliage stands prominently. The background features rolling hills and distant mountains under a soft, hazy sky. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

**It is well (*it is well*),  
with my soul (*with my soul*)  
It is well, it is well with my  
soul!**



# A



# Facing Illness with the Healing of Jesus Christ!



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A.K.A.

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SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF IRVINE,  
CA

# Prayer and Survey



- Prayer
- Survey: This is a kind of a personal question, but I would respectfully and humbly ask you a survey question by a showing of hands -- I ask it with all respect to you and what you might be going through and as someone who lost my dad this past June 29<sup>th</sup> and my dad was buried on my birthday this past July 8<sup>th</sup>; then about three weeks ago I actually got pretty sick myself and had to have a minor surgical procedure and I praise God for His healing -- but let me ask you this:

# Survey Question



- How many of you are at least fairly close to someone who is suffering from a serious illness or injury?
- Please raise your hand and keep it up for a few seconds please.



# We hear about the statistics



A total of 1,596,670 new cancer cases and 571,950 deaths from cancer are projected to occur in the United States in 2011.

This was going into 2011 from a cancer journal of clinicians.

# But what's behind the numbers?



- Injury and illness causes grief and bereavement.
- That is people live with profound sense of:
- LOSS

# There are stages of grief, from “Good Grief” by Westberg



- 1. Shock
- 2. Expression of Emotion
- 3. Depression and Loneliness
- 4. Distress
- 5. Panic
- 6. Guilt
- 7. Anger and Resentment
- 8. Resistance to Returning
- 9. Hope and the Struggle to Affirm Reality

# What do we do to help?



- 1. Embrace whatever the person needs to go through!

Romans 12:15:

“Rejoice with those who rejoice,  
weep with those who weep.”



# What to do?



- 2. Don't be selfish feeling sorry for yourself about the other person; instead: SERVE THEM! Galatians 6:2:

“Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

# Easy to say, but not so easy to do!



- Fact is:
  1. We get really sad (even depressed).
  2. We can get really scared (what's going to happen to me and my family?!).

# What we feel



- 3. We can also be shaken in our faith:

“Why would God let this happen?”

“Why hasn’t God answered my prayer?”

But wait a minute...He has!



- God sent His Son!
- Jesus Christ is God who joined the humanity of anyone you know or even maybe yourself who might be really sick.



# Jesus volunteered to join us in our weakness!



- Philippians 2:6-8:

“{Jesus} who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form...”

## Philippians 2



“[H]e humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

He allowed His body to be torn up for us **ON PURPOSE** so that **HIS** suffering would...

# Give us healing...it is guaranteed!!!



- Isaiah 53:5:

“But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes...”

# Isaiah 53



**“WE ARE HEALED!”**



# Not Only That: Those in Christ will Rise!



The body of sick who trust in Jesus Christ will be a body that will be **FULLY RESTORED!**

Sometimes a person who is sick can be so weak that they can hardly lift their arm much less walk, but the day is coming for those in Christ, that their bodies will be stronger than they have ever been!

# 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15



“[The body] is sown in dishonor;  
it is raised in glory. It is sown in  
weakness; it is raised in power.”

And as a result, this is what we have to look forward to:



“They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For 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.” – Revelation 7

# Faith in Christ changes EVERYTHING!



- The story of Mitch Mathis Ph.D.
  1. Cancer came in his prime.
  2. He was not worshipping the Lord, but he welcomed me into his home. We became friends!
  3. Something was happening to him...he began to seek the Lord!
  4. As the Word of Christ came into his life...



## 3 Special Events



- 1. One day in pain...
- 2. One day in prayer...
- 3. One day and that smile...

# Mitch became STRONG



1. He still had cancer.
2. But God extended his life.
3. Answered his prayer and let him see and hold his newborn daughter.
4. The day came...I walked in his hospital room...he woke, gave me a big smile, I sang his favorite hymn, *How Great Thou Art*...and half-way through...

# Half-way through



- He knew he had the victory of life over death...
- And he breathed his last breath...
- I learned that cancer is nothing compared to the power of God, because Mitch had come to have faith, the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of eternal life!

# Face Illness with Jesus



- Face it with the one who entered our weakness.
- Who overcame it through His blood and resurrection.
- Who restores us and heals us through the forgiveness of sins...
- And who will give us a new body that is glorious and powerful. Hold on to this truth...and share it with those who are sick, because Jesus loves them!



# **Benediction**

**Go in Peace**

**And**

**Serve the Lord.**