

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.'

The cup is brought forward and placed at the cross

Let us say together the prayer on screen:

Lord Jesus, for us you drank from the cup of suffering and pain.

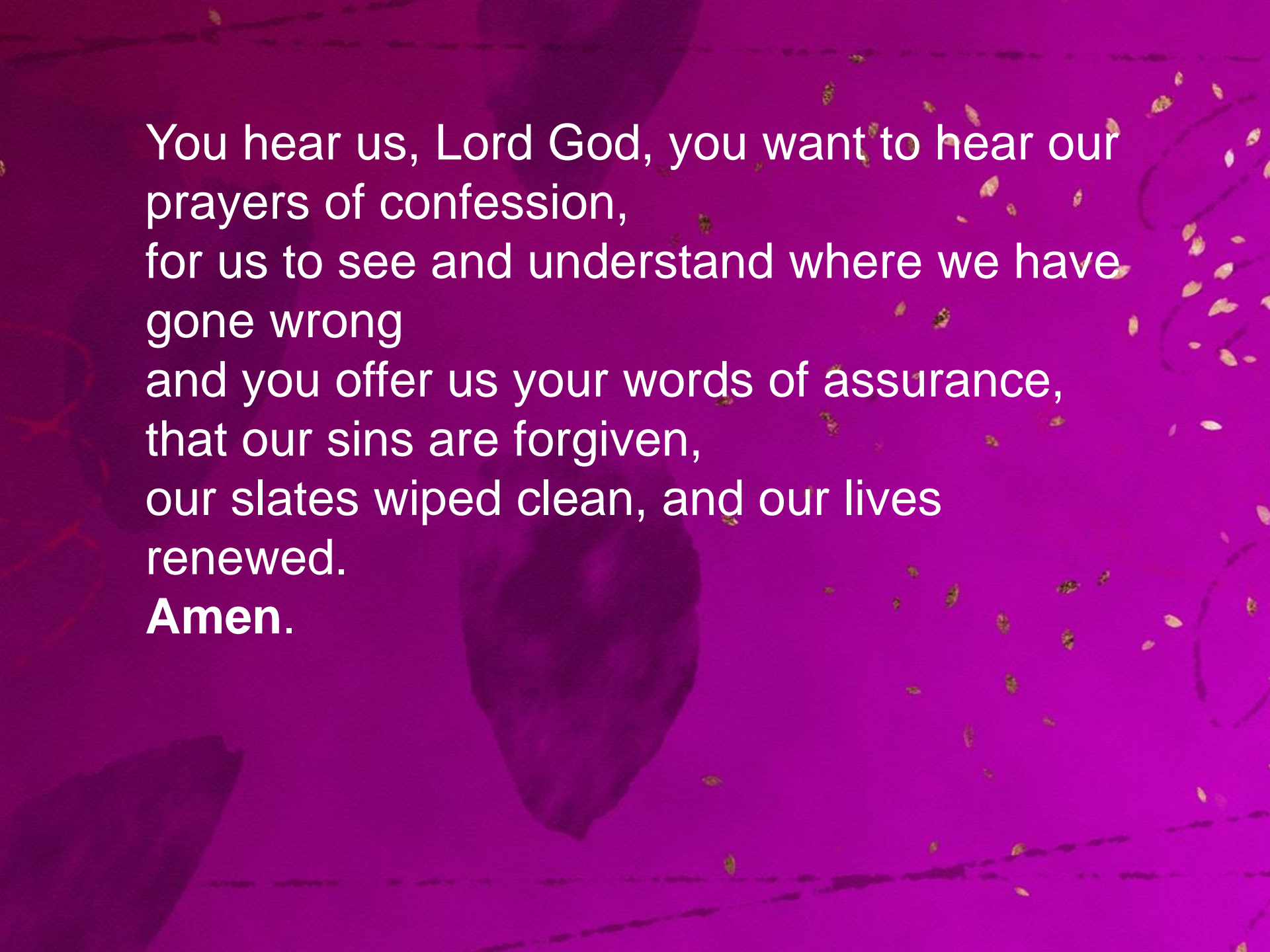
We thank you that whatever struggles we experience, your struggle was greater, and you will see us through.

Amen.

O Lord our God, we own our failings and our shortcomings. We admit and are sorry for our inconsistent faith. We create for ourselves other gods and images, we take your name in vain, we do not keep a time set aside for you, and we have lost much respect for others.

Loving heavenly father, maker of heaven and earth, forgive us we pray, renew and refresh us and set us on a right path.

Amen

A background image of a tree with green leaves and a blue sky with falling yellow leaves.

You hear us, Lord God, you want to hear our
prayers of confession,
for us to see and understand where we have
gone wrong
and you offer us your words of assurance,
that our sins are forgiven,
our slates wiped clean, and our lives
renewed.

Amen.

Immediate

Indiscriminate

Inconvenient!

God of all, we give thanks for your guidelines for our lives. We are called by you to live in your love and follow your ways. We pray that in these times of challenge and doubt, where truth is hard to find, we would always turn to you.

We pray for those who lead our nation. We ask that they would take decisions with care and wisdom, always considering your guidelines for how we can live our lives and help others. We ask for peace and calm in parliament as life-changing decisions are made that affect us all, and that, despite political differences, our MPs would put people at the centre of their thinking and voting. We look for leadership that is wise and considered and ask that the people of this nation would be served well by those we elect.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

God of all, we give you thanks that you made all people and value every one of us. We are called by you to follow your guidelines in living and sharing our lives with others without greed, envy or jealousy, and to avoid conflict and seek peace.

We pray for the wars and conflicts that divide nations. We think again of the continuing war in Ukraine and the needs of all those who are suffering. We bring to you the conflict and fighting in Gaza, and the desperation of the many thousands of refugees who are left with nowhere to go.

We pray for the United Nations, NATO, The Red Cross and Red Crescent, and other agencies and organisations that have influence, that they would continue to seek a settlement.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

God of all, we thank you for our church, our community, and the many blessings you give us. We are given ways to live that make our lives better; help us to grow and thrive as followers of Jesus. We ask that we would be good servants.

We pray for the places where we spend our time. We pray for our homes, that they would be places of calm and peace where all feel safe. We pray for the schools that we go to and remember the staff and school leaders as they face budget challenges and huge workloads. We remember our medical centres, surgeries and hospitals and all those who support others to find help with complex and tough situations. We think of all the workplaces that are hard for employees, and those who are desperate for work that they cannot find.

Help us to support each other and our local communities as much as we can, bringing hope and truth where that is lacking.

We remember our church family and the leaders here. We pray for all those in pain, sickness and facing challenging decisions, and we think of those who are sad at the loss of those they love. For all the seen and unseen needs we all have, we ask you to walk with us through your love.

In all these prayers we know that you are God, you are our provider, and you hear us.

God, who created us all,

In the name of Christ. Amen

As our Father has taught us let us say together the Lord's Prayer.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours. Now and forever Amen

Loving God, thank you for your gift of freedom.

Thank you also for giving us guidance on how to be fully alive and loving.

Be with us as we put your guidance into practice.

Accept these gifts given today and also by standing order and we pray that they are used wisely to relieve suffering and bring more people to your heavenly kingdom.

Amen.