A photograph of a sunset or sunrise over a dark landscape with mountains. The sky is filled with warm, golden light from the sun, which is partially obscured by clouds. The mountains in the foreground are dark and silhouetted against the bright sky.

Dear God,

Thank you for this

BEAUTIFUL LIFE,

And please forgive

Me if I don't love it

**April 14th, 2013
Third Sunday of Easter
Music led by Praise Team**



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@frontiernet.net

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Church Secretary: Evelyn Richter

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN, C 320-684-2846

Patti Honnold, RN CNP 320-676-8421

Kathy Berland RN ANP 320-495-3988

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will grow spiritually and in numbers as we serve Christ. We will reach out and address the hurts and hopes in our community. We will maintain a church home that is reverently joyous and extend a welcome to all who seek to join us in our mission.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

Sunday, April 14, 2013

Third Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION

The disciples make a big splash and breakfast with the risen Jesus in the gospel. Wading in the water (remembering our baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating the holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us, with Peter, again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him bringing the Easter life to others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



OPENING SONG: "I Am the Resurrection"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: God, give us your wisdom so we might choose what serves your purpose for your world. Give us direction as we walk the uncertain journey of faith in your name. Forgive our sinful condition which pulls us away from you and the life you give. Forgive us for poor choices. Forgive our short-sightedness. Forgive our unwillingness to follow. Forgive our attitudes of self-sufficiency. Forgive our lack of love to our brothers and sisters. God, give us wisdom and direction as we walk this adventure called faith.

WE RECEIVE POWER FOR THE JOURNEY: Our God is a great God and knows our every need. God knows the wilderness we wander through. God forgives our choices, our short-sightedness, our unwillingness, our self-sufficiency and our lack of love. God, in Christ Jesus, forgives our sinful condition and promises love will replace hate and joy will replace despair. God gives us all we need for this journey and today we celebrate with joyful expectation. **Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “ Messiah”

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1–6 [7–20]

Each of us has a story of meeting God's grace. Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation, beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias

come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

PSALM: Psalm 30

Refrain: You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance. R

God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.

Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.

You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."

Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,

"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?

Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper." R

You have turned my wailing into dancing;

you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;

O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever. R

GOSPEL: John 21:1–19

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

SERMON

OFFERING and OFFERING SONG: "Dance with Me"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God, giver of every good and perfect gift, we bring before you these offerings of our treasure. Bless these gifts and use them in the work of your realm on earth. Give strength to hands that labor, vision to minds that create and hope to lives who serve. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing with all the witnesses of the resurrection, let us pray in confidence for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A time for silent prayer.

Open our eyes to see the presence of Christ in our midst. Open our hearts to receive forgiveness, grace, and hope. Open our mouths to proclaim, "It is the Lord!" Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Protect the oceans, lakes, and waterways of your creation. Help us to maintain the beaches and coastlands for the joy of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Break the bonds of oppression and the cycles of violence. Grant wisdom and humility to all in positions of authority, making them advocates for all who have no voice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bless all who cry to you. Shelter those who live in danger. Comfort the lonely. Heal the sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By your presence, strengthen this congregation to follow you. Help us tend to those who are hungry and in need throughout our community and the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be made.

Clothe us with joy so that our mourning turns into dancing and our sorrow turns into rejoicing. Bless all who mourn and grant us courage and faith to see life even in the midst of death. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In resurrection hope we commend to you all for whom we pray, trusting in the promise of new life; through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER led by Praise Team

BENEDICTION led by Praise Team “As You Go on Your Way”

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING SONG: “Everybody Sing Allelu”

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF APRIL 21ST, 2013

Music: The Praise Team
Greeters: Lee & Barb Forrester
Ushers: 8:30 Steve & Mary Kramer-Long, 10:00 Wayne & Janice Olson
Lectors: 8:30 Joyce Rimer, 10:00 Kathy Carlson
Coffee Servers: Joyce Rimer, Darwin & Jeannine Bruesewitz, Rich & Marge Nelson

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (4/7/13)

Attendance: 8:30 – 110 10:00 – 45
Offering: \$ 5,303.00 Building Fund: \$ 1,190.00

\$ 3,077.00 – Weekly amount needed for operating expenses.

\$ 580.00 – Weekly amount (building fund) needed for mortgage payment.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA APRIL 21ST THRU APRIL 27TH, 2013

Mon., Apr. 15 th	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Apr. 16 th		No Bells
Wed., Apr. 17 th	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	WIC
	9:30 a.m.	WELCA
	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Thurs., Apr. 18 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	10:00 a.m.	Stewardship Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
Sat., Apr. 20 th	9:30 a.m.	Bell Practice
	10:00 a.m.	New Member Orientation
	2:00 p.m.	Family Gathering in Fellowship Hall following graveside services for Donald Dooley, son of Ray & Lyla Dooley.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MN ADULT AND TEEN CHALLENGE will be leading our service on April 28th. There will be only one service that day at 9:00 a.m. with a brunch to follow. We need volunteers to bring a salad or a pan of bars (9x13) and also for set-up, serving and clean-up. Look for sign-up sheets on the table in the Fellowship Hall the next couple weeks.

Next Sunday, April 21st is **MALARIA AWARENESS SUNDAY**. There is an insert in your bulletin promoting the ELCA efforts to wipe out malaria so give generously to help eliminate this disease. It affects children the worse and something as simple as mosquito netting helps immensely in cutting back on this terrible disease. Last summer's VBS children collected monies to help with this project. Children helping children.

There will be **NO BELLS** on Tuesday, April 16th but instead they **will be meeting on Saturday, April 20th at 9:30 a.m.**

FOOT CARE will be held on Thursday, April 18th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Contact Patti Honnold at 320-676-8421 or 320-216-5092 for an appointment.

CHECK THE COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

MILLE LACS LAKE WATERSHED CONFERENCE & BUS TOUR

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on April 20th, 2013. Please register.

MALMO EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

May 4th, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. Ladies please RSVP by 4/26.

First Annual Run for the Camps

5 K Run/2 Mile Walk May 4th, 2013

Craft & Bake Sale

Sacred Heart Church in Wahkon May 11th, 2013

TRANSFORMING THE ORDINARY

Call it an "Easter Monday" experience. Simon Peter and the other disciples decide it's time to get back to their old lives. After following Jesus and experiencing the bewildering events in Jerusalem, the disciples return to Galilee and their fishing nets. But there's a problem: they can't catch any fish. Then a stranger calls from the beach, instructing them to throw their nets on the other side of the boat. When the nets come up overflowing with fish, the disciples know that the Lord is with them.

For the disciples, Easter Monday will not be the same old routine. The Risen One appears in the midst of their common, ordinary lives. Jesus offers himself in relationship, calling and guiding Simon Peter and his companions with words of hope. Jesus nourishes them with breakfast on the beach, assuring them that he is present at a meal. The ordinary is transformed into a place where the risen Christ is encountered.

The good news is that our routines, our ordinary lives, have also been transformed by the resurrection. Our lives become sacramental, places where God meets us, where common things like bread and wine and water become instruments of divine life. God promises to be in the midst of our "Easter Mondays": with the strangers we encounter, in our workplaces, around the tables we share with loved ones, when we face hopelessness and despair. Where does the risen Christ surprise you in your ordinary, humdrum routine?

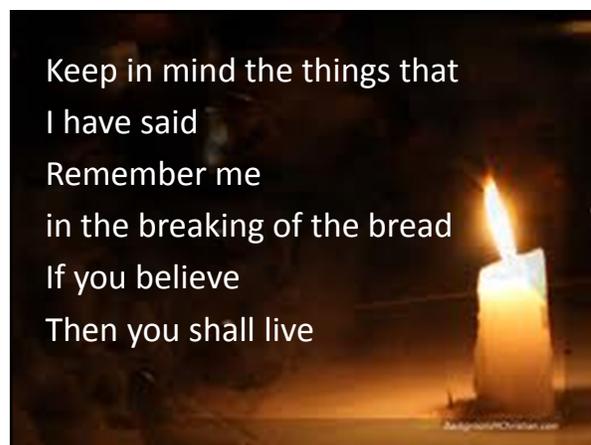
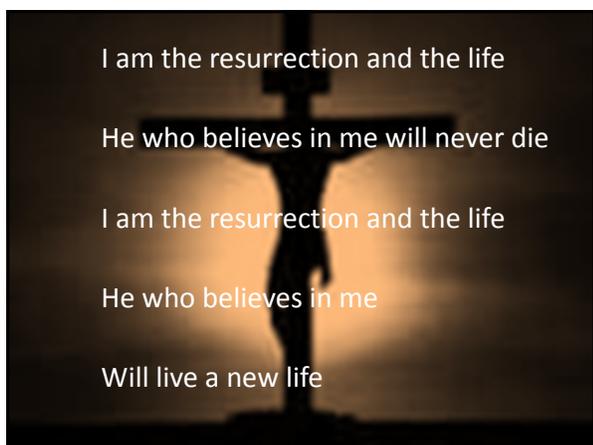
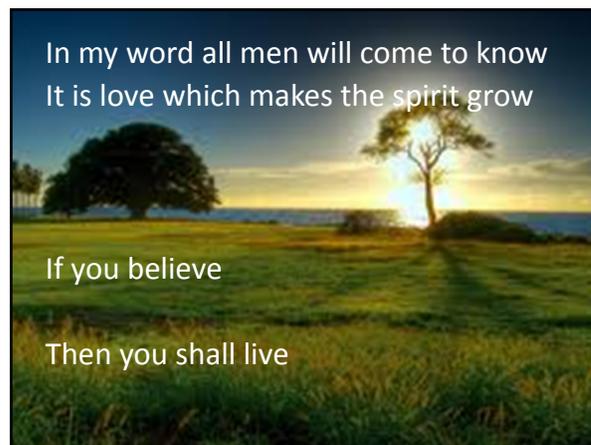
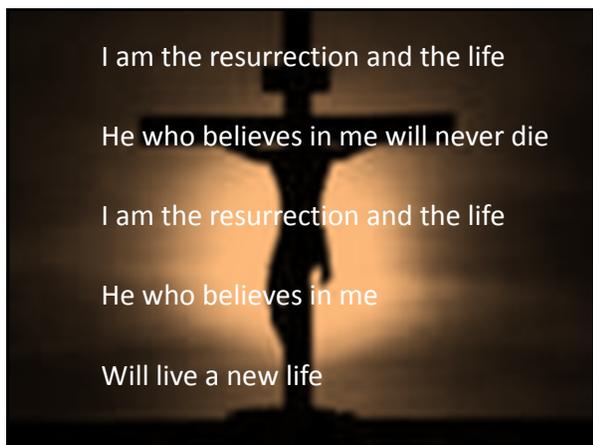
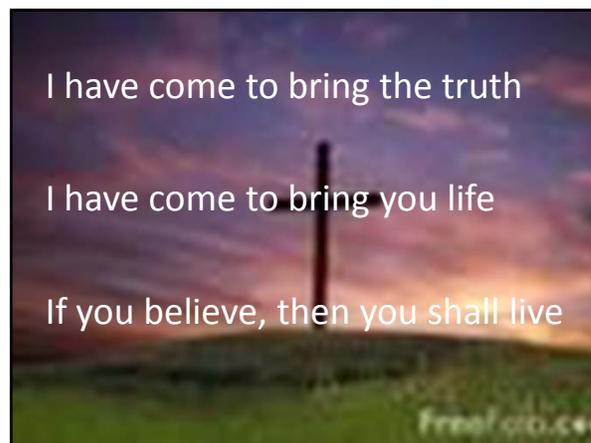
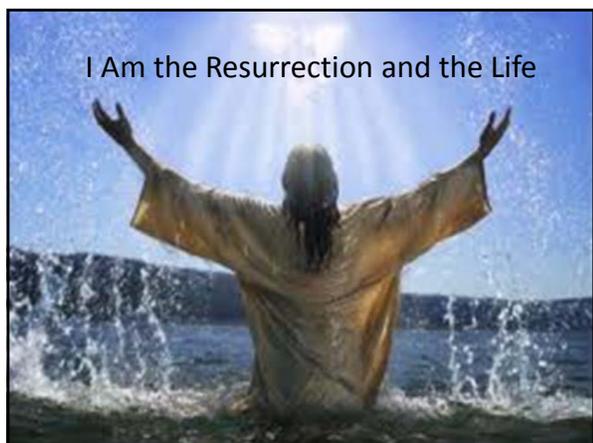
Along with Simon Peter and the other disciples, we discover that Easter is not a single day but the arrival of God's resurrecting light into every one of our "Easter Mondays." May we be open to see the Risen One in our daily lives, in the stranger, in words of hope, in the breaking of bread.

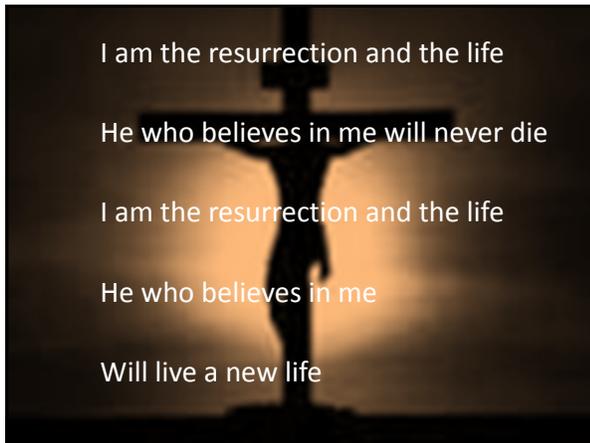
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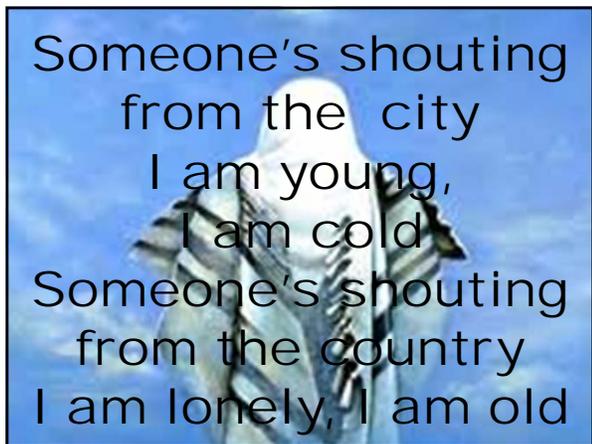
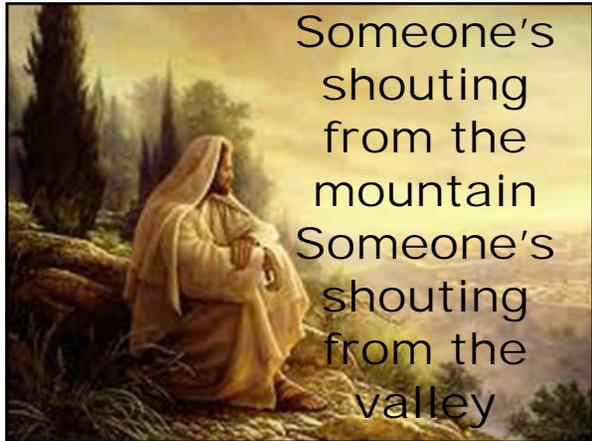
Go With God!
Have a
Blessed Day!





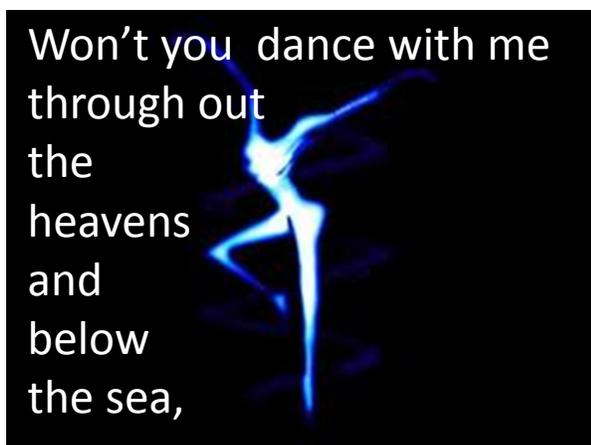
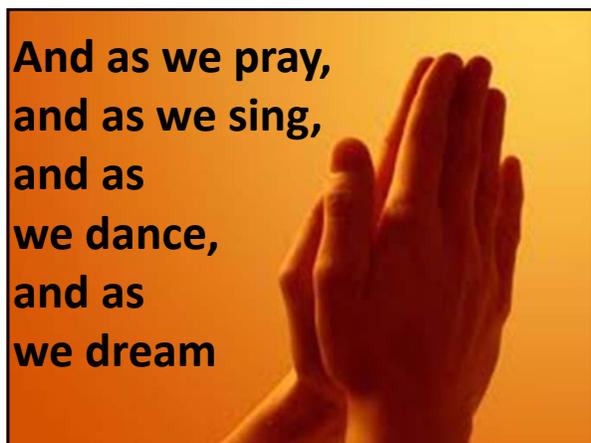
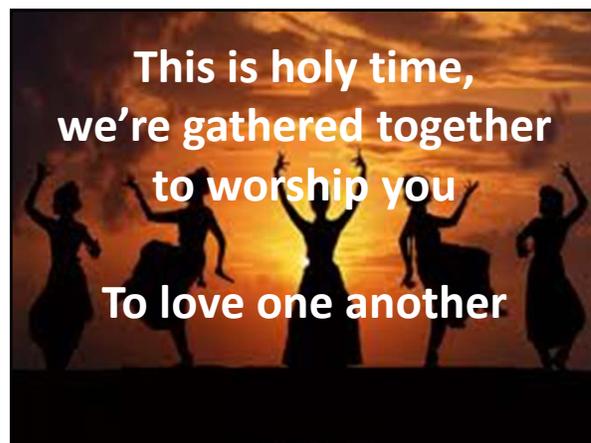
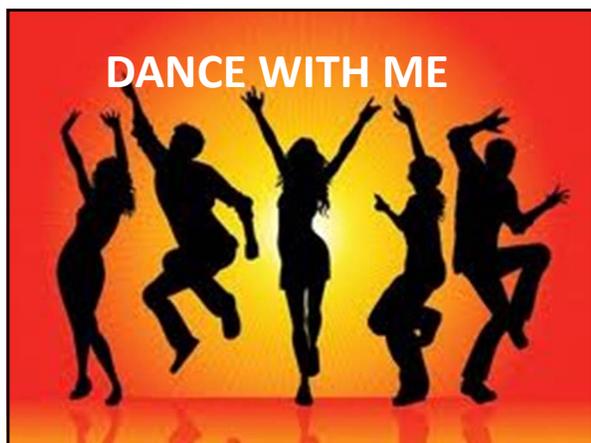


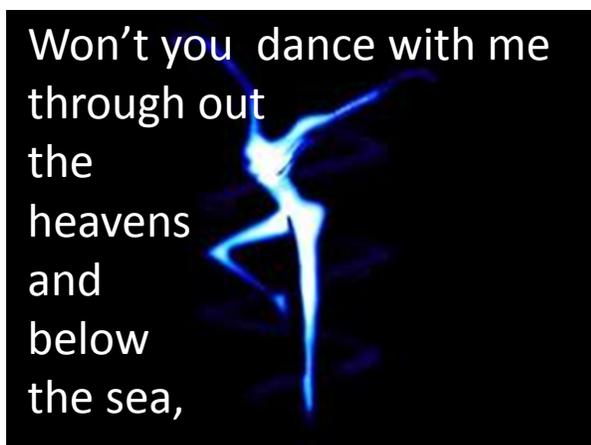
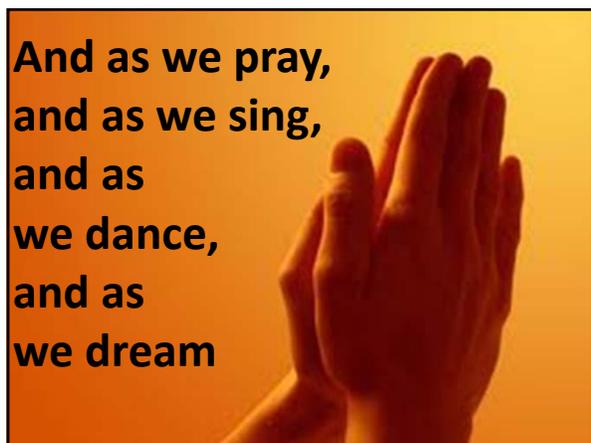
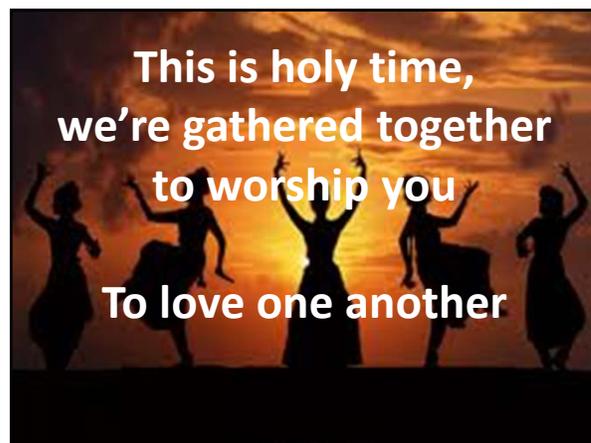
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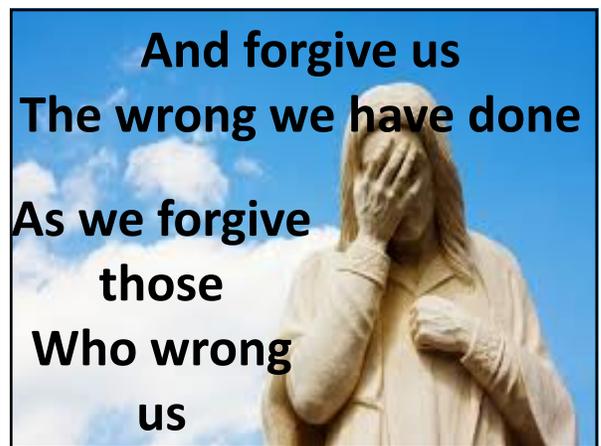
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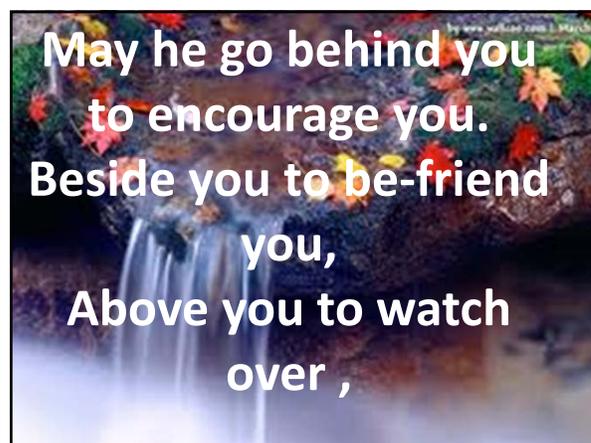
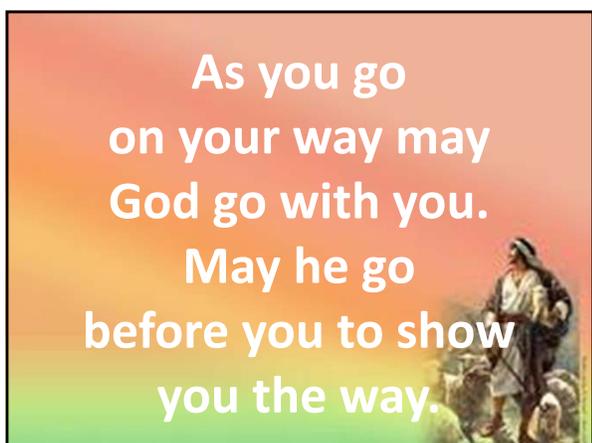
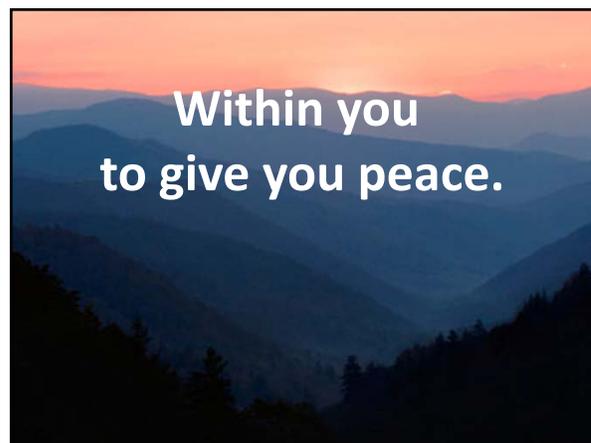
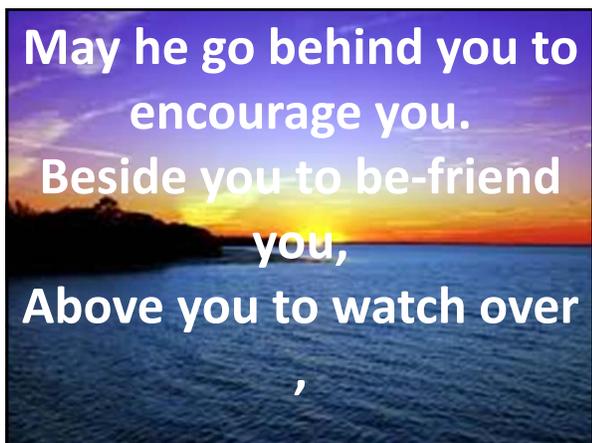
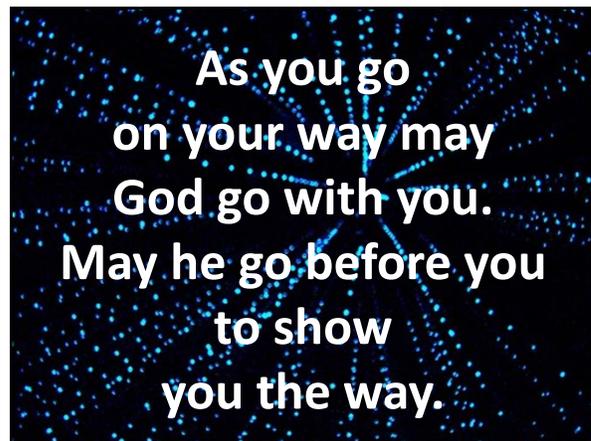
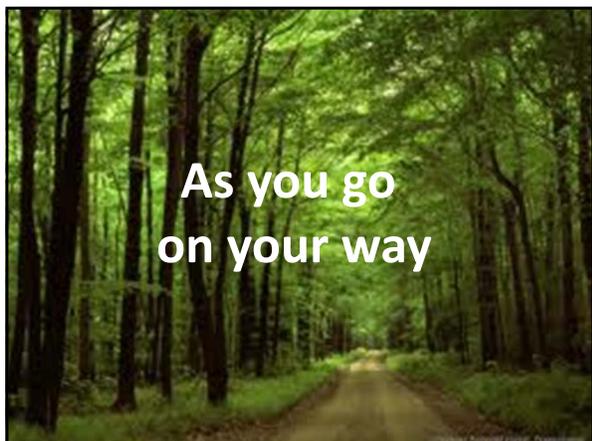


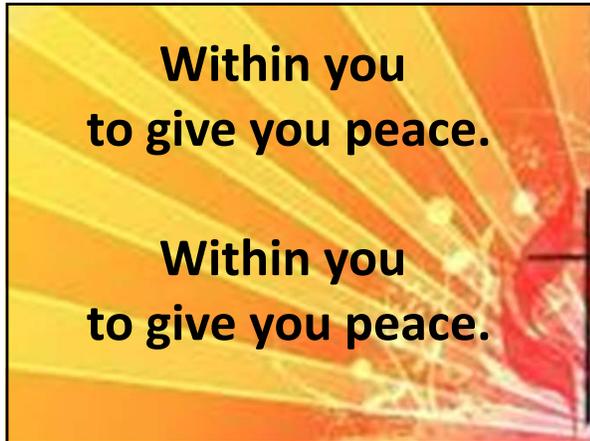
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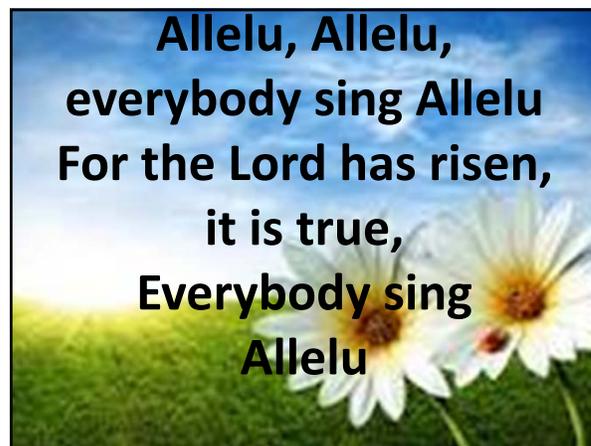
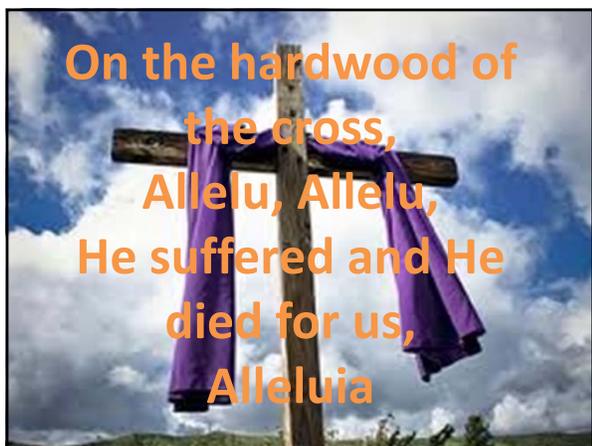
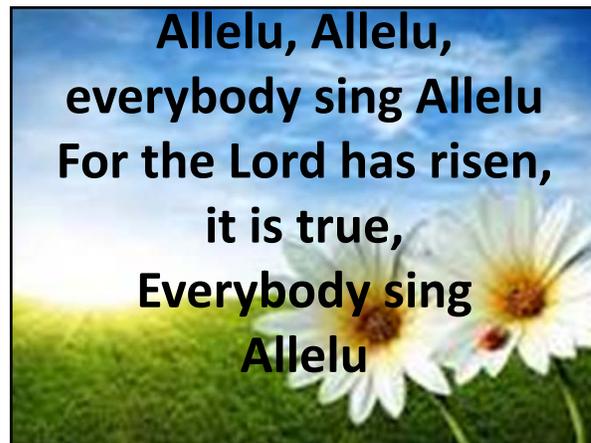
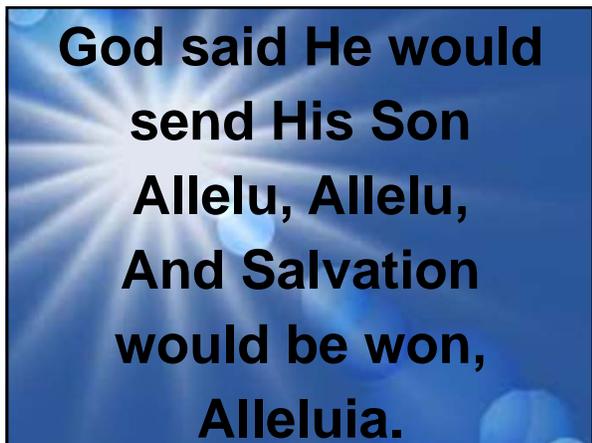
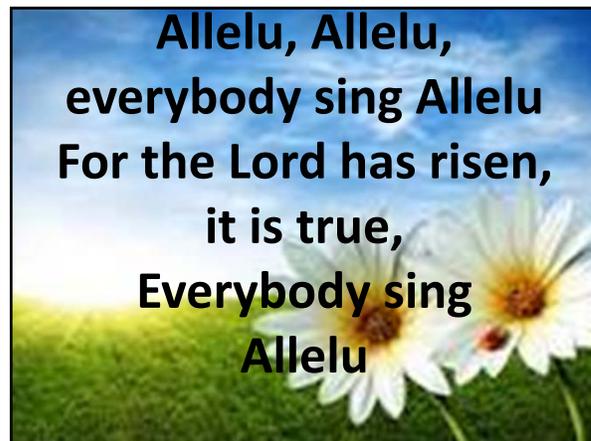
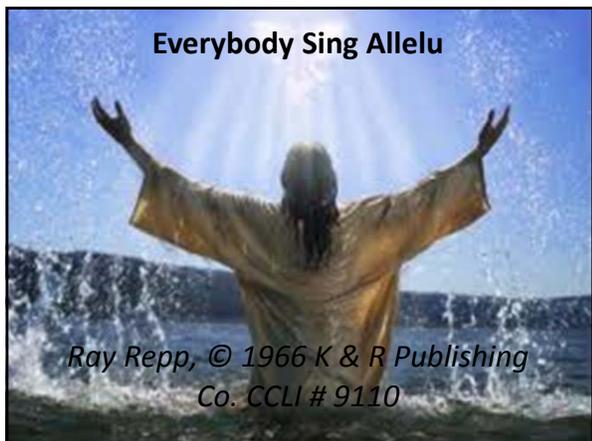


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**On the Third Day
He did rise
Allelu, Allelu,
Now He Lives
No More to Die,
Alleluia.**

**Allelu, Allelu,
everybody sing Allelu
For the Lord has risen,
it is true,
Everybody sing
Allelu**

**Now we too
can live anew
Allelu, Allelu,
Live in Him
need all we do,
Alleluia.**

**Allelu, Allelu,
everybody sing Allelu
For the Lord has risen,
it is true,
Everybody sing
Allelu**

[Return](#)