

Welcome everybody to our Harvest Festival.

We are glad to see you, in church or watching at home.

We are here to celebrate together.

For all the harvests of the world, we come to say thank you God.

For those who work to gather the crops, we come to say thank you God.

For those who fill our shops with food, we come to say thank you God.

For food to eat and food to share, we come to say thank you God.

For this our Harvest Festival Day, we come to say thank you God.

When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the first fruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket.

Then go to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God.

Then you shall declare before the Lord your God:  
“My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labour. Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey;

and now I bring the first fruits of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.” Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11





Creator God

For the promise of harvest  
contained within a seed:

**We thank you.**

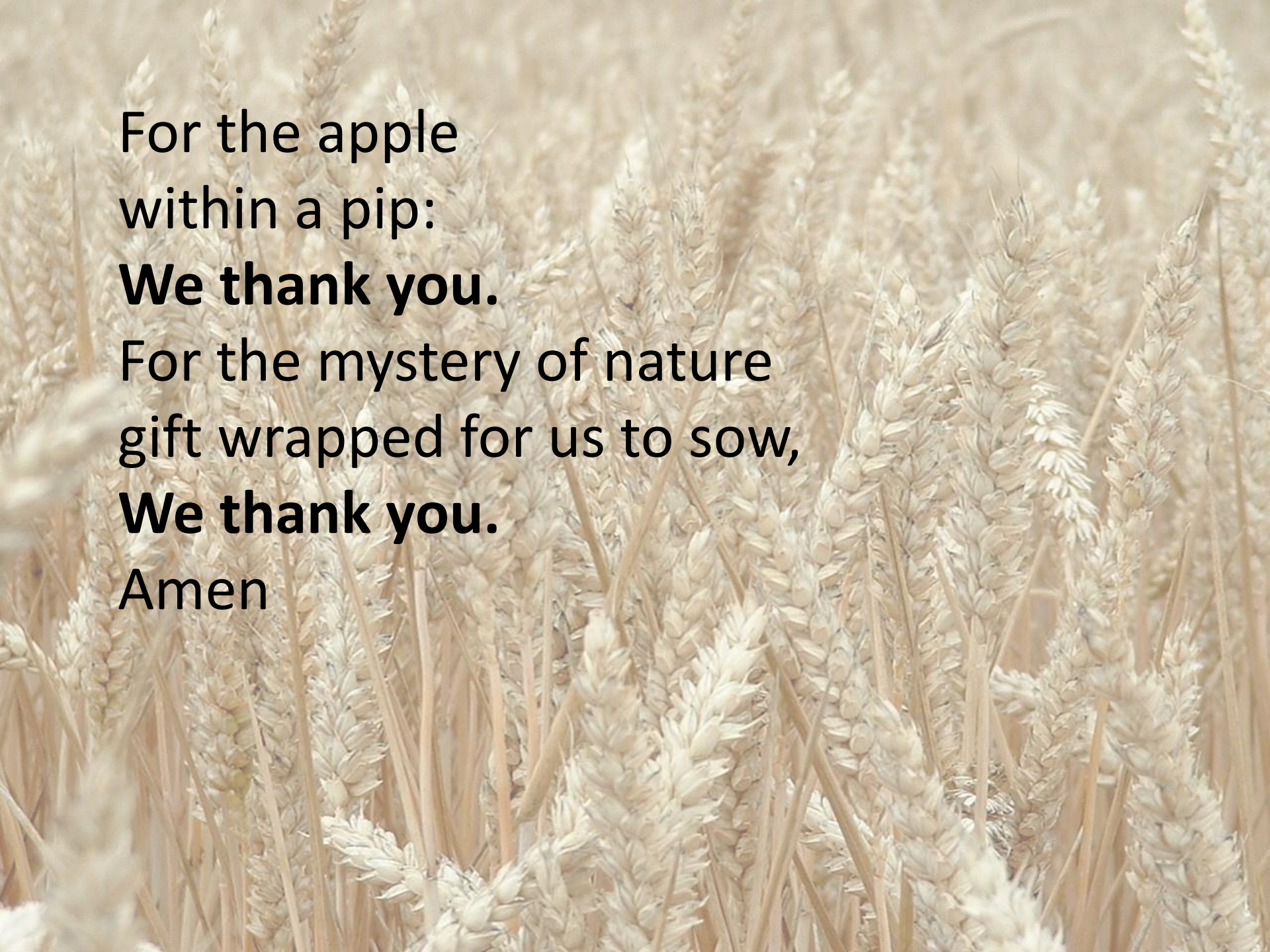
For the oak tree  
within an acorn:

**We thank you.**

For daily bread  
within a grain:

**We thank you.**





For the apple  
within a pip:

**We thank you.**

For the mystery of nature  
gift wrapped for us to sow,

**We thank you.**

Amen



If we had a fraction of the faith in you that  
you have in us

**Then this world would be transformed, Lord.**

If we showed a fraction of the love that you  
show to us

**Then this world would be transformed, Lord**

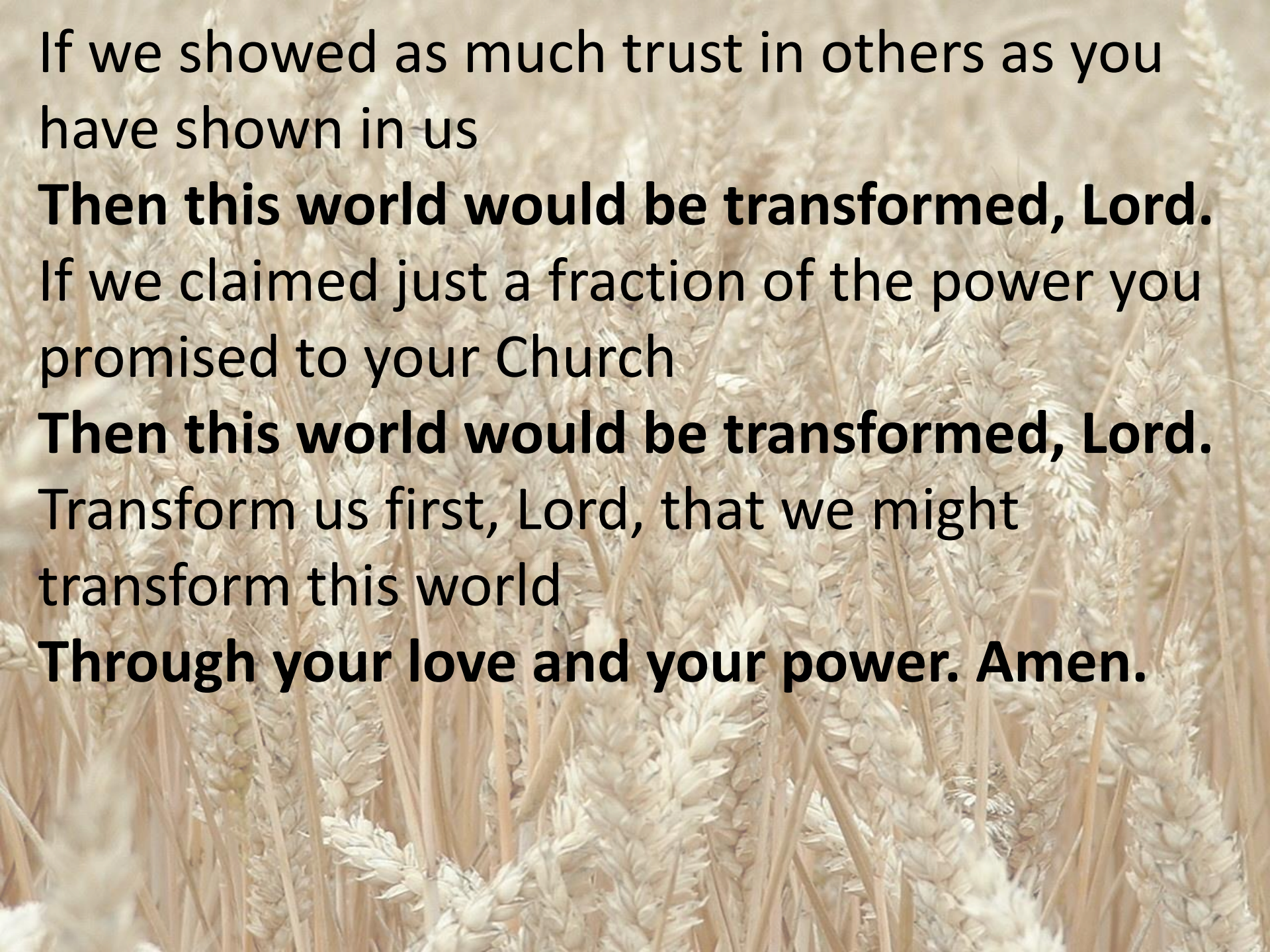
If we possessed a fraction of the patience that  
you display with us

**Then this world would be transformed, Lord.**

If we shared just a portion of the blessings  
that we have received from you

**Then this world would be transformed, Lord.**





If we showed as much trust in others as you  
have shown in us

**Then this world would be transformed, Lord.**

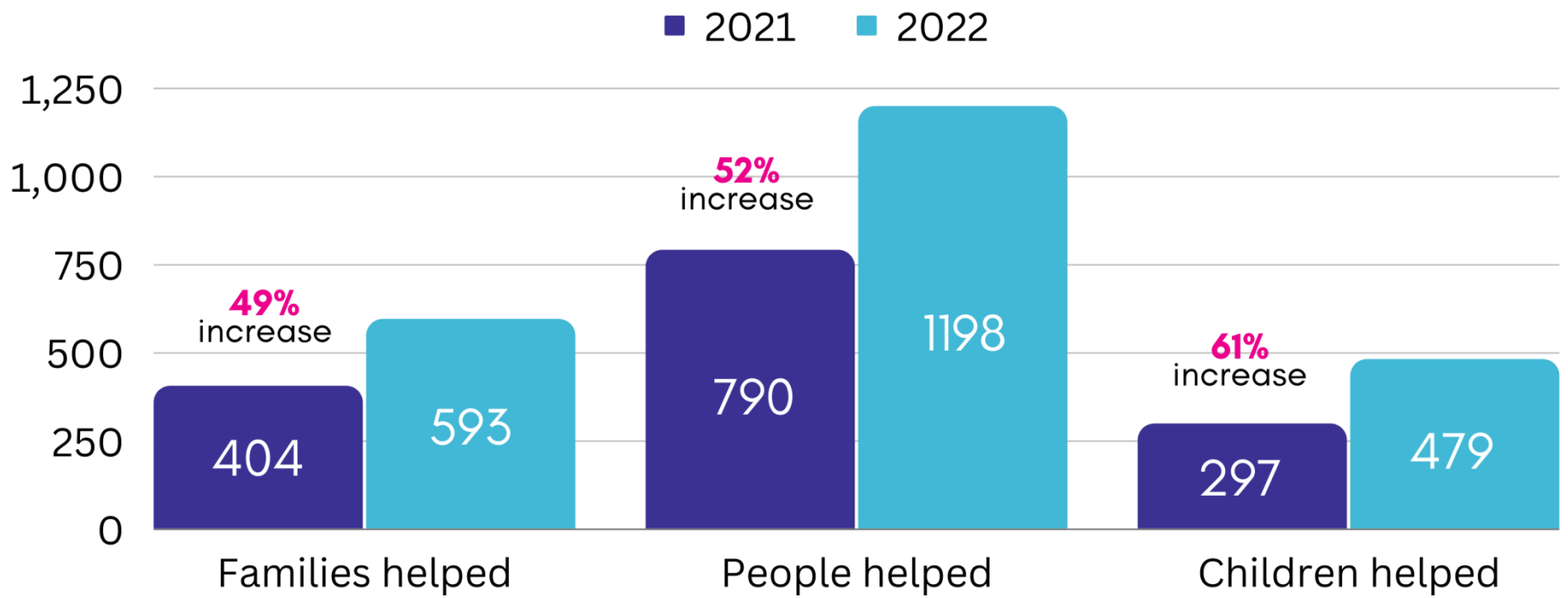
If we claimed just a fraction of the power you  
promised to your Church

**Then this world would be transformed, Lord.**

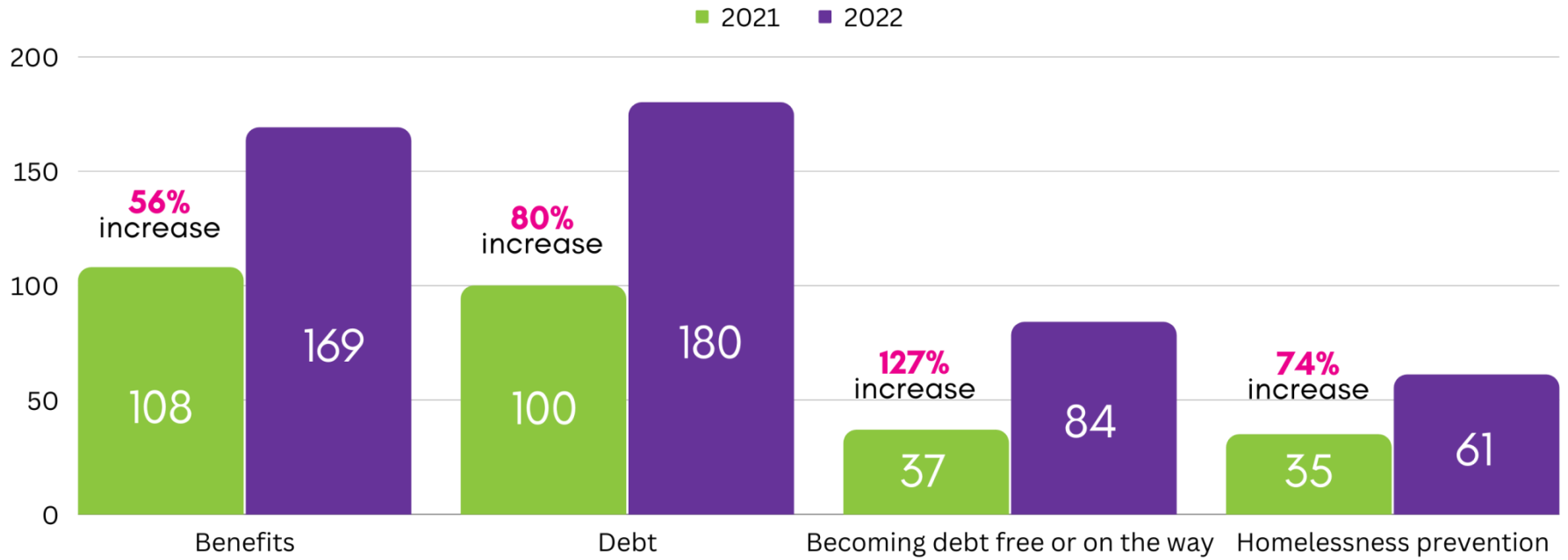
Transform us first, Lord, that we might  
transform this world

**Through your love and your power. Amen.**

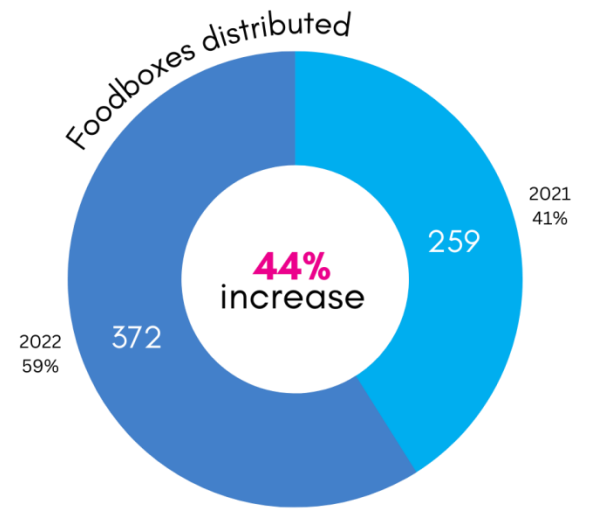
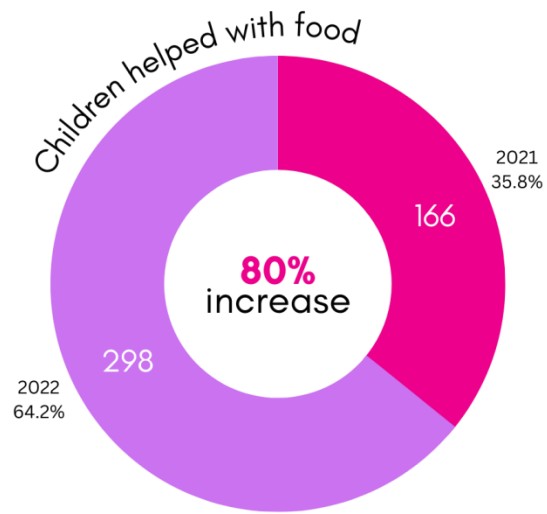




People helped with...







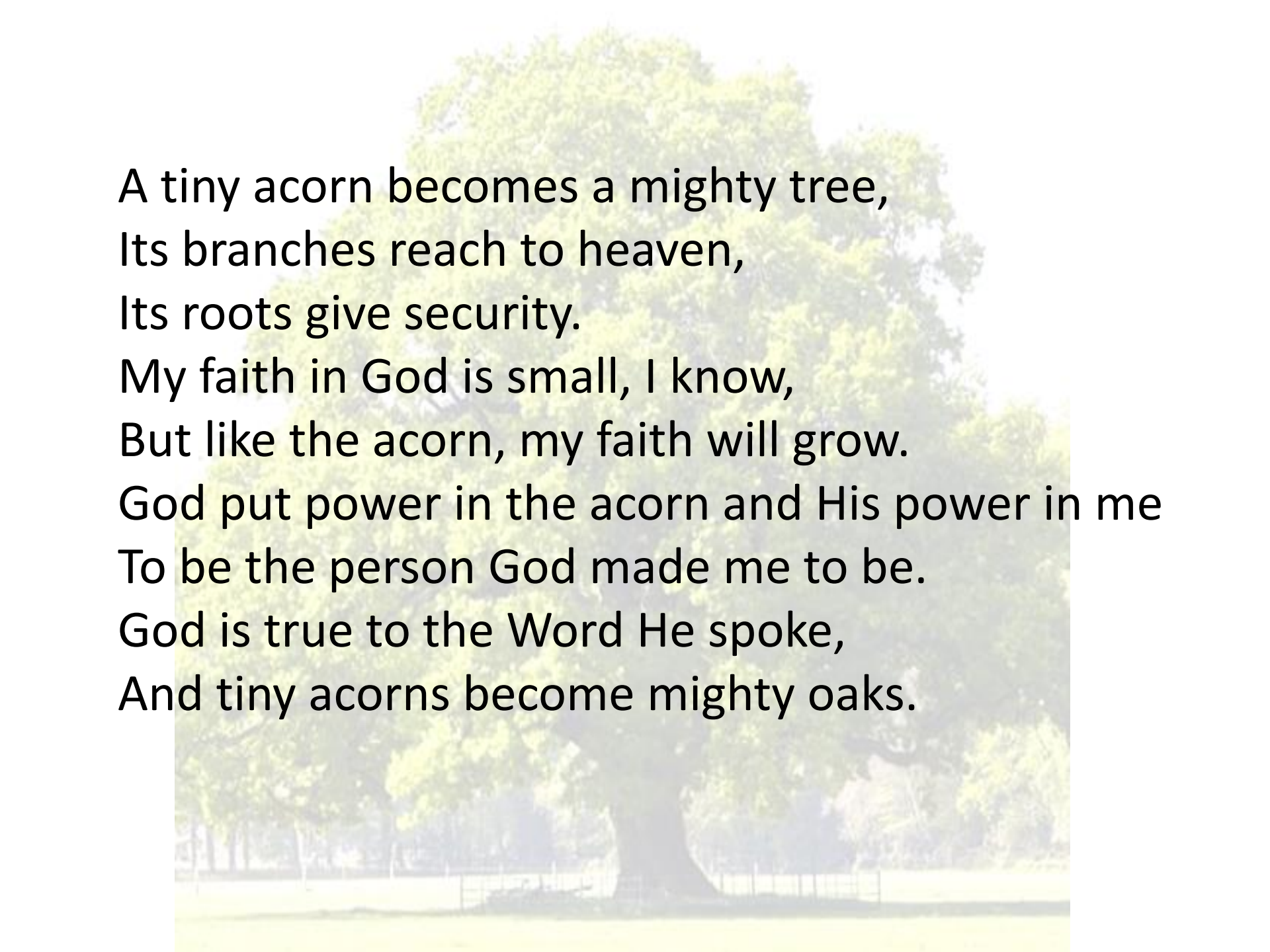


**Financial  
gain of:**

**£322,000**  
for 177 families





A large, leafy tree in a field, serving as a background for the text.

A tiny acorn becomes a mighty tree,  
Its branches reach to heaven,  
Its roots give security.  
My faith in God is small, I know,  
But like the acorn, my faith will grow.  
God put power in the acorn and His power in me  
To be the person God made me to be.  
God is true to the Word He spoke,  
And tiny acorns become mighty oaks.



Jesus travelled through all the towns and villages. He taught in their synagogues and told people the Good News about the kingdom. And he healed all kinds of diseases and sicknesses. He saw the crowds of people and felt sorry for them because they were worried and helpless. They were like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus said to his followers, “There are many people to harvest, but there are only a few workers to help harvest them. God owns the harvest. Pray to him that he will send more workers to help gather his harvest.”

Matthew 9:35-38

Loving God, you are our Creator and provider. When you open your hand, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. And so we look to you whenever we are in need, trusting in your love and your great goodness. As you once fed the hungry crowds with five loaves and two small fish, we ask that you would again fill those who are empty this day. Pour out Your Spirit on all who hunger and thirst.

We pray for those who are physically hungry—whose stomachs are empty.

We pray for those who cannot afford to buy food and those who are facing a food shortage.



**Lord, in your mercy, open your hand.**

**Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.**

We pray for those whose hearts are empty inside —  
Those who are lonely and long for friendship and  
love, peace and comfort

**Lord, in your mercy, open your hand.**

**Pour out your Spirit, so that they may be filled.**

We pray for those who are spiritually empty— who  
are troubled, but don't know where to turn; who long  
for purpose and meaning, but don't know where to  
look; who need You, but do not yet know You.

**Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand.**

**Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.**

God, we praise you for your plentiful gifts in our lives.

Pour out your Spirit on us as well.

Fill us with your compassion and love,  
so that we would willingly share some of our abundance

with those who have need.

**Lord, in your mercy, open your hand.**

**Pour out Your Spirit, so that we may be filled.**

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who came so that all of humanity might come to know

the abundant life that comes from you.

**Amen.**



Creator God, on our Harvest Festival day we bring to you our lives and our Harvest gifts.

Bless the work of REACH and the Foodbank and bless all the lives they reach and serve.

**Amen.**

Let there be a harvest of food in our world.

Let there be a harvest of happiness in our town.

Let there be a harvest of love in our hearts.

Go blessed by God to be a blessing.

**Amen.**