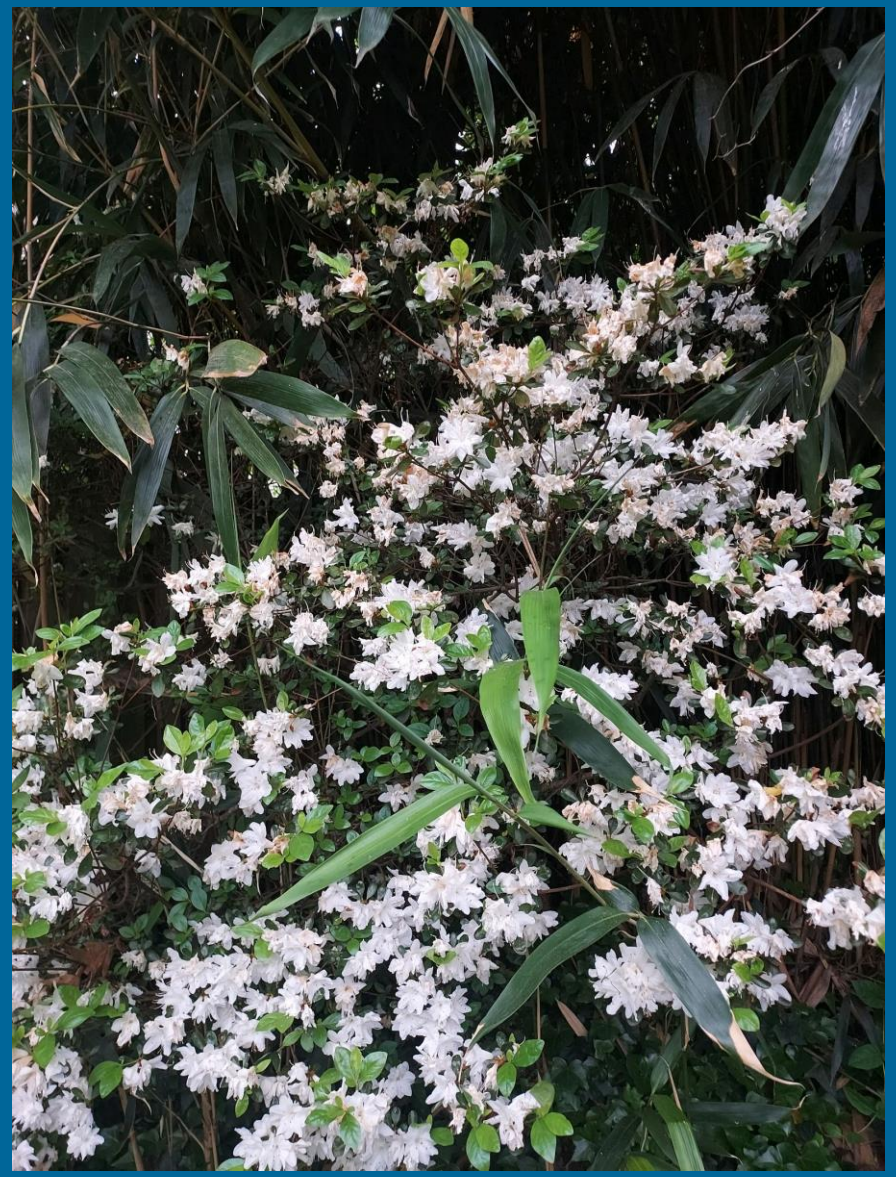


Photo by Sam Edgerton

Sunday, May 10, 2026

Culmore United Methodist Church

Welcome and Good Morning!

Welcome and Announcements

Art by Sue Carroll

Communion

Art by Sue Carroll

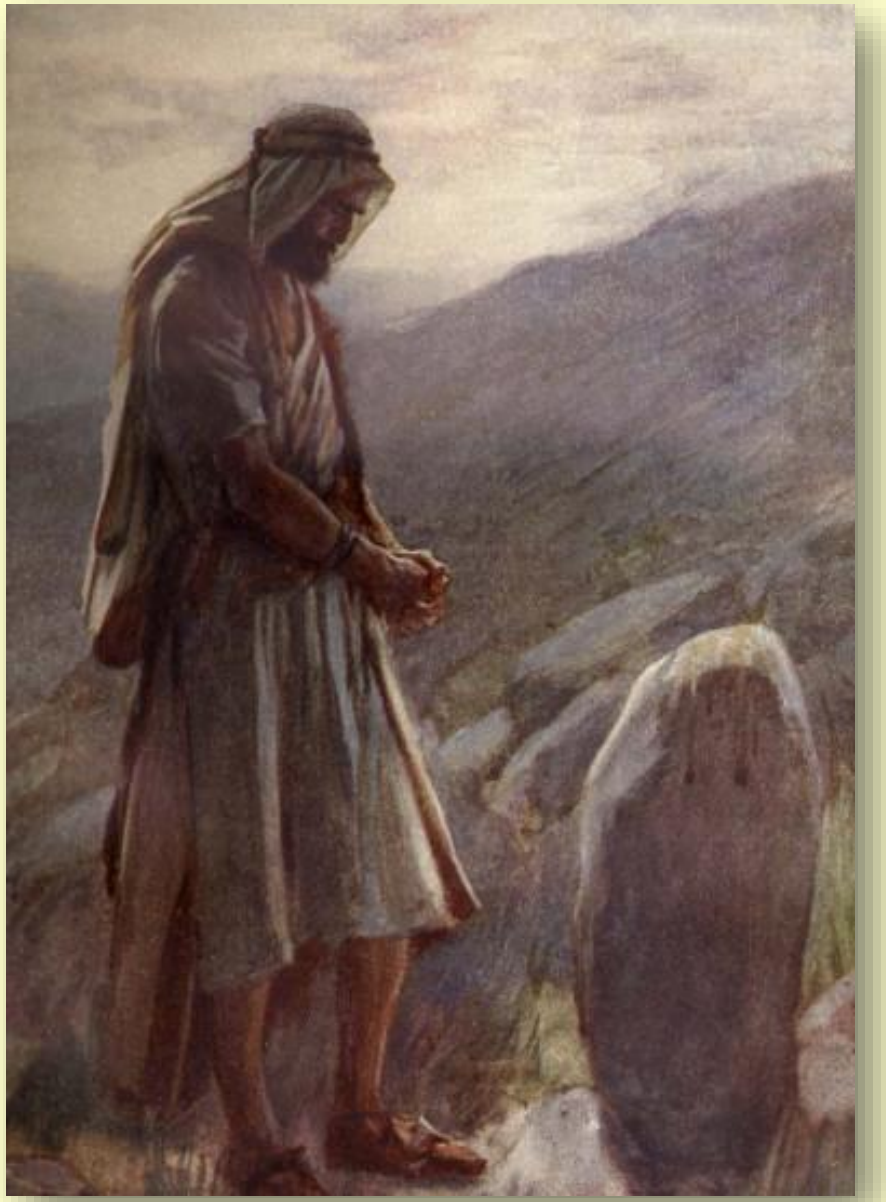
Welcome, Gracie!

Happy Birthday, Gracie!

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.

Stop running,
....be transformed.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks



JACOB

Opening Prayer

Wise and all-knowing Lord,

Just like Jacob, we sometimes want what we don't have and then go chasing after it. Just like Jacob, we're then stuck wrestling with all these feelings and desires.

Lord, You know who we are and what we need to do. Help us realize what we are doing and where we need to change.

Let us see ourselves clearly

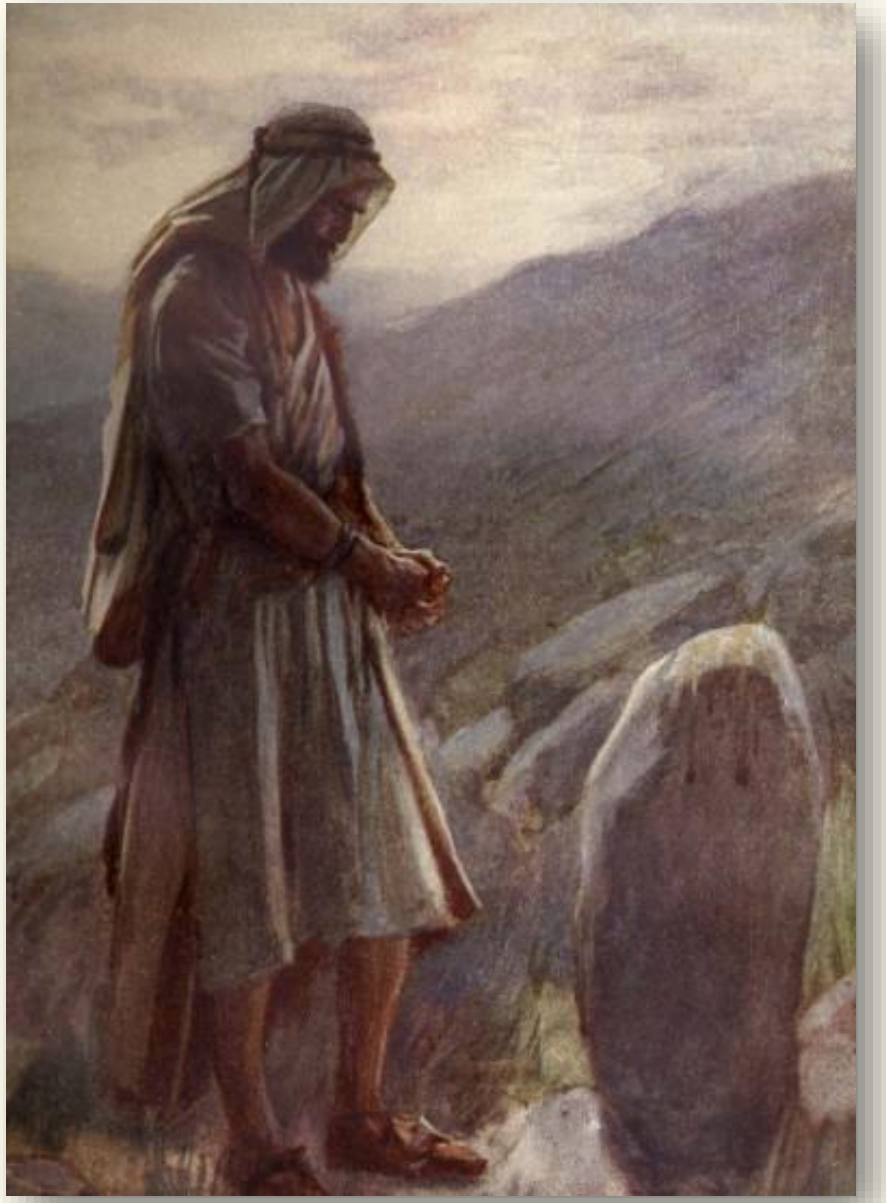
and let go of all those

rationalizations and excuses

we come up with. Just like

Jacob, let us be transformed.

Amen



Change My Heart, Oh God -- TFWS #2152

Change my heart, oh God

Make it ever true.

Change my heart, oh God

May I be like You.

You are the potter;

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me,

This is what I pray.

יַעֲקֹב

Jacob – the trickster,
the deceiver,
the heel-holder

Genesis 32: 29

From now on, you will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; because you have shown your strength to both God and men and have prevailed.

יִשְׂרָאֵל

Israel

"the one who struggles with God
and with man and prevails"

Genesis 32: 20

"I will pacify him with these gifts I am sending on ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me."

Genesis 33: 1-11

Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his 400 men.

He himself went ahead of his family and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother.

But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept…

Esau asked, "What's the meaning of all these flocks and herds I met?"

"To find favor in your eyes, my lord," he said.

But Esau said, "**I already have plenty**, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself."

"No, please!" said Jacob. "If I have found favor in your eyes, accept this gift from me. For to see your face is like seeing the face of God, now that you have received me favorably.

Please accept the present that was brought to you, for

God has been gracious to me and I have all I need."

Genesis 33: 18

And Jacob emerged complete.

What do we gain…*in this life*…

from following God?

He Will Carry You

There is no problem too big God cannot solve it

There is no mountain too tall He cannot move it

There is no storm too dark God cannot calm it

There is no sorrow too deep He cannot soothe it.

If He carried the weight of the world upon His shoulders

I know my brother that He will carry you.

If He carried the weight of the world upon His shoulders

I know my sister that He will carry you.

He said, "Come unto me all who are weary, and I will give you rest.

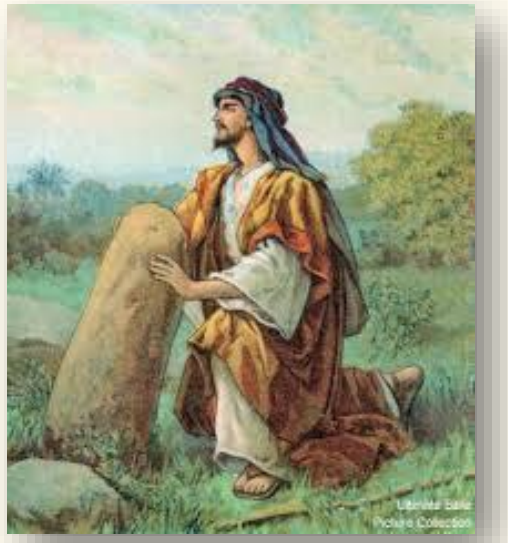
Community Prayer

LORD Jesus, we wish we could bring You the things we need to change, and then You do the work for us, but that's not how it goes. We can't expect You to do the work for us. We have to take action ourselves.

Jacob demonstrated this as he wrestled with that unnamed adversary. In the process, he was changed. He wrestled with You (and himself), and prevailed.

It's the same for us as it was for Jacob. We have to do what we need to do, to be transformed into the people You want us to be. Then may we say, like Jacob, *"God has been gracious to me, and I have all I need."*

AMEN



Offering and Doxology
UM Hymnal 95

We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Doxology - UM Hymnal 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Holy Communion

All are welcome to this, Christ's table, as we come together as one holy family. In this sacred space, let us come before the Lord with open ears and open hearts, and listen to what He is telling us. Let us be transformed by this encounter.

Prayer of Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Loving Lord, You know how often we stumble. So we don't come to this table trusting in ourselves, but instead, trusting in You and Your unfailing mercy.

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. What a sign of Your love and grace. We are a forgiven people. ***Amen***

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you;

People: ***and also with you.***

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Pastor: It is a good and joyful thing to always give thanks to you. Even when we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. And so we praise Your Holy name.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,
God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes
Blessed is the one who comes

In the name of the Lord.
In the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took the bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, he gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said, "*Drink from this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as your drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

… And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Photo by James Gardner

All honor and glory is yours,

almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

Blessing of the Elements

Loving and eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the entire world, until Christ comes in final victory. ***Amen***

Breaking of the Bread

Lifting of the Cup

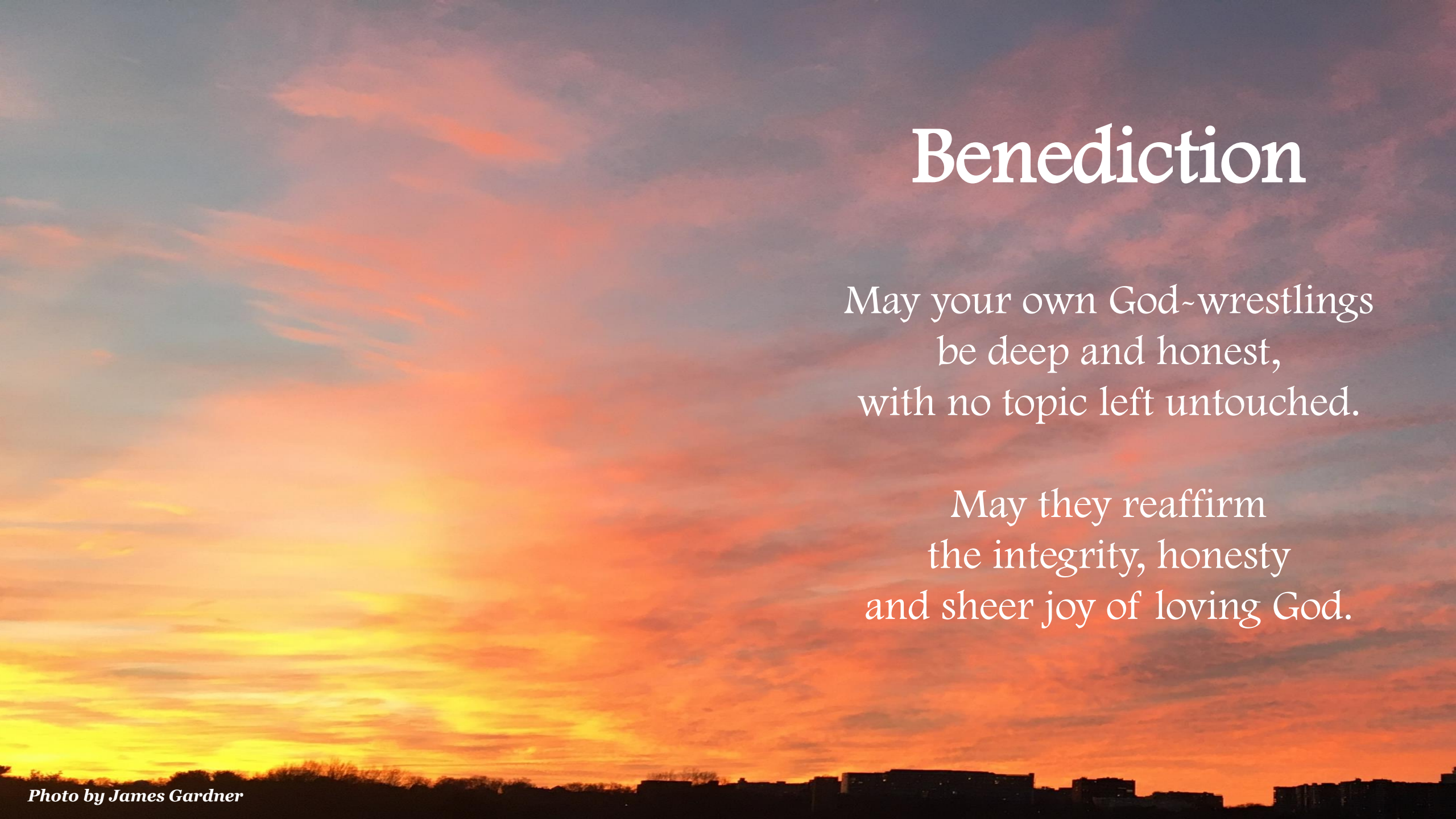
Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.

Just as we all partake of one loaf, the bread which we share

is also a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing of the Blood of Christ.

Partaking of the Elements



Benediction

May your own God-wrestlings
be deep and honest,
with no topic left untouched.

May they reaffirm
the integrity, honesty
and sheer joy of loving God.

Photo by James Gardner