

A SUMMER OF PSALMS

Knox Presbyterian Church, Vernon



2022

INTRODUCTION



This year's Summer Challenge at Knox was to compose Psalms. After a short tutorial by Rev. Teresa on some of the finer points of creating psalms, the congregation was left to the beauty of summer to compose.

After deliberation, the authors' names were removed, so that you might move more fully into God's presence in the words, in the lines, and in the spaces in between.

Lord, each morning I thank You for the new day
and ask for guidance and direction.

When afternoon comes a check in with You is
needed to keep me on the right path.

In the evening when I lay down to rest, I give
thanks to Your blessings and for the day's safe
journey.





In praise of you, O God, I seek your wise words of comfort.
Hurtful words take much time to Heal
when words expressed cause much distress and sadness.
I seek a Blessing from you, Oh God, that those who attacked by hurtful
words will be touched by your loving, guiding hand.
They they will not repeat this action, as they love and serve the Lord.
My faith in You is as strong today as it was yesterday.
I speak to You in prayer and ask for Your continued guidance and love.
With your help, O Lord,
I pray for
Peace,
Love,
and
Harmony.

01

A full moon is visible in the upper left portion of the image, set against a deep blue, starry night sky. Below the sky, a range of dark, silhouetted mountains stretches across the horizon. In the foreground, a grassy hillside slopes down towards the right, with a field of small, light-colored flowers in the lower left corner. The overall scene is a serene night landscape.

O Lord, Creator, we give You praise and thanksgiving.
We marvel at all of Your creation.

Each day we see Your handiwork;
The light of the sun by day
And the splendour of the moon and stars by night.

The rainbow of colours throughout all of creation
The blue of the sky;
Flowers of many hues.
Birds in bright feathered coats.
The changing of the colours in seasons.

From the soaring of the eagle
To the fluttering wings of the hummingbird.
From a baby's smile
To the twinkle in the eye of one who is full of wisdom.
We sing Your praise with music and song.
We marvel at all of Your creation.

O Lord, Creator,
We give You praise and thanksgiving.

02



Lord, why?

This question haunts my days and evenings.
It is the question that makes me toss and turn in bed.
It is the unspoken question in all my conversations.
It is the bitterness that ruins my meals.
It is the source of my anger, my rage!
It blocks me from reaching for joy.
I ask and I ask and I ask, yet there is no answer.
The moon and the stars cannot satisfy me.
The oceans roar is just nonsense.
Echoes mock me.

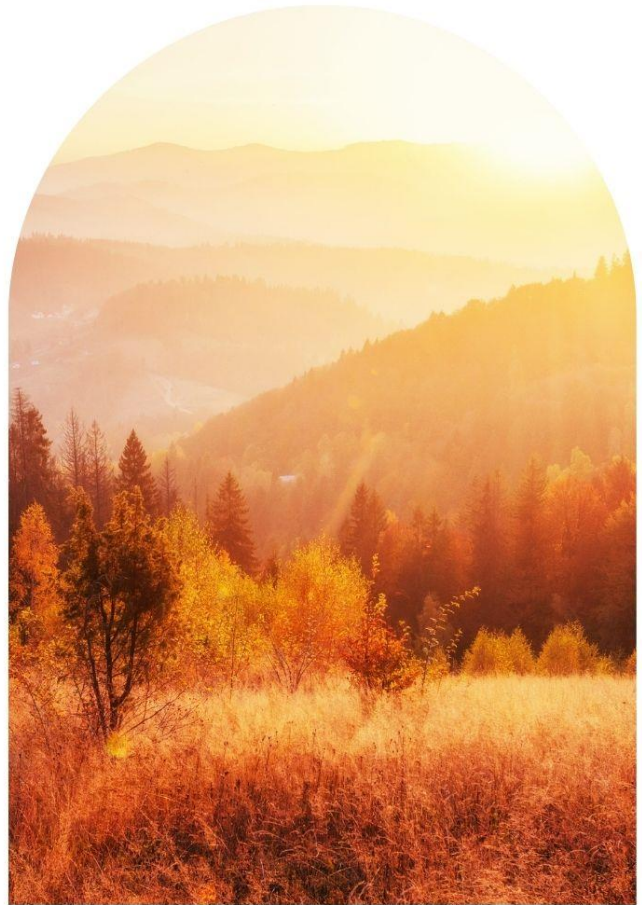
Lord of all answers.
Lord of all the Whys,
Take my question from me.
Send me Peace,
Send me Comfort,
Send me Faith.

03

Lord God you have always
been good and loving
towards us. You have always
supplied a roof over our
heads and food for our
bellies.

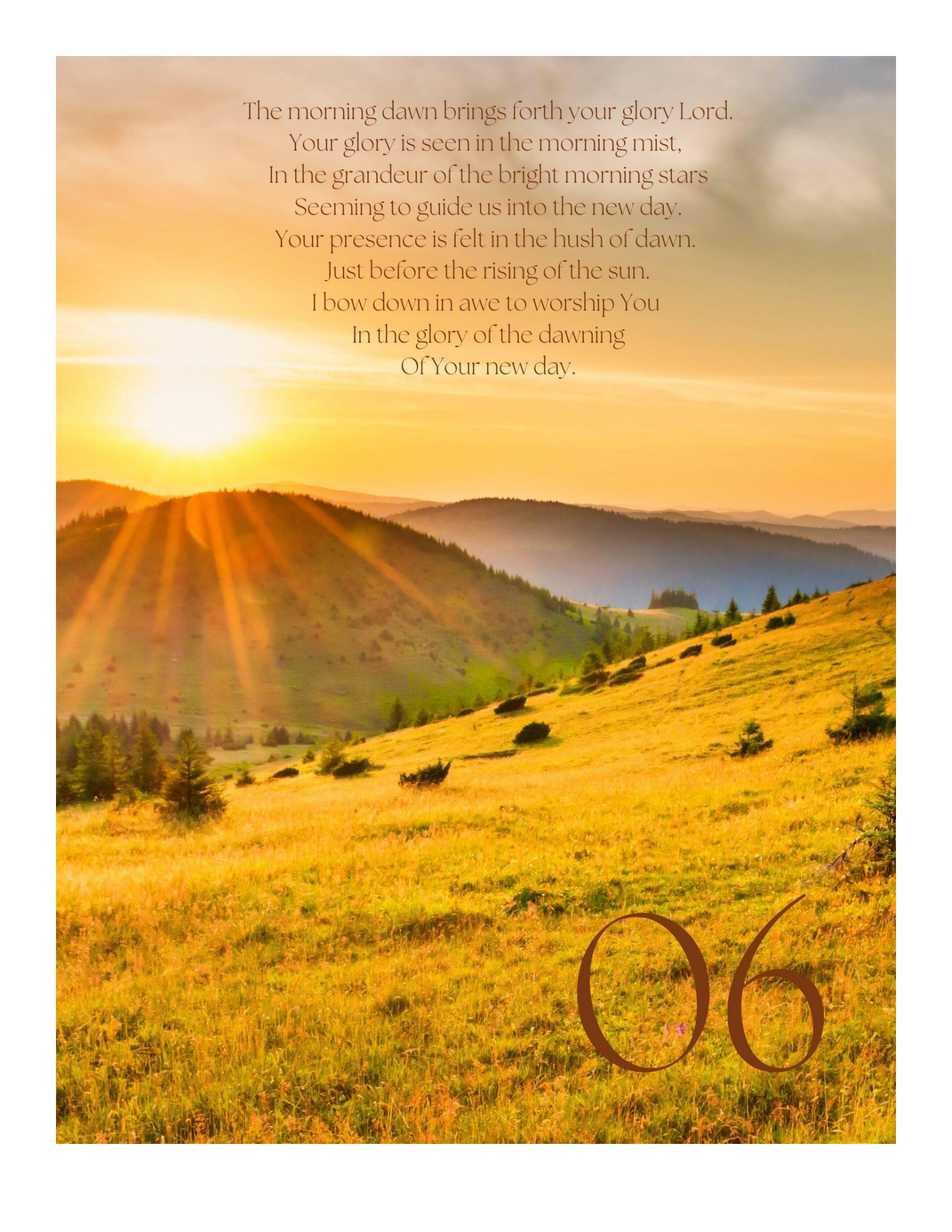
Please let us know if a move
in our near future
is a wise decision.
Please fill my mind with the
knowledge that You have
planned only what's
best for us.

Loving God we thank You for
all you have done for us
over the years.
Please continue to keep us in
Your grace.



There are so many things to say
And many more to do.
Where does one begin to spiel
About the old stuff gone and past?
One really should not treasure up
That closet full of drudge.
But place it in the the dumpster
Provided from above!
For each new day we face anew
A challenge, bright and fresh.
It may seem the same as yesterday's.
But we haven't done it yet.
We base our trials upon our faith
To see if it will hold.
And at day's end we bend our knees
To pray He gives us strength
To finish all the things to say
And all the things to do.





The morning dawn brings forth your glory Lord.
Your glory is seen in the morning mist,
In the grandeur of the bright morning stars
Seeming to guide us into the new day.
Your presence is felt in the hush of dawn.
Just before the rising of the sun.
I bow down in awe to worship You
In the glory of the dawning
Of Your new day.

06



Wonderful God.

Awesome God.

We give thanks that the Lord created not just man but also woman,
So that the two can live together and become one.

The Lord realized in His wisdom that it is not good for man to be alone.

So woman was made to become one flesh with man,

To be a partner to him and part of a team,

Working together to do the Lord's will.

We beseech the Lord to give us strength to tolerate those
who choose an alternative lifestyle.

Help us tolerate those who believe in an alternative Creation

In which people of the same sex

Choose to become one flesh,

Or a person can choose to be a gender

Other than the one he or she was created by the Lord.

The Lord has made all of creation

And has created man and woman.

Give us the strength to be always faithful,

Both to our partners,

And to You,

Our Lord and Creator.

07

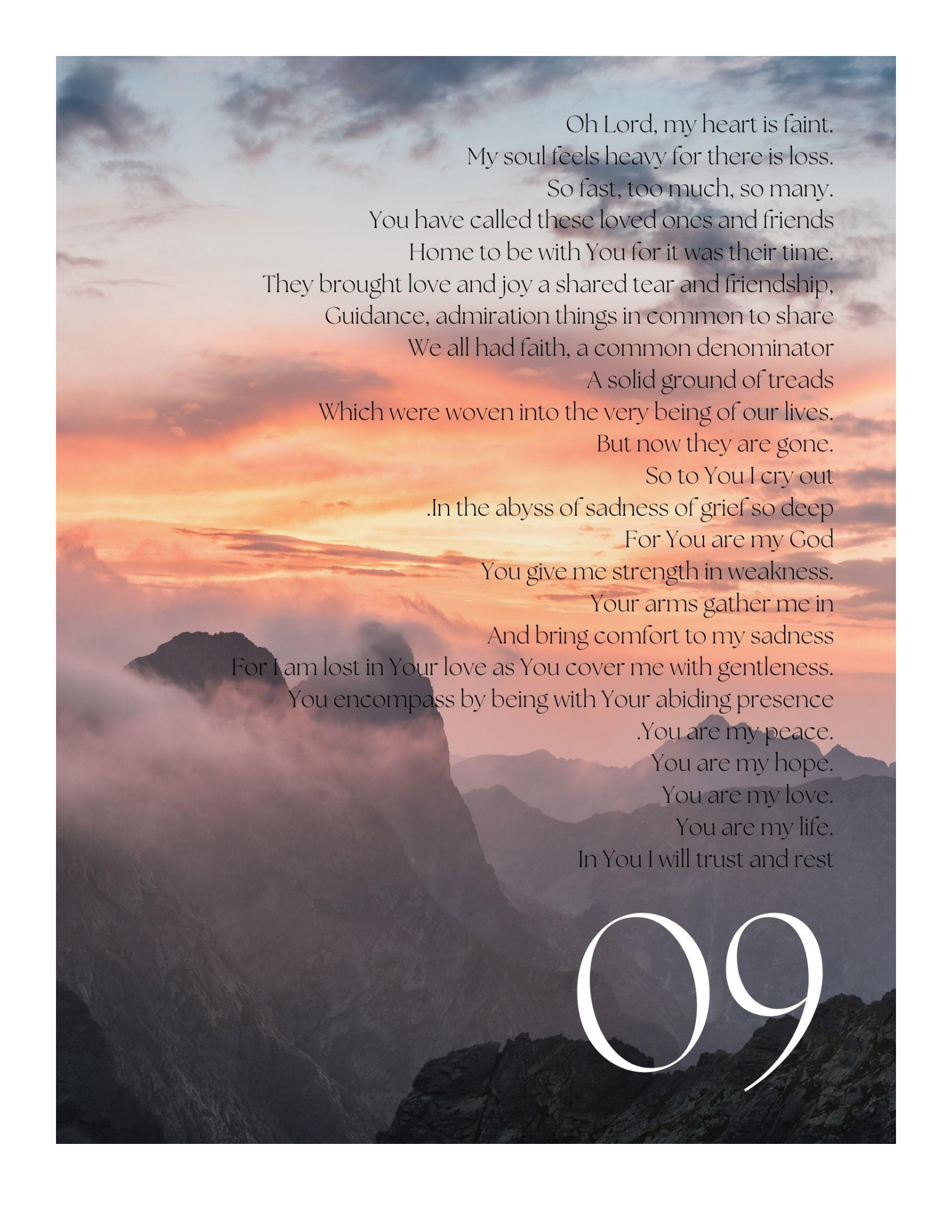
You are ever present, Lord
 You bring forth
Each new day with praise.
I lift this new day up to you.
My thoughts turn to You
 In the early morning.
 Lord,
 When I call,
 You are there.
You hear me and quiet my heart.
 When I hear Your answer,
I know You have heard my call.

I feel Your presence
 throughout my day.
And know You are with me.
You set within me a feeling of calm.
 May Your love
And kindness guide me
 You help me to walk
 In an upright way.

Lord, I praise you for Your goodness.
Because I know You are there.
 My day becomes
Full of thanksgiving.
 Your love
And kindness
 Are forever.



08



Oh Lord, my heart is faint.
My soul feels heavy for there is loss.
So fast, too much, so many.
You have called these loved ones and friends
Home to be with You for it was their time.
They brought love and joy a shared tear and friendship,
Guidance, admiration things in common to share
We all had faith, a common denominator
A solid ground of treads
Which were woven into the very being of our lives.
But now they are gone.
So to You I cry out
.In the abyss of sadness of grief so deep
For You are my God
You give me strength in weakness.
Your arms gather me in
And bring comfort to my sadness
For I am lost in Your love as You cover me with gentleness.
You encompass by being with Your abiding presence
.You are my peace.
You are my hope.
You are my love.
You are my life.
In You I will trust and rest

09

Help us O Lord I pray
May You be with us this day.

The flames roar.
The wind blows
The cinders fly.
The sky grows dark.
The horizon is red.
Protect us O Lord, I ask.

Father you are in control.
We turn to you for help.
Our car is packed.
We may have to
Leave our home.
Still the flames.
Quiet the winds.
Calm our nerves.

The flames die down.
The winds are stilled.
Our nerves are calmed.
Our homes are saved.
We are safe.
Our firefighters are safe.

O Father,
We give you thanks.



10



The Billiard Psalm

The Lord has amassed
Five pool players
With five different characters.

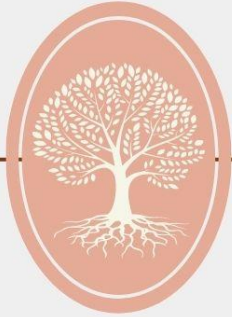
The Lord is extremally
Happy with this fellow.
He is a good player and is the first to
arrive and the last to leave.

The Lord has not given this fellow
much talent.
There is a loud groan
Every time he misses a shot.

The lord is very happy
With this fellow,
Who usually makes his shots.
He would never hook any
Of the other players.

The Lord has left this poor fellow
handicapped, but he tries hard.
And is seldom rewarded.

The Lord has here a good player
who has trouble
With all the problems of others.



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