

An illustration on the left side of the cover. It features a large, textured, orange-brown circle representing a sun or moon in the background. In the foreground, there is a dark grey chalice. Several green wheat stalks with yellow heads are positioned around the chalice, some appearing to grow from its base. The entire scene is set against a light blue background. The illustration is framed by a decorative border at the top and bottom, consisting of a yellow band with a red and white geometric pattern, and a black band with a white dotted pattern.

NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES

NEW LIFE

WORKBOOK

NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES

A series of 9 children's workbooks with family letters, including a family and teaching guide:

1. BELONGING
2. CELEBRATING
3. FORGIVING
4. HEARING
5. LOVING
6. OUR CREATOR'S GIVE-AWAY
7. NEW LIFE
8. SHARING
9. SERVING
10. FAMILY & TEACHING GUIDE

- Created in the early 1970s by Fr. Gilbert F. Hemaue, OFM Cap. and Religion Research Center Staff at St. Labre Indian School, Ashland, MT 59003
- Piloted in various native communities until the Summer of 1987
- Revised by the Tekakwitha Conference Staff and Native Catechists in 1987
- Illustrated by Gus Antone



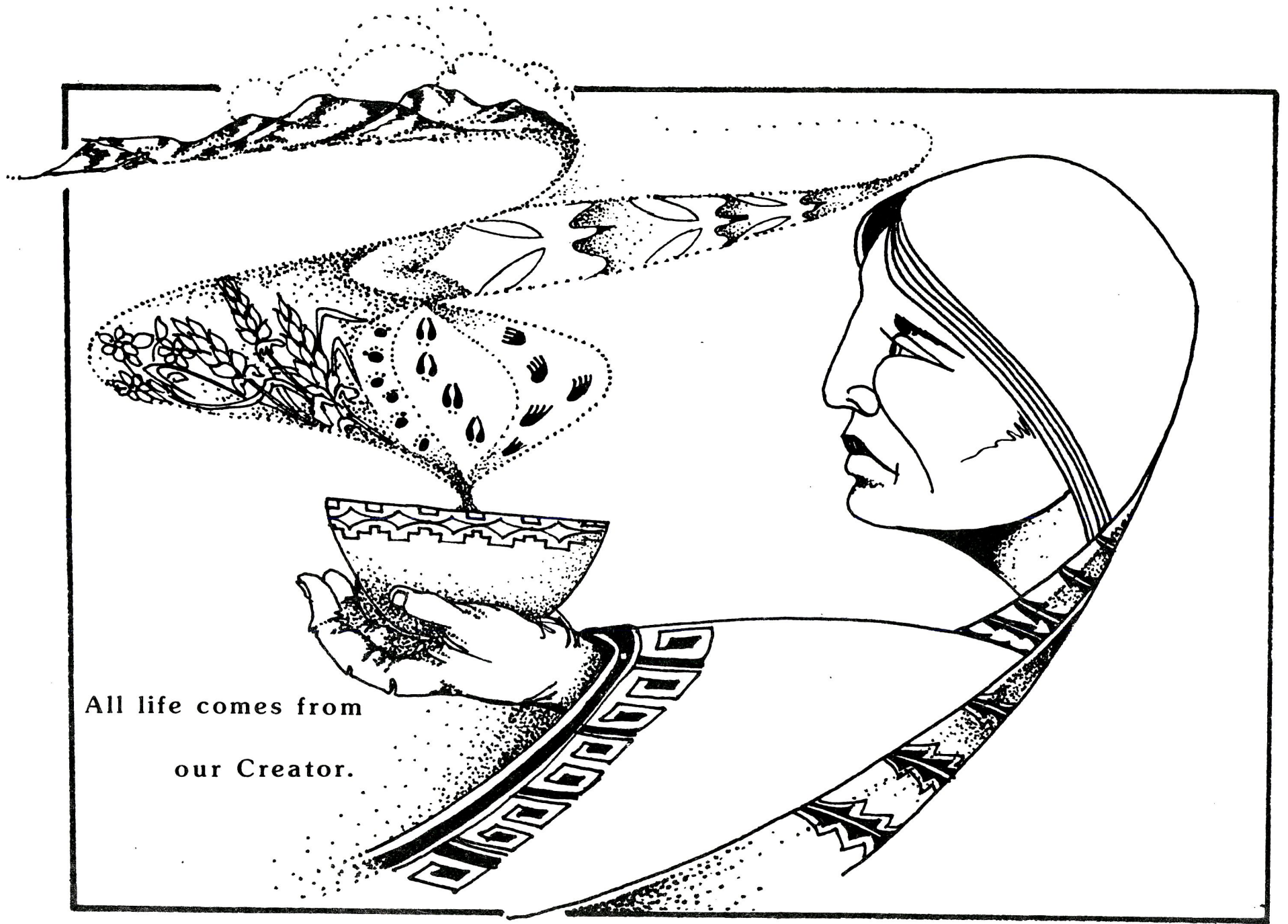
NEW LIFE

The teaching on NEW LIFE helps us appreciate the power the Creator gives us. The previous teaching on the Creator's Give-Away helps the children appreciate the gifts of God. The miracle of new life is truly one of our Creator's greatest gifts. In the springtime, after the dead of winter, the grass turns green and grows tall. Trees begin to bud and burst into leaf. The dry little seed that is buried in the ground takes nourishment from the soil and water and comes up some weeks later as a food plant. The seed is changed and becomes a new plant full of life.

Still more amazing is the growth of a human baby, both before and after its birth. Parents and other adults care for the child so that the child can eventually grow to adulthood. A person's spiritual life needs to be cared for so that the new life of God received in baptism can grow and help us develop into a whole person.

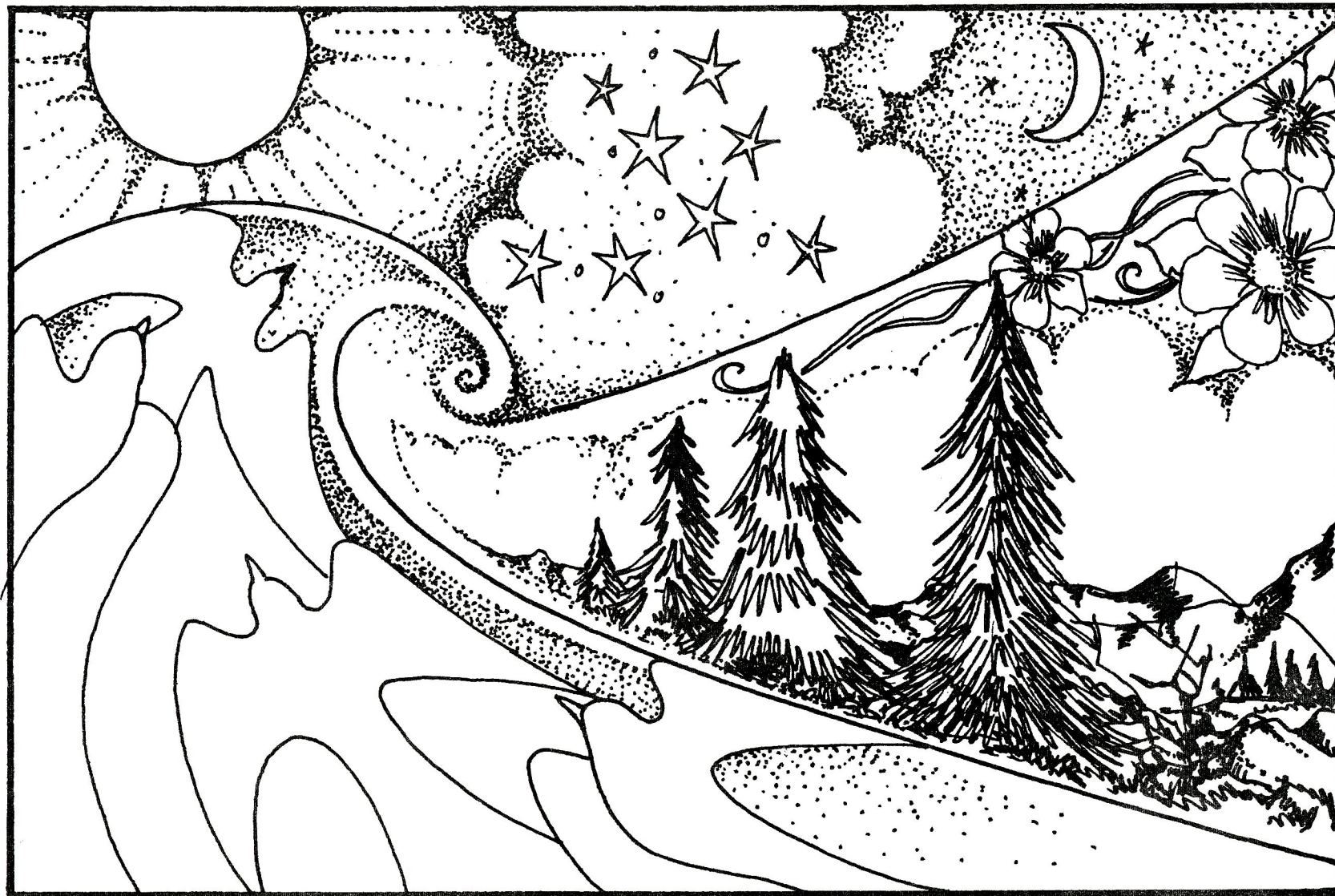
Jesus has life because of the Father. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we share God's life, which is a life of love. When Jesus ate his Last Supper with his friends the night before He died, He said, "Love one another as I love you." He also promised to be with us always and to give us himself in the Eucharist, the "Bread of Life." Jesus gave his life for us because he loves us. He said "YES" to his Father for all people. His Father raised him from the dead in the power of the Spirit and gave him a new life!

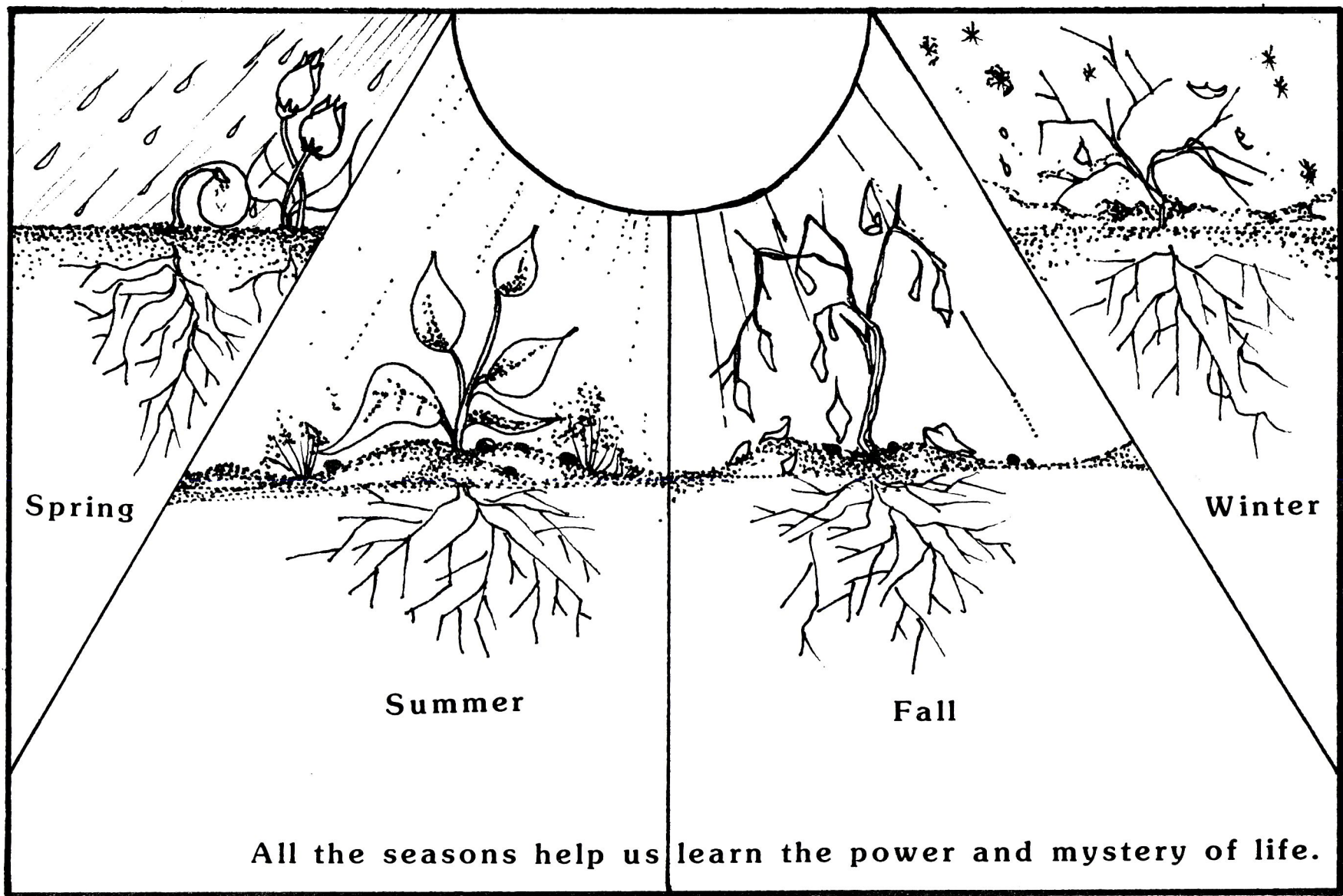
When we share our love, life, and time with others, some of the selfishness in us dies and we become a little more like Jesus in his love. During the Eucharistic Celebration we thank our Father for Jesus, his Son and our brother. When we say "Amen," we are saying "Yes" to Jesus: Yes, we belong to you; Yes, we share new life with you; Yes, even when it's hard, we will share our life and love with others.



All life comes from
our Creator.

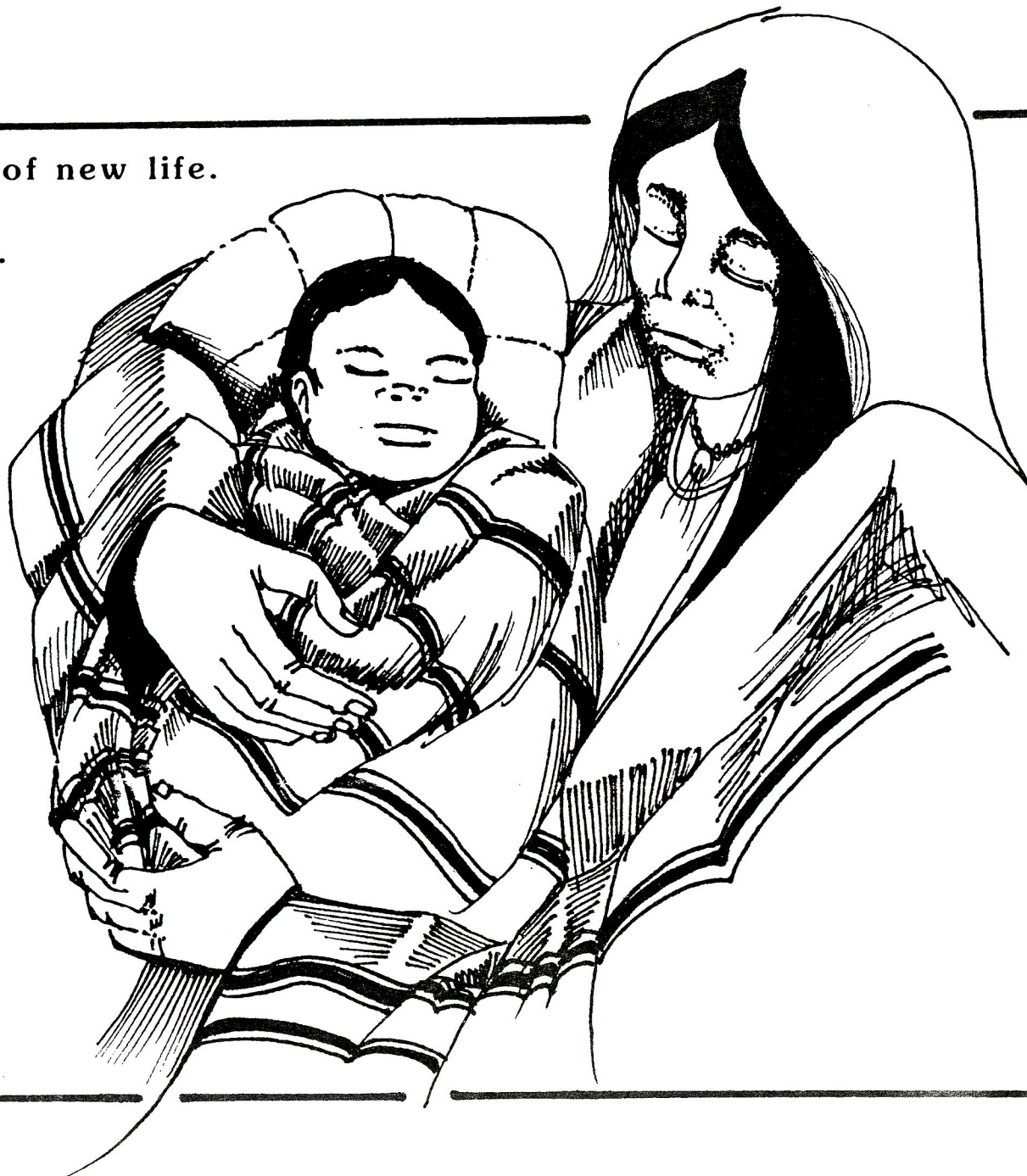
All life and all nature help us learn the power and mystery of our Creator.

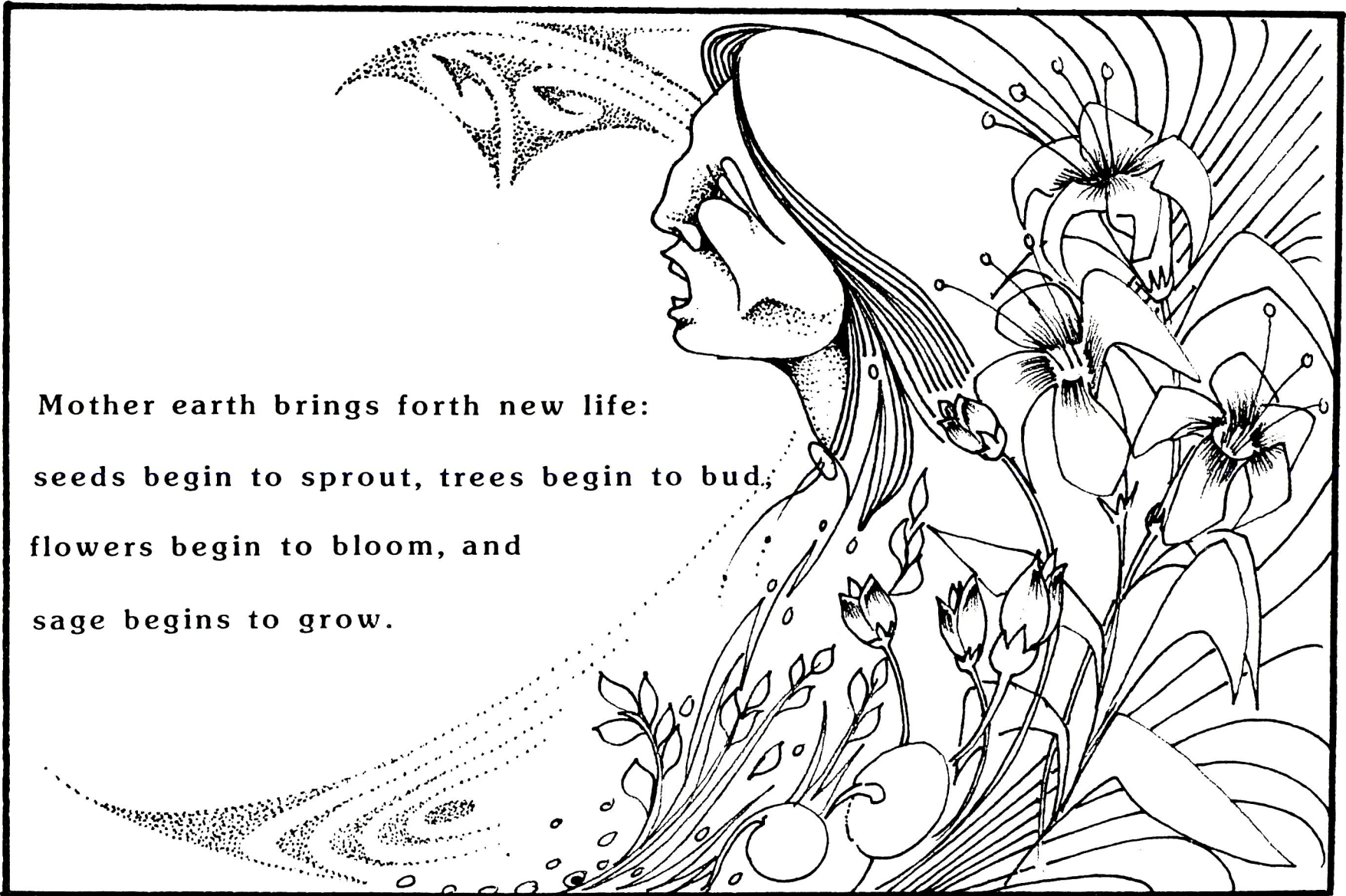




Spring is a season of new life.

Nature comes alive.





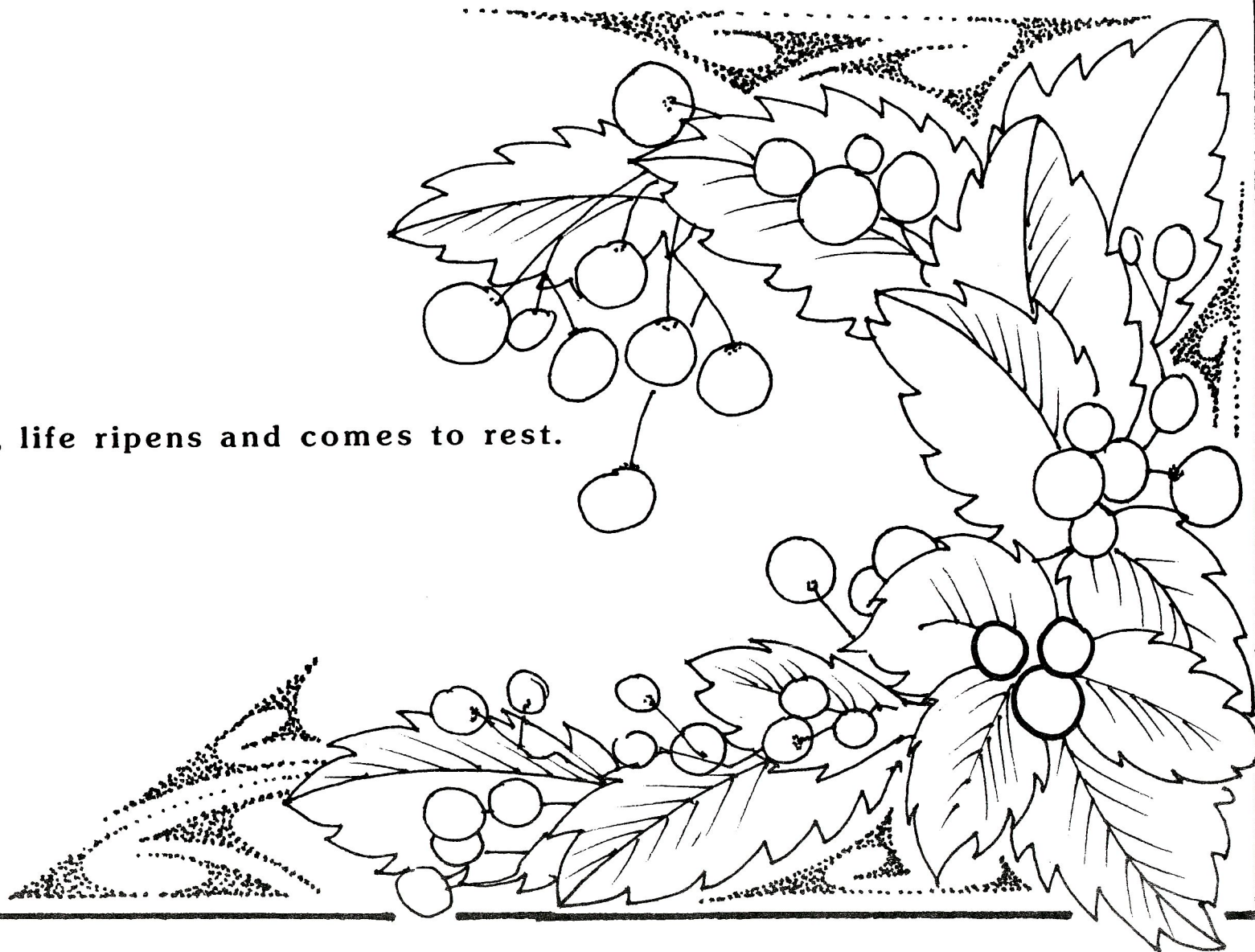
Mother earth brings forth new life:
seeds begin to sprout, trees begin to bud,
flowers begin to bloom, and
sage begins to grow.



With the summer sun and rain, new life continues to grow and ripen.

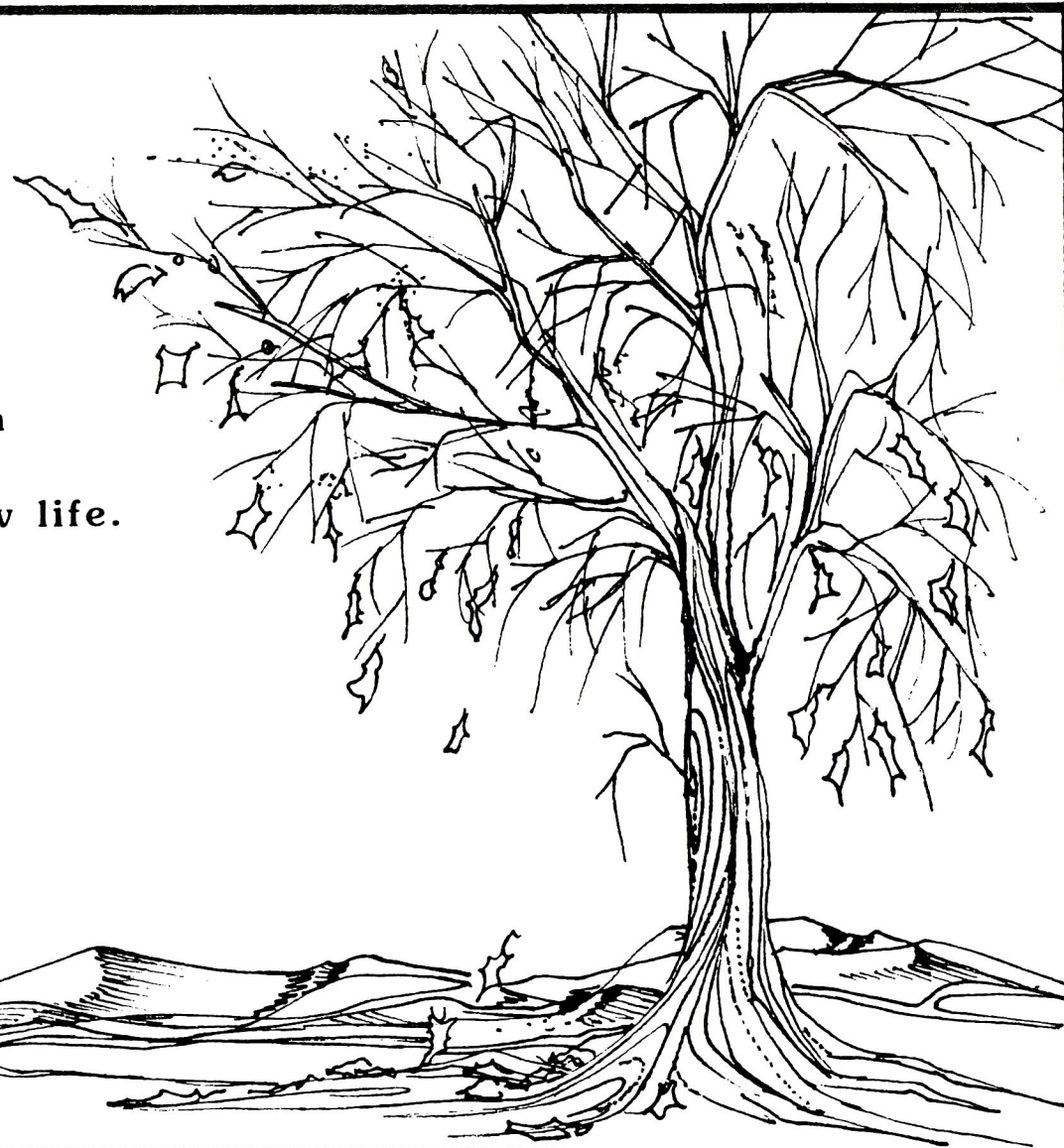
Draw the earth, full of life, in the summer.

In fall, life ripens and comes to rest.

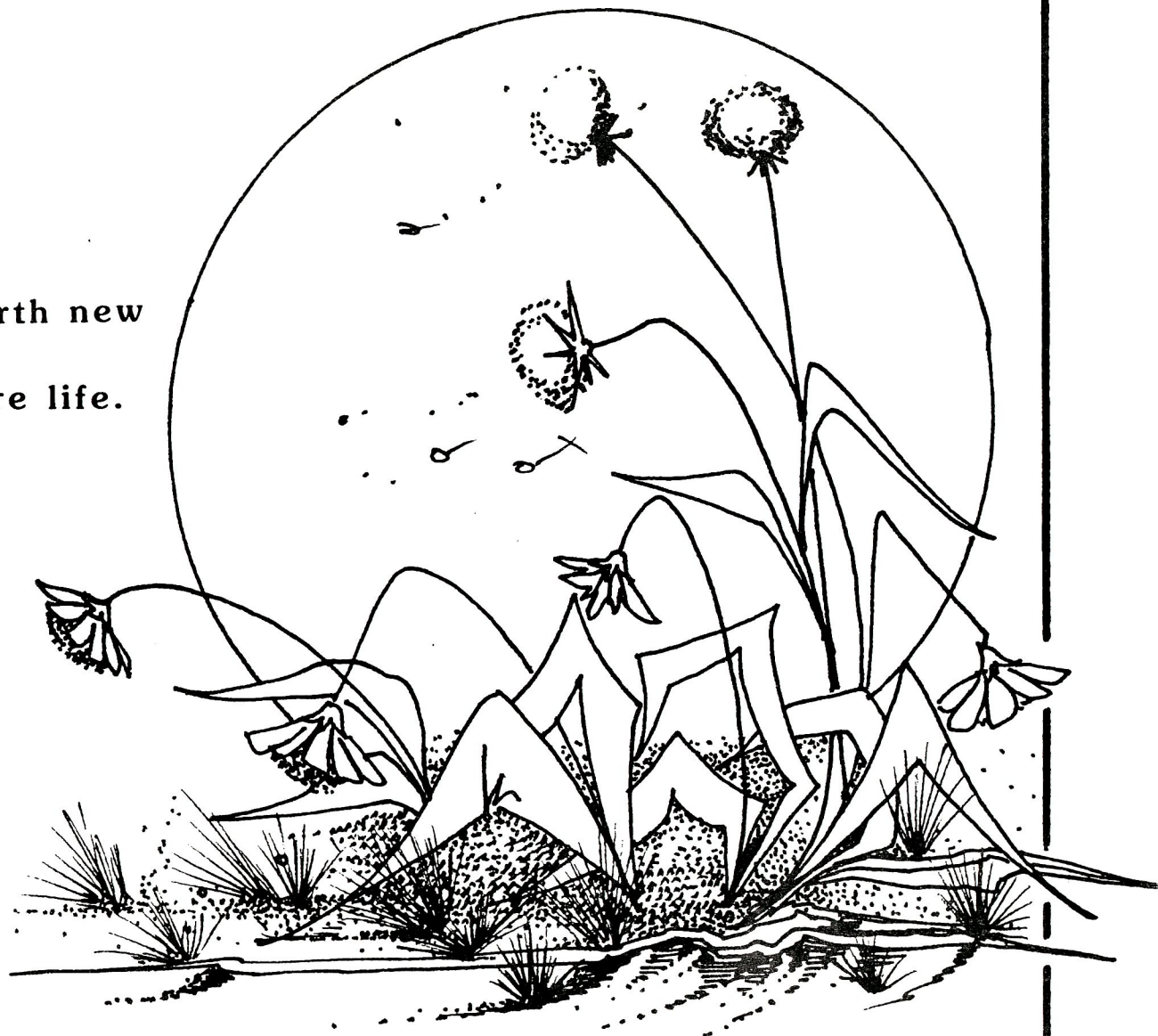


The green leaves turn to
red and golden brown.

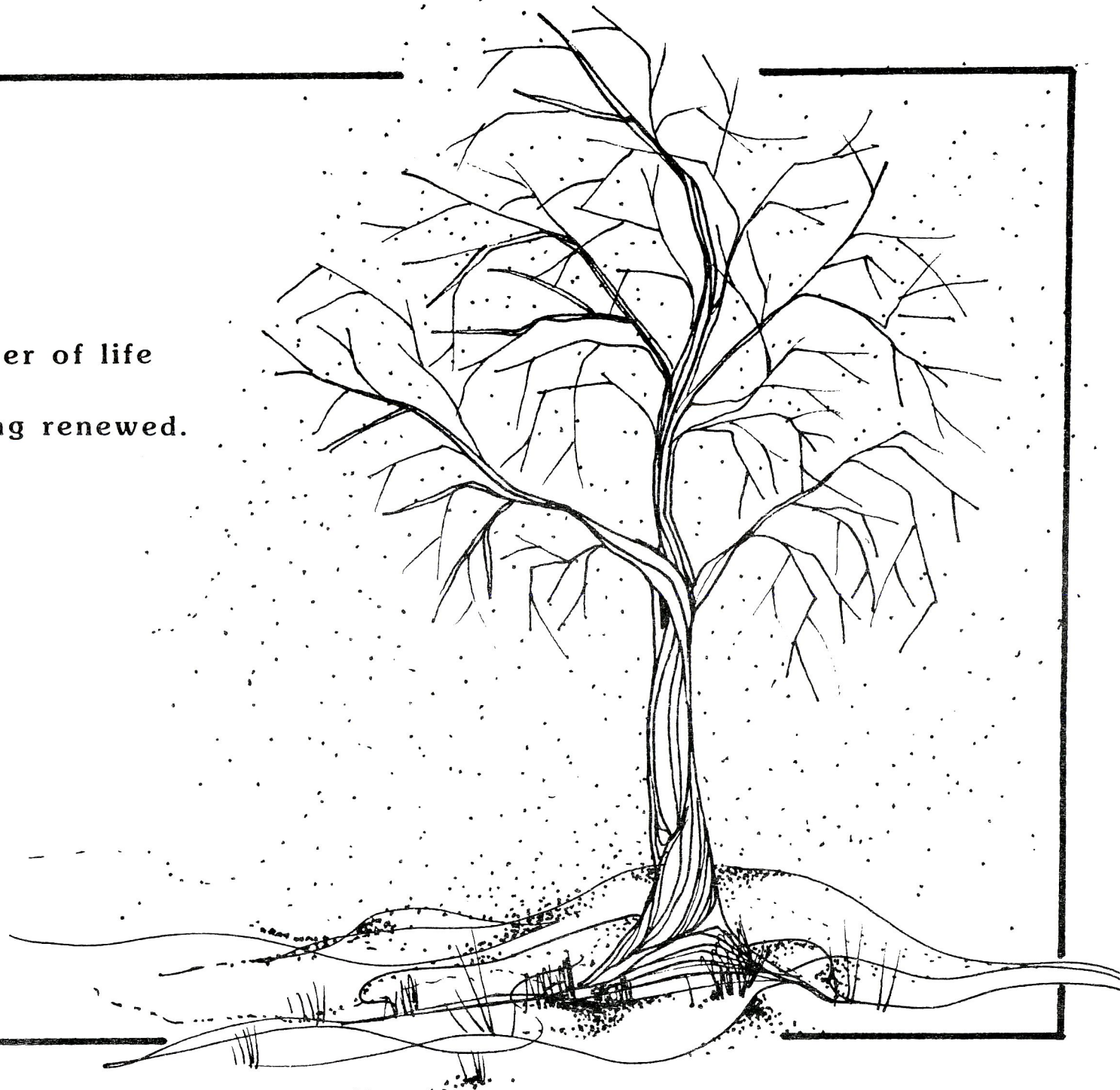
They fall from the tree and
give their strength to earth
for new life.



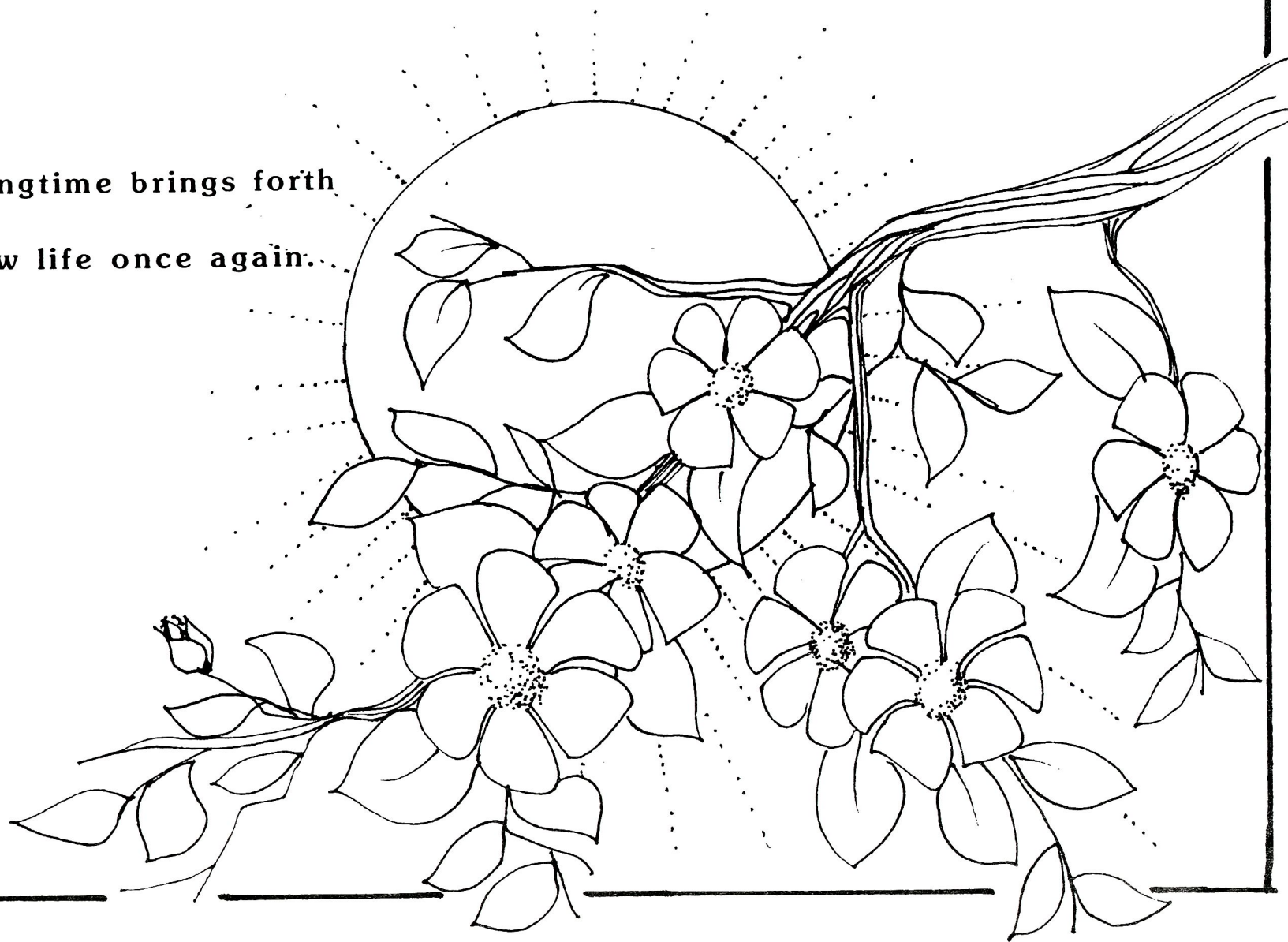
The dying plants give the earth new
seeds for future life.

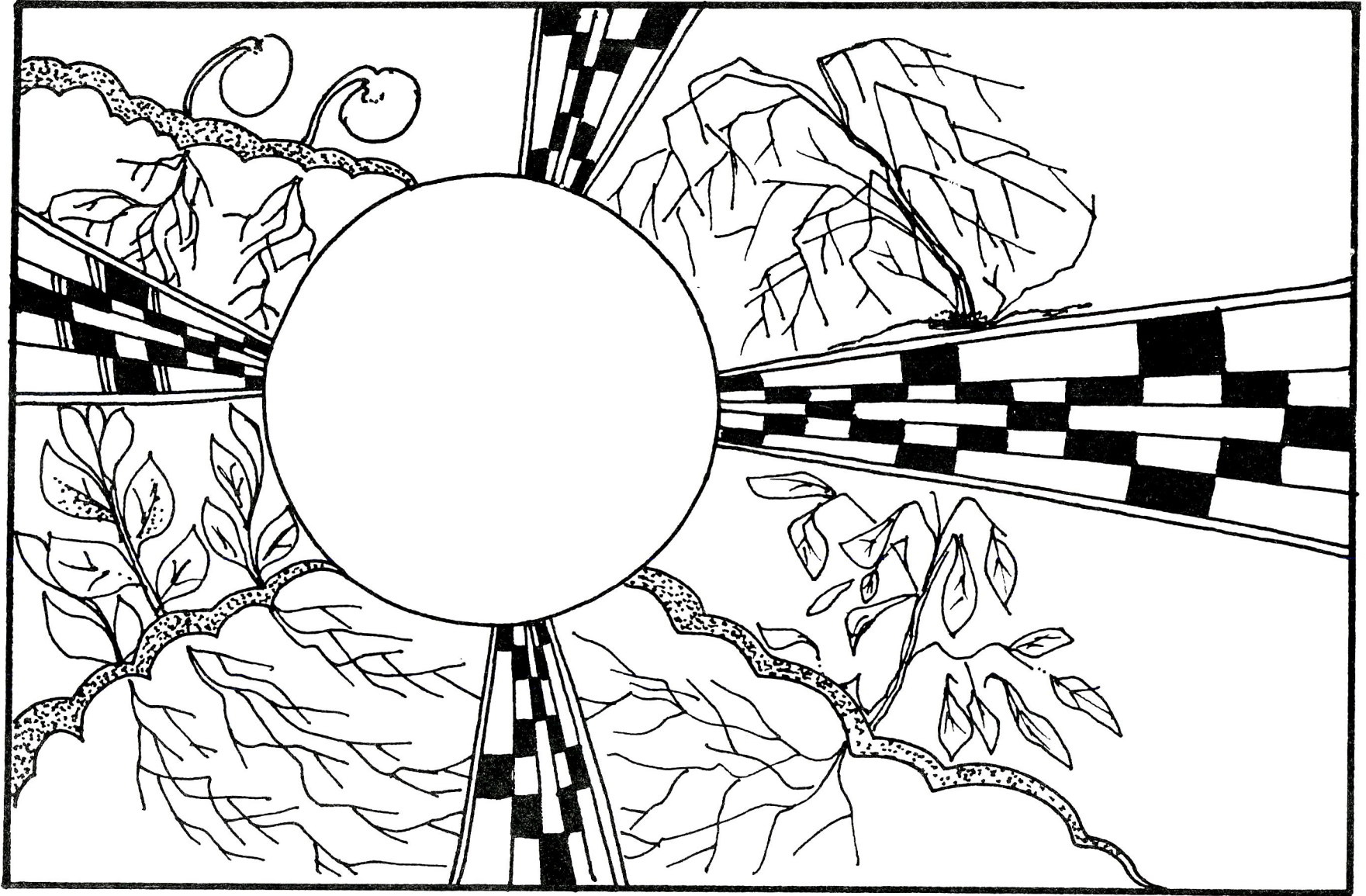


In winter, the power of life
is being renewed.



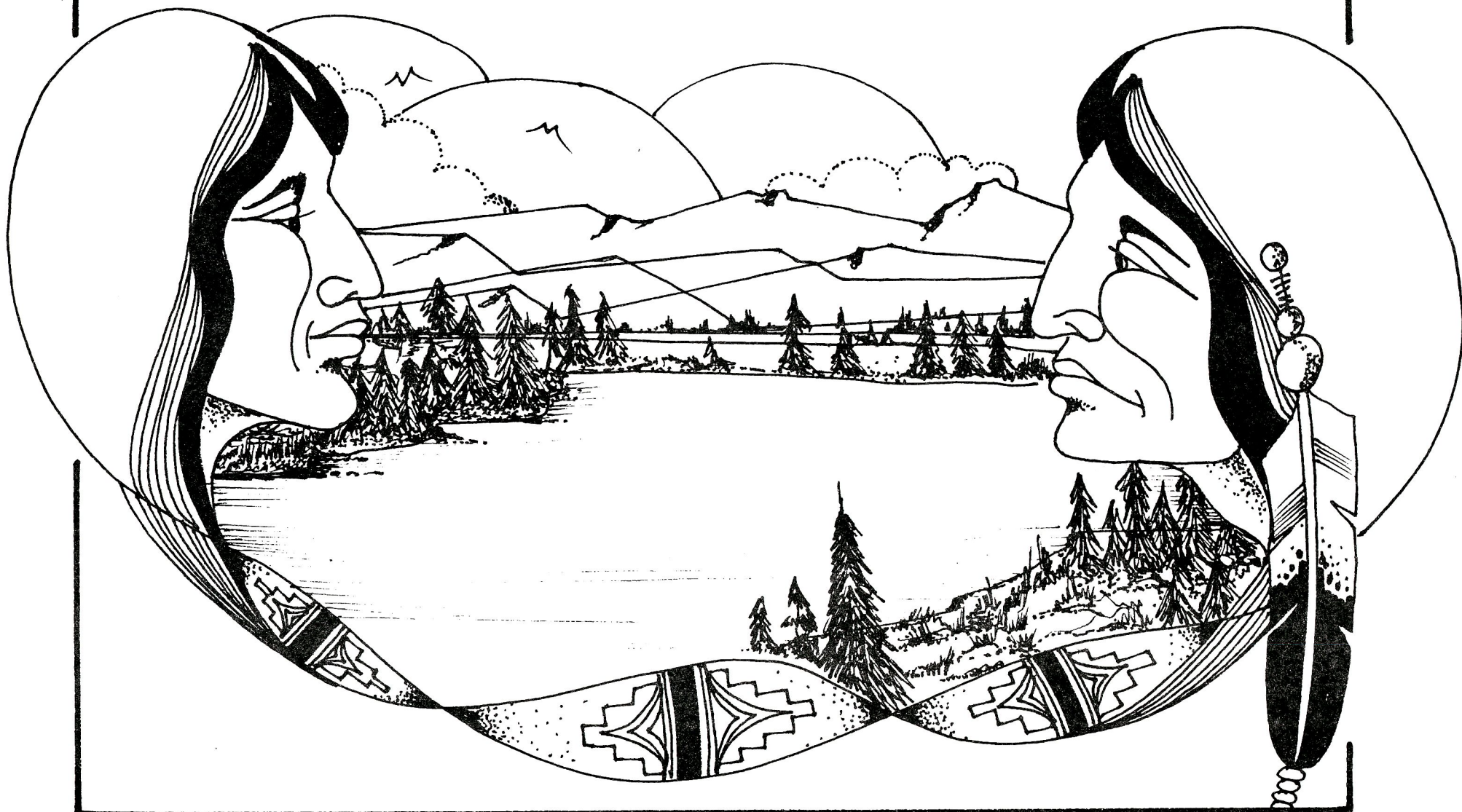
Springtime brings forth
new life once again.

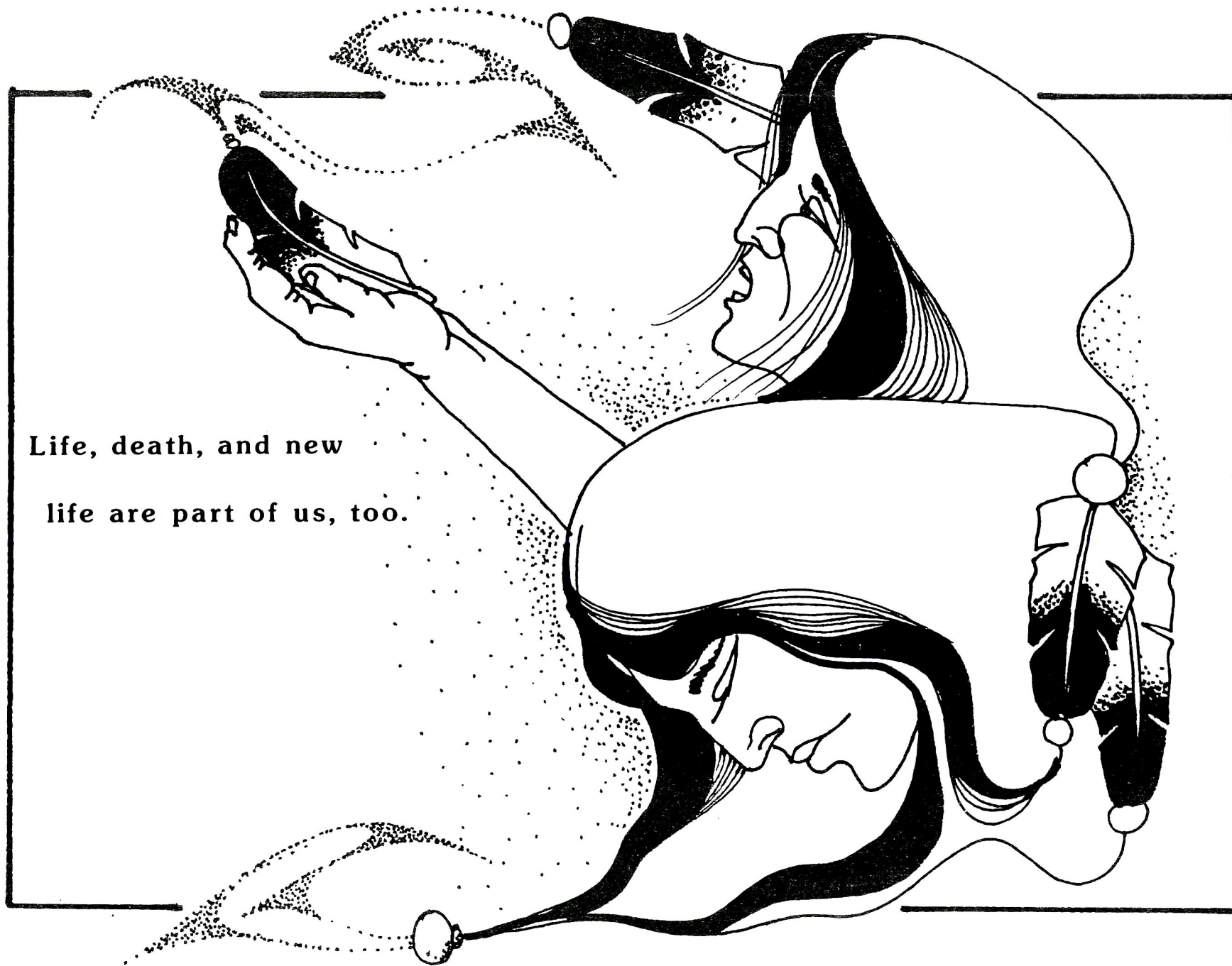




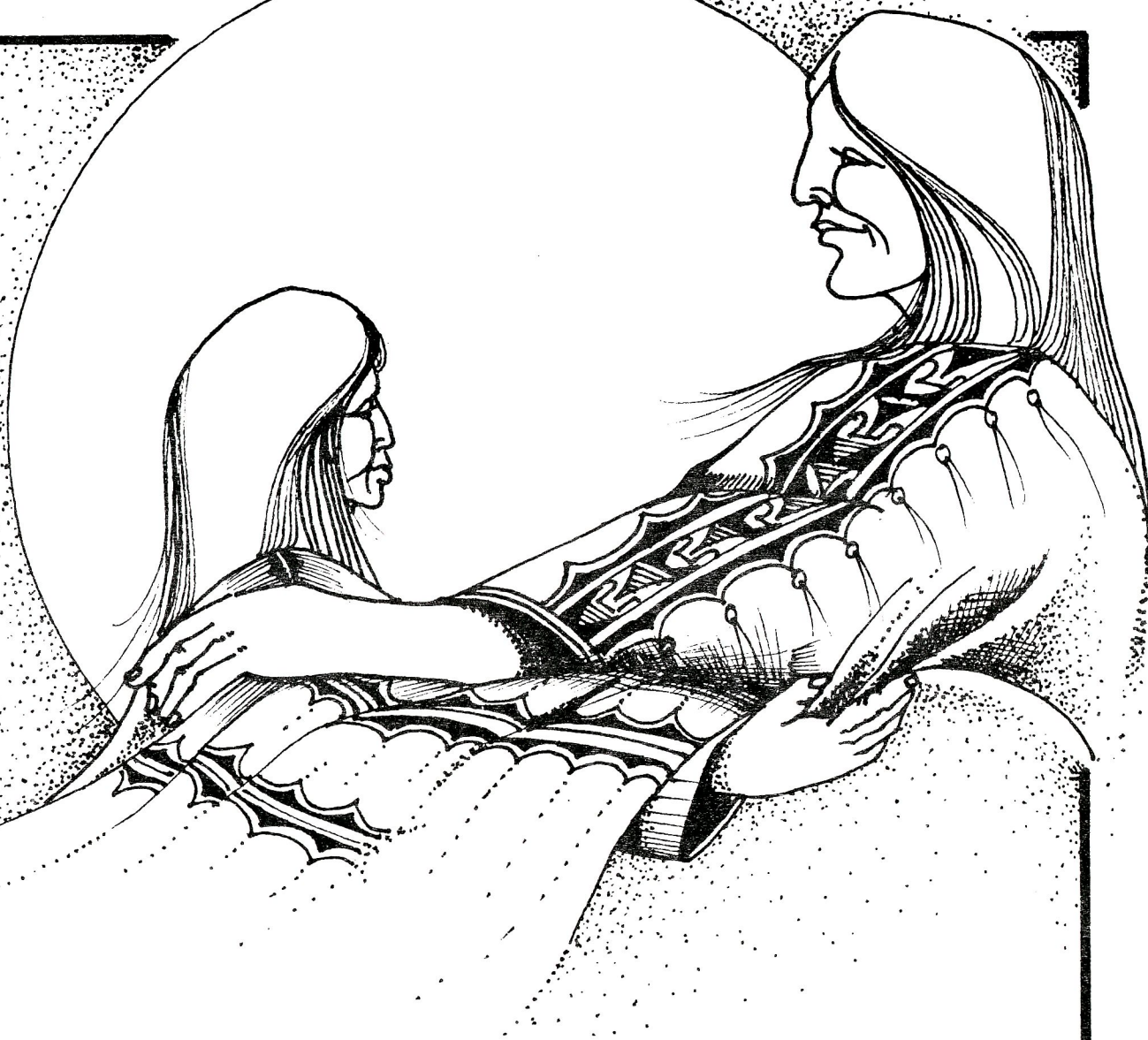
Through the seasons of the year, our Creator teaches us about birth, new life,
growing up, and returning to our Creator.

Creation also tells us something about ourselves and others.

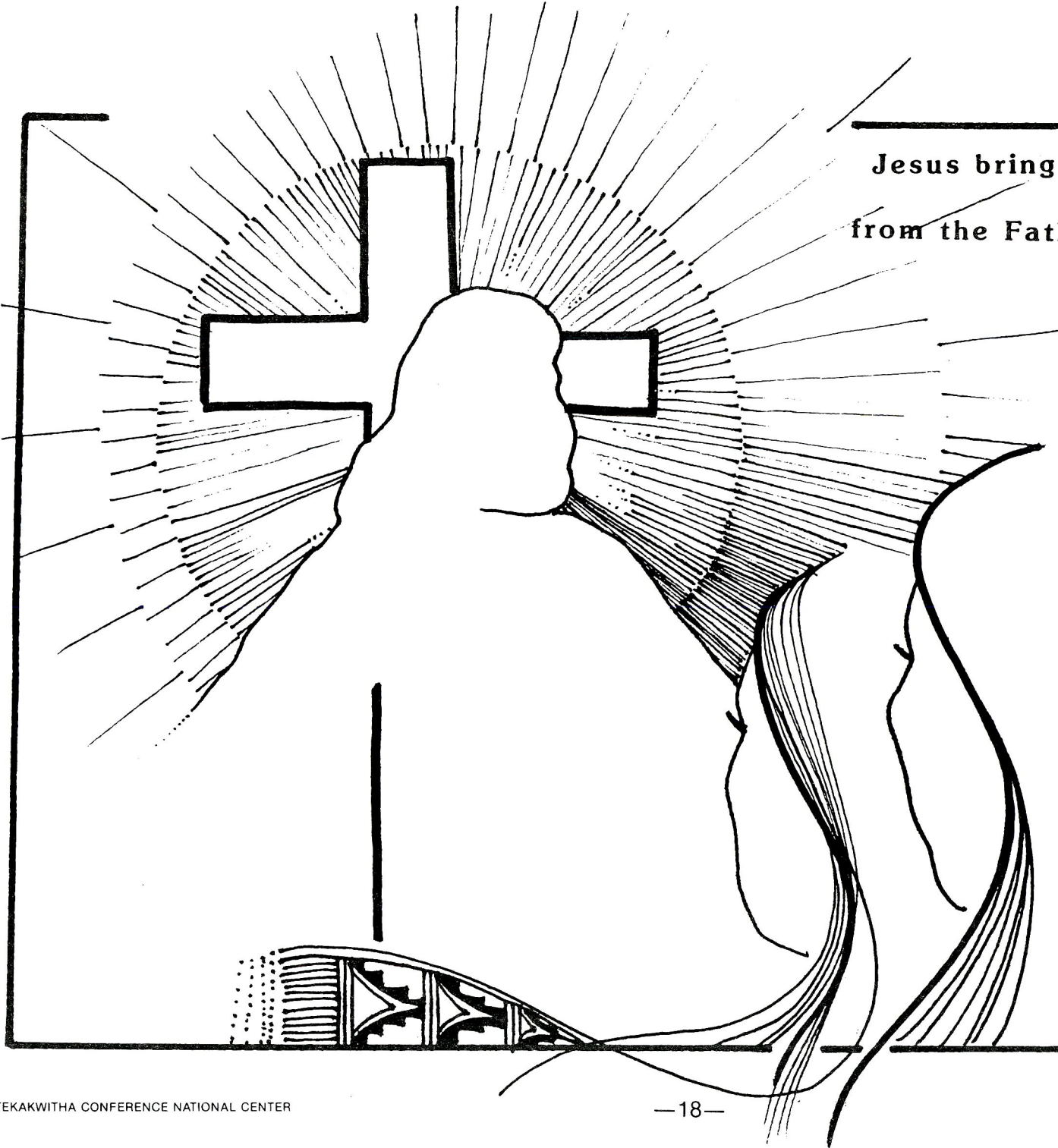


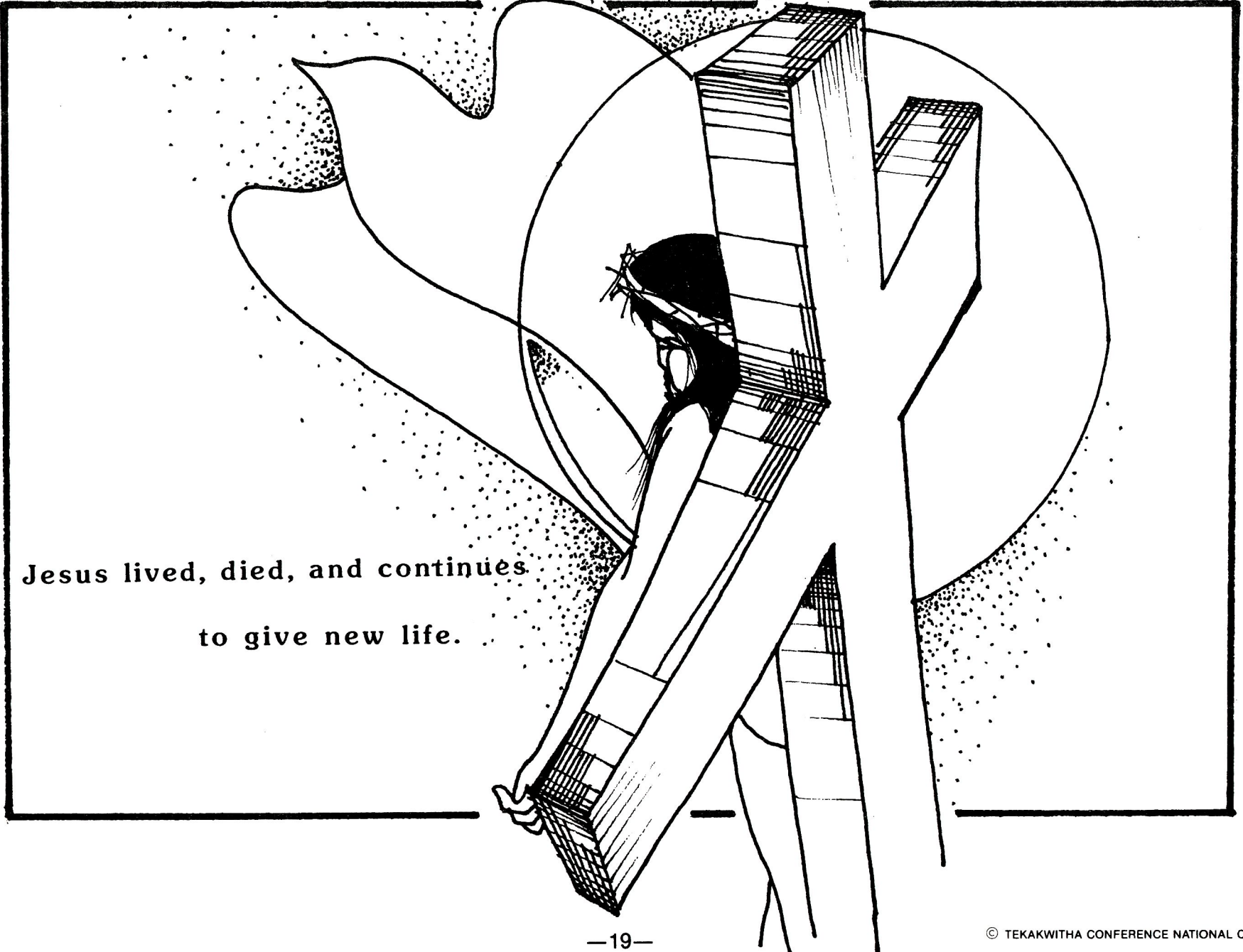


When we show our
love for others,
we bring new life to
them and to ourselves.

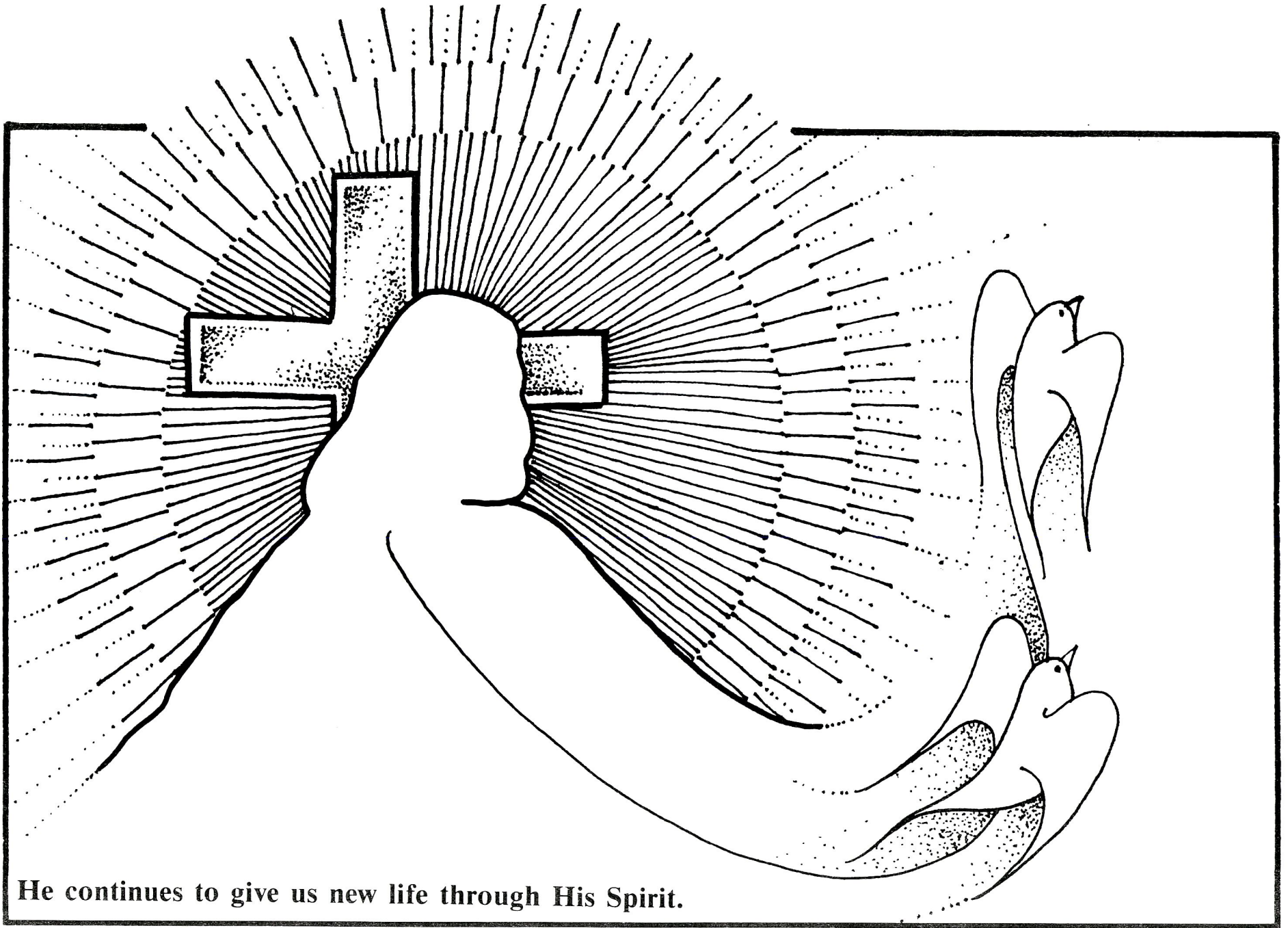


Jesus brings new life to us
from the Father, our Creator.



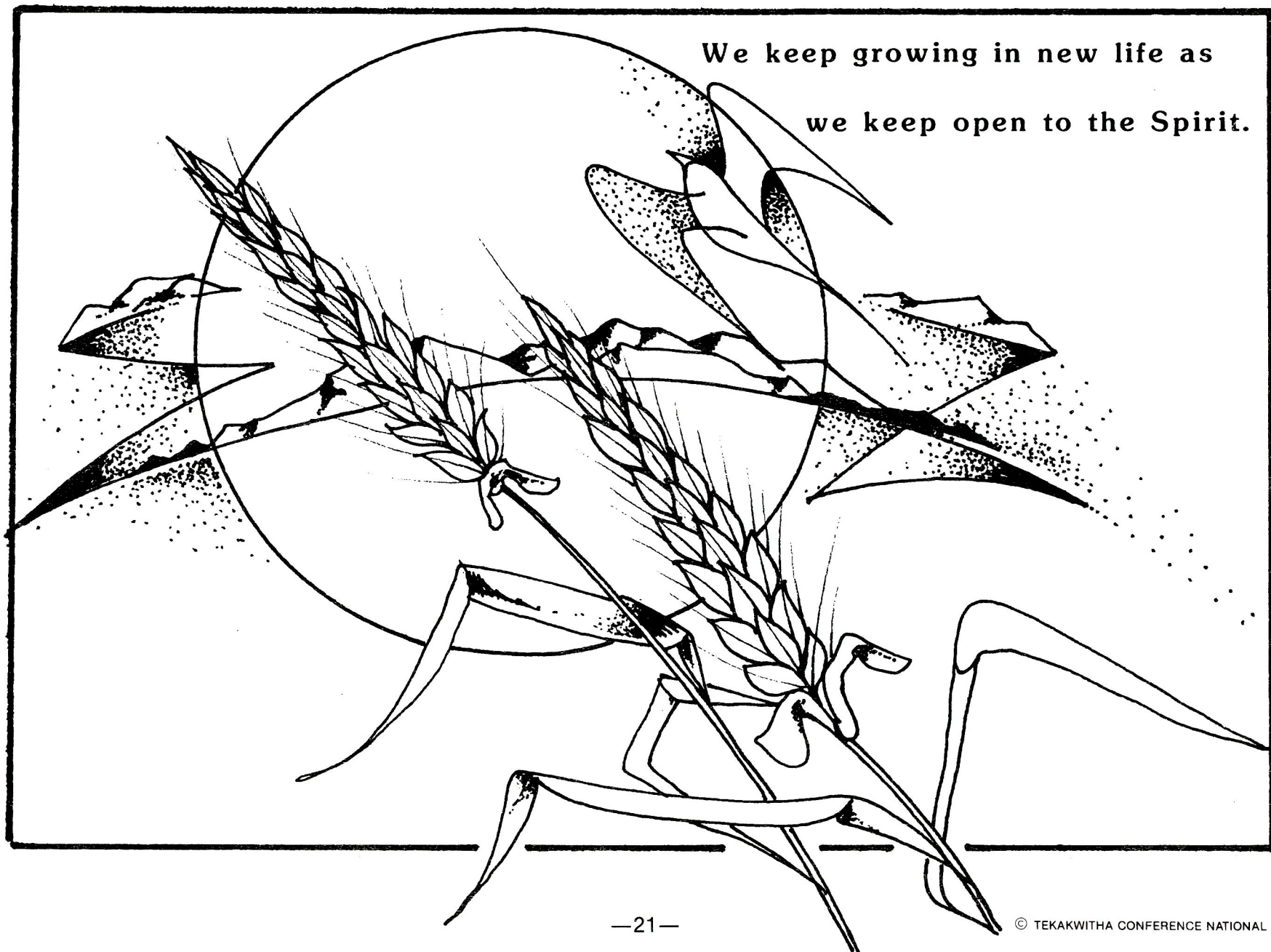


Jesus lived, died, and continues
to give new life. . .

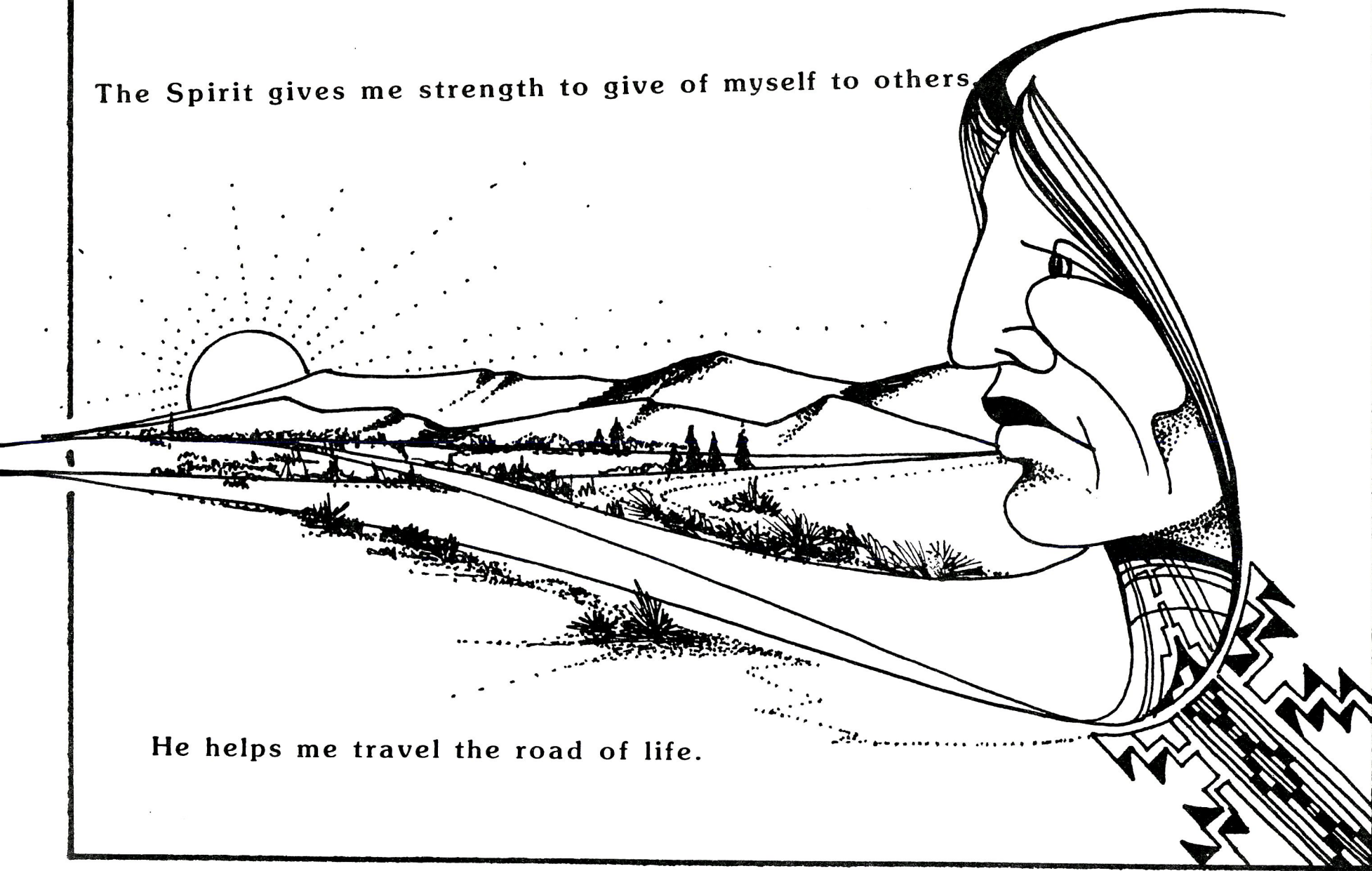


He continues to give us new life through His Spirit.

We keep growing in new life as
we keep open to the Spirit.



The Spirit gives me strength to give of myself to others.



He helps me travel the road of life.

I thank Jesus for new life by loving and respecting all creation.



This is what I will do this week to share Jesus' new life.

This is my own prayer thanking Jesus for new life.

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