





# NOW PRAYING

2018 FALL SERMON SERIES

**HOW MOVIES SHOW  
OUR DEEPEST LONGINGS**

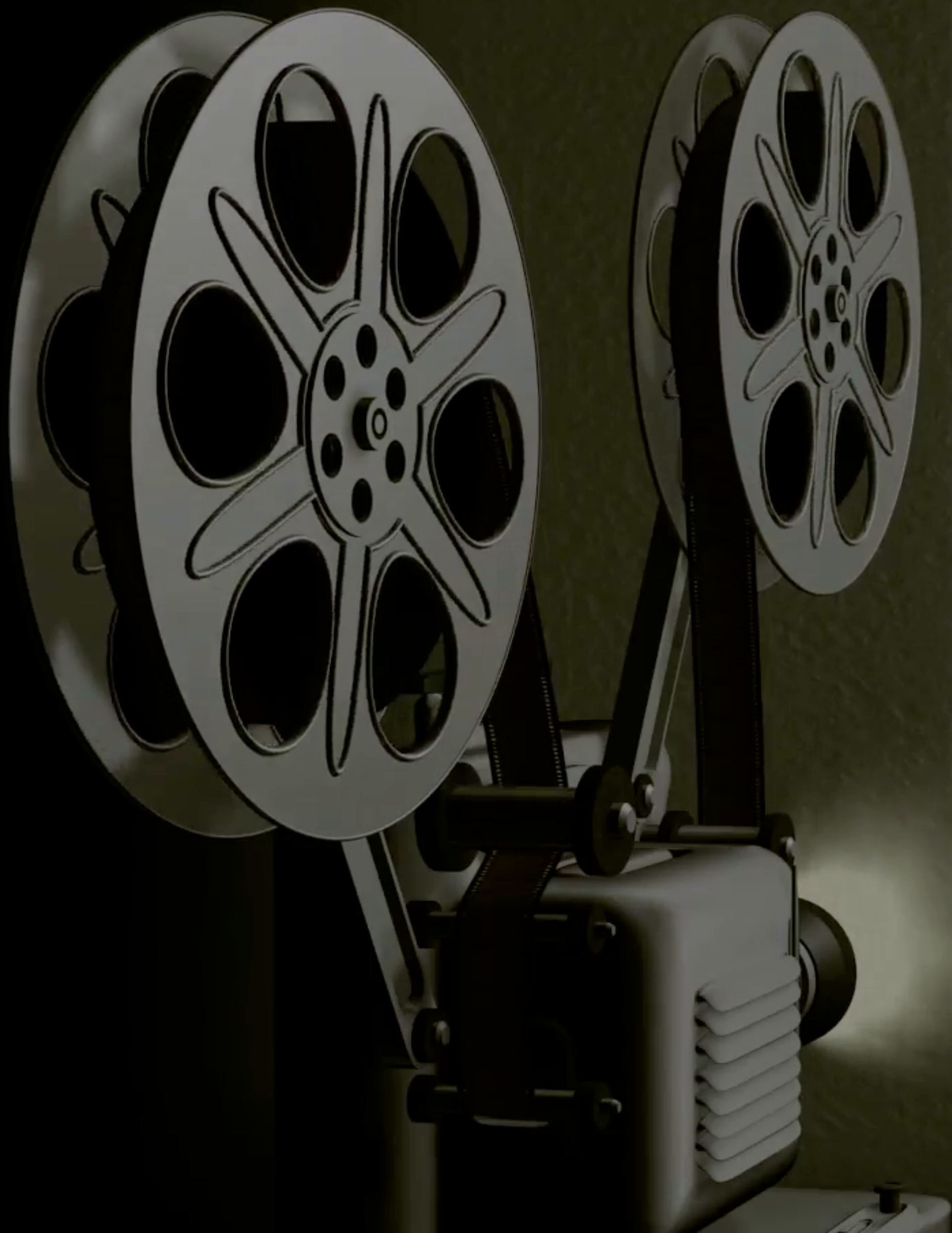




a prayer of yearning.

**Star Wars: A New Hope**  
*Lucasfilm/Twentieth Century Fox, 1977*





***“prayers that yearn... peering  
into the deep vastness of the  
ocean, determined to find  
something, even though  
many insist it is not there.”***

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Josh Larsen, *Movies are Prayers*

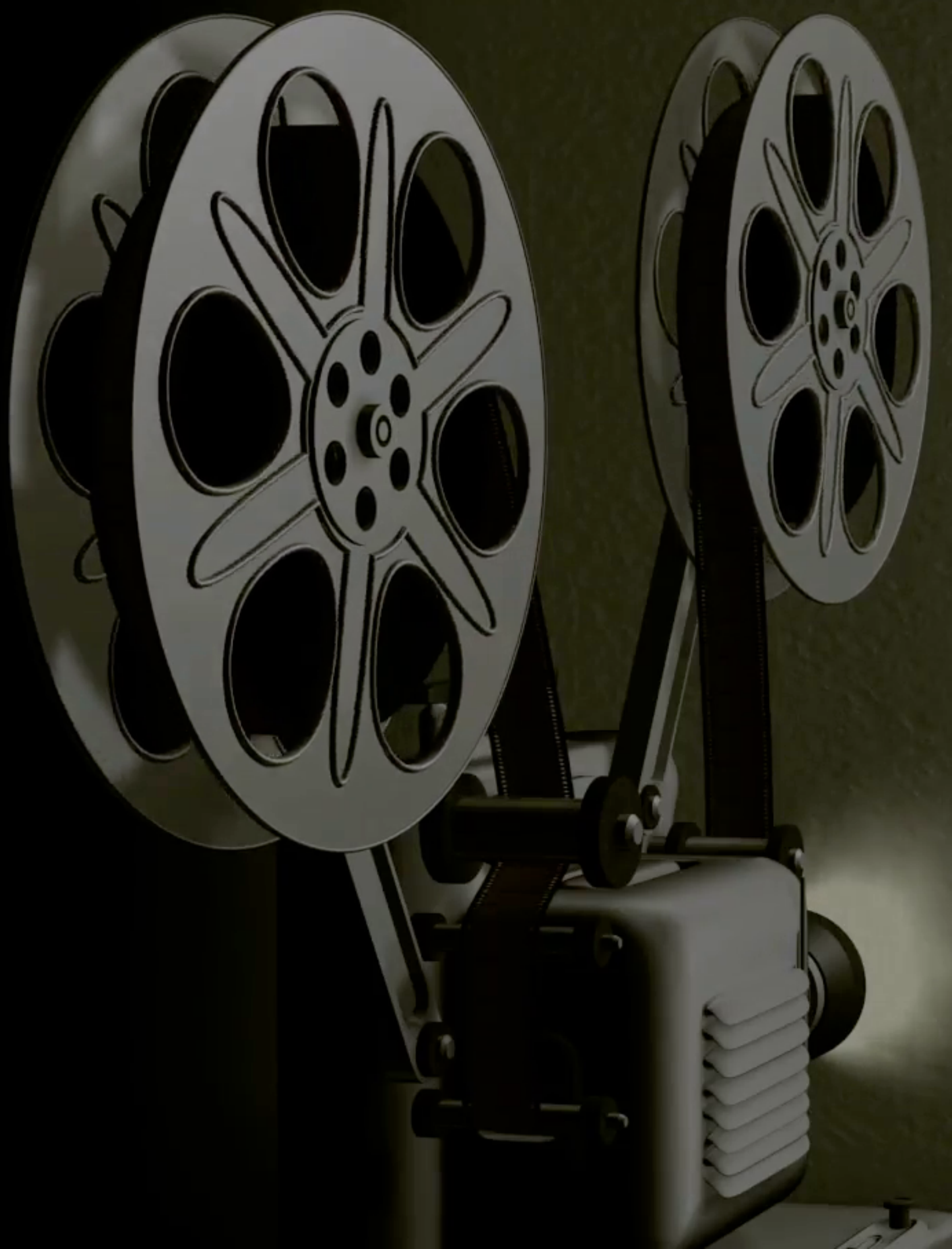


A close-up, low-angle shot of Dorothy Gale's legs from the knees down. She is wearing a blue and white checkered dress, light blue socks, and her iconic red ruby slippers. The shoes are highly reflective, showing bright highlights. The background is a solid black, which makes the shoes and legs stand out. The text "a prayer of yearning." is overlaid in white, lowercase letters across the middle of the image.

a prayer of yearning.

**The Wizard of Oz**  
*MGM, 1939*





***“Yearning... is the most  
universal of prayers, an  
instinct even the resolutely  
irreligious have.”***

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Josh Larsen, *Movies are Prayers*





*<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."*



*<sup>1</sup> As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul pants for you, my God.  
<sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
When can I go and meet with God?  
<sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food  
day and night,  
while people say to me all day long,  
“Where is your God?”*

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Psalm 42







*<sup>4</sup> These things I remember  
as I pour out my soul:  
how I used to go to the house of God  
under the protection of the Mighty One  
with shouts of joy and praise  
among the festive throng.*

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Psalm 42



A person with long dark hair, wearing a dark t-shirt and blue jeans, stands barefoot on a small rock in the middle of the ocean. The person is facing away from the camera, looking out at the horizon. The water is calm with gentle ripples. In the foreground, several larger dark rocks are scattered in the shallow water. The sky is filled with large, dramatic clouds, with a bright patch of light breaking through near the horizon. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

is our prayer heard?





Coco  
Disney/Pixar, 2017









*<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

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John 3





God yearns for you.





**Sat 10/27**  
**EBCLA Fall Festival**

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**4-6pm: Games & Food**  
**6-8pm: Outdoor Movie**