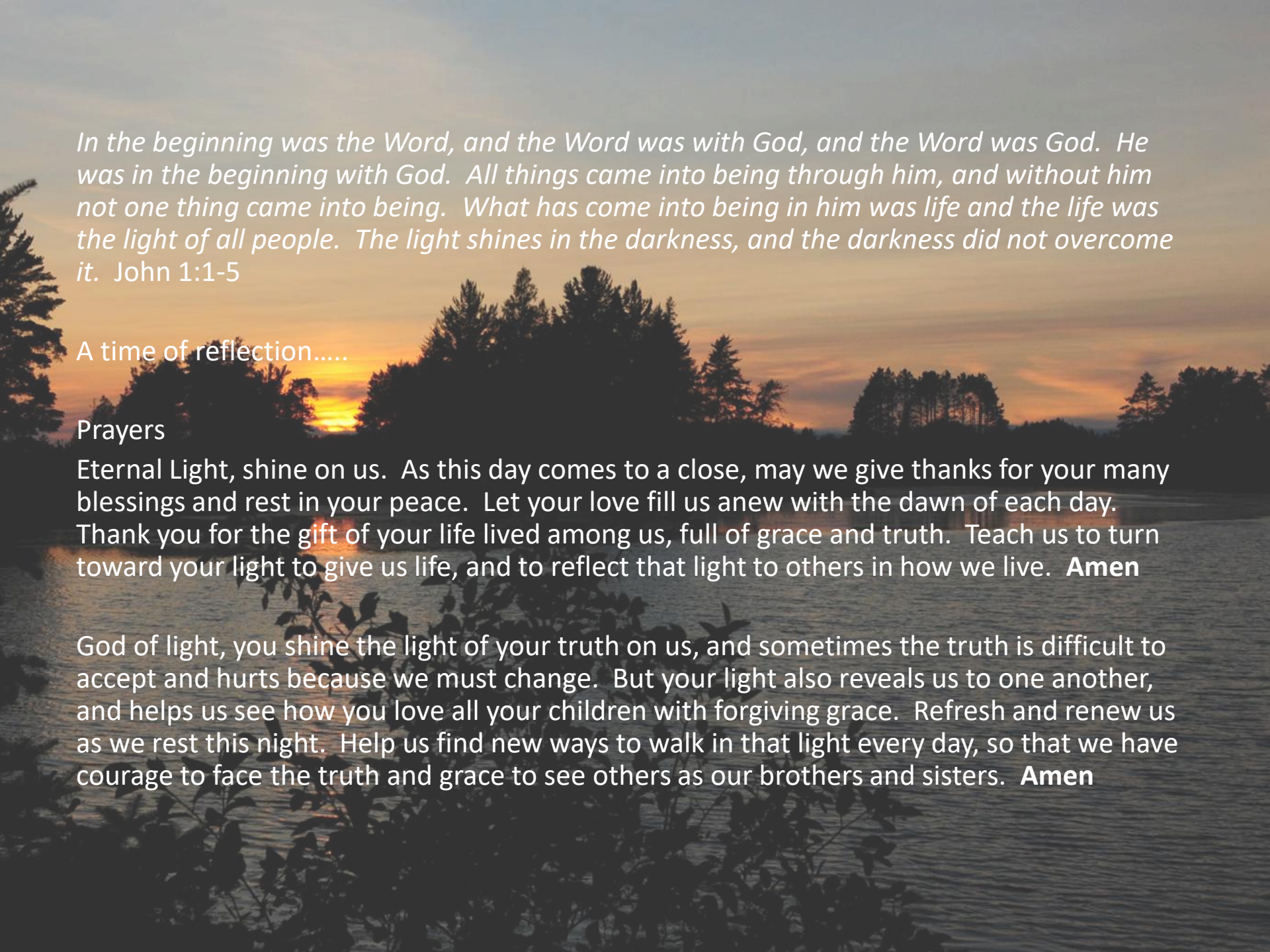




Advent Vespers

Making All
Things New



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:1-5

A time of reflection.....

Prayers

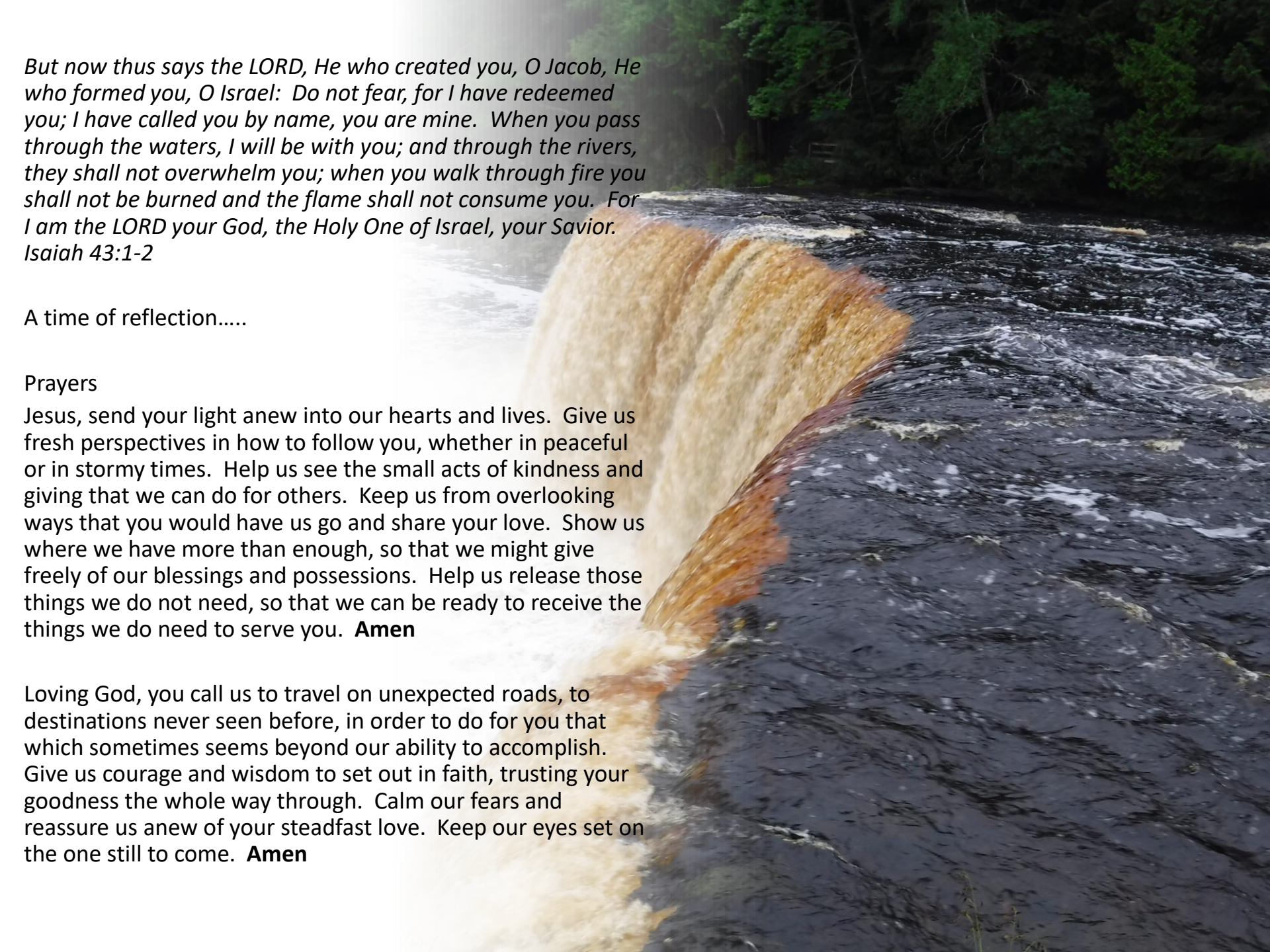
Eternal Light, shine on us. As this day comes to a close, may we give thanks for your many blessings and rest in your peace. Let your love fill us anew with the dawn of each day. Thank you for the gift of your life lived among us, full of grace and truth. Teach us to turn toward your light to give us life, and to reflect that light to others in how we live. **Amen**

God of light, you shine the light of your truth on us, and sometimes the truth is difficult to accept and hurts because we must change. But your light also reveals us to one another, and helps us see how you love all your children with forgiving grace. Refresh and renew us as we rest this night. Help us find new ways to walk in that light every day, so that we have courage to face the truth and grace to see others as our brothers and sisters. **Amen**



Those who wait for the LORD
shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.



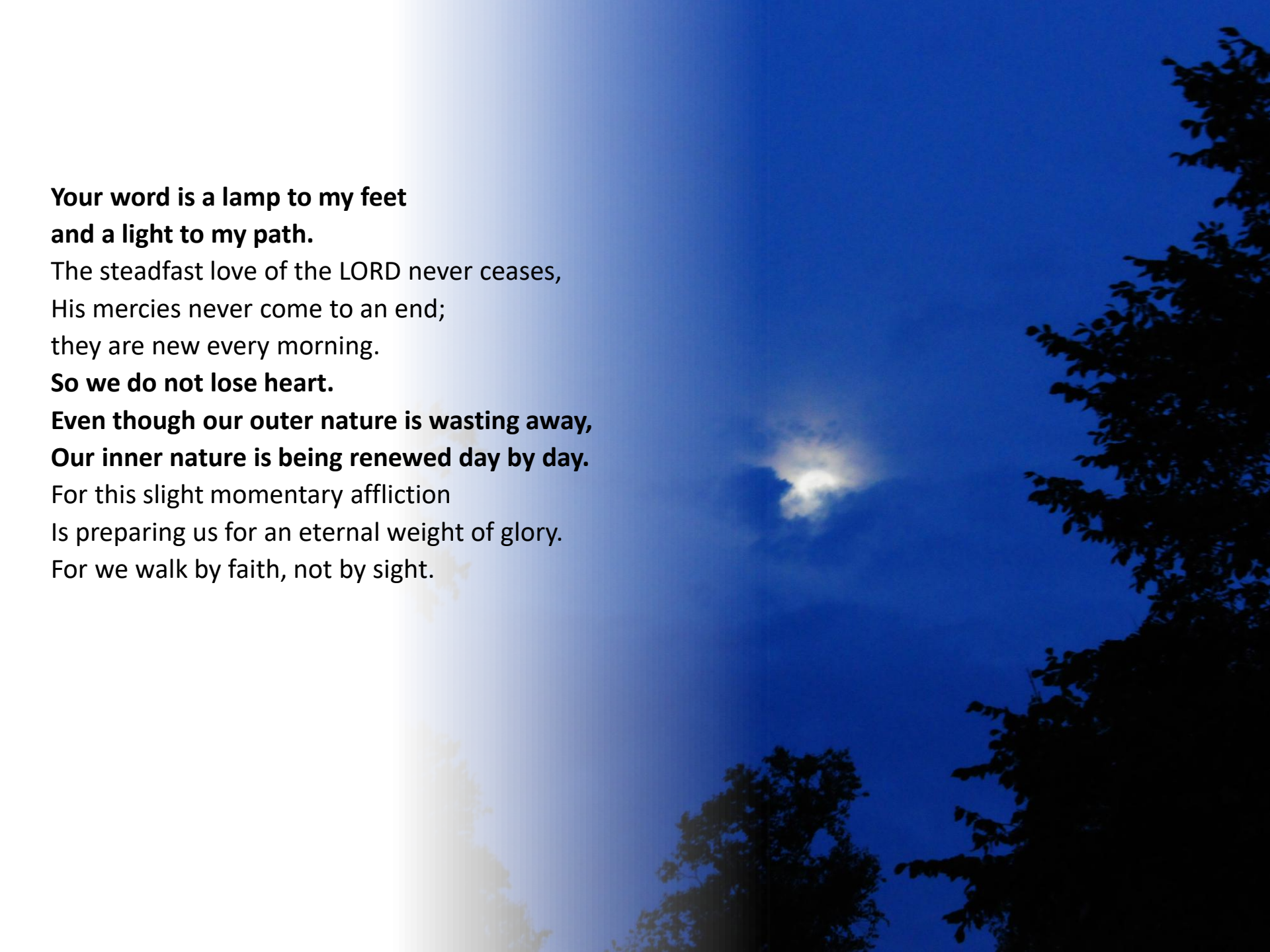
But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. Isaiah 43:1-2

A time of reflection.....

Prayers

Jesus, send your light anew into our hearts and lives. Give us fresh perspectives in how to follow you, whether in peaceful or in stormy times. Help us see the small acts of kindness and giving that we can do for others. Keep us from overlooking ways that you would have us go and share your love. Show us where we have more than enough, so that we might give freely of our blessings and possessions. Help us release those things we do not need, so that we can be ready to receive the things we do need to serve you. **Amen**

Loving God, you call us to travel on unexpected roads, to destinations never seen before, in order to do for you that which sometimes seems beyond our ability to accomplish. Give us courage and wisdom to set out in faith, trusting your goodness the whole way through. Calm our fears and reassure us anew of your steadfast love. Keep our eyes set on the one still to come. **Amen**



**Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.**

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning.

So we do not lose heart.

**Even though our outer nature is wasting away,
Our inner nature is being renewed day by day.**

For this slight momentary affliction
Is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory.
For we walk by faith, not by sight.


Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. Mark 13:35-36

A time of reflection.....

Prayers

Gracious Christ, keep us awake to your promises, promises that renew us each moment, each day. Remind us of your amazing love for us and give us faith to trust in your goodness. May we step into the days, weeks, months, years ahead, knowing you are with us always. **Amen**

Holy God, in our fragile lives, with our limited vision and understanding of your will for us, often we find it difficult to imagine that your hope is real in this world. Give us a glimpse of your promises. We especially pray today for (...). Give us eyes to see your ongoing redemptive and healing work in our lives and in the world, your work that makes all things new. **Amen**



May we be so bold to pray as the LORD
has 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 from the time of
trial and deliver us from evil. For the
kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours, now and forever. Amen**

Benediction

Let us bless the LORD,

Thanks be to God.

The LORD Almighty bless us and direct
our days and our deeds in His peace.

Amen



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