



Songs of Life & Worship

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PRAYERS & CREEDS

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen!*

The Apostle's Creed¹

*I believe in God the Father,
Almighty Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord:
he was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead:
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic² church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen!*

¹ This Creed received the title "The Apostles' Creed" because of its great antiquity; it dates from very early times in the Church, a half century or so from the last writings of the New Testament. While it was not written by the Apostles, it accurately summarizes their teaching, and it represents the core convictions required for someone to identify as a Christian.

² 'catholic' (small c) is an ancient term, meaning 'universal,' not 'Roman Catholic'.

Membership Vows

What commitments does a new MEMBER make to the Church?

1. *Do you believe that the Christian **Scriptures** (both Old and New Testaments) are in fact the Word of God, that they contain the true message of salvation for all people?*
[2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Matthew 4:4]
2. *Do you believe that you are a **sinner** in God's sight, that you justly deserve his displeasure, that your only hope is God's sovereign love and mercy, which flows by grace, through faith, not works?*
[Ephesians 1:3-14; 2:1-10; Titus 3:3-7; 1 Peter 1:2-9]
3. *Do you believe that **Jesus Christ** is the only Son of the Triune God, the resurrected Savior of sinners, that he is your only hope for spiritual rescue?* [Romans 1:16-17; 3:9-26; Philippians 3:5-9; Titus 3:3-5; 1 Timothy 1:15]
4. *Do you promise, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will strive to forsake the world, to put to death your sinful nature, and to live a godly life as a **follower** of Christ?*
[Ephesians 4:17-6.4; 1 Peter 1:13-15; Romans 8:29]
5. *Do you promise to **support** the church in its worship and its work to the best of your ability?* [Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:9-15; Ephesians 4:1-16; Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Peter 4:7-11]
6. *Do you promise to **submit** to the government and discipline of the church, and to preserve and pursue its purity and peace?*
[Eph 5:15-21; 1 Thess 5:12-13; 1 Timothy 5:17; Hebrews 13:17]

What commitments does the CHURCH make back to new members?

1. *Do you, members of All Souls, promise to **receive and accept** these brothers and sisters as members of this local body even as Christ has accepted you? And do you promise to **encourage, exhort, pray for, and give yourselves** for them, realizing that God has brought them into this body for their good, our edification, and His glory?*

SONGS & HYMNS

All Creation Sings (Psalm 63)³

*Oh God, you are my God, so say all thy saints;
Yet in vain I seek thy face, and still my spirit faints.*

*Oh God, you are my God, whispered once my heart;
Yet silence now the only sound, that speaks within this dark.*

*Oh God, you are my God, so all creation sings;
Yet dry and weary wends my soul, all hope abandoning...*

{...then, the dawn...}

*All creation sings, and the heavens rejoice,
the rocks cry out, the mountains shout, can you hear their voice?*

*The sky's on fire, the color of grace,
as God himself, comes down as man, to seek my face.*

*And the deserts gasp, at the thought of the thirst,
that bends his back, breaks his heart, to bear my curse;*

*Who for the joy, endures the shame –
no greater Love, no greater Word, no greater King!*

*Let my soul cleave to thee, let my soul cleave to thee,
Let my soul, cleave to thee, O Lord I pray!*

³ Christian Cryder, 2012. David wrestles with God's silence in Psalm 63: "Earnestly I seek you! My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water!" In other words, "Where the heck are you, God?!" And Jesus is the ultimate answer to that question – he is the God-man who takes on flesh to seek us out, who lifts up his hands in crucifixion, who thirsts for us, who swoons in our stead, who journeys through the ultimate wilderness – the wasteland of sin, the desert of death. All for us! Truly, his is the "blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel" (Heb 12:24). So all creation sings.

All Creatures of Our God and King⁴

*All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing: O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam! O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along: O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice! O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness: O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One! O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!...*

...Alleluia! Alleluia!

⁴ Words: Francis of Assisi, 1225 (Translated William H Draper, 1925). Arrangement: David Crowder Band, 2004.

All I Need Is Thee⁵

All my bones cry out. All my bones cry out.
You say sing, so I will sing – O Lord, I'll try to sing!
But all my bones cry out...

All my tears rain down. All my tears rain down!
You say weep, with those who weep – O Lord, I sure can weep!
For all my tears rain down...

All my wounds well up. All my wounds well up!
You say forgive, I say forgive – Lord, how can I forgive? (3x)
When all my wounds well up...

Hallowed be thy name – that's where they say it all begins;
And the pines on the ridges sing praise, yet I wonder where it ends?
Will heaven help us now, in this land of in-between –
Where our hurts & our fears wage war with our hopes & our dreams...

***Chorus:** There's blood on the ground, and it cries out for justice;
And the ache in my heart, makes me wonder what the point is;
But the hounds in them hills – call my name and they're relentless...
Singing, all I need is thee!

All I need is thee. All I need is thee!
You say believe, I believe – Lord, help my unbelievin'? (3x)
Singing, all I need is thee...*

All my bones cry out...
All my tears rain down...
All my wounds well up...
All I need is thee!

⁵Christian Cryder, 2021. This song is syncopated – underlines mark major downbeats, so if you're not sure of the melody or timing... aim for the underlined words!

*All Is Well*⁶

*Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well;
Free and changeless is his favor, all, all is well.
Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us,
strong the hand, stretched out to shield us,
O all must be well, all must be well.*

*Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well;
Ours is such a great salvation, all, all is well.
Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding,
holy through the Spirit's guiding,
O all must be well, all must be well.*

*In all things our God is working, all will be well;
For the good of those who love him, all, all is well.
Nothing here can separate us, from the love he freely gave us,
for his purpose we are called,
O all must be well, all must be well.*

*We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well;
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all, all is well.
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,
for in living or in dying,
O all must be well, all must be well.*

⁶ Words: Mary Peters, 1847. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2001. Based on Romans 8:31: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Am I A Soldier of the Cross?⁷

*Am I a soldier of the cross, a follow'r of the Lamb?
And shall I fear to own His cause, or blush to speak His name?
Must I be carried to the skies, on flow'ry beds of ease;
While others fought to win the prize,
and sailed through bloody seas?*

*Are there no foes for me to face? Must I not stem the flood?
Is this vile world a friend to grace, to help me on to God?
Sure I must fight if I would reign; increase my courage, Lord;
I'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
supported by Thy Word.*

*Thy saints in all this glorious war, shall conquer, though they die;
They see the triumph from afar, by faith's discerning eye.
When that illustrious day shall rise, and all Thy armies shine;
In robes of vict'ry through the skies,
the glory shall be Thine.*

⁷ Isaac Watts, 1724. Arranged by Trudy Poirier, to a traditional tune from the Irish Easter Uprising of 1916.

Among Us Our Beloved Stands⁸

*Among us our beloved stands,
and shows us now his pierced hands;
Points to his wounded feet and side,
blest emblems of the crucified.
Alleluia, Alleluia! (2x)*

*What food luxurious loads the board,
when at his table sits the Lord!
The wine how rich, the bread how sweet,
when Jesus comes his guests to meet!
Alleluia, Alleluia! (2x)*

*If now with eyes defiled and dim,
we see the signs but see not him;
O may his love the scales displace,
and bid us see him face to face!
Alleluia, Alleluia! (2x)*

*O glorious bridegroom of our hearts,
your present smile a joy imparts!
O lift the veil, if veil there be,
to let your bride your glory see!
Alleluia, Alleluia! (2x)*

⁸ Words: Charles Spurgeon, 1866. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2004. See John 20:26-28: "Then Jesus said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'"

Arise My Soul⁹

*Arise my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears,
The bleeding sacrifice, in my behalf appears:
Before the throne my surety stands,
Before the throne my surety stands,
My name is written on his hands.*

*He ever lives above, for me to intercede,
His all redeeming love, his precious blood to plead;
His blood atoned for every race,
His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.*

*Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary,
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me,
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,
“Don't let that ransomed sinner die!”*

*My God is reconciled, his pard'ning voice I hear,
He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And “Father, Abba, Father!” cry.*

⁹ Words: Charles Wesley, 1742. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2000. “Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.” ~ Hebrews 7:25 [NIV].

The Beauty of Jesus¹⁰

*Change me O God, I cannot change myself.
Even when I try I fall so short.
I am full of pride, there's no place to hide.
Only you can change a sinful heart like mine!**

** **Chorus:** Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.
All his wonderful passion and purity.
Savior divine, all my nature refine,
till your beauty, till your beauty, till your beauty be seen in me.*

*My own righteousness is just like filthy rags,
Prodigal or pharisee the same.
Fig leaves that I wear, leave me naked and bare;
Clothe me in the righteousness of your dear Son!**

*Do your work in me, that I may ever see,
all the good things you have for me.
Your work has begun, it will be complete,
By faith I claim your promises for me!**

¹⁰ Trudy Poirier, 2002. "The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands." ~ Psalm 138:8 [ESV].

Before the Throne of God Above¹¹

*Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great high Priest whose Name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.*

*My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in Heav'n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence
depart, no tongue can bid me thence depart!*

*When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within;
Upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied, to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me!*

*Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself I cannot die; my soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
with Christ my Savior and my God!*

¹¹ Charitie Bancroft, 1863. Music by Vikki Cook, 1997.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus¹²

*Beneath the cross of Jesus, with joy I take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock within the weary land;
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat and burden of the day.*

*There lies beneath its shadow, but on the further side,
the darkness of an awful grave that gapes both deep and wide.
And there between us stands the cross, two arms outstretched to save,
a watchman set to guard the way from that eternal grave.*

*Upon the cross of Jesus my eyes at times can see,
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.
And from my stricken heart with tears, two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.*

*I take O cross your shadow, for my abiding place.
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face.
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss;
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.*

¹² Elizabeth Clephane, 1872. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2003. "But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." ~ Philippians 3:7-8a.

Benediction (Psalm 20)¹³

*May the Lord send an answer, in the time of your troubles,
May the God of our fathers, set you firmly on high,
May He send you help, from His sanctuary,
Strength and support, all the days of your life!*

Chorus 1: *Why am I surprised (echo), why am I amazed (echo),
When the Lord himself comes down,
and with His Holy hand, reaches out to save!*

*May the Lord bless and keep you, make His face shine upon you,
May God give you peace, everything you require,
May He fulfill, all your prayers and petitions,
And may his love, grant your deepest desires!**

Chorus 2: *Why am I surprised (echo), why am I amazed (echo),
When the Lord himself comes down,
and with His Holy hand, reaches out to save!
Why am I surprised (echo), why am I amazed (echo),
When the answer finally comes, when His mercy river runs,
and covers us in grace... Why am I surprised,
when He hears my cries, why am I amazed?*

Bridge: *Will you not sing for joy, with us in victory?
Lift up a banner of praise, to our great and glorious King!
O come let us sing for joy, for we serve a God who saves,
What kind of love is this, that He should take our place?*

Chorus 3: *So let us be surprised (echo), let us be amazed (echo),
When the Lord himself comes down,
and with His Holy hand, reaches out to save!
Let us be surprised (echo), let us be amazed (echo),
When the answer finally comes, when His mercy river runs,
and covers us in grace... Let us be surprised,
when He hears our cries, let us be amazed!*

¹³ Christian Cryder, 2001.

Be Thou My Vision¹⁴

*Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.*

*Be Thou my battle-shield, sword for my fight,
Be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight.
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tower.
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*High king of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.*

¹⁴ 8th century Irish hymn.

Bone & Blood¹⁵

***Refrain:** *“I am God, and by bone and blood,
what is sown in faith, shall be raised up;
and the world shall know, that
I alone am God.”*

*And the prophet weeps, o’er the hearts of stone,
in the city of God, in the valley of bones:
“Every word you gave, Lord,
I have said and done.”*

*And a little girl lives, and a blind man sees,
but the graveyard’s full, of all us Pharisees;
and the rich young men, still
turn and walk away...**

Chorus 1: *How can it be, Lord? How can I believe, Lord?
When all that I see, Lord, looks like the grave...*

*You build your church, on a rock you said,
but the bride’s a whore, and she just can’t quit;
and the heartache, Lord, is
more than I can bear...*

Chorus 2: *How can it be, Lord? How can I believe, Lord?
When all that I see, Lord, looks like the grave...
How can it be, Lord? Help my unbelief, Lord!
Teach us to see, Lord, beyond this place...**

¹⁵ Christian Cryder, 2017. This song wrestles with how the coming of the Kingdom seems marked by failure and disappointment: Jeremiah preaches, but Jerusalem is still destroyed; Jesus heals and raises the dead, but the vast majority still walk away unconvinced; those of us who follow Him today fare little better (every church you ever love will break your heart at some point). The temptation is to doubt, to despair, to withdraw. No, says God! This is just what the “way of faith” looks like (cf. Rom 1:17. Heb 11, Ps 77:19).

Calling Out Your Name¹⁶

*There's a mercy in the blows (echo),
There's a presence in the pain (echo),
There's a longing in the thirst, a hope that's harder than the hurts,
That keeps me calling out your name...*

*There's a glory in the stars (echo),
There's a thunder in the rain (echo),
There's a yearning in my soul, a burning deep within my bones,
That keeps me calling out your name... **

****Chorus:** O Lord our God, blow your Spirit like the wind:
Open up our eyes to see, to take our cross and follow thee,
Through the thick and the thin...
O Lord our God, won't you cover all our shame:
We are sick and we are sore, Lord we want to want you more,
So keep us calling out your name!*

*There are wonders in this world (echo),
But they are nothing like the faith (echo),
That in spite of all the tears, all the doubts and all the fears,
Keeps us calling out your name... **

*There's a king upon his throne (echo),
And there is justice in his reign (echo),
But there is blood enough to speak, for all the poor and all the weak,
To keep us calling out your name... **

¹⁶Christian Cryder, 2020. This reminds me of an old Rich Mullins song by the same name (yes, you really should go listen to it).

Come Thou Fount¹⁷

*Come thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.**

***Chorus:** *Love, love, love – your cross, O Christ, thy greatest love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.**

Bridge: *So let me bow, this headstrong heart,
And let me stay, these bleating lips;
That I might be, thy simple lamb,
For you to lead, as thou see fit.**

*O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.**

¹⁷ Robert Robinson, 1757. Chorus, refrain, music: Christian Cryder, 2012. An ebezer is a standing stone, a monument to God in honor of his intervention and rescue (cf. 1 Samuel 7:12). Here Jesus is presented as our ultimate Ebenezer, who for the joy set before him endured the shame of the cross (Heb 12:2), dying for us that we might live for him.

Come To the Table¹⁸

*Come to the table and savor the sight,
the wine and the bread that was broken,
And all have been welcomed to come if they might,
accept as their own these two tokens.
The bread is His body, the wine is the blood,
and the one who provides them is true;
He freely offers, we freely receive; to accept and believe Him
is all we must do.*

***Chorus:** *Come to the table and taste of the glory,
And savor the sorrow, He's dying tomorrow –
The hand that is breaking the bread, soon will be broken.
And here at the table, sit those who have loved him,
one is a traitor and one will deny,
But He's lived his life for them all, and for all be crucified.
Come to the table He's prepared for you,
the bread of forgiveness, the wine of release!
Come to the table and sit down beside Him,
the Savior wants you to join in the feast!*

*Come to the table and see in His eyes,
the love that the Father has spoken,
And know you are welcome, whatever your crime,
though every commandment you've broken.
For He's come to love you and not to condemn,
and He offers a pardon of peace;
If you'll come to the table, you'll feel in your heart,
the greatest forgiveness, the greatest release.**

¹⁸ Michael Card, 1994.

Comes the Morning (Psalm 107)¹⁹

*Comes the morning, yet my soul forlorn, finds no peace at all;
Desert regions, lay like foreign legions, waiting for my fall;
Blazing thirst, and yet it seems the worst of it still lies ahead;
Little longer, in this land much stronger, and I shall be dead...**

***Chorus:** *And so I, cried to the Lord, in the midst of my distress;
My Deliverer is coming – he will give me rest!*

*Deepest darkness, leaves my soul in starkness, like I've never known;
These chains that bind me, constantly remind me, that I'm far from home;
Lost and lonely, O if I could only see the light of day;
Vision fading, leaves my hope evading, while I waste away...**

*Wild wind howling, seems that Death is prowling, 'round my door again;
Tossed and turning, in these seas so churning, fear I'm near the end;
Sins assailing, feel my courage failing, I am far from land;
Sinking under, then when to my wonder, it's the Son of Man...*

Bridge: *And he's, walking on the water,
thru the troubled seas of my life,
Lord, I'm sinking under (Save me!)
Save me when I cry...**

¹⁹ Christian Cryder, circa 1995. A song for those who have been rescued, or who need to be. This is one of the first psalms I tried to set to music, and it follows the text fairly closely: there are four main sections (“verses”), all punctuated by a refrain (“chorus”) “Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.” These days, I find it hard to read this psalm and NOT think of Jesus (cf. Mt 14:22-33, John 6:16-21).

Come You Sinners²⁰

*Come you sinners, poor & wretched, weak & wounded, sick & sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, joined with pow'r.
He is able, He is able, He is willing doubt no more,
He is willing doubt no more.*

*Come you needy, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify,
true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh,
without money, without money, come to Jesus Christ and buy,
come to Jesus Christ and buy.*

*Come you weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall,
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all:
not the righteous, not the righteous, sinners Jesus came to call,
sinners Jesus came to call.*

*Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him;
this he gives you, this he gives you, listen to the Savior's voice,
listen to the Savior's voice...*

²⁰ Words: Joseph Hart, 1759. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2001.

Down to the River to Pray²¹

*As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
And who should wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way!*

O sisters let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

O sisters let's go down, down in the river to pray.

*As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
And who should wear the robe and crown? Good Lord show me the way!*

O brothers let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Come on brothers, let's go down, down in the river to pray.

*As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
And who should wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way!*

O fathers let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

O fathers let's go down, down in the river to pray.

*As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
And who should wear the robe and crown? Good Lord show me the way!*

O mothers let's go down, come on down, don't you wanna go down?

Come on mothers, let's go down, down in the river to pray.

*As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
And who should wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way!*

O sinners, let's go down, let's go down, come on down,

O sinners, let's go down, down in the river to pray.

²¹ Traditional; Robert Douglas Metzgar, Robert Allen Zipkin.

Doxology²²

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

Eternal God²³

*Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown:
Your boundless love, unending, in grace and mercy shown;
Bright seraphim, in ceaseless flight, around your glorious throne,
They raise their voices day and night, in praise to you alone..**

**Chorus: Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God! (2x)*

*Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm;
Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms.
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm;
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee, before our Sovereign God...**

*Let every creature in the sea, and every flying bird;
Let every mountain, every field, and valley of the earth;
Let all the moons and all the stars, in all the universe –
Sing praises to the Living God, who rules them by His word...**

²² Thomas Ken, 1674. From the Greek doxa, “glory,” and logos, “word,” a doxology is simply a short hymn of praise to God.

²³Fernando Ortega & Mac Powell, 2002.

Fairest Lord Jesus²⁴

*Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

*Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heav'n can boast.*

*Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.*

²⁴ Words: Munster Gesanbuch, 1677; Music: Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842.

Flesh of our Flesh²⁵

*You are our God, help us to worship you,
Heaven's your throne, the earth is your footstool,
What kind of house, can a man hope to build,
for the builder of everything?
You did not pause, you did not wait,
In the face of our sin, you did not hesitate,
Emmanuel, God come to dwell, in flesh and bone walking!*

*You are our God, help us to understand,
The covenants of old, given to Abraham:
Point us to a place, promise us a seed, bring the nations blessing.
He did not question, he did not doubt,
Though his flesh was weak, his body worn out,
He fixed his gaze, with eyes full of faith, on the One who was coming!**

**Chorus: Flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone,
Rejected by men but our chief cornerstone,
Building us up, into the true, temple of God!
Flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone, Your righteousness, is our only hope,
Keeper of the Law, keep now our hearts, fixed upon you.*

*You are our God, raise us to life again,
For we are but bones, dwelling in tents of skin,
And how my soul thirsts, to be free of this curse, this sin that enslaves me.
We were not rich, we were not wise, Yet for our sake, you willingly died,
Oh Lamb of God, bridegroom of blood, King of Creation!**

²⁵ Christian Cryder, 2002. Cf. Acts 7 and Romans 3 for examples of how NT Christians see the OT this way. Eugene Peterson reminds us in *Subversive Spirituality* what this name would have meant to the Hebrews: "Emmanuel – Don't be intimidated by circumstances; trust. God is right here with us. When everything is falling apart around you, God is not falling apart."

Gentle Hearted God²⁶

*O the Gentle Hearted God, looked down on sons of men,
at all the killing and the dying, and the wailing and the sighing under sin.
Then the Gentle Hearted God, burned with righteous rage,
like a father for his daughters, taken hostage by a lover of the grave.*

*Now the Gentle Hearted God, sought a man to intercede,
but there was not a nary, not a single solitary one to plead.
So he wrapped himself in flesh, he clothed himself in skin,
and disregarding danger, as a baby in a manger entered in...**

***Refrain:** *Singing, "I am yours, and you are mine,
cross my heart, and hope to die;
I have left my Father's side to find you here.
Bend my back against the storm,
I'll hold you close, I'll keep you warm –
for I am yours, and you are mine..."*
– Gentle Hearted God.

*So this Gentle Hearted God, came a walking in our shoes,
bearing burdens, tearing curtains, freeing captives
with the goodness of his news.
Till on the highest hill, he faced the final foe,
and hanging on a cross for all of us, he stormed the very gates of Hell...*

*Well the Gentle Hearted God, even Death can't keep him down,
and the ending of the story's just a glimmer of the glory where we're
bound. For the Gentle Hearted God, he lives unto this day,
and the Spirit of the Father whispers, "Deeper little brother,
come this way"...**

²⁶ Christian Cryder, 2013. Inspired by Ezekiel 22:30, all of Isaiah 59, and of course, the Gospels, where Jesus is both gentle and meek (Matthew 11:29), zealous and strong (John 2:13-22) – Jesus is the Gentle Hearted God, come in flesh to rescue us!

Gloria Patri²⁷

*Glory to the Father, Glory to the Son,
Glory to the Spirit, blessed three in one.
As it was in the beginning, it is now unto the end,
World without end, Amen,
Amen, Amen, Amen!*

Glory to the Lamb (Creation Song)²⁸

*He wraps Himself in light as with a garment,
He spreads out the heavens, and walks on the wings of the wind.
He sends forth the springs from the valleys,
they flow between mountains.
The birds of the air, dwell by the waters, lifting their voices in song –
Singing glory, glory! Glory to the Lamb!
All praises and honor forever.*

*He made the moon for its seasons, the sun knows its setting.
He looks at the Earth and it trembles,
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord all my life, I will sing praises to my God -
As long as I live, Praises to the Lord, oh my soul.
Singing glory, glory! Glory to the Lamb!
All praises and honor forever and ever.*

*Singing glory, hallelujah! Glory to our God!
All praises and honor forever and ever, Amen!*

²⁷ Words: 3rd century AD. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2006.

²⁸ Words: John Andrew Scheiner, 1988. Music: Fernando Ortega, 2003. This song is based on the rich imagery of Psalm 104: "Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment." The response of "Glory!" comes from Rev. 5.

God's Own Fool²⁹

*Seems I've imagined him all of my life,
as the wisest of all of mankind;
but if God's holy wisdom is foolish to men,
he must have seemed out of his mind.
For even his family said he was mad,
and the priests said, a demon's to blame;
but God in the form of this angry young man,
could not have seemed perfectly sane.**

***Chorus:** *When we in our foolishness thought we were wise,
he played the fool and he opened our eyes.
When we in our weakness believed we were strong,
he became helpless to show we were wrong.
And so we follow God's own fool, for only the foolish can tell –
believe the unbelievable, and come be a fool as well.*

*So come lose your life for a carpenter's Son,
for a madman who died for a dream.
Then you'll have the faith his first followers had,
and you'll feel the weight of the beam.
So surrender the hunger to say you must know,
have the courage to say I believe;
for the power of paradox opens your eyes,
and blinds those who say they can see.**

²⁹ Michael Card, 1986.

Grace³⁰

*And the rains of your mercy pound the soil of my soul,
With a love so relentless it cuts to the core of my heart,
Lonely and dark, like the bones of these mountains.
Yet the gale of your Spirit breathes life in these limbs;
With the pines on the ridges I tremble in the winds of your love,
Ever strong enough, to move this heart of stone.**

***Chorus:** *Oh it's grace, grace, irresistible grace,
The kind that calls Lazarus up from the grave,
Pouring down from the heavens above, raining on me.
Yes it's grace, grace, irresistible grace,
the kind that never shall fail to save,
On account of the price that God himself paid,
Oh it's grace, irresistible grace!*

*And the valley lies strewn with my desert bones bleached,
While the winter chill freezes my marrow so deep I cry out,
In fear and in doubt, at the weight of my sin.
But the chinook winds prophecy a coming of change,
And the ice on my soul is just groaning in rage at the news;
The shackles are loosed, and the river runs free!**

Bridge: *So then, what can separate us, from a grace so amazing as this?
Neither death nor life, nor the angels up on high,
Nor the demons who linger down below,
Neither height nor depth, no nothing that has breath,
Shall separate us from our Lord...**

Oh it's grace irresistible, grace unimaginable, grace irresistible grace!

³⁰ Christian Cryder, 2000. See Ezekiel 37:1-13, Romans 8:31-39. Throughout Scripture "Grace" is always active, never passive – it breathes, it moves, it shapes, it creates. And God tells us that we never earn it (Ephesians 2:9). It is his gift to us – freely given, yet costly beyond measure. It is mysterious, subtle, relentless. It always accomplishes exactly what God intends. It is irresistible.

Great Things (Psalm 126)³¹

*When the Lord brought back the captives,
we were like dead men who dreamed;
And our mouths were filled with laughter,
there was singing in the streets;
It was said among the nations, it was shouted in the plains:
“Oh the Lord has done great things!”*

*Now those of us who went out weeping,
at the seeds we had to sow;
We have found ourselves a reaping,
peace and joy that overflowed;
For there is a King in Zion, and he at last shall reign –
For the Lord has done great things!**

****Chorus:** So restore, our fortunes won't you Lord?
Like streams in the desert are the riches of your Word;
And the blessings of your mercy fall on us so undeserved,
Like living rain... great things!*

*Oh my eyes have seen the glory, but it is dressed in dust and skin;
Son of Man cries to the lowly: “Take your cross and follow me!”
For he is trampling out the vineyards, he is drinking dry my shame;
He has loosed the fateful lightnings, but they all fall down on him;
And the proud have all gone hungry, but the humble shall be fed –
For the Lord has done great things!**

³¹ Christian Cryder, 1999, 2017.

Guard My Life³²

*My enemies, O Lord have increased;
my troubles have multiplied.
Look upon my affliction and my distress
and take away all my sins.**

***Chorus:** *Guard my life and rescue me,
let me not be put to shame.
Show me all your ways O Lord,
and I will put my hope in you...
all the day!*

*Remember not the sins of my youth,
or my rebellious ways.
According to your love remember me,
for you are good O Lord.**

*My eyes are ever on the Lord;
only he frees my feet from the snare.
The Lord makes his covenant known to those
who fear & trust in his name!**

³² Trudy Poirier, 2001. "Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you." ~ Psalm 25:20.

Hear My Cry (Psalm 130)³³

*From the depths, oh Lord, I cry,
Listen to the cry of my heart.
If you kept a record of sins, who could stand?
My hope is in your unfailing love for me.**

***Chorus:** *I'm calling out, where are you Lord? In the darkest midnight!
Don't turn your face away from me, when I'm weak and helpless...
Oh Lord, Oh Lord, Oh Lord, hear my cry.*

*As the watchman waits, for the morn,
Even so my soul waits for you.
In your Word I put all my hope,
I will trust in your unfailing love for me.**

Here is Love, Vast as the Ocean³⁴

*Here is love vast as the ocean, loving kindness as a flood:
When the Prince of life, our ransom, shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten, throughout Heaven's eternal days.*

*On the Mount of Crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy, flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above;
Heaven's peace and perfect justice, kissed a guilty world in love.*

³³ Trudy Poirier, 2000.

³⁴ Words: William Rees, 1855. Music: Robert Lowery, 1876. This hymn played a prominent role in the Welsh Revival of 1904-1905.

His Grace Is Sufficient³⁵

*Gladly I boast in my weakness, resting in Christ's perfect power,
and for his sake I delight in my weakness,
in all sorts of troubles and trials.**

****Chorus:** His grace is sufficient for me,
his power made perfect in weakness.
For when I am weak, his grace gives me strength;
His grace is sufficient for me.*

*Outwardly we waste away, inside we're renewed day by day.
For what is seen is all fading and passing,
our eyes are on eternal things.**

*And when the darkness surrounds me, and shadows are all I can see,
the light that will shine in the distance,
is grace, such a great mystery.**

³⁵ Trudy Poirier, 2003. "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me... For when I am weak, then I am strong." ~ 2 Cor 12:9-10.

Holy, Holy, Holy³⁶

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

³⁶ Reginald Heber, 1826. See Isaiah 6:3, where the angelic beings who dwell in the presence of God cover their faces and cry out: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

Home³⁷

Wherever you are, I'd be at home with you,
Though the sky should fall, with the sun and the stars and the moon;
Wherever I am, if you would be with me here,
I could find my place, in the pain and the doubts and the fears...*

***Chorus:** Sing, sing, all ye people; Sing, sing, all ye children;
Sing, sing, the kingdom has been born!

Wherever you go, I will go there with you;
And I will stake my claim, in the faith of the prodigal fools:
That no matter how far, you'll be waiting for me,
With arms as wide, as the sand on the shores of the sea...*

****Refrain:** Sing us the songs, tell us the tales,
That keep us on course when the wind prevails;
Give us some hope, send us a sign – that will keep us pressing on.
So sing us the songs, tell us the tales,
Keep us on course when the wind prevails –
We've got a long, long, long, long,
long, long way to get home...

Whatever you say, I would like to believe,
But my sins are strong, and my faith is just weak in the knees;
So lend me your eyes, give me your heart,
With a love and joy that will keep me traveling on...*/**

³⁷Christian Cryder, 2019. I see this as a “traveling song” of sorts (or, to use the language of the psalter: “A Song of Ascents”). See Hebrews 11 & 12 for the dominant imagery.

Home (Reprise)³⁸

Wherever you are, I'd be at home with you,
Though the sky should fall, with the sun and the stars and the moon;
Wherever I am, if you would be with me here,
I could find my place, in the pain and the doubts and the fears...*

***Chorus:** Sing, sing, all ye people; Sing, sing, all ye children;
Sing, sing, the kingdom has been born!

Wherever you go, I will go there with you;
And I will stake my claim, in the faith of the prodigal fools:
That no matter how far (echo), you'll be waiting for me (echo),
With arms as wide, as the sand on the shores of the sea, sea, sea...*

****Refrain:** Sing us the songs, tell us the tales,
That keep us on course when the wind prevails;
Give us some hope, send us a sign – that will keep us pressing on.
So sing us the songs, tell us the tales,
Keep us on course when the wind prevails –
We've got a long, long, long, long,
long, long way to get home...

Whatever you say, I would like to believe,
But my sins are strong, and my faith is just weak in the knees;
So lend me your eyes (echo), give me your heart (echo),
With a love and joy that will keep me traveling on, on, on...*/**

*****Chorus 2:** Sing, sing to me, won't you... (2x)
Sing, sing to me, and calm my fears!

³⁸Christian Cryder, 2019. Same song, different feel. This version is played as a waltz (triple time), with a nod to *Sing To Me* at the tail end (Chorus 2).

How Deep The Father's Love For Us³⁹

*How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure;
That he should give his only son, to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns his face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One, bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers,
It was my sin that held him there, until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.*

*I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.*

³⁹ Stuart Townsend, 1995.

How Much Deeper? (The Complaint)⁴⁰

*I have seen no band of angels, I have heard no voice from God,
I have failed to find my fortune, on every road I've trod;
now this sun beat down upon me, burn these blisters on my back,
well I think it's only fair that I might ask...**

***Chorus:** *How much deeper? How much darker?
How much higher? How much harder?
How much steeper? How much longer shall it be,
till the Lord in Heaven turns his face toward me?*

*I have heard about the heroes, I have read about the saints,
how those who wait upon the Lord, shall run and not grow faint;
yet still my spirit falters, at the fierceness of the task,
so I will lift my voice and dare to ask...**

(...the pause...)

*What is deeper than my mercy? What is darker than the cross?
Or the heights of my compassion, for the hardness of your hearts?
Sent my Son from heaven, bear your blisters on his back,
and he has answered every question you could ask...*

*His love is deeper than the oceans, darker than your stains;
higher than the heavens, harder than your pains;
steeper than the mountains, and it's longer than you think,
since the Lord in Heaven turned his face toward thee!***

****Chorus 2:** *His love is deeper, his love is darker;
his love is higher, his love is harder;
his love is steeper, and it's longer than you think,
since the Lord in Heaven turned his face toward thee!**

⁴⁰ Christian Cryder, 2013. While somewhat obscure, the form of a “complaint to God” is thoroughly biblical – we see it explicitly in Psalm 102, the Book of Job, and in Jesus' own cries on the cross: “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34). Isn't it fascinating that God invites his people to bring their complaints to him as an act of Worship? This song explores how that might be possible.

Hymn Of St. Patrick⁴¹

*I bind unto myself today, the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same, the Three in One, the One in Three.*

Christ be with me, Christ within me.

Christ beside me, Christ to win me.

Christ to comfort and restore me.

*I bind unto myself today, the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same, the Three in One, the One in Three.*

Christ behind me, Christ before me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me.

Christ in hearts of all that love me.

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he.
Of the things that are, that have been; and that future years shall see;
Ever more and ever more.*

*Christ to thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be.
Honor glory and dominion, and eternal victory;
Ever more and ever more.*

⁴¹ Words: vss 1-2, Patrick of Ireland, 4th century; vss 3-4, Marcus Aurelius Prudentias, 405 AD. Arrangement: Trudy Poirier, 1995. The language of this song is ancient, but the foundation remains constant: We 'bind ourselves' to God and ask him to be here with us, to protect us, to restore us, 'ever more and ever more.'

I Am God, There Is No Other⁴²

*I am God, there is no other, I am God, there is none like me.
I make known, the past and present, and I know, what is still to be.**

***Chorus:** *By myself, I have sworn, and my purposes will stand,
I will do all that I please by my powerful right hand.
Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth,
for I am God, there is none like me, there is none like me!*

*Listen now, O house of Jacob, and all you of Israel,
since your birth I have upheld you, and in old age I will carry you.**

*So compare me with your idols, that are made of wood and stone;
and bow down and worship there, but deaf and dumb,
they will hear no prayer.**

*Before me all will bow, and before me every tongue confess.
All will say, "The Lord is righteous, God alone is all our strength!"**

⁴² Trudy Poirier, 2004. Based on Isaiah 45-46: God proclaims, "To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance. Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength." ~ Isaiah 45:23-24. In this song, the words are in the first person because when we read this passage in Isaiah, God speaks to us in the first person.

If You Have Been Raised⁴³

*Sunrise falls from the heavens,
kisses the mountains, raising them to life;
Rivers raging in springtime,
drowning the dryness, all the earth is baptized.*

*Son of Light sent meekly from Heaven,
kissed on a mountain, goes gently to die;
Sinking, in Death's circumcising,
yet by him Death dying, that we might have life...**

***Chorus:** *If you have been raised, then you are alive,
think on things above, set your minds on Christ.
Seated on the throne, the very Son of God,
where angels fear to tread he has already gone,
...if you have been raised.*

*Jesus, King of creation,
Ruler of nations, full of glory and light:
Shine now, shiver our darkness;
conquer our hardness; fill us with life...**

Bridge: *Christ in you, the hope of glory;
Christ in you, the Lord of life.**

⁴³ Christian Cryder, 2010. Based on Colossians 1-2, Hebrews 1:1-3. This song reflects on who Christ is, on what he has done, and how it makes a difference for those of us who follow him – if we are in Christ, we have been raised.

I Lift Up My Eyes (Psalm 121)⁴⁴

*Esai enai, el heharim, Me-ayim yavo ezri
Ezri meyim Adonai. Ose shamayim va-aretz*

*El yaten lamot ranlecha,
El yanum shomrecha
Hine lo yanum, va-lo Ishan,
Shomer yisrael*

*I lift up my eyes, unto the hills, From whence shall come my help?
My help is from the LORD God, Maker of heav'n and earth.*

*He will not give to the moving of your foot,
Nor shall slumber He Who keeps thee.
Behold He'll not slumber, nor shall He sleep.
He Who keeps Israel.*

⁴⁴ Michael Card, 1990, under the title of My Help. Read the rest of Psalm 121 – Do you recognize the blessing we use on a regular basis here at All Souls?

In Christ Alone⁴⁵

*In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest
drought and storm.*

*What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fulness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.*

*There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine – bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death – this is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

⁴⁵ Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend, 2001. "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ~1 Peter 2:4-6 [ESV].

It Is Well ⁴⁶

*Tho' peace, flows like a river, or sea of sorrows 'oer me rolls –
Whate'er my lot, thou hast taught me: It is well, with my soul.
Tho' Satan's trials should fall upon me, this blest assurance controls:
That Christ has seen me in my weakness,
And he has bled for my soul... **

***Refrain:** *It is well, it is well, it is well with my soul!*

*All my sin – oh, the glory! – not the part, but the whole:
'Tis nailed upon a cross so holy; and holy hands will not let go.
And tho' the Lord himself should slay me, or take all that I'd hoped to hold;
Still I will sing with all the angels: There is rest for my soul... **

*Come to me, all ye thirsty – I hold the waters of life;
Come to me, all ye hungry – come and taste my delights!
Come to me, ye with no money – come and eat and drink and buy;
Come to me, on the mountain – all it costs is your pride... **

⁴⁶ Horatio Spafford, 1873. Adapted by Christian Cryder, 2018. Horatio Spafford was a wealthy Chicago lawyer and businessman. In 1871, the Chicago Fire destroyed most of his business investments. That same year his four year old son died of scarlet fever. Two years later, the ship carrying his wife and daughters to Europe capsized in the Atlantic. All four of his children perished; only his wife survived. Yet Spafford wrote his famous hymn while traversing the same part of the ocean where his family was lost. How can someone who has lost so much say truly that all was well with his soul? Christ claims to be the only person that can ever truly satisfy our souls, and he promises to never leave us or forsake us (Heb 13:5), even in death (John 11:25-26). The first two verses draw heavily from Spafford's hymn. The last verse (mine), comes from Isaiah 55.

I Will Now Arise (Psalm 12)⁴⁷

*Oh Lord, our God, we are sore afraid:
our foes surround, our hopes waylaid;
the poor oppressed, the weak are scorned,
and life weighs hard upon us like a crown of thorns.**

***Chorus:** *“I will now arise,” says the Lord Most High,
“And set you in the safety that you long for.
I will raise you up, I will make you shine,
and you shall know that I am your God.”*

*Oh Lord, our God, we must now confess:
our hearts exposed – mere rags, our righteousness!
Yet still we kick, against the goads,
with blinded eyes to things that matter most.**

*Oh Lord, our God, we stand in awe!
Who could have dreamt, what none foresaw:
that you yourself, should take our place,
Word of God made flesh, full of truth and grace!**

⁴⁷ Christian Cryder, 2008. “Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise,” says the Lord; “I will place him in the safety for which he longs.” ~ Psalm 12:5 [ESV].

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken⁴⁸

*Jesus, I my cross have taken, leaving all to follow you.
Naked, poor, despised, forsaken; from now on you'll be my all.
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known;
yet how rich is my condition: God and heav'n are still my own.*

*Let the world despise, forsake me; they have left my Savior too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me, you are not, like them, untrue.
O and while you smile upon me, God of wisdom, love and might,
foes may hate and friends disown me; show your face and all is bright!*

*Man may trouble and distress me; it will drive me to your side.
Life with trials hard may press me, heav'n will bring me sweeter rest.
Even grief it will not harm me, while your love is left to me;
and it's not in joy to charm me, were that joy unmixed with thee.*

*Soul, then know your full salvation, rise o'er sin and fear and care.
Joy to find in ev'ry station, something still to do or bear.
Soon shall close this earthly mission, soon shall pass these pilgrim days,
hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight and prayer to praise.*

⁴⁸ Henry Lyte, 1833. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2005. "But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed." ~ 1 Peter 4:13.

Jesus Lover Of My Soul⁴⁹

*Jesus, Lover of my soul, let me flee unto your side,
while the waters o'er me roll, while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my savior hide, till the storm of life is past;
safe into the harbor guide, O receive, my soul at last.*

*Other refuge I have none, hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone, still support and comfort me!
All my trust on you is stayed, all my help from you I bring;
cover my defenseless head, with the shadow of your wing.*

*You, O Christ, are all I want, more than all in you I find:
raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is your name, I am all unrighteousness,
false and full of sin am I, you are full of truth and grace.*

*Grace so full with you is found, grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within.
Can I doubt your love for me, when I trace that love's design?
By the cross of Calvary, I am yours, and you are mine.*

⁴⁹ Charles Wesley, 1740. Music: Trudy Poirier, 2002. "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." ~ I John 4:10.

Jude Benediction⁵⁰

*Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling,
and to present you before his presence with singing,
be glory and honor, both now and forever,
forever and ever, Amen!*

*Behold bless ye the Lord (echo)
All ye servants of the Lord (echo)
Lift up your hands in the sanctuary,
and bless, bless ye the Lord!*

Just As I Am⁵¹

*Just as I am, without one plea, but that your blood was shed for me,
and that you bid me come to you, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

*Just as I am, and waiting not, to rid myself of one dark blot,
to you whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

*Just as I am, though tossed about, with many conflicts, many doubts,
fights and fears within without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

*Just as I am, you will receive; with welcome pardon: cleanse, relieve;
because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

⁵⁰ Author unknown. Based on Jude 1:24-25 and Psalm 134.

⁵¹ Charlotte Elliot, 1836. Music: Trudy Poirier, 1997.

Let Your Blood In Mercy Poured⁵²

*Let your blood in mercy poured,
let your gracious body broken,
be to me, O sovereign Lord,
of your boundless love a token.**

***Chorus:** *Let the crumbs of mercy fall, from your table to me Lord.
Weary sinner that I am, I now give myself to thee.*

*You did die, that I might live,
blessed Lord you came to save me;
all that love of God could give,
Jesus by his sorrows gave me.**

*By the thorns that crowned your brow,
by the spear-wound and the nailing,
by the cup of suffering,
I now claim your love unfailing.**

*Will you own the gift I bring?
All my penitence I give you;
you are my exalted King,
by your boundless love forgive me.**

⁵² Trudy Poirier, 2004. This song is inspired by the cry of the Syro-Phoenecian mother in John 6:35, as she begs Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus' answer is surprisingly harsh - "Sorry, stand in line and take your turn, the bread of healing is for the privileged children first." This shocks us, yet this strong woman is surprisingly undeterred. Her response is brazen: "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Touché! Jesus is impressed because he sees her faith - she knows she has no rights, no standing, no claim to merit Christ's saving intervention; instead she grounds her plea in Christ's gracious character – he is someone that loves to help the undeserving. So she asks boldly and receives the answer she is looking for: "Well said! For such a reply you may go; the demon has left your daughter!"

Living God (Psalm 42)⁵³

*As the deer pants for the stream,
so my soul pants after you, O God, living God.
Day and night I cry to you,
tears have been my only food,
O God, living God.**

***Chorus:** *Sing to me the songs of Zion,
with gladness let them pour over me.
You have made the music,
You will give me songs in the night.*

*I remember when I'd go,
to your house to worship you, O God, living God.
With shouts of joy and thankfulness,
there your people you will bless,
O God, living God.**

*Wicked men are taunting me,
and I hear them say, "Where is your God, living God?"
Yet I put my hope in you,
I will praise my savior and
my God, living God.**

⁵³ Trudy Poirier, 2002.

Long For Zion (Psalm 129)⁵⁴

*Plowmen plowed upon my back, greatly they have afflicted me;
Long they made their furrows, and deep – but they have not prevailed,
They have not prevailed...*

*All these miles upon my heart, sin and sorrows on my brow;
Bruised and battered by the scars – but we are not cast down,
We are not cast down... **

***Chorus:** *So let us long for Zion, Like the prairies long for rain;
Let us reach towards the heavens, Like the mountains from the plains;
And let us sing the songs of pilgrims, Who will not be put to shame,
When we get home; Yeah, we will get home...*

*There is mercy in the blows, treasure in these jars of clay;
We are pressed on every side – but, we are not dismayed,
We are not dismayed...*

*Joy that is greater than the pain, glory greater than our sin,
Love that will not let us go – for we are not our own,
We belong to him... **

Bridge: *We are not alone...
So we will get home!*

⁵⁴ Christian Cryder, 2017. Psalm 129 is a Song of Ascents, a traveling song sung by pilgrims as they journeyed up to Jerusalem. This particular psalm reflects on how God uses pain and hardship in our lives to draw us deeper in our relationship with him.

Lord Of Eternity⁵⁵

*Blessed is the man, who walks in your favor,
Who loves all your ways, and hides them like treasure,
In the darkest place of his desperate heart,
they are a strong sure light.**

**Chorus: Lord of eternity, Father of mercy,
look on my fainting soul,
Keeper of all the stars, friend of the poorest heart,
touch me and make me whole.*

*Sometimes I call out your name, but I cannot find you,
I look for your face, but you are not there,
But by my sorrows, Lord, bring me to you,
bring me close to your side.**

*If you are my defender, who is against me?
No one can trouble or harm me if you are my strength,
All that I ask, all I desire,
is to live in your house all my days.**

The Lord's Prayer⁵⁶

*Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. (2x)
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav'n.
Give us this day, our daily bread,
forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever, forever and ever, amen.*

⁵⁵ Fernando Ortega, 1998.

⁵⁶ Music: Ron Dunbar, 2003.

The Lord Shall Reign⁵⁷

***Refrain:** *The Lord shall reign, the Lord shall reign –
The Lord shall reign, on high!*

*The eyes of the Lord, range throughout all the earth,
That hearts fully his, he might strongly support;
The ears of the Lord, hear the cries of the poor:
He will not forget, he will not relent... **

*The zeal of the Lord, sets his face like a flint,
Toward the City of God, through the Valley of Death;
The arms of the Lord, stretch wide to save,
Till his own blood pleads, till his own bones beg... **

*The Word of the Lord, speaks a light in the dark,
All creation sings, now shine ye stars!
The joy of the Lord, it shall not be dismayed,
Till every curse be cured, and every voice proclaim:*

Bridge: *Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be the name of the Lord –
Blessed be the name of the Lord, most High!
(Repeat)**

⁵⁷ Christian Cryder, 2018. A meditation. cf. 2 Chron 16:9; Is 50:7; Lk 9:51; Ps 22, 23, 113:2; Heb 12:1-3; Rev 11:15-19; Rev 21, 22.

My Faith Has Found A Resting Place⁵⁸

*My faith has found a resting place; from guilt my soul is freed.
I trust the ever living One; his wounds for me shall plead.**

**Chorus: I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me.*

*Enough for me that Jesus saves; this ends my fears and doubt.
A sinful soul I come to him, he'll never cast me out.**

*My heart is leaning on the Word, the written Word of God.
Salvation by my Savior's name; salvation through his blood.**

*Not what my feeble hands have done, can save my guilty soul.
Not what I feel or do or say, could ever make me whole.**

⁵⁸ Words: Lidie Edmunds, 1891. Music: Trudy Poirier, 1990. "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." ~ Romans 5:8.

My Yoke Is Easy⁵⁹

*Come to me all you who are, weary and weighed down,
I will give you rest for your souls.
Take my yoke, upon you, and learn of me,
for I am humble in heart.
For my yoke is easy, my burden is light (3x).*

*If you would come after me, then deny yourself.
Take up your cross, follow me.
If you seek to save your life, then it will be lost;
Lose your life for me, and live.
For my yoke is easy, my burden is light (3x).*

*In the seeking you will find, all your heart's desire,
every one who asks, shall receive.
Which of you would give your son, a stone instead of bread?
How much more your Father gives to you!
For my yoke is easy, my burden is light (3x).*

⁵⁹ Trudy Poirier, 2002. See Matthew 11:28-30.

Not Until You Bless Me⁶⁰

*You say, that I am not my own;
Your blood, buys only with a price.
So near or far, if I would be where-'er you are,
Then I must face my vice...*

*You say, you are the only way;
Your cross, the tree that frames the gate:
"Knock three times, when the rooster's right behind,
And I will claim your fate..."**

***Chorus:** *Lord, I believe... Help, my unbelief! (2x)*

*You say, you are the Living Word,
Who reads, the hardest hearts of men;
If your voice can wake, those who sleep within their graves,
Surely you can guide their pens...*

*You say, that I must believe;
Your wish, shall be my command.
If I sow to my flesh, I will reap naught but death,
But there's life in all your demands...**

Refrain: *Meet me at midnight, where the river runs aground,
Wrestle you like thunder, I will pin you down;
Should the daybreak find us, with you calling for a hold,
I'll say, "Not until you bless me,
No I will not let you go!"**

⁶⁰ Christian Cryder, 2019. This song is a meditation on faith: acknowledging things Christ calls us to believe (Gospel of John), responding to our unbelief (Mark 9), and committing to a life of wrestling with Jesus (Genesis 32).

Oh The Dark (Psalm 88)⁶¹

*Oh my God, my God, why are you silent?
All my prayers they feel like lead;
oh the dark, the dark, is my companion,
oh the dark, the dark, my only friend.*

*All my hopes and dreams have come to nothing,
I have no future left to spend;
and so the dark, the dark, is my companion,
oh the dark, the dark, my only friend.*

*Every one I dared to love or trusted,
they have left or failed me in the end;
and so the dark, the dark, is my companion,
oh the dark, the dark, my only friend.*

Bridge: *You have broken all my bones,
you have shattered all my hopes,
you have turned your face away, what can I do?
Yet as darkness on me falls, still I will on thee call:
for the Darkest Night of all is one you knew...*

*In the dark, this dark, is a Companion,
in the dark, this dark, there is a Friend.
in the dark, this dark, I'm not abandoned,
You will see me through until the end.*

⁶¹ Christian Cryder, 2010. Psalm 88 is one of the darkest in the entire Psalter: there is not a ray of hope in it. We can easily imagine Christ praying it as he hung dying on the cross. This particular song, however, ends on a positive note, precisely because of the cross. Christ himself is the resolution to the psalm: he has passed through that Darkest Night of all – death! So we have great hope. No matter how black our circumstances, Christ has already been there, and he will be with us!

O The Deep, Deep Love Of Jesus⁶²

*O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
rolling as a mighty ocean, in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.*

*O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;
how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, never more;
how he watches o'er his loved ones, dies to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth, watches o'er them from the throne.*

*O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of every love the best:
'tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.*

On Jordan's Stormy Banks⁶³

*On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye,
To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.*

*All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
There God, the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away.**

***Chorus:** *I am bound, I am bound,
I am bound for the Promised Land (2x)*

*No chilling wind nor poisonous breath, can reach that healthful shore,
Where sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.**

*When shall I see that happy place, and be forever blessed;
When shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest?**

⁶² S. Trevor Francis, 1875.

⁶³ Samuel Stennett, 1787.

Orphan Girl⁶⁴

*I am an orphan on God's highway,
But I'll share my troubles if you go my way.
I have no mother, no father, no sister, no brother;
I am an orphan girl.*

*I have had friendships pure and golden,
But ties of kinship I have not known them,
I know no mother, no father, no sister, no brother;
I am an orphan girl.*

*But when He calls me I will be able,
To meet my family at God's table.
I'll meet my mother, my father, my sister, my brother;
No more an orphan girl.*

*So blessed Savior make me willing,
Walk beside me until I'm with them.
Be my mother, my father, my sister, my brother;
I am an orphan girl.*

⁶⁴ Gillian Welch, 1996. "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God." ~ Galatians 4:4-6.

Romans Doxology⁶⁵

*For from him (echo), and through him (echo),
and to him (echo), are all things.*

*For from him (echo), and through him (echo),
and to him (echo), are all things.*

To him be the glory (echo), forever and ever (echo),

To him be the glory (echo), forever and ever (echo).

Amen (echo), amen (echo),

Amen (echo), amen (echo), amen!

⁶⁵ Trudy Poirier, 2007. Adapted from Romans 11:36. "Amen" is one of a small number of Hebrew words that have been imported unchanged into the liturgy of the church. "So frequent was this word in the mouth of our Savior," observed St. Augustine, "that it pleased the Holy Ghost to have it perpetuated in the Church of God." Amen is a declaration of affirmation, an expression of strong agreement. What we are really saying here is "So be it!".

Sanctus (Isaiah 6)⁶⁶

(Men) In the year that King Uzziah died

(Women) In the year that King Uzziah died

(Men) I saw the Lord high and lifted up on His throne.

(Women) I saw the Lord.

(Men) Six winged seraphs were flying all around,

(Women) Six winged seraphs were flying all around,

(Men) With covered faces, calling out as they flew.

*(Women) I saw the Lord.**

***Chorus:** *Sanctus, Sanctus. Holy is the Lord Almighty.*

Sanctus, Sanctus, holy is the Lord.

(Men) Woe to me I'm a man of unclean lips.

(Women) Woe to me I'm a man of unclean lips.

(Men) I am ruined for I have seen the Lord.

(Women) I saw the Lord.

(Men) Then a seraph placed a coal on my mouth:

(Women) Then a seraph placed a coal on my mouth:

(Men) Your sin is atoned and your guilt is taken away.

*(Women) I saw the Lord.**

(Men) Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?

(Women) Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?

(Men) And I answered: Here am I, send me!

*(Women) Here I am Lord!**

⁶⁶ Trudy Poirier, 1999. 'Sanctus' is Latin for 'Set apart, Holy'. Seraphim were said to be part of God's retinue and it seems they were angelic creatures of fire (seraph means 'burn'), with six wings and a terrifying countenance.

Sing To Me⁶⁷

*I am joy I am laughter, I am
everything that you've been seeking after;
I am life and I am love, I am
everything that you've been dreaming of ...*

*I'm the field of buried treasure,
A home for all who don't belong;
I bring water to your deserts,
When you're weak, then I am strong...**

***Chorus:** *Won't you sing to me; won't you sing to me;
Won't you sing to me, I'll calm you fears.*

*I'm the bridegroom and the wedding,
I'm the reason for the feast;
I am rest for weary pilgrims,
I will not give up, until you are with me...**

*I am zealous for the stranger,
I am fearless in the storm;
With me, you are never safe from danger,
With me, you are always safe from harm...**

Refrain:

*For I am yours, and you are mine,
and this is not our home;
For I am yours, and you are mine,
and the best is yet to come...*

⁶⁷ Christian Cryder, 2016. I find it fascinating that God calls us to sing to him, but he also tells us that he sings over us (cf. Zeph. 3:17). So here in this song we do both – the words belong to God's Messianic Servant (cf. Isaiah 40-66); but we sing them back to him, asking him to make these truths real to our hearts...

Steadfast Forever (Psalm 136)

O Breath of God, the great I AM,
come to strike your foes;
from burning bush, to Pharaoh's land:
“You must let my people go!”

Refrain: Steadfast forever (6x), is He!

With hand of steel, and a heart of love,
there are nine plagues, then one more –
from firstborn son, to firstborn lamb,
the Death Angel passes o'er.*

***Chorus:** Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna to our King!
Hosanna, Hosanna, you have set your people free!

With heart of steel, and hand of love,
there is one Plague still to face –
so the Firstborn Son, becomes my Lamb,
he's the Passover of grace.

Refrain: Steadfast forever (6x), is He!

O Christ of God, Word made flesh,
stricken for your foes;
now a bleeding tree, in a promised land,
points the way that I must go.*

Refrain: Steadfast forever (6x), is He! ⁶⁸

⁶⁸ Christian Cryder, 2012. Psalm 136 is remarkable for its repetition: over and over (twenty-six times!) the psalmist says of God, “His steadfast loved endures forever!” This song explores how that phrase might have functioned musically in the original psalm. It also considers how the psalmist points us onward to Christ.

Stricken, Smitten & Afflicted⁶⁹

*Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected, yes my soul, 'tis he 'tis he!
He's the long expected Prophet, David's son, yet David's Lord;
by his Son God now has spoken: He's the true and faithful Word.*

*Tell me, you who hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his?
Friends in fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress;
many hands were raised to wound him, none would interpose to save;
but the deepest stroke that pierced him,
was the stroke that justice gave.*

*You who think of sin but lightly, nor suppose the evil great,
here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load,
he's the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.*

*Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation, has the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.*

⁶⁹ Thomas Kelly, 1804. Arranged by Trudy Poirier. "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted." ~ Isaiah 53:4.

Taste And See⁷⁰

*Taste and see the Lord is good; He will satisfy the soul.
Empty, broken, he will feed, when we see it's him we need.
This is my theme, this is my song, to praise the Lord my whole life long.
He took the water of my life, and turned it into sweetest wine.*

*Love that will not let me go, I will rest my soul in thee;
Restless, weary, weak and poor, I give my will and call you Lord.
Make me your prisoner, then I'll be free, for you have bought my liberty.
Batter my heart, three-personed God; you gave your life a ransom for me.*

*Take all of my busy days, take all the longest nights.
Take my hopes and take my dreams, so that your vision may be mine.
You have not chosen many wise, you have not chosen many strong.
You take the weakest ones in this world,
that you may show your grace and glory.*

To Him Who Sits On The Throne⁷¹

*To him who sits on the throne, and unto the Lamb –
to him who sits on the throne, and unto the Lamb:
Be blessing and honor, and glory and power forever.
Be blessing and honor, and glory and power forever.*

(repeat)

*Be blessing and honor, and glory and power –
blessing and honor, and glory and power –
blessing and honor, and glory and power, forever!*

⁷⁰ Trudy Poirier, 2000. See Psalm 34:8: "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!"

⁷¹ Debbye Graafsma, 1984.

Too Much⁷²

*How shall I count my days, Lord,
when they slip away like sand?
And how shall I know your ways, Lord,
when I can't even understand... me?**

***Chorus:** *It is, too much, too much, too much for me;
It is, too much, too much, too much indeed!*

*How can I take my cross, Lord,
when I'm oh so full of fears?
And how can I heed your voice, Lord,
when I can't even seem to hear... you?**

*And when I gaze upon these stars, Lord,
can you really know my name?
A million miles of wounds and scars, Lord,
and yet you love me still the same?*

Bridge: *It is, too, too much (4x)... but let it be!*

*Run, run river, from Thy throne of glory,
fill this thirsty soul of mine;
Sweep me off my feet, write me in your story,
draw me back until I'm thine!***

****Chorus 2:** *It is, too much, too much, too much for me;
It is, too much, too much, too much – but let it be!*

⁷² Christian Cryder, Psalm Sunday, 2014.

Turn Your Ears⁷³

*Turn your ears (echo), to my cries (echo), O Lord! (2x)
Hear my voice, I earnestly pray: Lord lift me up
won't you day after day!
Turn your ears, to my cries O Lord!*

*Turn your eyes (echo), to my plight (echo), O Lord! (2x)
See my needs, my troubles surround: Lord lift me up
to your heavenly ground!
Turn your eyes, to my plight O Lord!*

*Turn your ears, turn your eyes; heal my wounds, help me rise;
Lift my face, I long to see, your mighty hand, supporting me;
Set me up, that I might stand, and gaze again on your promised land.
Won't you turn your ears, turn your eyes O Lord!*

*Turn my heart (echo), to your call (echo), O Lord! (2x)
Touch my life like a sunrise in spring: Lord lift me up
like a bird on the wing!
Turn my heart, to your call O Lord!*

*Turn my heart, to your call; raise me up, when I fall;
Let me bow before your throne, that I might worship you alone;
Touch my life that I might be, consecrated unto thee.
Won't you turn my heart, to your call O Lord!*

⁷³ Christian Cryder, 1993. One of the oldest songs I've written. The impulse behind it exists throughout the psalter (cf. Psalm 119:145-149).

The Valley Song (Isaiah 43)⁷⁴

*Well I'm standing, in the valley,
where the shadows have no name;
But I don't fear, fear no evil,
for my master, leads me all the way.**

***Chorus:** *And I will walk, and not grow weary,
I will run, and not grow faint,
I will soar, on wings like eagles,
On the Lord, the Lord alone, shall I wait;
On my Lord, my Lord alone, shall I wait!*

*Well I'm standing, at the crossroads,
where tomorrow meets today;
But I don't fear, fear the future,
for my savior, guides each step I take.**

Bridge: *I say Jesus how I need your mercy,
Jesus how I need your grace;
Grant that I may always serve you,
Grant that I may see your face!*

*Well I'm standing, on the mountain,
Of the high and mighty king;
And I don't fear, fear his coming,
for my master, savior, Jesus covers me!**

⁷⁴ Christian Cryder, ca. 1992. This song really needs a gospel choir, some Crosby, Stills & Nash, plus a Hammond B3.

Wand'ring Heart⁷⁵

*O Lord, my wand'ring heart, shall ever restless be,
until at last my soul, shall find its rest in thee.*

*O Lord, my wand'ring heart, is full of doubts and fears;
and you whom I should trust, I flee lest thou draw'st near.*

*O Lord, my wand'ring heart, it yearns with hard desire;
yet all my slaking sin, doth naught to quench that fire.**

***Chorus:** *Take my heart, break these walls that I have built,
Track me down, smoke me out until I yield,
Kiss your wine into these lips until I swoon,
Break your bread into these bones, bones, bones...*

*O Lord, my wand'ring heart, it fails to find its home;
till every bridge be burned, and I turn to thee alone.**

Bridge: *Oh break my heart, make me whole!*

⁷⁵ Christian Cryder, 2010. This song is inspired by Augustine's words in the 5th century AD: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee, O Lord." The hope of this song is grounded in God's promise in Ezekiel 36:26ff, "In that day, I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you, and cause you to walk according to my statutes and carefully keep all of my rules." So we ask God to break our hearts of stone, and to give us his heart instead.

We Are All So Broken⁷⁶

*We are all so broken by the fall, broken one and all, broken:
by the sins of the fathers, the intentions of our mothers.*

*We are all so broken by the sword, broken in our word, broken:
by the violence on our daughters, and the vengeance of their brothers,**

***Chorus:** *We are all so broken, we are all so broken,
we are all so broken in the end.*

*We are all so broken by the dark, broken in our hearts, broken:
by the yearning for a homeland, in this wasteland of our making.*

*We are all so broken by the curse, broken in our thirst, broken:
by the hunger of our cravings, we are broken by the breaking,**

Bridge: *Rain, rain down; (3x)
Rain down heaven on our heads.**

*Bread of heaven fall on me:
your body broken set me free,
your wine to wash away my stains,
your life to make me whole again.**

⁷⁶ Christian Cryder, 2012.

Wedding Dress⁷⁷

*If you could love me as a wife, and for my wedding gift, your life;
Should that be all I'd ever need, or is there more I'm looking for?
And should I read between the lines, and look for blessings in disguise;
To make me handsome, rich, and wise -
is that really what you want?**

****Chorus:** I am a whore I do confess,
I put you on just like a wedding dress,
and I run down the aisle, I run down the aisle.
I'm a prodigal with no way home,
I put you on just like a ring of gold,
and I run down the aisle, run down the aisle, to you.*

*So could you love this bastard child, though I don't trust you to provide;
With one hand in a pot of gold, and the other in your side.
I am so easily satisfied, by the call of lovers so less wild;
That I would take a little cash,
over your very flesh and blood.**

*Because money cannot buy, a husband's jealous eye
When you have knowingly deceived his wife...**

⁷⁷ Derek Webb, 2003.

We Will Dance⁷⁸

*Sing a song of celebration, lift up a shout of praise,
For the Bridegroom will come, the glorious one,
And oh we will look on his face;
we'll go to a much better place.*

*So dance with all your might, lift up your hands and clap for joy:
For the time's drawing near, when he will appear,
And oh we will stand by his side,
a strong, pure spotless bride!**

***Chorus:** *We will dance on the streets that are golden,
The glorious bride and the great son of man!
From every tongue and tribe and nation,
will join in the song of the Lamb.*

⁷⁸ David Ruis, 1992. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." ~ John 14:1-2.

What Shall I Say To Thee?⁷⁹

*Maker of stars, made now in flesh;
River of life, drinking up our death,
Prince of peace, enthroned among thieves;
King of all kings, what shall I say to thee?*

*Light of the world, alone in the dark;
Healer of wounds, pouring out your heart,
Bridegroom of blood, your death my wedding ring;
Thirsty lover, what shall I say to thee?**

***Chorus:** *Say to thee, my sweet Savior? Say to thee, my dear Lord?
When my hand's in the tender, and my tongue is a sword;
When all my intentions, run away in the night;
When my alibis are empty, and my wells have all run dry;
Say to thee, say to thee, Lord Jesus, say to thee?
When there is blood upon my hands,
What shall I say to thee?*

*Lamb of God, sacrifice for sins;
Giver of grace, forgiving till the end,
Breaker of bread, broken now for me;
Pearl of great price, what shall I say to thee?**

****Chorus 2:** *Come to me, my sweet Savior! Come to me, my dear Lord!
For my hands are in the tender, and my tongue cuts like a sword;
And all my intentions, have run away in the night;
All my alibis are empty, and my wells have all run dry;
Come to me, come to me, Lord Jesus, come to me!
When there is blood upon my hands,
Lord Jesus come to me!*

⁷⁹ Christian Cryder, Good Friday, 2012.

What The Lord Has Done In Me⁸⁰

*Let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich,
Let the blind say I can see. It's what the Lord has done in me.**

**Chorus: Hosanna, Hosanna, to the Lamb that was slain,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Jesus died and rose again.*

*Let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich,
Let the blind say I can see. It's what the Lord has done in me.**

*Into the river I will wade, there my sins are washed away,
From the heaven's mercy stream, of the Savior's love for me.**

*I will rise from waters deep, into the saving arms of God.
I will sing salvation songs, Jesus Christ has set me free.**

Who Among The Gods⁸¹

*Who among the gods is like you, O Lord, O Lord?
Who among the gods is like you, O Lord, O Lord?
Who is like you: majestic in holiness,
awesome in glory working wonders?*

*The Lord he is my strength, my song; he is my salvation.
I will praise my father's God; I will exalt him.
O magnify the Lord with me; he has triumphed gloriously.
He shatters all his enemies; a mighty warrior is he.
O mighty God!*

⁸⁰ Reuben Morgan, 1998.

⁸¹ Trudy Poirier, 1999. "Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?" ~ Exodus 15:11.

Worthy Is The Lamb⁸²

*Sing your songs o saints, tell of the pilgrim days,
when all your aches and pains, made you think your heart would break.
So lift your glasses high, hail his splendid praise,
for when we despaired of life, he would not let us slip away!**

***Chorus:** *“Worthy!” we sing, “Worthy – worthy is the Man,
worthy is the Lamb, he who was slain!”*

*“Worthy!” we sing, “Worthy – worthy is the One,
worthy is the Son, who lives again!”*

*All those tear-stained nights, with all their shattered dreams,
fade away like mist, in the light of his welcoming!
So touch his nail-scarred hands; kiss his wounded feet;
hear him call your name, the Son of God who died for thee!**

Bridge: *Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess,
that he is Lord of righteousness.*

And we sing, “Worthy, worthy is the Lamb...

⁸² Christian Cryder, 2011. The Christian life is hard. Paul says, “We were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. But this was to make us rely not on ourselves, but on God who raises the dead.” (2 Cor 1:8,). Amazingly, however, the Scriptures also insist that at the resurrection, those who follow Jesus will not look back in bitterness – rather, we will see these times as “light momentary affliction, preparing for us an eternal weight of glory.” (2 Cor 4:17). Why? Because Christ himself is worth it: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain...for by your blood you ransomed people for God!” (Rev 5:9-10, 12).

Why Did He Come? (Advent Song)⁸³

*That the Bread might go hungry;
and the Fountain know thirst;
that the Light fall asleep in the dark on the deep;
and the Way grow tired in its journey on earth.
That the Truth might be slandered;
and the Teacher chastised;
Foundation of the seas, suspended on a tree;
the Healer be wounded; that Life might die.*

*This is our God, this is our King,
come down in flesh, come to redeem.
Come as a man, with men to dwell,
Light of the world, shine in our hearts,
God with us, Emmanuel!
Come to know sorrow, come to know grief;
come to be wounded, come to make peace;
come to be broken, come to be crushed;
come to be found, come to be lost...
Who is this man? Where is he from?
Why is he here? Why did he come?
Why did he come? (2x)*

(repeat)

Refrain: *Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, (3x)
and Christ, will shine on you!*

⁸³ Christian Cryder, Advent 2008. This song is based on material that is very ancient – a quote from St. Augustine's Christmas sermon (Sermons 191.1, ca. AD 400), themes from Isaiah 53 (700 BC), and a refrain from Ephesians 5:14 that may well represent a fragment of one of the earliest Christian hymns (ca. AD 60).

Your Body and Your Blood ⁸⁴

*Sing your song, breathe your breath;
Won't you, kiss away all this death?
For we are ash, you are wind;
Blow gently please, my friend!
My eyes 'a seen (6x), a glory...*

*Run your race, to the end;
Can I, be there with you when you win?
But all these miles, and all these aches,
Not sure I got what it takes.
My ears 'a heard (6x), a story...**

***Chorus:** *In your body and your blood, here in bread and wine,
Calling me to live, bidding me to die:
To lose myself, that I might be found,
In you alone, with your heaven coming down...*

*Build your house, spend us well:
Every hammer, every board and every nail;
But when this weight, gets too much,
Lord, have mercy on us!
My tongue 'a tastes (6x), your mercy...**

Bridge: *So sow in us a seed, plant in us a star,
Greater than our fears, greater than our scars...**

Refrain: *I believe, Lord (2x)
Help my unbelief!*

⁸⁴ Christian Cryder, September 2016.

CHRISTMAS!

*“Rejoice, you just – it is the birthday of the Justifier.
Rejoice, you who are weak and sick – it is the birthday
of the Savior, the Healer.
Rejoice, captives – it is the birthday of the Redeemer.
Rejoice, slaves – it is the birthday of the one who makes you lords.
Rejoice, free people – it is the birthday of the one who
makes you free.
Rejoice, all Christians – it is the birthday of Christ.”*

– St Augustine

Angels We Have Heard On High⁸⁵

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (2x)*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (2x)*

*Come to Bethlehem and see, Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (2x)*

*See Him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (2x)*

⁸⁵ 19th century French carol. "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" ~ Luke 2:13-14.

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear⁸⁶

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold!
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heav'n's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats, o'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing.
And ever o'er its Babel sounds, the blessed angels sing.*

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife, the world hath suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled, two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not, the love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife, and hear the angels sing.*

*For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years, shall come the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth, its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song, which now the angels sing.*

⁸⁶ Edmund Sears, 1850.

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus⁸⁷

*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
come thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing, news, glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."*

*Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.*

*Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.*

⁸⁷ Stanzas 1,4, Charles Wesley, 1744. Stanzas 2-3, Mark Hunt, 1978.

The First Noël⁸⁸

*The first Noël the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:*

Chorus: *Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël
Born is the King of Israel.*

*They lookèd up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far:
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night:*

*And by the light of that same star,
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the star whersoever it went:*

*Then entered in those Wise Men three,
Fell reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:*

*So let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought:*

⁸⁸ Traditional 18th century English carol.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen⁸⁹

*God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Savior, was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

*In Bethlehem, in Israel, this blessed Babe was born
And laid within a manger upon this blessed morn
The which His Mother Mary did nothing take in scorn
O tidings of comfort and joy...*

*From God our Heavenly Father a blessed angel came;
And unto certain Shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name.
O tidings of comfort and joy...*

*"Fear not then," said the Angel, "Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior of purest virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him from Satan's power and might."
O tidings of comfort and joy...*

*The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find.
O tidings of comfort and joy...*

⁸⁹ Traditional English carol, 18th c.

Good Christian Men, Rejoice⁹⁰

*Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today:
Ox and ass before him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!*

*Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and man is bless'd for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!*

*Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!*

⁹⁰ Medieval 13th century Latin carol attributed to Heinrich Suso, , tr. By John Mason Neale, 1853.

*Good King Wenceslas*⁹¹

*Good King Wenceslas looked out, on the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even;
Brightly shone the moon that night, tho' the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight, gath'ring winter fuel.*

*"Hither, page, and stand by me, if thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?"
"Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain;
Right against the forest fence, by Saint Agnes' fountain."*

*"Bring me meat, and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither:
Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither."
Page and monarch, forth they went, forth they went together;
Through the rude wind's wild lament and the bitter weather.*

*"Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how; I can go no longer."
"Mark my footsteps, well my page. Tread thou in them boldly
Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly."*

*In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure, wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourselves find blessing.*

⁹¹ Words by John Mason Neale, 1853, who set this to a 13th century Finnish melody. This popular traditional English carol is based on a legend about a Duke Wenceslaus of Bohemia (907-935) who was famous in caring for the poor, as a "righteous kind" should.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing⁹²

*Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

⁹² Charles Wesley, 1739.

Joy To The World⁹³

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing (2x),
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy (2x),
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow,
far as the curse is found (2x),
Far as, far as, the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
and wonders of His love (2x),
And wonders, wonders, of His love.*

⁹³ Isaac Watts, 1719. Based on Psalm 98.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee⁹⁴

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*

*All Thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea
Chanting birds and flowing fountains, call us to rejoice in thee*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest
Well spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine*

*Mortals join this happy chorus, which the morning stars began
Father love is reigning over us, brother love binds man to man
Ever singing march we onward, victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life*

⁹⁴ Words: Henry van Dyke, 1907, Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824.

Mary Did You Know?⁹⁵

*Mary did you know that your baby boy,
would one day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy
has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered,
will soon deliver you.*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
would give sight to a blind man?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
would calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy
has walked where angels trod?
And when you kiss your little baby,
you have kissed the face of God.*

*The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again.
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak, the praises of the lamb...*

*Mary did you know that your baby boy
is Lord of all creation?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy
is heaven's perfect Lamb?
This sleeping child you're holding
is the great I AM.*

⁹⁵ Lyrics: Mark Lowry, Music: Buddy Green, 1984.

O Come All Ye Faithful⁹⁶

*O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold Him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him (3x), Christ the Lord!*

*God of God, Light from Light eternal;
see how he shunneth not the Virgin's womb;
God in the flesh, born yet not created;
O come, let us adore Him (3x), Christ the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore Him (3x), Christ the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him (3x), Christ the Lord!*

⁹⁶ Latin hymn attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel⁹⁷

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.**

***Chorus:** *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy scribes on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the Law, in cloud and majesty and awe.**

*O come, thou Rod of Jesse free, thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave.**

*O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to
flight.**

*O come, thou Key of David come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.**

⁹⁷ 12th century Latin hymn. "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel (which means God with us)." ~ Matthew 1:23.

O Holy Night (American Version)⁹⁸

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Til he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O, hear the angels' voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.*

*Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, Behold your King.*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,
His power and glory evermore proclaim. (2x)*

⁹⁸ Adolphe Adam, 1847, based on the French poem "Minuit, chrétiens" (Midnight, Christians) by Placide Cappeau. English translation by John Sullivan Dwight in 1855 (we typically sing vss. 1 and 3).

O Holy Night (Literal Translation)⁹⁹

*Midnight, Christians, it is the solemn hour,
when God as man descended unto us,
to erase the stain of original sin,
and to end the wrath of his Father.
The entire world thrills with hope,
on this night which gives us a Savior.
People, kneel down! Attend to your deliverance!
Christmas, Christmas, here is the Redeemer! (2x)*

*May the ardent light of our faith,
guide us all to the cradle of the infant,
as in ancient times when a brilliant star
guided the Oriental kings there.
The King of Kings, born in a humble manger;
O mighty ones of today, proud of your greatness,
it is to your pride that God preaches!
Bow your heads before the Redeemer! (2x)*

*The Redeemer has overcome every obstacle:
The earth is free, heaven is open!
He sees a brother where there was only a slave;
love unites those that iron had chained.
Who will tell him of our gratitude?
It is for all of us that he is born, that he suffers and dies.
People, stand up! Sing of your deliverance!
Christmas, Christmas, sing of the Redeemer! (2x)*

⁹⁹ This is a very literal translation; you can't actually sing it.

O Holy Night (Minuit, Chrétiens)¹⁰⁰

*Minuit, chrétiens, c'est l'heure solennelle,
Où l'Homme-Dieu descendit jusqu'à nous
Pour effacer la tache originelle
Et de Son Père arrêter le courroux.
Le monde entier tressaille d'espérance
En cette nuit qui lui donne un Sauveur.
Peuple à genoux, attends ta délivrance.
Noël, Noël, voici le Rédempteur! (2x)*

*De notre foi que la lumière ardente
Nous guide tous au berceau de l'Enfant,
Comme autrefois une étoile brillante
Y conduisit les chefs de l'Orient.
Le Roi des rois naît dans une humble crèche:
Puissants du jour, fiers de votre grandeur,
A votre orgueil, c'est de là que Dieu prêche.
Courbez vos fronts devant le Rédempteur. (2x)*

*Le Rédempteur a brisé toute entrave:
La terre est libre, et le ciel est ouvert.
Il voit un frère où n'était qu'un esclave,
L'amour unit ceux qu'enchaînait le fer.
Qui lui dira notre reconnaissance,
C'est pour nous tous qu'il naît, qu'il souffre et meurt.
Peuple debout! Chante ta délivrance,
Noël, Noël, chantons le Rédempteur! (2x)*

¹⁰⁰ Adolphe Adam, 1847, based on the French poem "Minuit, chrétiens" (Midnight, Christians) by Placide Cappeau. The traditional English version of this song comes from John Sullivan Dwight in 1855, and varies significantly from the original, as evidenced by the literal English translation to the right. The word, Noël means Christmas, or literally, "the day of birth."

O Holy Night (Midnight, Christians)¹⁰¹

*Midnight, Christians, it is the solemn hour,
when God as man descended unto us,
to wipe away the stain of sin's dark power,
to drain the cup of the Father's righteous wrath.
The whole world sings with thrills of hope resounding,
for on this night a Savior has been born.
Down on your knees! Attend to your deliverance!
Noël, Noël, your Redeemer, he is here! (2x)*

*Long may the light of our faith's fiery yearning,
guide all of us to the cradle of thy Son,
as in the days when a star of brilliance burning,
led wisened men from the Orient on.
The King of Kings, born in a humble manger;
O sons of men so proud in all your ways;
dost thou not see, to your pride that God is preaching?
So bow, O bow, your Redeemer, he is here! (2x)*

*Broken all the bonds, he is the Overcomer:
the earth is free, and the heavens open wide!
Where once a slave, he sees now a brother;
His love unites what the sword didst divide.
So sing to him our gratitude unending:
born for all, he suffers and he dies!
Stand on your feet! Sing of your deliverance!
Noël, Noël, your Redeemer, he is here! (2x)*

¹⁰¹ Christian Cryder, on Christmas Eve 2011. This song is a fresh translation of Adolphe Adam's "Minuit, Chrétiens" (Midnight, Christians), 1847. Adam's song was translated into English as O Holy Night by John Sullivan Dwight in 1855, and his lyrics diverge markedly from the original. This version retains the traditional melody while seeking to provide a more literal rendering of the French original. The word, Noël means Christmas, or literally, "the day of birth."

O Little Town of Bethlehem¹⁰²

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to-night.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep, their watch of wondering love.*

*O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.*

*How silently, oh how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.*

*O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!*

¹⁰² Phillips Brooks, 1868.

Silent Night, Holy Night!¹⁰³

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace! (2x)*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born! (2x)*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth! (2x)*

*Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior is born! (2x)*

¹⁰³ Joseph Mohr, 1818.

We Three Kings¹⁰⁴

*We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we travel afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

Chorus: *O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect Light.*

*Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.**

*Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a deity nigh.
Prayer and praising, all men raising, worship Him, God most high.**

*Myrrh is mine: Its bitter perfume; breathes a life of gathering gloom.
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

*Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, alleluia! Earth to heaven replies.**

¹⁰⁴ John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857.

What Child Is This?¹⁰⁵

*What Child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and Angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary.*

*Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary.*

*So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mary!*

¹⁰⁵ Traditional English Christmas carol, 16th c.

*“Man's maker was made man
that He, Ruler of the stars,
might nurse at His mother's breast;
that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst,
the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey;
that Truth might be accused of false witness,
the Teacher be beaten with whips,
the Foundation be suspended on wood;
that Strength might grow in weakness;
that the Healer might be wounded;
that Life might die...”*

– St Augustine, North Africa
(Christmas, ca. A.D. 400)

