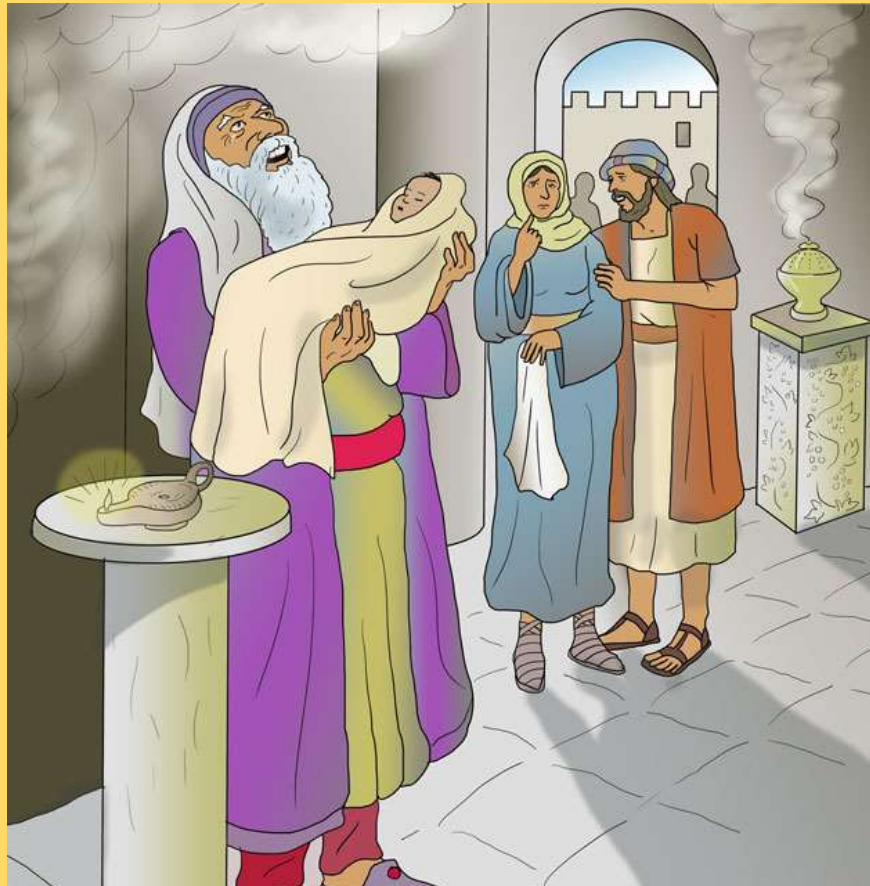
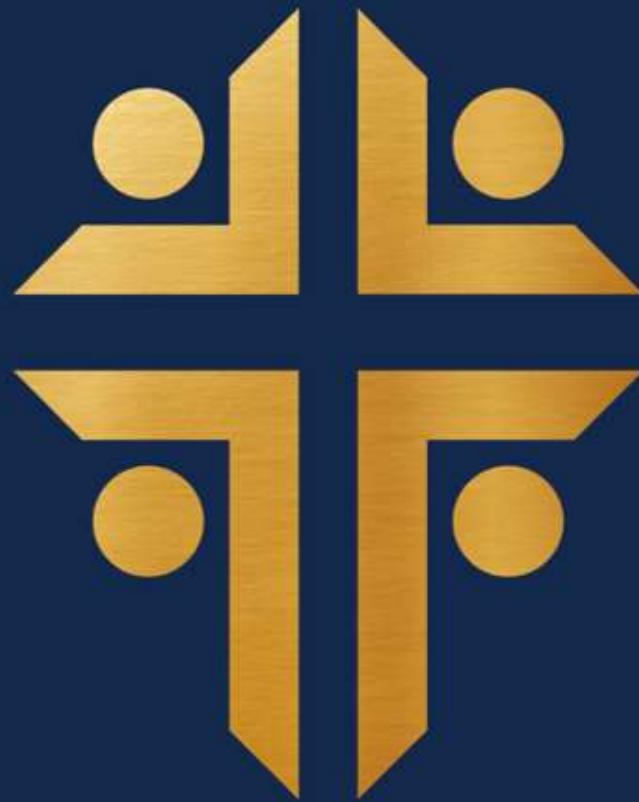


# Welcome to Mulbarton Church

## **Candlemas** *“Family of faith”*





**FOLLOWING JESUS**

*Sharing the journey*

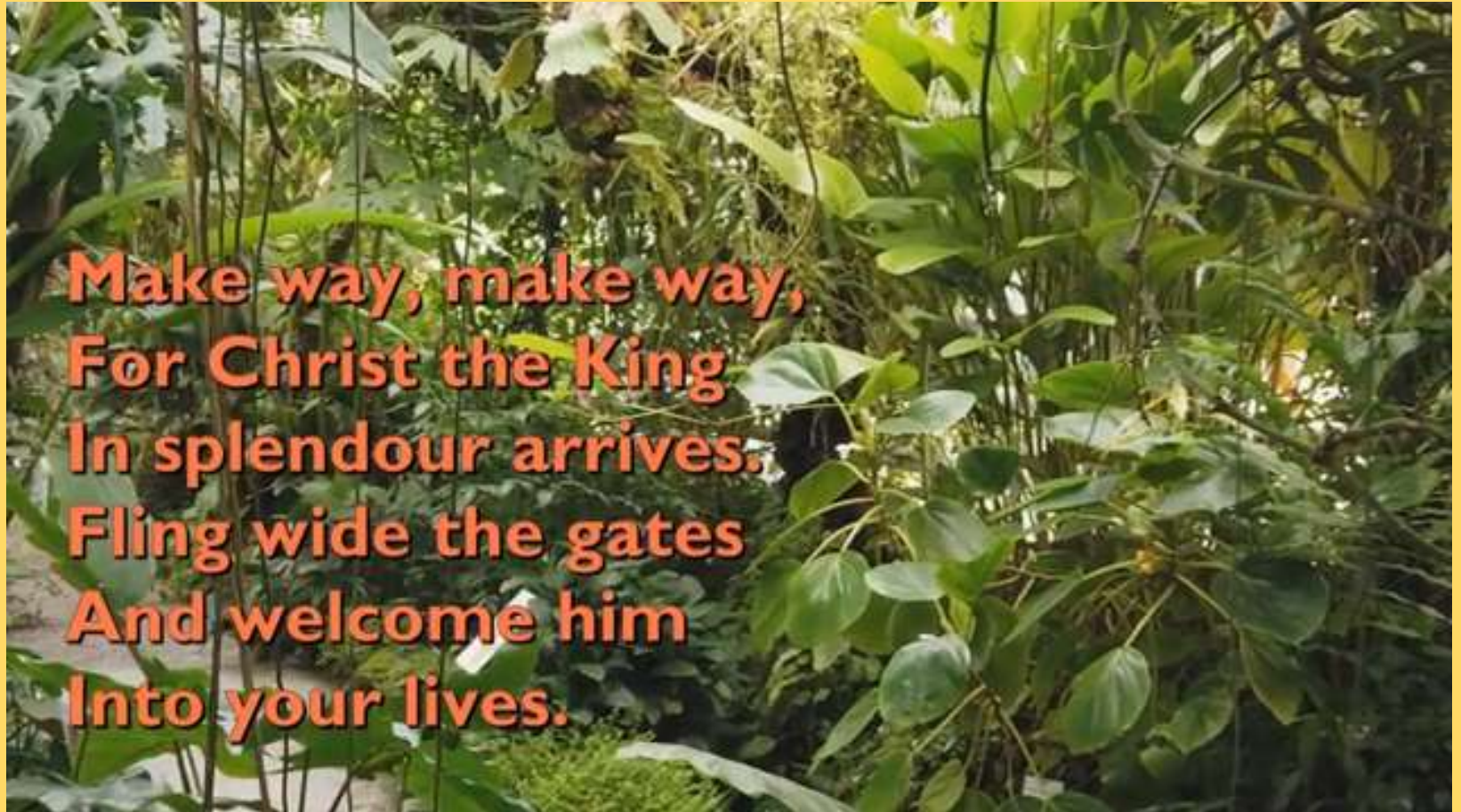
# Special Prayer for Today

As Mary and Joseph  
went on the pilgrimage of faith to Jerusalem,  
so we, too, have come on a pilgrimage of  
faith today, to this place of worship.

Meet us, O God, as we gather,  
and open our eyes  
to see the eternal truths all around us,  
calling us into love and more love  
and things that are everlasting.

**Amen.**

# Song: Make Way! Make Way!





# Valuing Wisdom and Experience



# (Sorry Prayers) Confession:

God our Father,

we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you,

and ignoring your will for our lives;

Father, forgive us:

**All: save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish,  
without thinking of you;

Father, forgive us:

**All: save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do,  
and say and think;

Father, forgive us:

**All: save us and help us.**

(Affirmation of our forgiveness)

**Absolution:**

May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

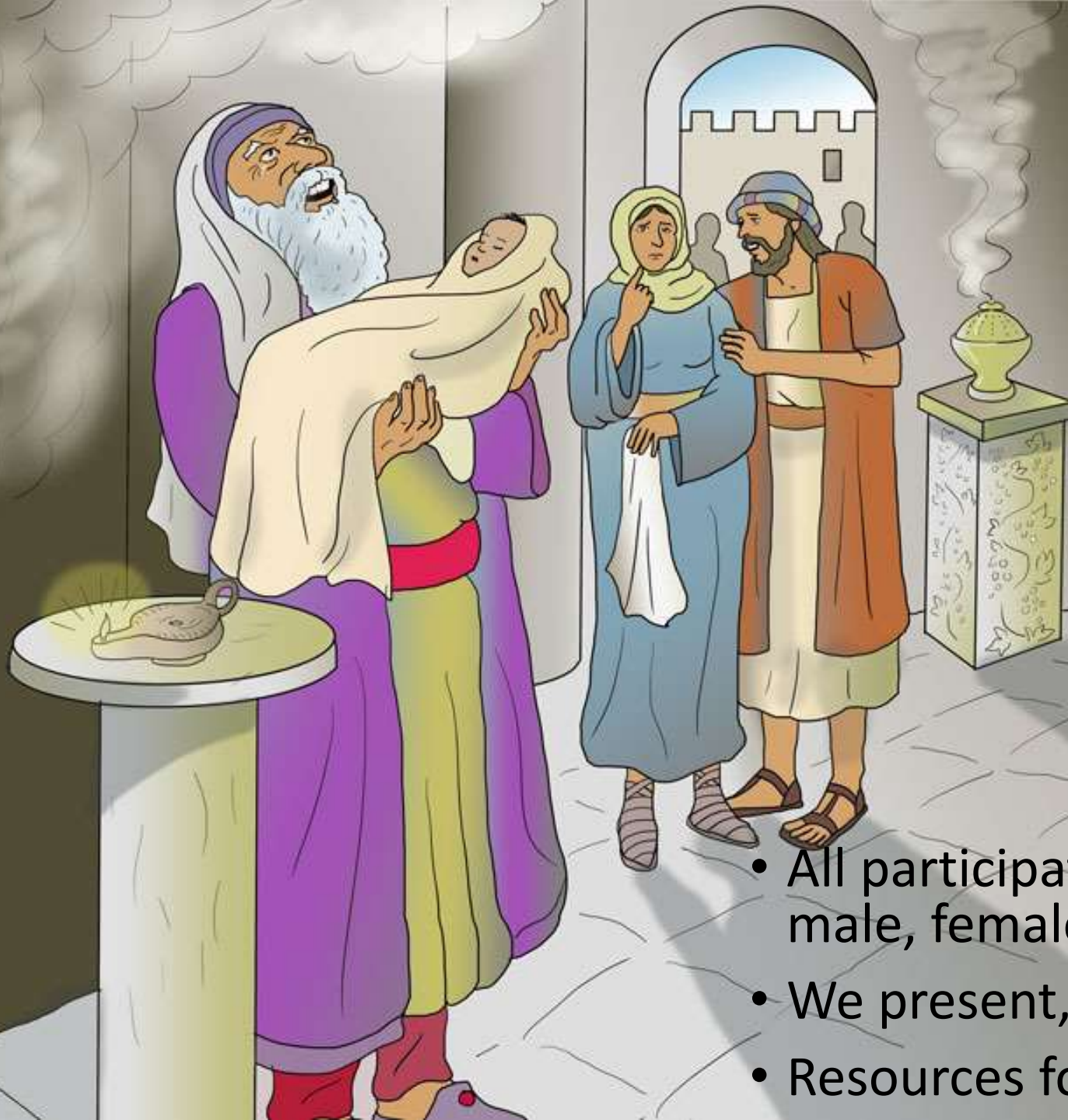
**All: Amen.**



# Bible Reading: Luke 2:22-40

**GOD'S STORY**  
**ANNA AND SIMEON**

# The Family of Faith



- All participate: old, young, male, female
- We present, God is ready
- Resources for the journey



Baptisms of  
Mason & Mia

# The Liturgy of Baptism:

*The minister prays*

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to your faithful people new life  
in the water of baptism.



Guide and strengthen us  
by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve  
you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your  
Son, Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**



*The minister addresses the whole congregation*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.  
In baptism the Lord is adding to our  
number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome these  
children and uphold them in their new  
life in Christ?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

*The minister addresses the  
parents and godparents*

Parents and godparents, the Church  
receives these children with joy.

Today we are trusting God for their  
growth in faith.

Will you pray for them,  
draw them by your example into the  
community of faith  
and walk with them in the way of  
Christ?

***Parents and Godparents:***  
**With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism Mason & Mia begin  
their journey in faith.

You speak for them today.

Will you care for them,  
and help them to take their place  
within the life and worship  
of Christ's Church?

***Parents and Godparents:***

**With the help of God, we will.**

*A large candle is lit. The president addresses the parents and godparents*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:



Do you turn to Christ?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

**I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?

**I renounce evil.**

# The Signing of the Cross:

*The minister make the sign of the cross  
on their foreheads, saying:*

Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

Mason & Mia, do not be ashamed to  
confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: Fight valiantly as disciples of Christ  
against sin, the world and the devil,  
And remain faithful to Christ to the end  
of your life.**

*The candidates receive a blessing,  
with these words:*

May almighty God deliver you from  
the powers of darkness,  
restore in you the image of his glory,  
and lead you in the light and  
obedience of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

# Song: Going on a Journey





# Prayer over the water:

*The minister, candidate, parents and Godparents gather at the baptismal font. The minister stands before the water of baptism and says*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**All: who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

We thank you, almighty God,  
for the gift of water  
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.  
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the  
beginning of creation.  
Through water you led  
the children of Israel  
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the  
Promised Land.

In water your Son Jesus received the  
baptism of John  
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as  
the Messiah, the Christ,  
to lead us from the death of sin to  
newness of life.

We thank you, Father,  
for the water of baptism.

It symbolises our burial  
with Christ in his death;

Our sharing in his resurrection;

And our rebirth by the Holy Spirit.  
Therefore, in joyful obedience  
to your Son,  
we baptize into his fellowship  
those who come to him in faith.  
Now sanctify this water that, by the  
power of your Holy Spirit,  
those who are baptised in it may know  
cleansing and new birth.

Renewed in your image,  
may they walk by the light of faith  
and continue for ever in the risen life  
of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be all honour and glory,  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**



# The Profession of Faith:

*The minister addresses the congregation*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son,  
Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

# The Baptism:

*The minister pours water  
on Mason & Mia  
in turn, saying:*

*N, I baptize you  
in the name  
of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.*

**All: Amen.**



May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace,  
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,  
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

**All: Amen.**

# The Welcome:

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism. By one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

# Presentations:

*A certificate, holding cross and children's bible are presented to the newly baptised with the words:*

Receive this book. It is the good news of God's love. Take it as your guide.



# Presentations:

*A lit candle is presented to the newly baptised with the words:*

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All: Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

# Prayer for Children & Carers

Faithful and loving God,  
bless those who care for Mason and Mia  
and all children and grant them your gifts of love,  
wisdom and faith.

Pour upon them your healing  
and reconciling love,  
and protect their homes from all evil.

Fill them with the light of your presence  
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Prayer for the Baptised

God of grace and life,  
in your love you have given us  
a place among your people;  
keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and prepare us for that glorious day  
when the whole creation  
will be made perfect  
in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

# Responding in Prayer: Place a Petal



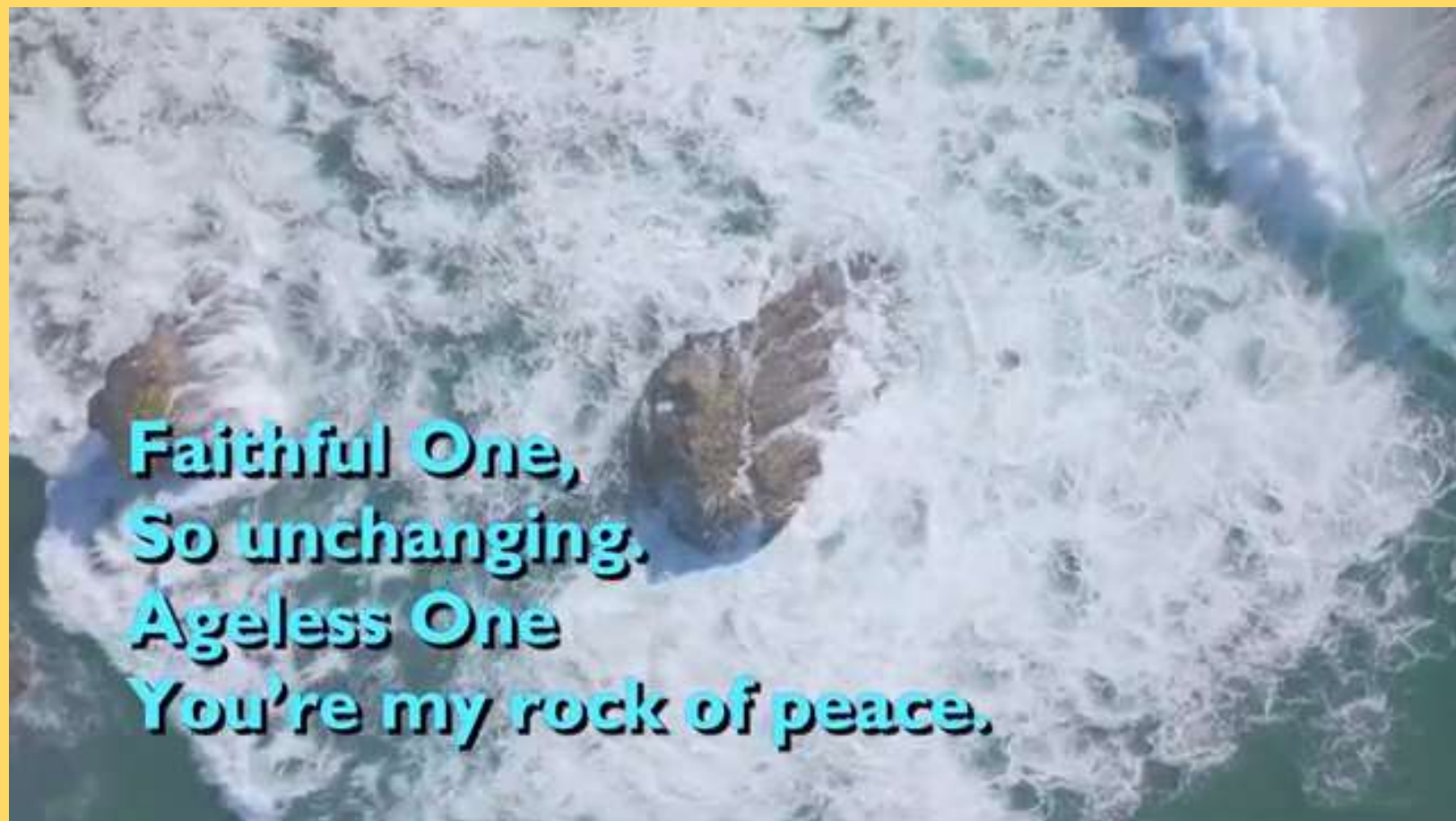
# The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

# Song: Faithful One





# The Blessing:

Christ Jesus,  
the splendour of the Father and the  
image of his being,  
draw you to himself that you may live in  
his light and share his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you,  
now and always.

**All: Amen**