



NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES

SERVING

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



SERVING

Through the teaching on SERVING, children are taught that their First Communion is a new beginning rather than an ending.

Jesus often reminded the apostles and the rest of his friends that he came to serve, not to be served. Receiving Jesus in Communion means that we receive the strength to follow in his way of life. In the fourth Gospel, St. John writes a lot about Jesus' teaching at the Last Supper. One of the most important things Jesus did was wash the feet of his apostles. Ordinarily, washing the dust of the road off the feet of people who came to dinner was the task of a lowly servant boy. Even though Jesus was a great teacher, he humbled himself to perform this lowly work. Then he told us to follow his example in serving others.

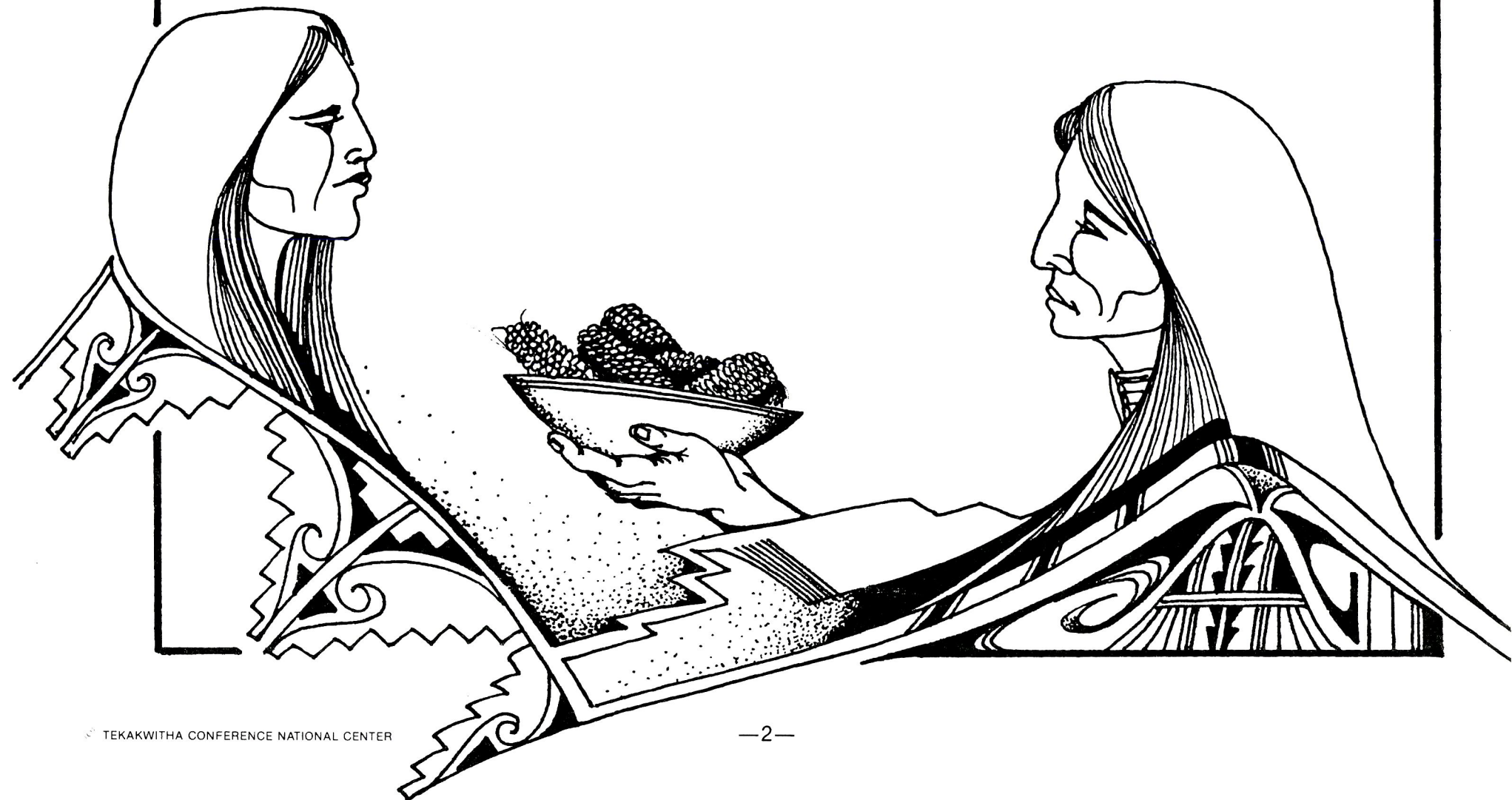
When we help each other, it is easier to

journey along the road of life. We do not walk alone on this earth. We know that we need other people to grow, to love, to be loved, to do things with. God has put us here for a purpose. Each one of us is important. Each one's contribution to the people is important.

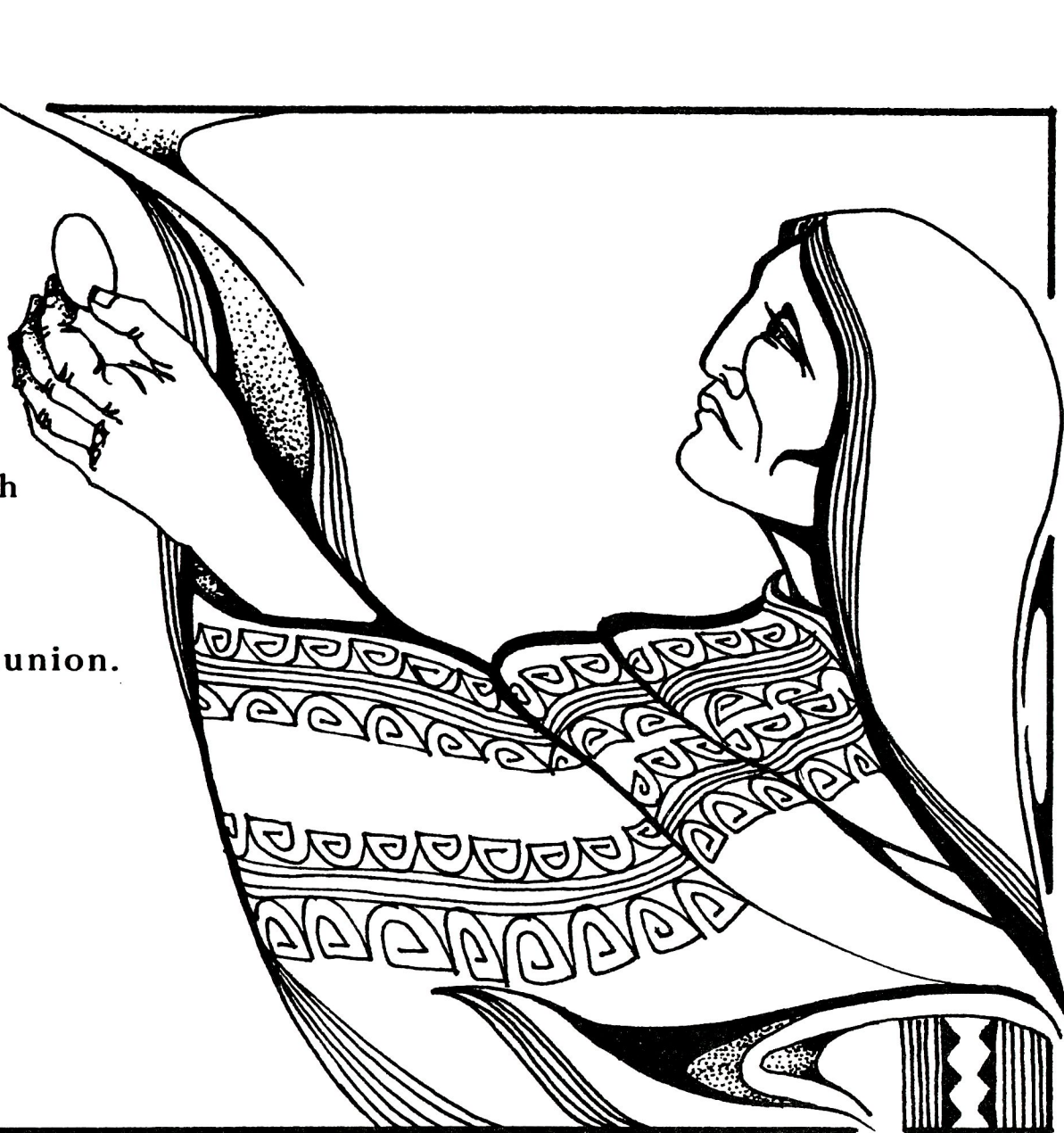
While our Creator wants us to have a good and happy life, he has not said it would always be easy. Yet, he always helps us. "Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you." (Luke 11:9)

Jesus helps us to love and do good to people, even those who hurt us or don't like us. The more we love, the more we share. The more we give of ourselves, the happier we will be. The world becomes a better home for all as we journey on the road of life.

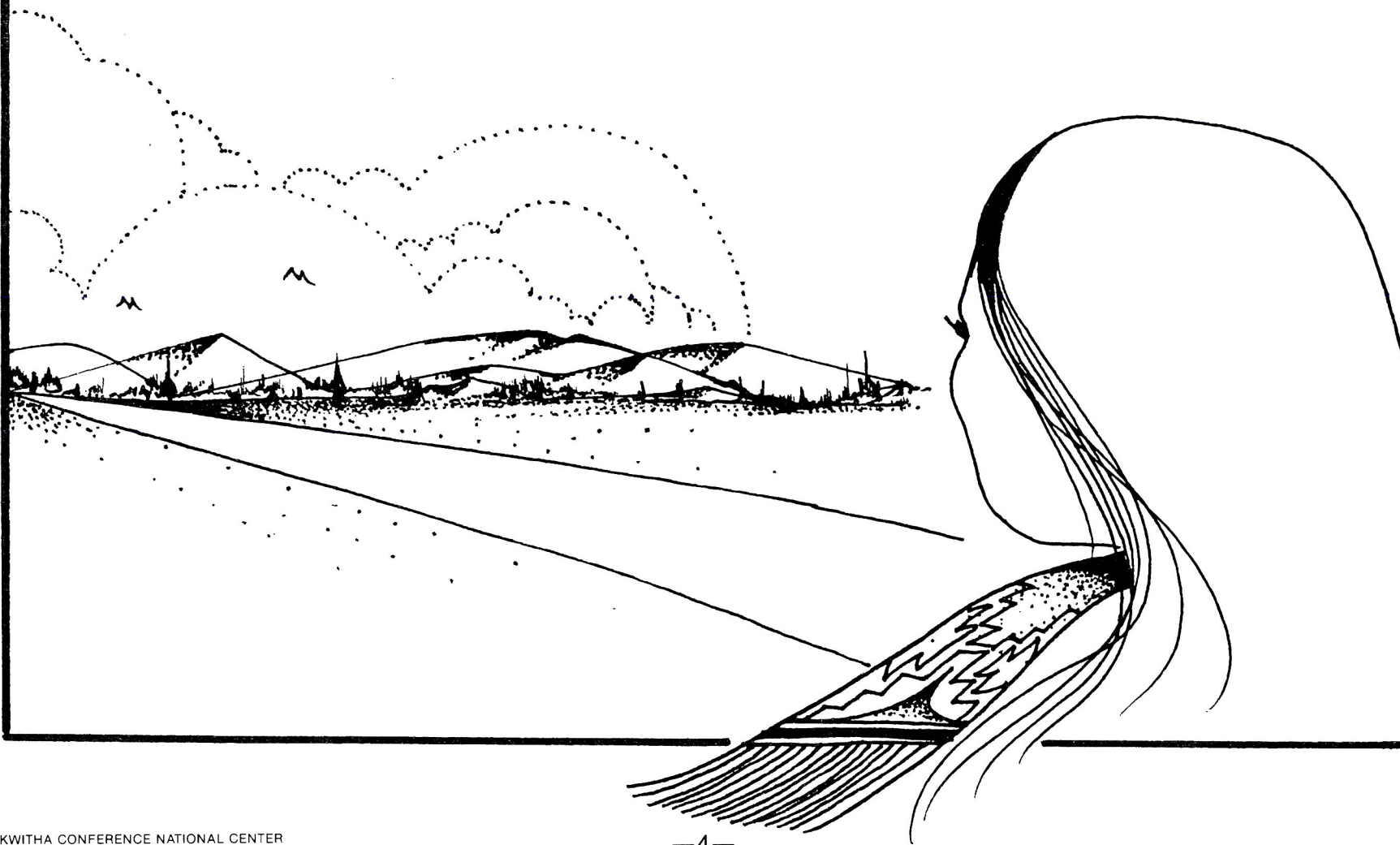
When we serve one another, we can make a better
world for ourselves and others.



We have learned about
Jesus and how He is with
us in a special way in
Holy Communion.



We have learned how the way of Jesus can help us walk
the road of life together.



We have only begun to learn about Jesus.



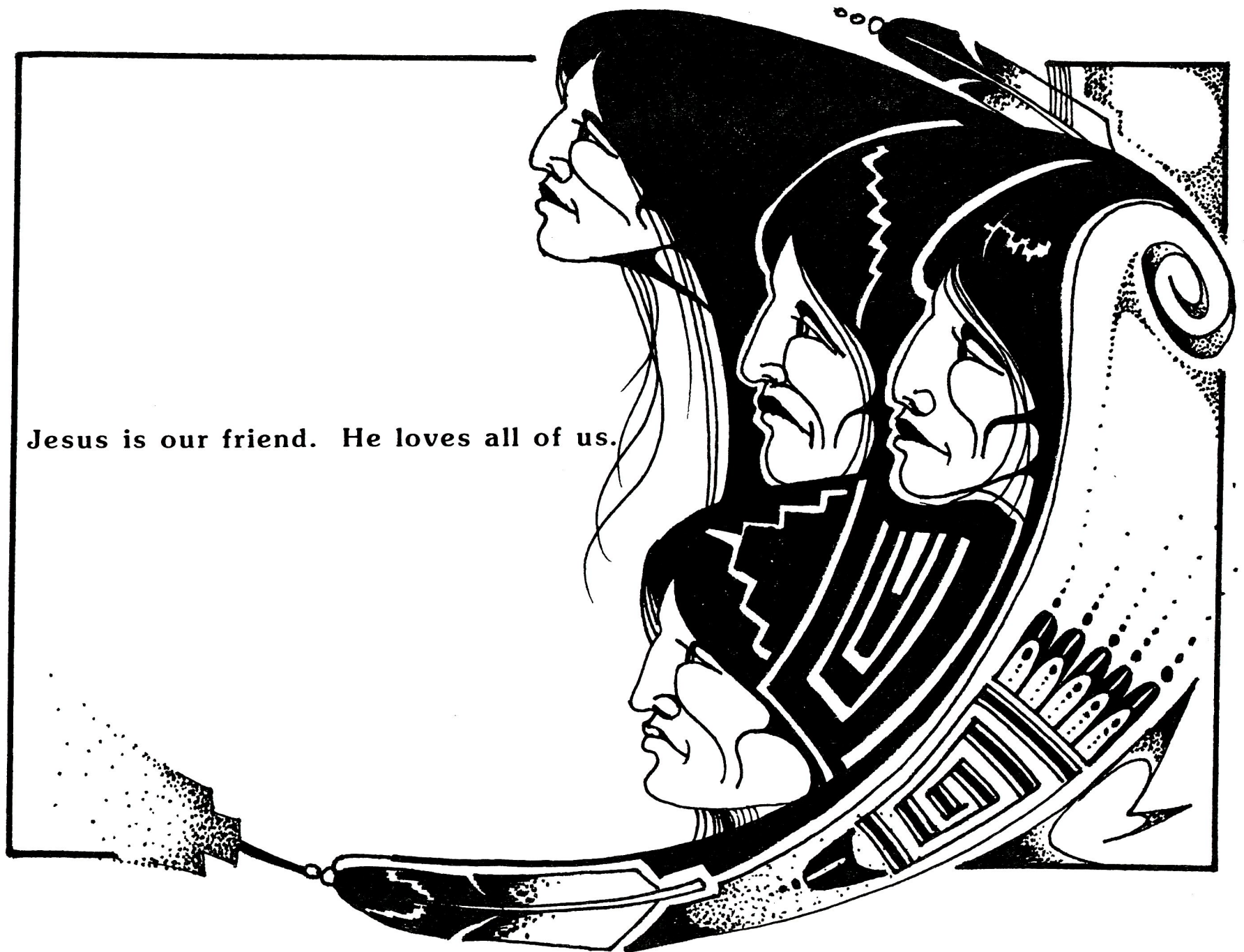


All the way through our
life, Jesus is our helper.

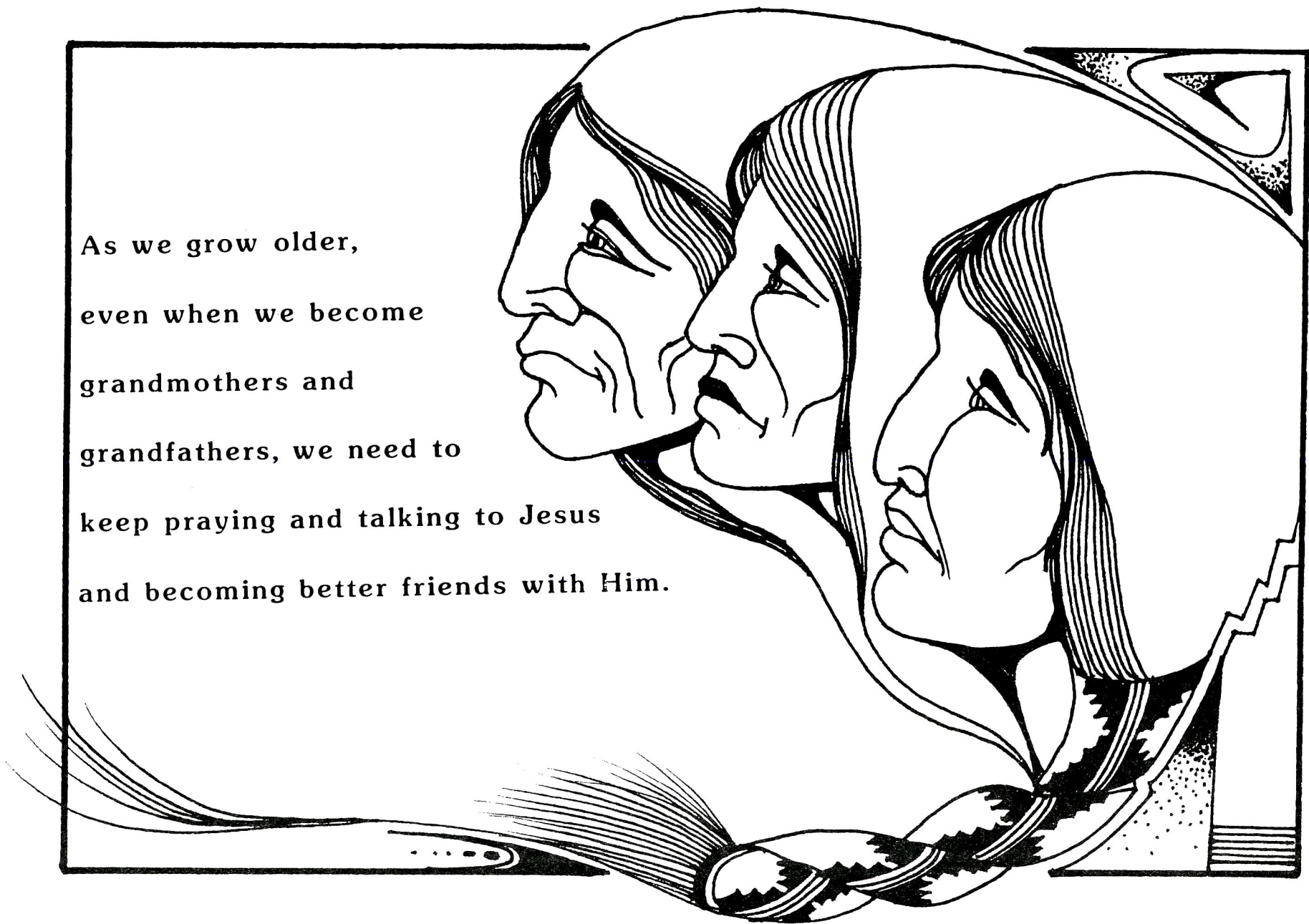
Jesus shows us a good
way to live.

He helps us stay on the
road that leads to a
better life.

Jesus is our friend. He loves all of us.



As we grow older,
even when we become
grandmothers and
grandfathers, we need to
keep praying and talking to Jesus
and becoming better friends with Him.



Remember how we learned that we all belong to God's family.



As members of God's family, we are all brothers and sisters.

Everyone has a place in life. Everyone is important to God's family.

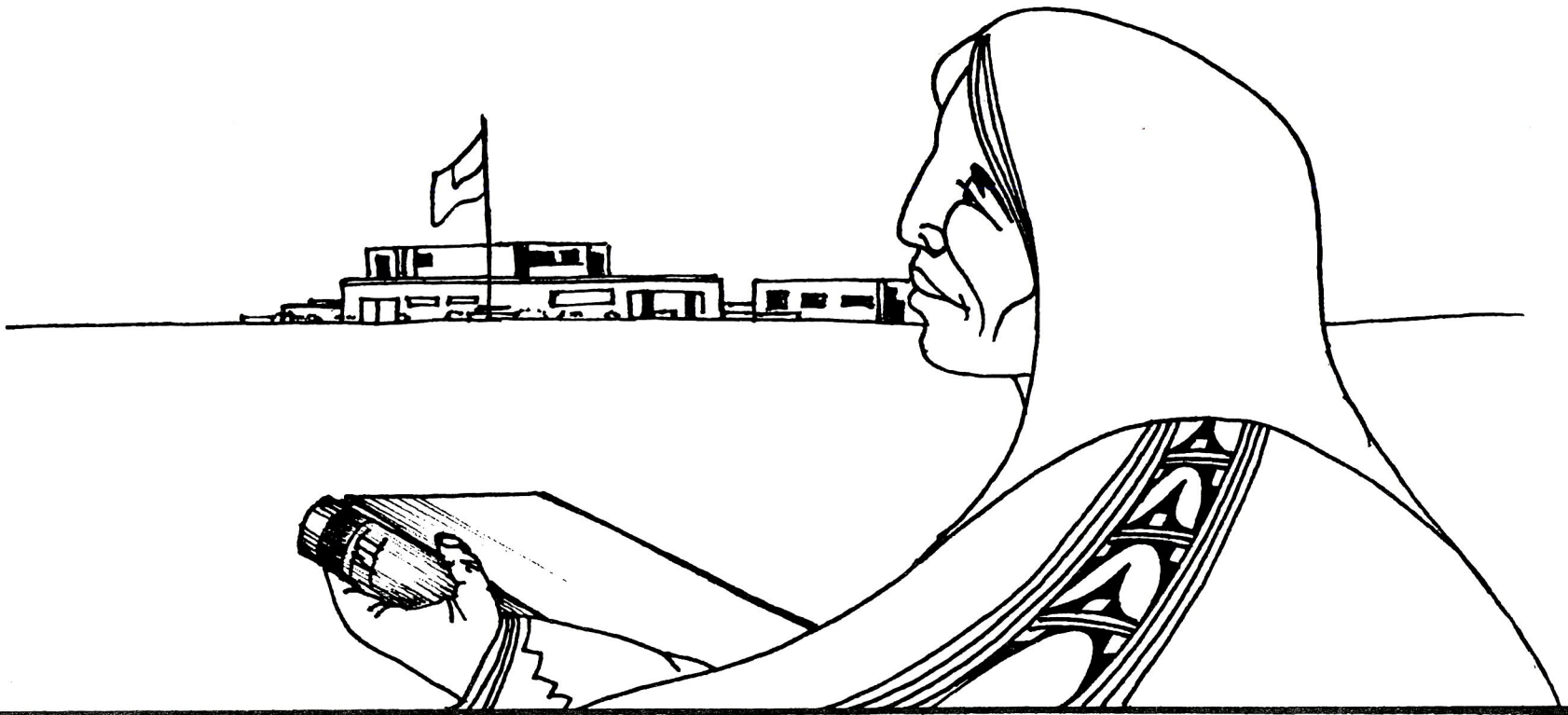


Have you ever wondered what you would do for breakfast if chickens forgot to lay eggs; if no one had invented cereal or bread; if no one would cook for you?



**Have you ever thought of going to school and no one else
showing up to learn with you?**

Here I am - alone in school.



Draw some friends sharing something with you.

**Have you ever wondered what you would do if you got a new bike or horse
and had no friends to show it to and to share it with?**

How about if you went to a pow-wow and there was no drummer?

Draw the drummer.

Draw a picture of yourself all alone.

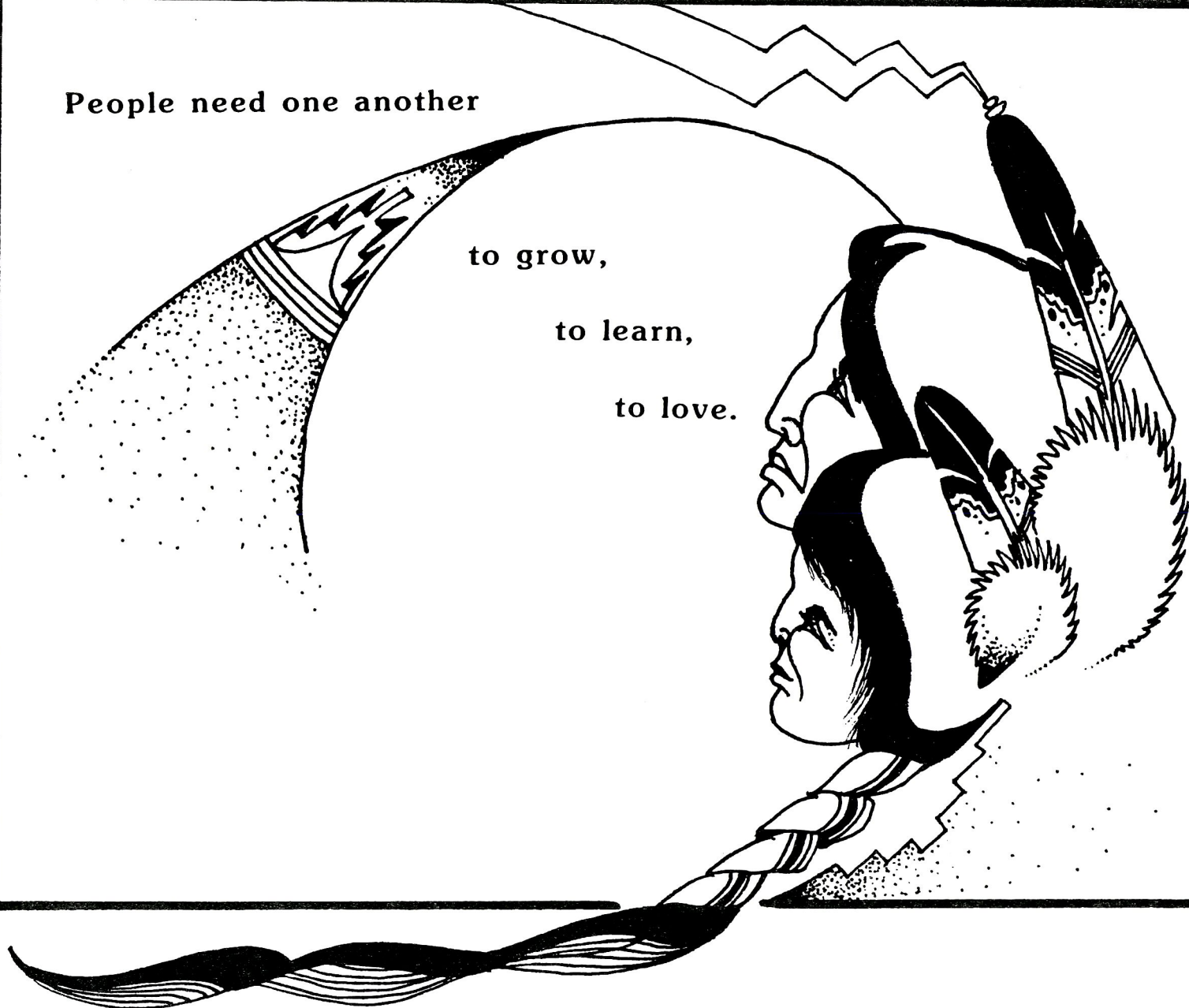
Now add some family and friends.

People need one another

to grow,

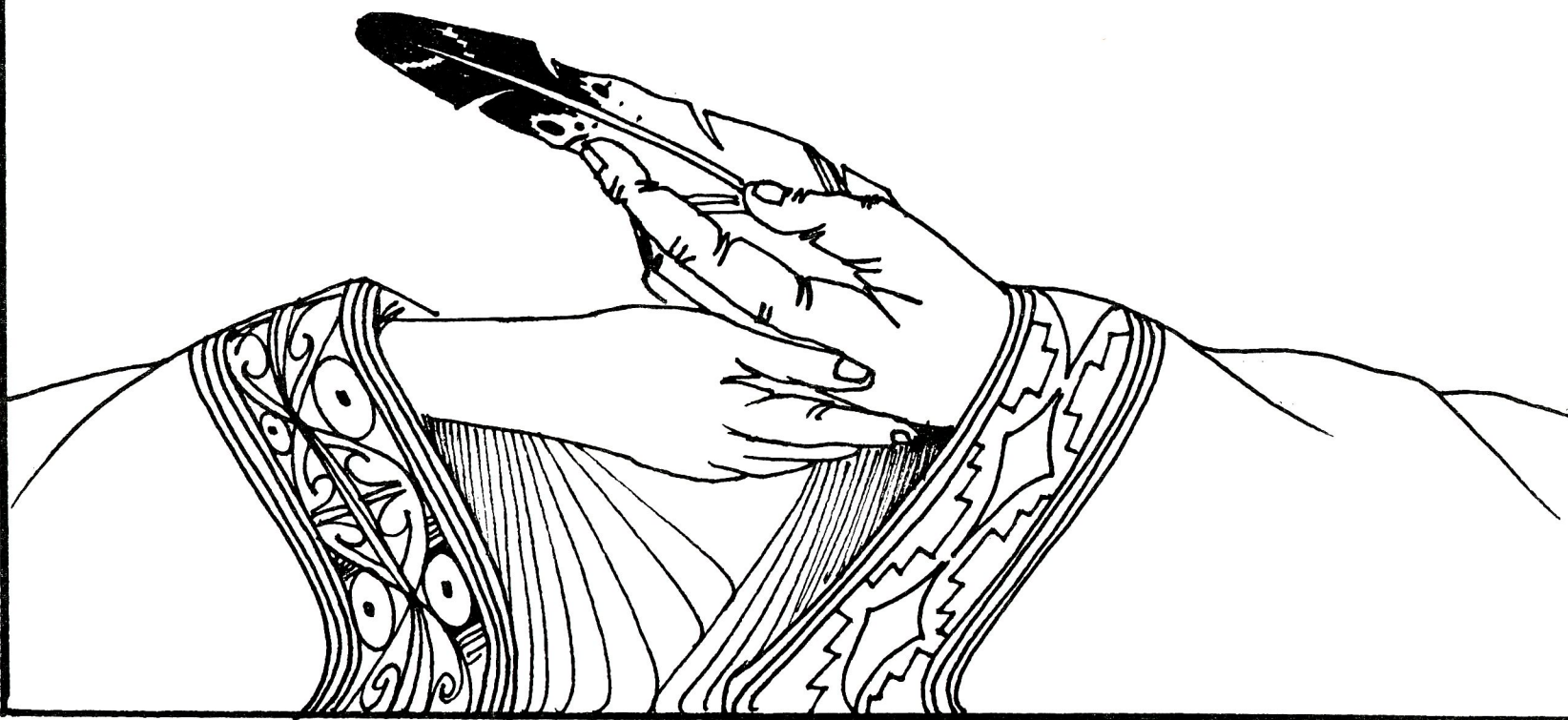
to learn,

to love.



We need one another:

to help each other, to share, to celebrate, to have fun together.



When we eat breakfast together, learn together, ride bikes,
or go places together, we become one.



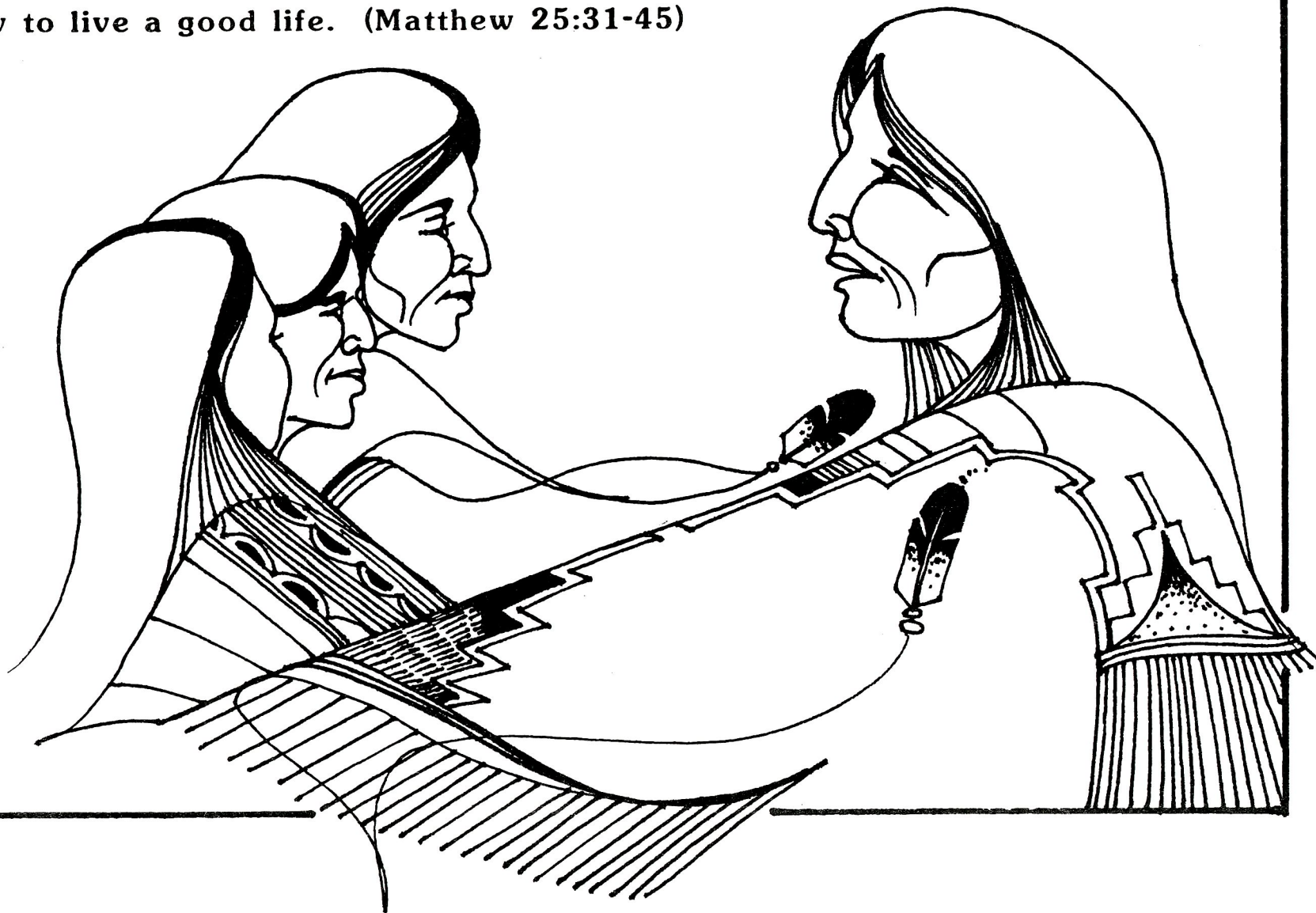


And we are happy.

We are one.



One day Jesus told his friends a story. He wanted to help them understand how to live a good life. (Matthew 25:31-45)



In this story Jesus tells us,
“What you do for others,
you do for me.”

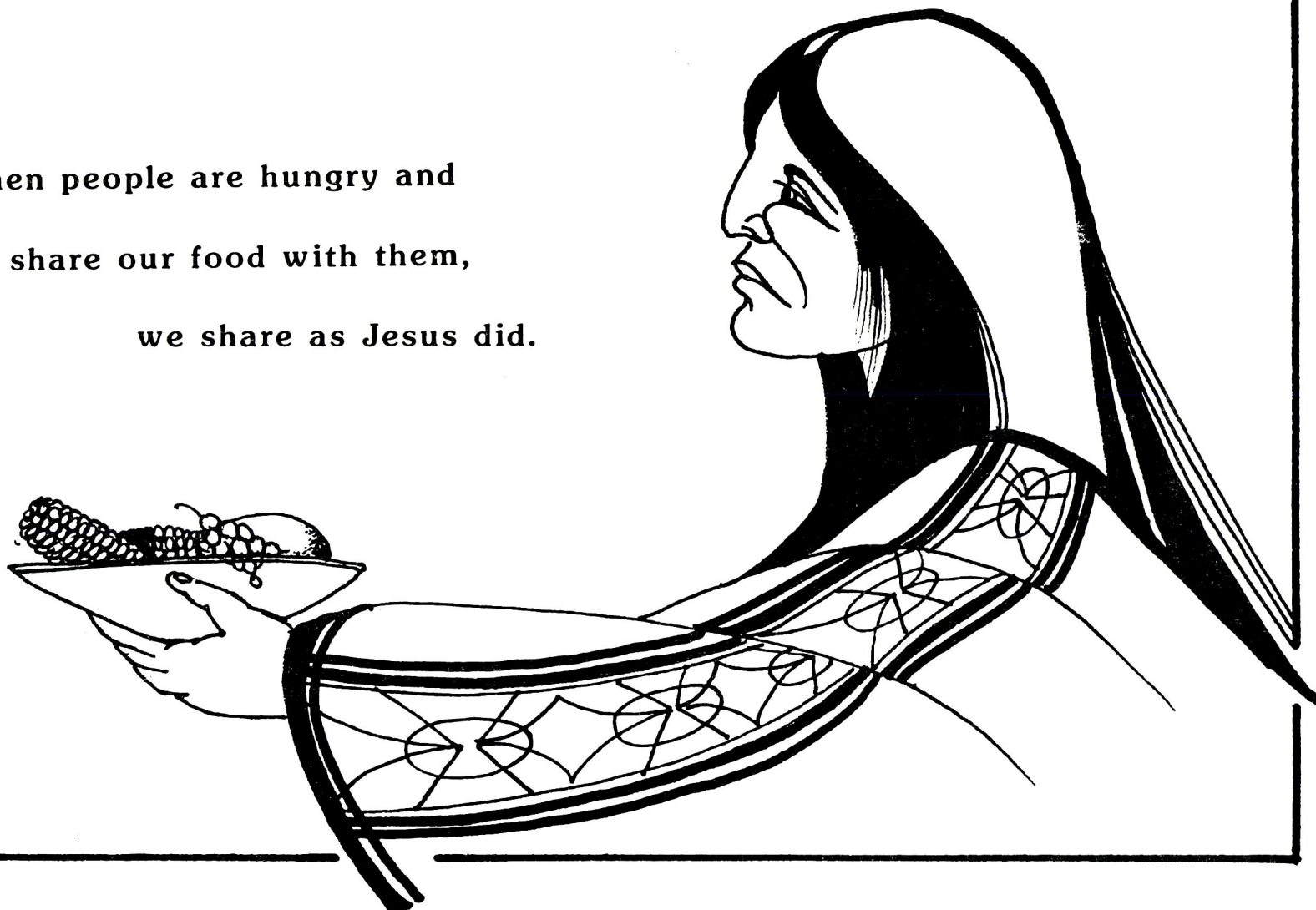


That means, when someone is sick and we visit her, or read to her,

we help this sick person as Jesus showed us.

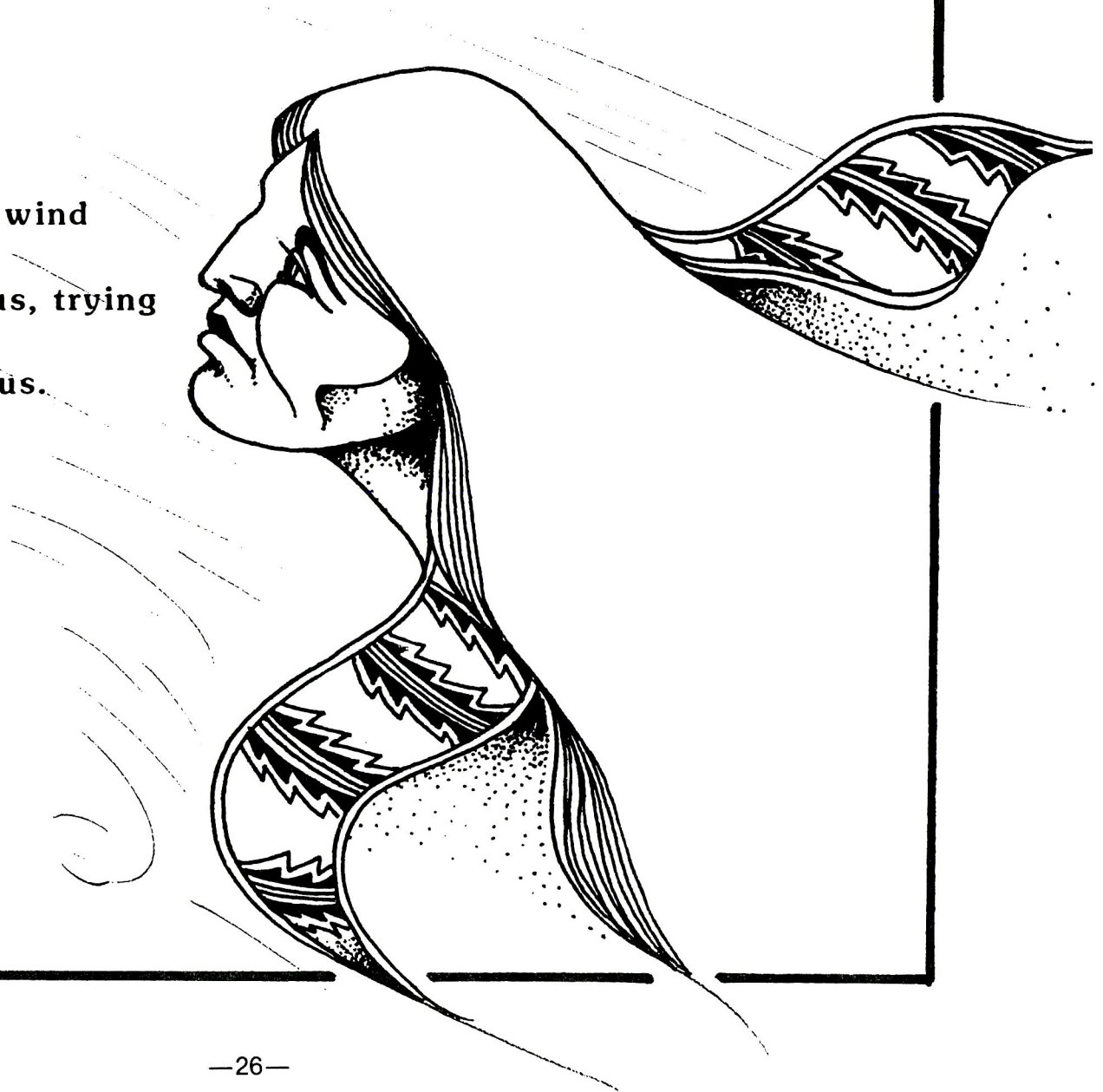


When people are hungry and
we share our food with them,
we share as Jesus did.

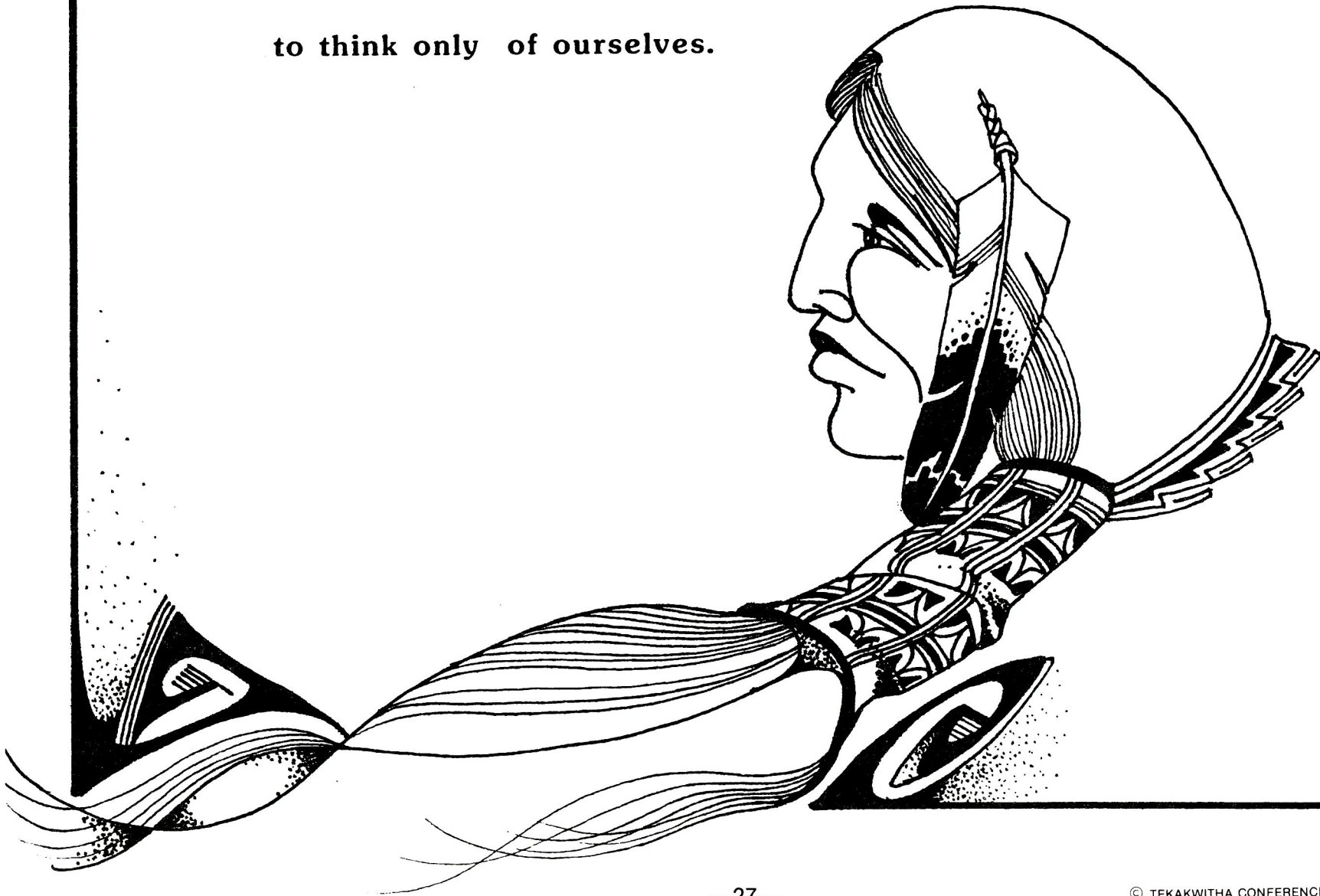


When people are thirsty, sad, or having troubles,
and we help them, we become one. Find pictures in magazines of people
who need help, or draw your own pictures of them.

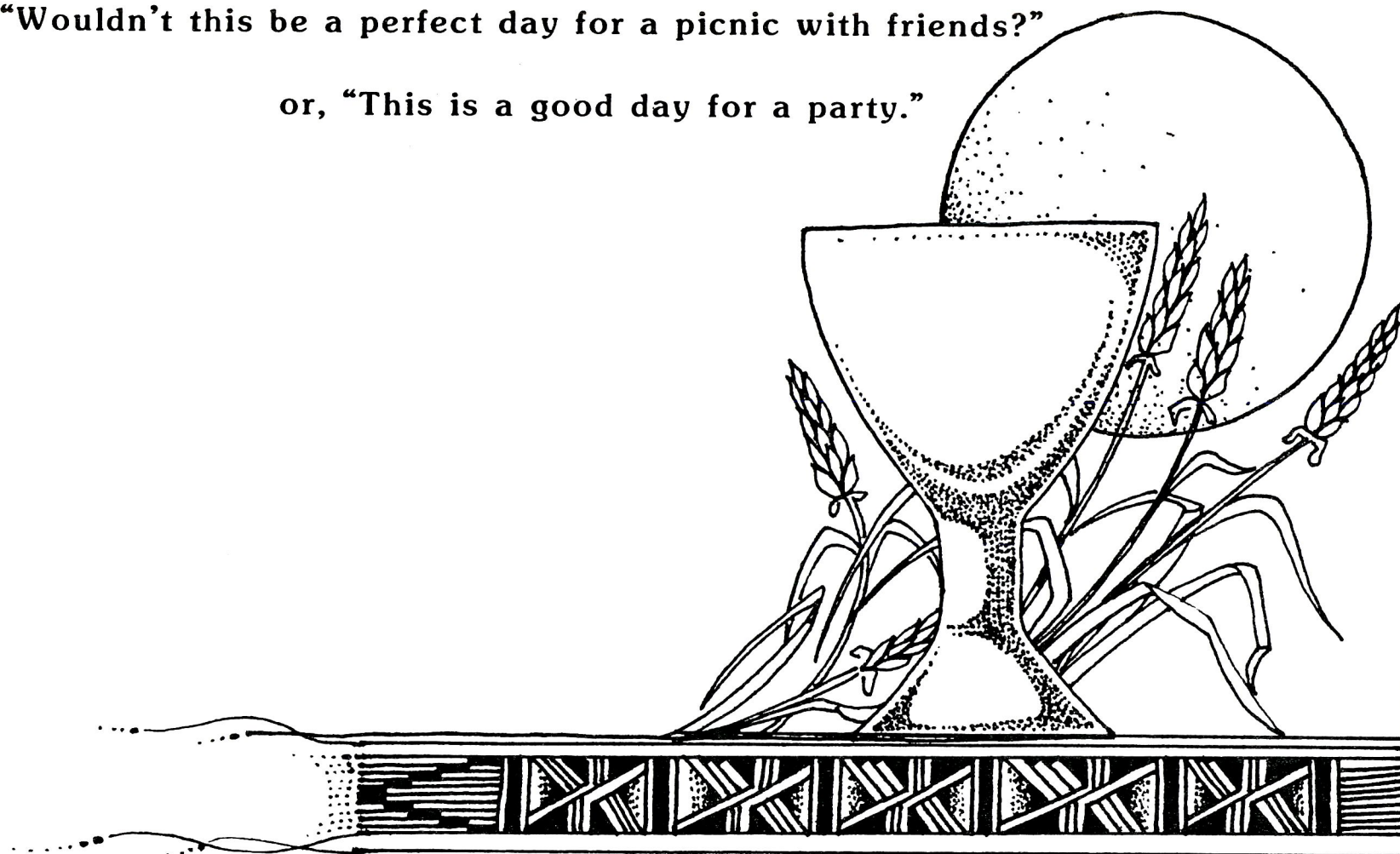
Sometimes, there is a sort of wind
that blows cold and hard on us, trying
to pull us apart and separate us.



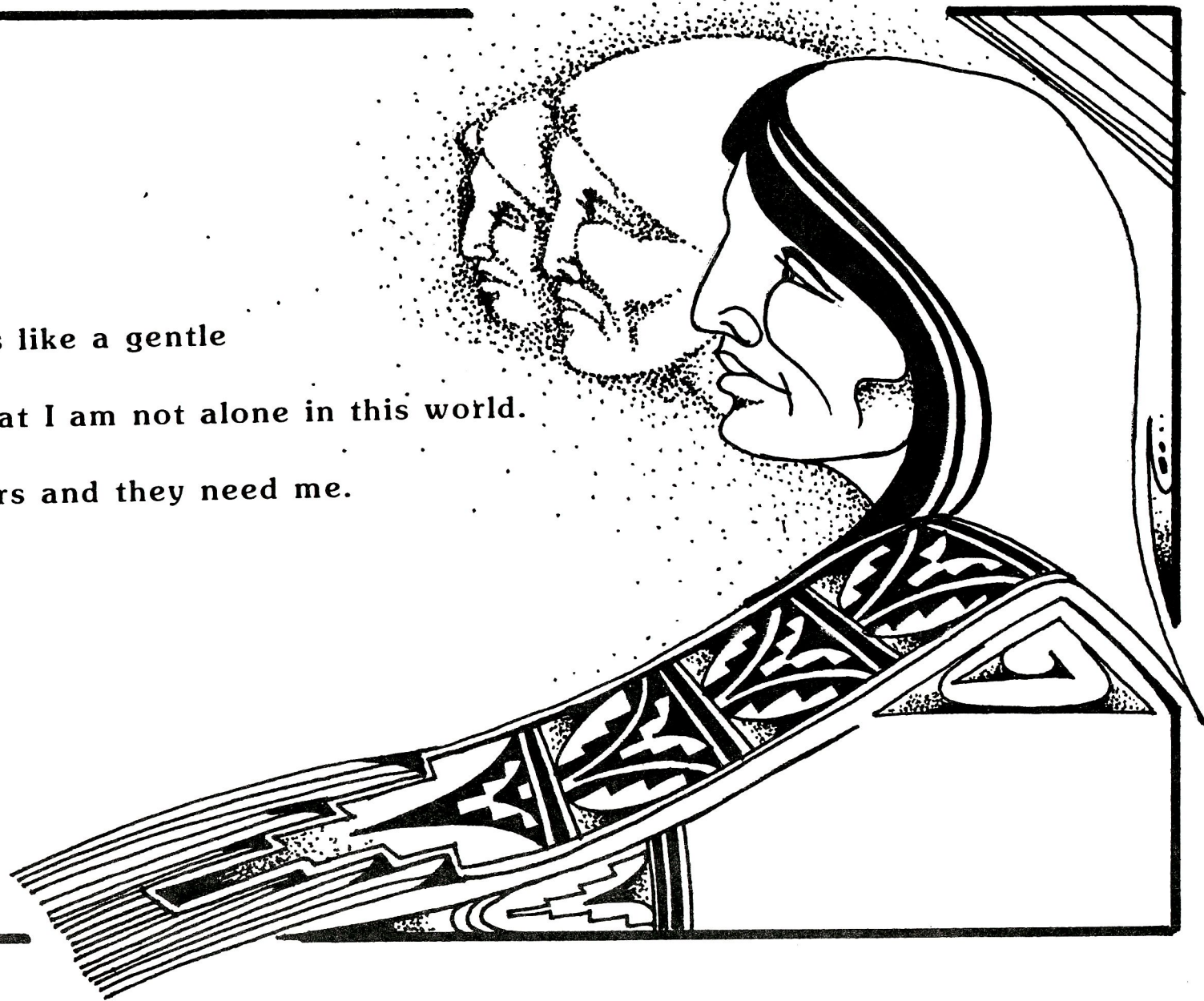
It tries to make us care only about ourselves,
to think only of ourselves.



Eucharist is like the soft breeze, warmed by the sun, that whispers to us,
“Wouldn’t this be a perfect day for a picnic with friends?”
or, “This is a good day for a party.”



Eucharist is like a gentle
reminder that I am not alone in this world.
I need others and they need me.



Who do you need?

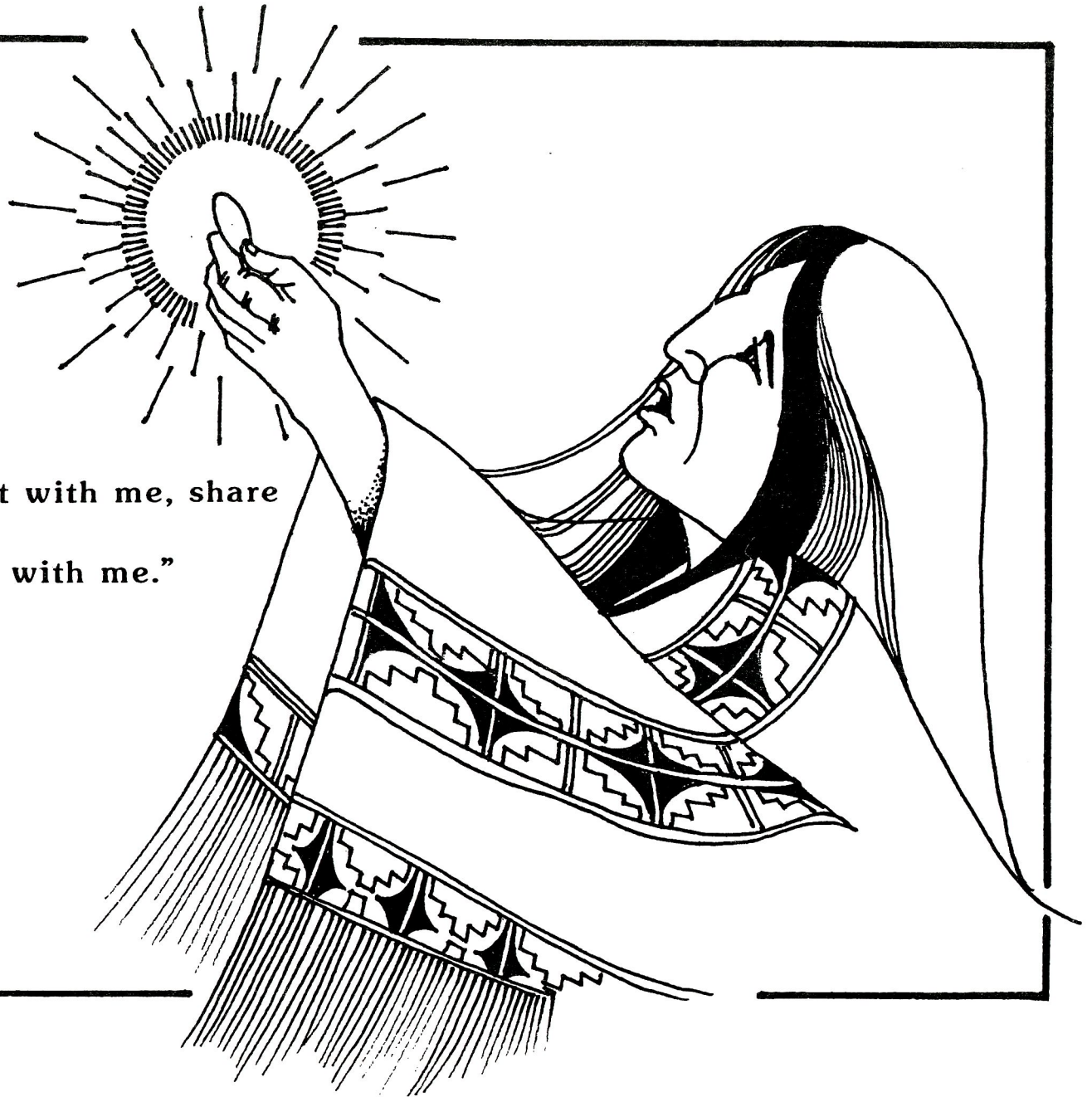
Draw someone you need.

Who needs you?

Draw someone.

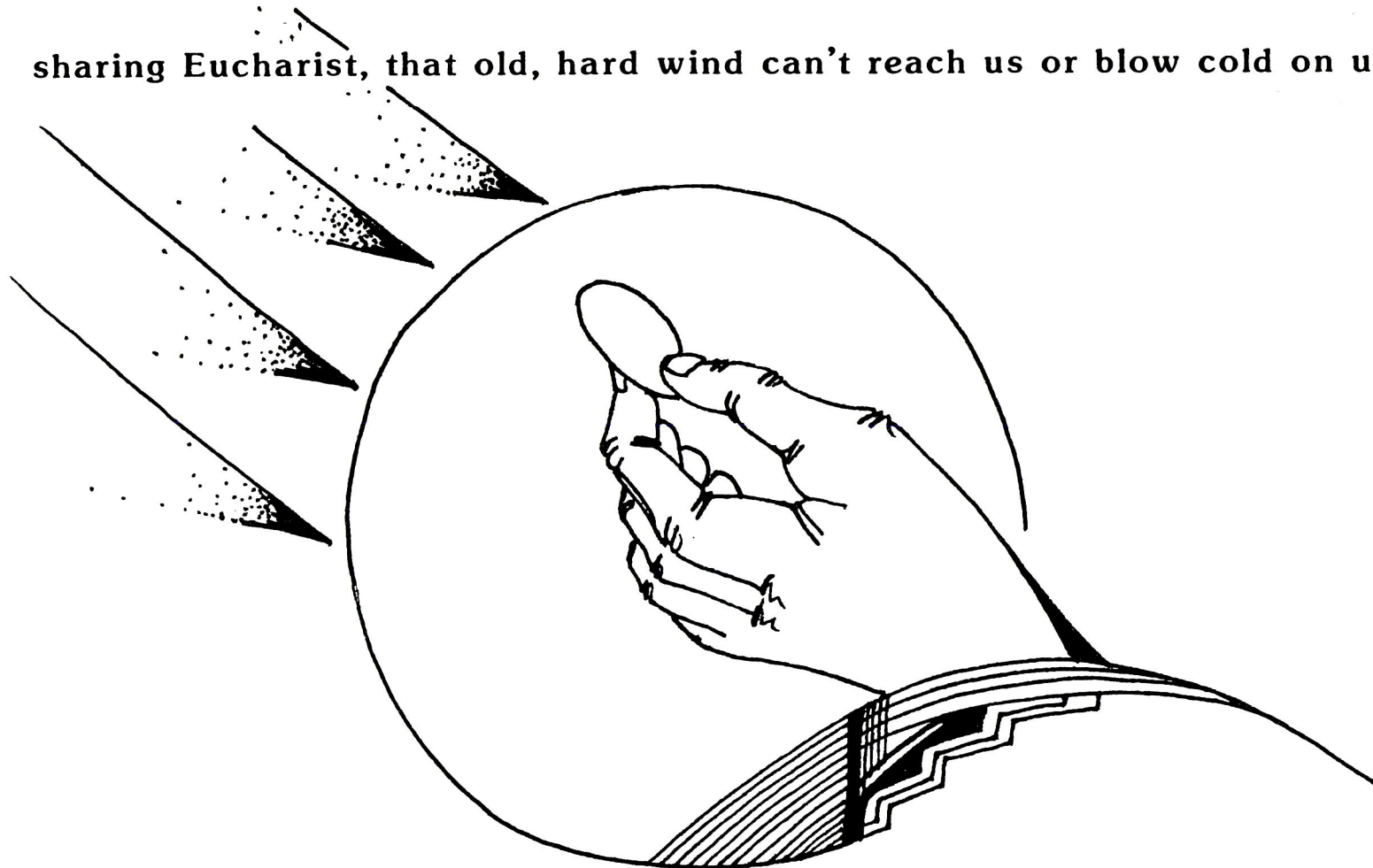
**In the Eucharist, Jesus tells us, "Forget yourself.
Help your enemies as well as your friends."**





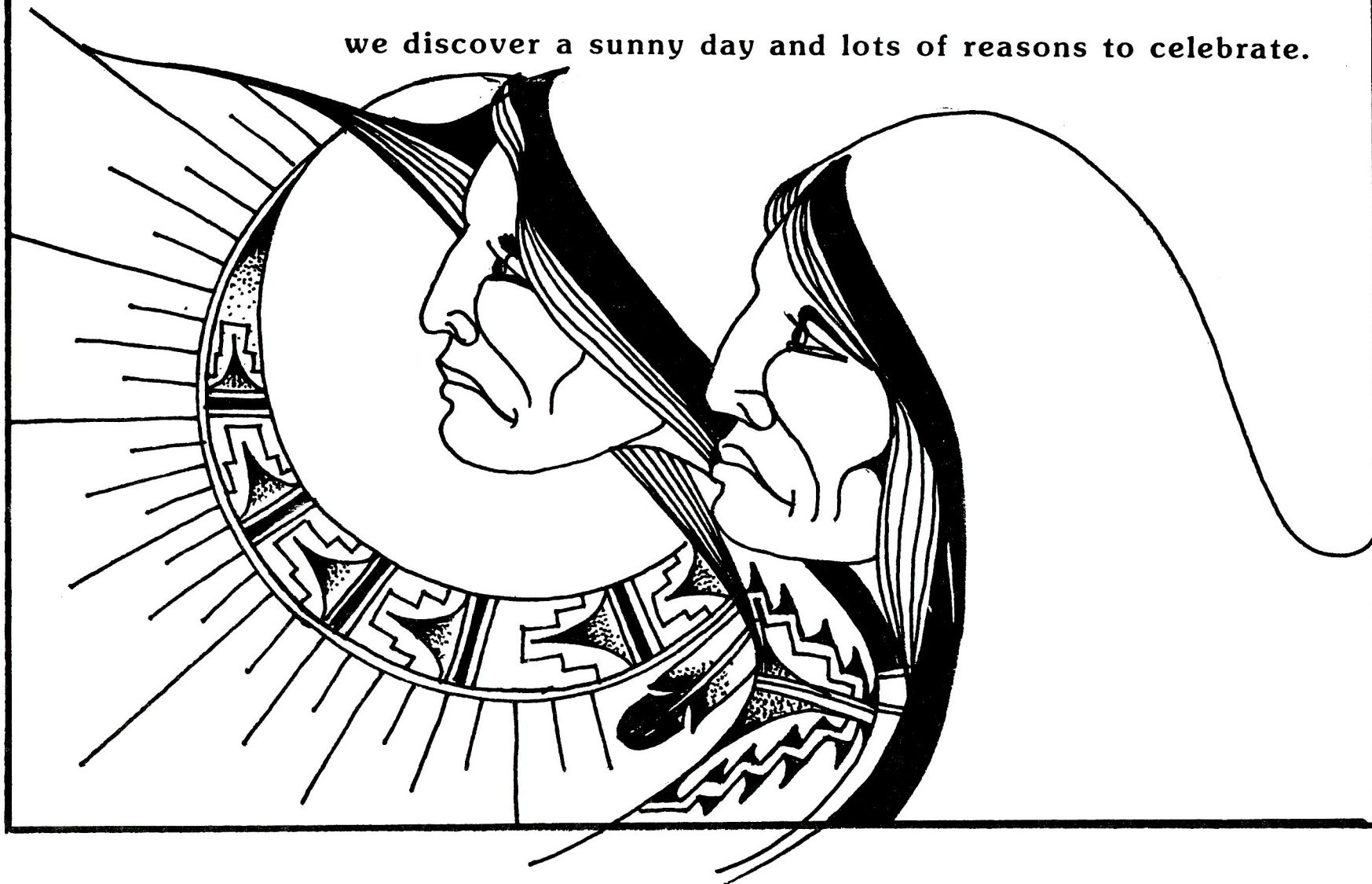
Jesus also says, "Eat with me, share
my life, be one with me."

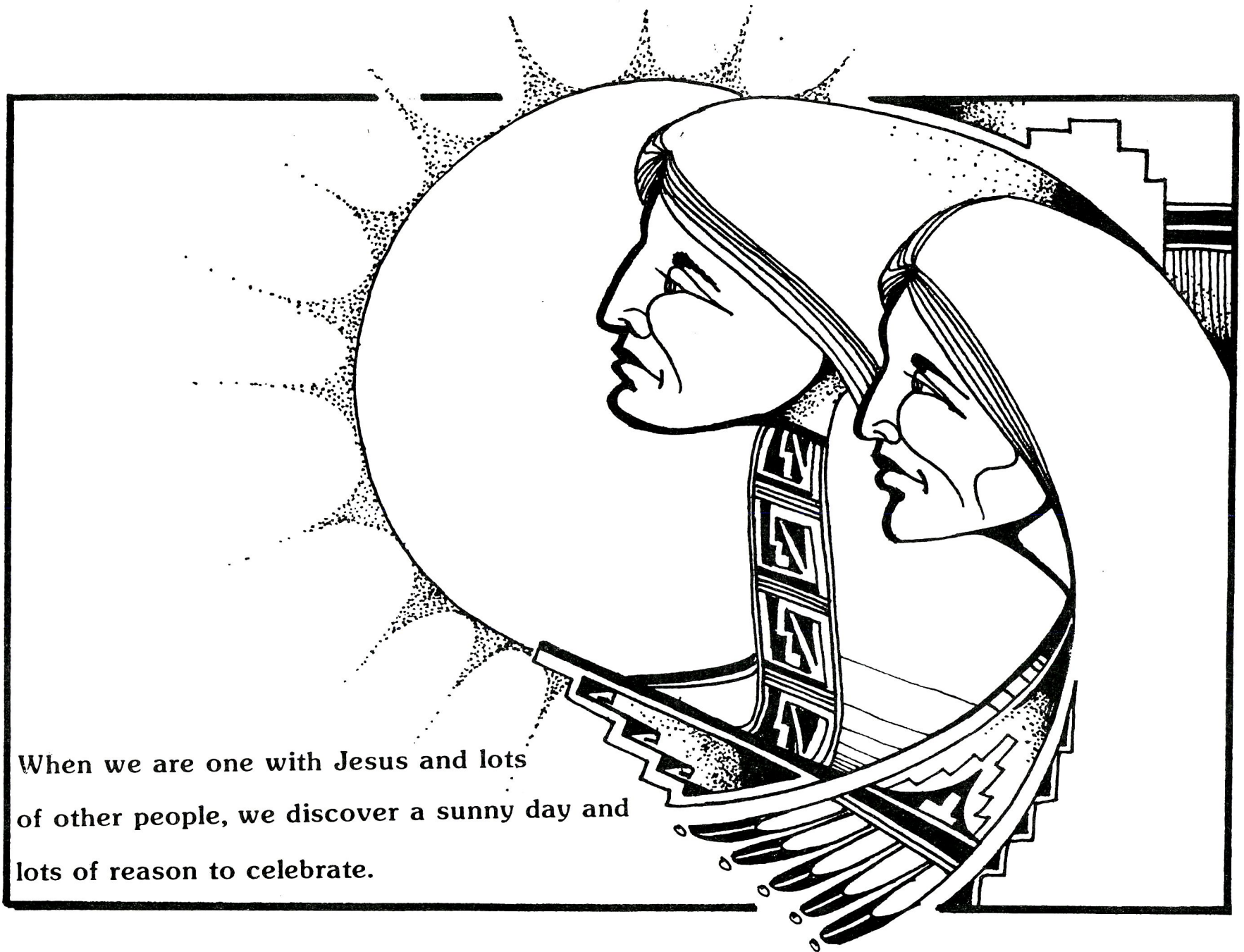
Somehow, when we are all gathered in the circle of friends, being one,
sharing Eucharist, that old, hard wind can't reach us or blow cold on us.



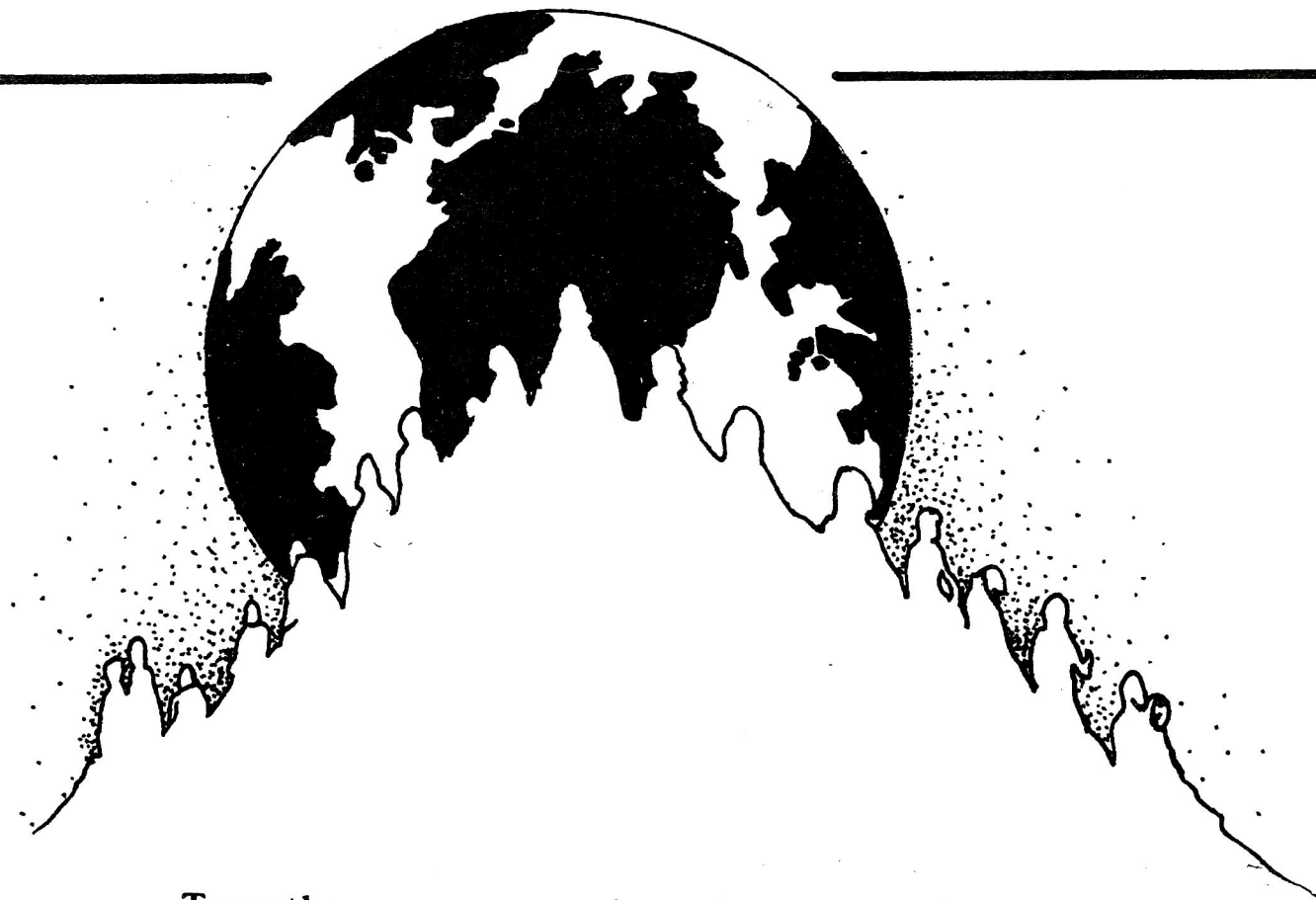
When we are one with Jesus and lots of other people,

we discover a sunny day and lots of reasons to celebrate.





When we are one with Jesus and lots
of other people, we discover a sunny day and
lots of reason to celebrate.



Together we can make a better world.

Produced and Printed
by
**TEKAKWITHA CONFERENCE
NATIONAL CENTER**
P. O. Box 6759, Great Falls, Montana 59406-6759