

Anthology of orchidee



Presented by

My poetic Side **P**

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Motivation (2) - The future presence of Christ

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Rejoicing Reign

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Majestic Might

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Epiphany Enquirings

The Echo Of Your Voice

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Governing God

Abiding Assurance

Sacramental Sentiments

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Kingdom of the King - Mark's Gospel (2)

Compassionate Cleansing - Mark's Gospel (3a)

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Baalam's Oracles - Series (3)

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Teachable Trust

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Redemption Reassurance

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Overcoming Overwhelmings

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Gracious Guidance

A Call In Calamity

Sow And Reap

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Profitable Pause

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Faith Removes Discrimination - James Series (2)

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Faith Proves Itself By Works - James Series (3)

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Faith Controls The Tongue - James Series (4)

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Peaceful Providence

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Faith Produces Wisdom - James Series (5)

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Praise Proclaiming

Faith Produces Humility - James Series (6)

Tears And Joys

Presiding Presence

Faith Produces Dependence On God - James Series (7)

Salvation Surety

Praise Perpetuity

Truth Be Told

Childlike Communings

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Favourable Fearing

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Labours Of Love

Mindful Ministry

Lantern Light

Laudable Light

Sheep Supplications

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Locusts Limited

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Faithful Flock

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Witness To The World

Glory Gladness

Perseveringly Progressing

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Guiding Grace

Peace With God

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Help And Hope

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Sing-Song Satiation

True Blessedness

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Worry-free Way - Peace Series (2)

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Pardon And Peace

Progressing Paces

Mercy Missive

Hasten To Help Me

Prayers, Pleas, Protection

Prayer Petitions

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Providence Protection

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Victorious Vision

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Jerusalem Joys

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Protective Power

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Thirsting Tale

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Round And Round

Living Out Love

Safety for the Slandered

Saying, Doing, Living

Help And Hope

Favourable Fruition

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Penitent Pleas

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Inspiring Invocation

Peaceful Pursuits

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Benign Blessings

Saints Shining

Holy Habituations

Servant Sureties

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Exalting Encouragement

Trusting Truly

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All-Powerful Procession

Overarching Omnipotence

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Gone To Glory - In Memory of J.W.

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Bride And Groom

Warm Welcome

Lord Now Let.....

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Birds Beneficiencies

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Humility Before Honour

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Salvation Seeking

Salvation Seeking

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Jumping For Joy

Creation Care-Takers

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Church Community

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Passion Perceptions

An Unhappy New Year to All!

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Salvation And Service

True Teaching

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Word Of Life And Light

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Candlemas Celebration

Faith In Following

Contentment in Christ

Discipling Teacher - 2 Timothy Series (1)

Single-Minded Soldier - 2 Timothy Series (2)

Diligent Workman - 2 Timothy Series (3)

Cowbell Chimings

Saved And Secure

Sanctified Vessel - 2 Timothy Series (4)

Gentle Servant - 2 Timothy series (5)

Grace Granted

Fido a Valentine?

Sure Searching

Unity Ululations* (*expressions of joy)

Communion Charis* (*gift of grace)

Parables Perceptions

Encouraging Expressions (In praise of MPS)

Musings For Music

Humble-Hearted

Lordship Laudings

Christ Pre-eminent in Creation

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Acceptable Aspirings

Mission Message

Hear And Help

Joyful Journeying

Assured of Answers

Pharisee And Publican

Through Temptations

Gospel Goings

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Night And Light

National Book Day

Heard And Helped

Healing Help

Persistent Progression

Passover Pieces

Country Comforts

Just A Sec, etc.

Protection - Peace Series (4)

Thankful Thoughts

Moving Me

Peaceful Paths

Servant Sensibility

Ravens Response

Guided By Grace

Prayer Prosperity

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Watching And Waiting

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Holding On To Hope

On Through The Valley

Prospering Presence

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Believers Betray?

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Veil of the Valley

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Greatness, Guarding, Guiding

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Lordship Laudings

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Pentecost Promise

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Selfish - and don't care!

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Penitent Pleas

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Way To Walk

Abiding Assurances

Loyalties of Love

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Communion Continuing

Old And New

Rural Rambles

Nature Nurturings

Praise Parade

Paraclete Perceivings

Delightful Dwelling

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Trust Today

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Temporal Time

Strong To Save

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Justification Joys

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Reconciled Reminder

Leading Light

Special Sheep

Greatness Gloryings

Presence Perceived

Prayer For Progress

All I Need

Joyful Journeyings

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Patient Progress

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Passover Participation

I AM The Bread Of Life - Part 1

Words For Walking Wisely

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High Priest Petitioning

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Jerusalem Joyful And Just

Jerusalem Joyful And Just

Gospel Gladness

Prosperous Praising

Vindicated Victor

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Wise Ways To Walk

Merciful Matters

Decisive Departure

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Storm Stilled

Deliverance Desires

Miracle For A Multitude

Prayer And Peace

Inclusive Invitation

Who Do You Say?

Creator Consciousness

Covenant Communing

Hopeful Harvest

Gracious Goldfinch

Countenancing The Cross

Quality Not Quantity

Amiable Anointing

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Acceptable Atonement

Next To Nature

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Burden Bearers And Sharers

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Michaelmas Melody

Greatness Of God - Isaiah Series (2)

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Gracious Guidance

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Fearless Faith - Isaiah Series (4)

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Rejoice, He Reigns!

Faith Through Fears

Benedictus Blessing

Christmas Continues

Martyr Missive

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Innocents Intonation

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Incarnational Image

Redeemer Revealed

To Us A Child, A Son

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Notable Nativity

Promise Perfected

Saviour-Seeking

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Revelation - Seals One To Four

Koinonia Keeping

Epiphany Excellings

Revelation - Seal Five

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Publishing Praise

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Wise Waiting

Fruitful Followers

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Totally Trusting

Pleasing Praise

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Progressing on the Passion

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Gracious Guidance

Palms Procession

Life Eternal

Considering Creator

Acclaimed Anointing

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Easter Expressions

Emmaus Encounter

Saviour Seen

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A Miracle To Mary

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Protection Place

Excellent Exaltation

Governing In Grace

Life-Light

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Salvation In The Saviour

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Pleasant Presence

Souls Satisfied

Building Blocks

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Wholesome Wisdom

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Seeking Surety

Resurrection Reminder

Our Perpetual Priest

Seed Sown

Digit slipped....

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Shepherd of the Sheep

Plea Of The Persecuted

Comforts, Commands, Communing

Little Life

You Liking?

Our Priestly Person

Testimony Of Tabitha

Stone Sensibilities

Cooooee - Oh no!

Finite And Infinite

A Little Leaven

Vengeance Vindication

Some Mysteries Of Life

Guidance Of Governors

Hope Of Help

Worship Worthies

Penitent Prose

Possessing Possessions

Algebraic Attack!

Fruitful Friends

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Hope And Help

Keeper Kindlings

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To Like Or Not To Like

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Prayer of Jonah - Minor Prophets Series

Praise Prominence

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Safety Shielding

Shut Up Shutting Up?

Evening And Everytime

Sufferings Sensed

Troubles, Trials, Trusting

Satisfying Supply

Times To Trust

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Prayer Pointers

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From Darkness To Light

Temple Times

Pleasant Praises

Serene Security

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Loving, Doing Good, Lending

Restoring Rejoicings

Hopeful Harvest

Star Seen

Communion Continuity

Faith Focus

Seeking Sincerely

Favourable Farewell

Healing Hopes

Creation Considerations

Monday Madness

Faith-Full

Bread Broken

Grateful Giving

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Exodus Exaltings

Grace Greatness

Return Readiness

Riches To Riches

Governing Graces

Daily Direction

Preserved People

The Mad Day Approaches

Creation Crowning

Forget-Me-Not

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The Unanswerable.....

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Making Mansions

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Wholesome Witness

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Unity Utterance

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Hope For All Souls

Return Readiness

Marriage Marvellous

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Power, Presence, Prosperity

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Prosperous Providings

Majestic Might

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Thanksgiving Tale

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Strength Surety

Restoring Rejoicings

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Restoring And Reviving

Lost?

Redeemer Revelation

Kingdom Kindlings

Mercy Manifest

Notable Need

Prosperity Plea

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Heavenly Hope

Angelic Announcement

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Life-Light

Suffering Scene

Sincere Serving

Birth Blessed

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Vengeance Vindication

Epiphany Enlightenings

Goodness In Giving

Wholesome Witness

Timeless Tribute

Hope of help

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True Treasure

Servant Success

Nations Named

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Hopeful Of Help

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Little Life

A Matter of Belief

Gem of Grace

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Eve Of Easter

Resurrection Revealed

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Breath Bestowed

Incorruptibility and Immortality

Galilee Gathering

Lord Over Life

KP Days

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Help Us To Hear

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Platinum Peace

Calm Considerations

Risen Realisation

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Easter Excellings

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Charity To Children

Spirit and spirit

Peaceful Progress

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Trusting Thoughts

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Prayer Possibles

The Sharing Spirit

Portion Of Peace

A Day at A Time

Persevering Plea

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Heart Healing

Fixing Focus

Promised Pentecost

Commendable Character

Righteous Reign

Prayer Persevering

Praise Professions

Considerations of Comfort

What You Will

Throne Trinity

Not now, Fido!

Lord Of Life

Through Thorny Troubles

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Shadow Of Safety

A slight slip....

Prophetic Piece

Positive Prayer

Led By The Light

Heavenly Help

Search Me, See me, Save Me

Tears And Joy

Persisting Prayer

Hours, Days, Years....

Revealing of Jesus' Death - Revealing Series 3(4)

Prayer Promise

Wise Ways

Typos Beware!

Fixing Focus

Surrendering Selflessly

Prosperous Path

Sincere Servants

True Treasure

Bearing Burdens

Healing Hope

Self-Denial Service

Goodbye Furry Friend

Cutting Up

Saint Swithin

Inclusive Incorporation

From Blindness To Sight

King Of His Kingdom

Refreshing Rains

Reigning Ruler

Temporal And Timeless

One Thing

Recalled, Remembered, Redeemed

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Growing In Graces

Life In The Light

Pleasant Prospects

Welcome Worship

Salvation Sure

Storm Stilled

Sheep Security

Time And Trust

Excellent Exhortings

Seeds Scene

Led By The Light

Protection Place

Times Of Trials

Transfiguration Time

Woof - cats!

Meaningful Moments

Restoration Rejoicings

Hear, Help, Hope

Trusting Times

Mad Musings With Fido

Spirit Satiation

Worship, Works, Words

Think On These Things

Refreshing Rest

Pursuing The Prize

Progressing Prosperously

Ohhhh Ch.....

Cross Commitment

Flourishing Favourably

Doubtless Deliverance

Awesome Alightings

Musing Missive

Sharing Service

Service Shown

Thirsty Times

Responsibility Reminder

Light Leading

Salvation Surety

Light-Life

Servant Scenarios

Faithful Followers

Salvation Shown

Durable Days

Proclaiming Promises

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Royal Rulership

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Crowned Comforter

Love, Do Good, Lend

Losing And Finding

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Cooeee - oh no!

Earthly Ending

Praise Proclaimings

Water-Ways

Word Worthies

Wholesome Healing

Harvest Health

Zeal For Zion

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Following Faithfully

The Age of Gold

Firm In Faith

Ready For His Return

Simple Service

Kingdom Come

Prayers In Perils

Hope Of Help

Exalting Encouragement

Haste To Hastings

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A poem a Day?

Nature Nurtured

A Look At Luke

Peace Possible

What can be done?

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Fruitful Freedom

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Salvation Surety

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Speaking To Our Soul

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Exhorting To Endurance

Majestic Musings

Praises Prepared

Dwelling Delights

Gospel Givers

Presence Perceived

Big Foot

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A lickle one...

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Birth Blessings - Carol Series (2)

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Seeing The Saviour - Carol Series (9)

Herald Of Hope - Carol Series (10)

A Tale Of Woe And Misery

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Wholesome Worshipping

Star Seen

Ascending Aspirings

Pentecost Preaching

Through Troubles And Trials

Capturing Communion

Grace Given

Spirit Showings

Inclusive Invite

Good Government

Presence, Power, Peace

Mercy Missive

Prayer Possibles

Guard Against Grieving

Quest Against Quenching

Wise Worship

Wisdom And Knowledge

Good Graces

Devotional Desires

Liberty To Love

Help To Humans

Prayer Pleas

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Dedicatory Desires

Forgiveness Freedom

People's Prosperity

Barmy Birthday!

The Timeless And The Temporary

Jerusalem Joys

Causes Of Contentment

Humble Heard

Time for...

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Justice And Judgement

Mission To Mankind

Sowing And Reaping

Through Troubles

Forgiveness Fullness

Going On In Grace

Lasting Love

Stones To Bread?

Helpful Hope

Jump From Temple Top?

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Worship Me?

A Lion's Share-In

Restorative Remembrances

The Two Ways

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Cross Before Crown

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Communion In Community

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Restoration In Returning

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Gospel Givers

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Faithfully Forwards

Sheep Safety

A Discourse

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Priestly Profile

Willing The Cross-Way

Shepherd Sufferings

Sharing Supper

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Interval Imposed

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Festival of Food

Tale Of Thomas

Prosperous Progressions

Luminous Light

Merciful Musings

Presence Petition

Restoring Requests

The Desolate Deceitful

Light Leading

Godless Gloominess

Godly Graces

Just Judgement

Pain of the Passion

Just Judgements

Profitable Persuals

Refuge Requests

True Teachings

Here Be Hope

Prayer For Protection

Temple Talk

Resurrection Rejoicings

Unreedeeming Utilisations

Night-Time Nigh-Time

Trusting In The Truth

Coronation Kiss

Buildings of Blessings

Practical Pursuits

Word Worthies

A welcome return

Uplifting Utterance

Confession Clarity

Communion Contemplation

Daily Duties

Peace Through Prayers

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Light Through Life

Godly Graces

Revealings By The Spirit

Prosperous Provision

Judgements of Justice

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Desirous Dwelling

His Will To Do

Hear, Help, Hope

Remember The Right

A Daft Update

Nature Nurture

Creator And Creatures

Pleasant Paths

Remembering C.B.

The Godly Guided

Just Judgement

Gospel Given

Continual Contentment

Philippi Prison

Creation Concerns

Leading Light

Protection Professions

Praise Of The People

Trusting Times 2

The Godly Guided

Fruit Of Fortitude

Tale Of Thomas

Meditation Musings

Prophetic Prayer Of Hannah

Positive Praises

Waiting, Trusting, Hoping

Prayers In Perils

Creation Chorus

Healing Help

Bonkers!

Abiding Assurance

Presence Promises

Favourable Forgiveness

Presence Pleasantries

Little Life

Meditative Meandering

Remaining Rejoicing

Aspirational Ascent

Reigning Ruler

Sincere Service

Mary's Momentous Moment

Persevering Petitions

Book Of Life

The Light Of Life

Continuous Comforts

Redeeming Release

Way Of The Word

Light-Living

Restoring Reassurances

Penitent Prayer

Mad Times of KP and I

Practical Pursuals

Trust And Abide

Bread Broken

Firm Foundation

Bounteous Blessings

Listening Lord

Definite Deliverance

Grace Gloryings

Certainly Not!

Service Settings

Merry Madness and Trout Tales

Greatness And Glory

Argghh - computer says.....

Trust And Abide

Contentment Considerations

Wholesome Wisdom

Protection Provision

Forgiveness Freedom

Firm Faithfulness

Prosperous Progressions

Loving Leadings

Faithful Following

Providing Presence

In Memory of K.F.

Trumpet Triumph

Strength And Shield

Prayers And Praises

Awesome Acclaimings

Persevering Pleas

Wisdom Wanted

Danger From Deceit

Eh??

Praise For Providings

Gospel Graces

Mustard Multiplied

Wise Words

Reviving Refreshments

Net Nuances

Practical Pursuits

Chosen in Christ

Justice Judgement

Prayer Petitioning

A Bit Dry - Ramblings

Bold Battlers

Slippery Slandering

Gracious Goodness

Salvation Sure

Of Mice And Pork Pies

Emotions Expressed

A Childlike Faith

Spirit And Song

Captivation Creation

Covenant Comfort

Telling of Tares

Proverb Pieces

Salvation Secured

Do Shut Up Sometimes...

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Sincere Seeking

Through Trials

Propitiation Peace

Two Ways Of Life

Sowing And Reaping

Active Assisting

Question of Authority

Harvest Homily

Sharing, Showing, Safety

Prayer Petitions

Proverb Pieces 2

Lyrics on Love

Trust Through Troubles

Make Haste To Hastings!

Sheep Safety

Faith Focus

Praise Proclamations

People of Prayer

Announcement of Anointing

Proverb Pieces 3

Hope Of Help 2

Citizens Celebrations

Remaining Rock

Shepherd Steps

Prosperity Pronouncements

Simple Seeking

Jericho Journey

Eternal Encouragement

Eternal Endeavourings

Prayer Practicals

Halloween Horror

Sights of Saints

Access Available

Pursuing The Promised Land

Compassionate Caring

Wondrous Workings

Waiting And Watching

Praise Ponderings

Aspects of Wealth - A Blessing

Reminder To Love

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Temporary And Eternal

Reconciling Remembrances

Deliverance Days

New And Old

Palms Processings

Peace, Protection, Prayer, Praise

Corner-Stone

You Got The Time?

Wealth - A Sacrament

Creation Considerations

Marriage Marvellings

Proverb Pieces 4

Pursuing the Path

Liberty to Love

Exodus Explainings

Desiring Daylight

Salvation Through The Son

Day By Day

Sight And Sound

Worldly Worship?

Speech Sentinel

Public Professions

Advent Anticipation

Protection Pleas

People Prepare!

Dwelling Delights

Exhorting to Exaltations

Worship Wonders

Seeds And Soils

Rapturous Return

Grace-Giver

Sheep Story

Appointed Anointing

Caught Out Cryptically

Sure Seeking

Going On To Glory

Trust And Trials

From Darkness To Light

A Babe's Birth

Scripture Sureties

Turning in Troubles

Ruling and Reigning

Family Fulfillings

Prophecy Proclaimed

Glorious Graces

Martyr Manifest

Practical Points

Innocents Immolated

Water of Life

Through Troubled Times

Visit Verified

Positive Praises

Gabriel's Greeting

A Way Through Woes

For Fans Of Fido

Messiah's Ministry

Star of the Son

Haven Of Hope

Face-Tracings

Tears And Joy

Greatness Gratitude

Gifts Given

Majestic Marvellings

Created in Christ

Epiphany Enlightenings

Creator and Creation

Peaceful Progress - Ye Olde Prayers Series (1)

Needs Named - Ye Olde Prayers Series (2)

Heart-Matters - Ye Olde Prayers Series (3)

Deep Peace - Ye Olde Prayers Series (4)

Desirous Dwelling - Ye Olde Prayers Series (5)

Grace And Favour

Sure Safety - Ye Olde Prayers Series (6)

Leading Light - Ye Olde Prayers Series (7)

Blessings Bestowed - Ye Olde Prayers Series (8)

Constant Creator - Ye Olde Prayers Series (9)

Unity Utterance - Ye Olde Prayers Series (10)

Now look.... woof!

Perpetual Presence - Ye Olde Prayers Series (11)

Creation Capturings - Ye Olde Prayers Series (12)

Faithful Fellowship

Service Shown - Ye Olde Prayers series (13)

Help For Humans - Ye Olde Prayers series (14)

Positive Praises

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Hope Of Help 3

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Just Judgements

Prayer Providings

Going Forth...

21 Again - Ta-Dah!

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What you think?

Committed Calling

Praise Proclaimings

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Greatness Gloryings

Creation Clarity

Prayer Requests

Grace Guardian

Love Longings

Boo Hoo!

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Winsome Worship

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Must you.....?

Presence Providence

Confident Comfortings

Deceitful Desires

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Glory Gleams

Mercy Missive

Lord Laudings

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Wholesome Wordings

Rejoicing Repertoire

Food And Drink

O Abundant Spirit

Simplicity Sentiments

Counting Cost of the Cross

Saving Safety

Olive Oil

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Heavenly Help

Prayer Pleas

Gospel Given

Christ-Like Living

Comforting Concerns

Perpetual Presence

Wise Waiting

Reigning Ruler

Omnipotent Observations

I remember when....

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A Prayer of King Nebuchadnezzar

Night Sweats

Resorting to Refuge

Communion Concerns

Gospel Givers

Wise Way

Enduring to the End

Liking?

Helpful Hopings

Creation Considerations

Access to Asking

Prayer Petitions

Possessing Peace

Prayer Persevering

Ascension Acclamations

Birdman!

Favourable Faith

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Thirsting And Trusting

Collective Communing

Praise Prelude

Redemption Rejoicing

Christ Our Peace

Lowly Lines

Pentecost Promise

Comforting Certainty

Just Judgement

Prosperous Presence

Praise - study word Barak

Commission Call

Trusting Testimony

A load of rubbish!

Creaturely Celebration

What's Up?!

Communion Considerations

Virtuous Visitation

Cooeee!

Christ Pre-eminent in Creation

Jesus' Reward

The Year's Adieu In Song

Sealed By The Spirit

Security and Safety

Matter of Mercy

Ready For His Return

Tears And Joy

Seeking Sparks

Prayer Prosperings

Beneficent Barnabas

Blip again

Places of Peace

Progression Pleadings

Persevering Possibilities

Help Hymnings

Following Faithfully

Drying Up?

Secure Steps

Jingle Bells!

Life for Living

Onwards with Omnipresence

Passover Psalmings

Repentance Reality

Aggh! the heat!

God's Power in Judgement

Always With Me

Faith confronts the wayward

Faith Foundation

Teacher, Soldier, Athlete

Missive For Mercy

Prosperous Prayer

Thomas' Tale

Scary!

Leading Light

Peace Promises

Seek First...

Promise To Penitents

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Promises Prophesied

Sheep Story

Emmaus Experience

Hazardous

Proverb Pieces 5

Silver Searching

68,000 or thereabouts

Heavenly Help

Drying Up?

Glory Be!

Witness Of The Word

Seed Sprouting

Proverb Pieces 6

Way Of The Word

In Our Hours

Forgiveness Freedom

Prayers In Perils

Safety Sure

Presence Prosperity

A trout tale....

Trusting Times - Part 1

Trusting Times - Part 2

Proceeding To Praise

Comforting Consolings

Wholesome Worship

Comforting Concerns

Word Wholeness

Now lookie here....

Seasons And Times

Healthful Humility

Greatness of God

Water Well-Springs

Return Rapture

Childlike Character

Blessing of Peace

Bounteous Blessings

Travelling Tales

Hasten My Help

Consoling Comforts

Profitable Pleadings

Salvation Strength

Woof, Woof!

A mystery

In Limbo

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Water of Life

Two Now...

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To Sing Or Not..

Bread of Life

Psalm Poem

Trinity Trust

Cats Comforts

Growing In Grace

Explaining KP & Co

Fusions?

Psalm Praise

Worship Worthiness

Giant Hamsters!

Cycling Connections

Life Liberation

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Death And Life

Now we are three....

Comforting Certainties

Saving Scenes

Not Always Winter

Meanwhile...

Notice

Believe in the Light

On through the tunnel

Comes the Day.....

From Without, From Within

A Matter of Faith

Holding On; Being Held

Compassionate Concern

Prayer And Peace

Time To Grieve

Harvest Thoughts

1066 Reunion

Good Writes

Turning to Song?

Stuck

Horrors!

Time of Day or Night

Remembrances

Hooray, it's Ch.....!

I told ya it's Ch.....

A word from Fido to me about Ch....

Fido speaks again

Meanwhile....

Jokers, Clowns, and Santa

KP, she say....

KP Nuts

Ohhhh ranting!

Silent Poem

We Are Piggies.....

Your Most Un-Favourite Saying

Amiable Andrew

Return Readiness

Xmas and other stuff

Insulting KP Again?

Who reads this rubbish?

Day Dawning

Victory Venture

Temple Message

Repentant Readiness

354 Presents - Doing the Maths!

Optimist or Pessimist?

Preparing The Way

The Angel Message

Dang Tree!

Mary's Magnificat (Song of Praise)

Born A Babe

Benediction on the Baptist

Shepherds Shown

Martyr Mission

The Light of Love

Holy Innocents Horror

A load of more rubbish!

Fido Musing

A Cheery Prospect?

Life Limitless

Thirsty Times

Epiphany Expressions

Star Shining

Praise Profession

Bounteous Blessings

Praise Proclamation

Majestic Marvellings

Sir Orchi NS

Hopeful Help

Healing Help

Plentiful Providings

Commitment Call

Wait a While

From Mourning To Joy

Pleasant Praise

Meek Musings

Little Life

A Piece by Paul

Glory Giving

Salvation Security

Help Here

Reigning Ruler

Promise of Providing

Firm Foundation

Confident Calling

Candlemas Celebration

Protection Pleas

Living in the Light

Hasten to Humility

The Eternal Pessimist

Freedom Flight

Mourning Misery

Morning Prayer

Worship Wholeness

Join In Joyfulness

Random Ramblings

Zeal For Zion

Leading Of Love

Praise Piece

Graces Given

Poor and Needy

22 Today!

Why So Horrid?

Word Wholeness

Morning Walk

Forgiveness Found

Confused?

Creation Praise

People Praise

Eccentricities

All Praise!

Returning And Reviving

Way Of The Word

Lent failed!

Tempting Times

Will This Stop?

Tick or Tock?

Today, Tomorrow, Last Year?

Now lookie here, humans

KP she says.....

Stormy Sea

Wot You Doin' On 'Ere?

Daft Obsession

You Seen That U?

Notice from Orchi

It May Not Be Just Me

Help or Not?

Justice In Judgement

Mystery.....

Rejoice....

Great Is The Lord

Jerusalem Journey

Anointing Memorial

Cockerel Crowing

Pilate's Perturbations

Passover Ponderings

The Good Of Golgotha

The Eve Of Easter

Easter Exaltings

Emmaus Enlightening

Commission Call

Seen Or Not Seen

Lakeside Life

Peter's Professing

Following In Faith

Goodbye Little Friend

A Silent Poem

Help! lol.

Risen Rejoicings

VE Day thoughts

Not Sure I'm Human!

Since when.....

A check up!

In the name of humanity

This can't go on!

Bonkers!

Finding Tomorrow

Ascension Amblings

A Load Of Rubbish Part 84746383

Eh??

Who are these people?

Not human?

I need answers

Eating the moon

Cup o' tea and.....

Cake and strawberries

Not Cloudy Tonight Please

They didn't eat cake....

Since when was.....

Still Human?

Gloomy Doom heehee

Fido wants to know

Can't get out!

Talking more rubbish!

Dang it!

Can't stay all day

Happy Canada Day

Can ye not.....

Escape from.....

I forgot.....

Meanwhile

I never knew....

Rock Reassurances

Fits tune: Rock of Ages (Hymn of same name)

Based on part of Psalm 18

When the LORD did David aid
End of his enemies made
He did pen a psalm of joy
And his tongue it did employ
To praise his strong Lord on high
Who he did for refuge fly

Sang, I you Lord will I love
Present comfort, holy dove
And He strong in might and deed
Seeing me came to my need
He my strength, my rock, fortress
Looked upon me and did bless

He too my deliver sure
My God, my strength, evermore
I will in Him always trust
I who am mere man and dust
But He my shield and my tower
He will [my] enemies devour

He my horn, that strength and power
That I do need every hour
I unto the Lord will call
Worthy to be praised by all
So from my enemies shall
Be saved, for He shall not fail

For who is God, He the Lord
None other, I am assured

Who except our God a rock
Though my enemies may mock
He will help, deliver me
Through Him victory I shall see

Celebration Certainties

Fits tune to same hymn name: 'To God be the glory'

Based on Psalm 47

O clap your hands all you people here
Shout unto God, give Him reverent fear
With voices of triumph extol Him high
Your praises and worship shall unto Him fly

Chorus:

For the Lord, He most high, is terrible
Awesome Lord, He the one who rules over all
He is a great King over all the earth
He greatly exalted, come, give Him His worth

The people He shall subdue under our feet
He ever does reign from His throne, mercy-seat
And He shall choose our inheritance sure
Israel, excellent, whom He loves evermore - Chorus

God is gone up with a shout, victory
The LORD with the sound of a trumpet, now be
Praises sung unto our God and our King
In Him all be joyful, each created thing - Chorus

For God is the King over all the earth true
Sing praises with understanding, tunes new
He over the heathen does reign certainly
He sits on the throne of His holiness, see - Chorus

The princes of the people gathered are
Together they meet, come from near or afar
He, God of Abraham, made covenant
Shields of the earth [are] His, blessings He has sent - Chorus

Frutiful Following

Fits tune: Breslau

(One tune to 'Take up your cross, the Saviour said')

Though I may seek an easy way
Come to my heart Lord, every day
Help me to turn, to follow you
Me strengthen, empower, renew

O here distracted and confused
Yet with your grace, blessings endued
Upon me, so cause me up rise
To follow truth, not stay with lies

For we accepted in you are
Heaven to us you do not bar
But forgiven now through your Son
He the redemption work has done

No other hope to rest upon
His grace avails, the only one
By whom mankind to God can come
All people, all, the total sum

Trusting all to your Spirit sure
A reality evermore
Us not unmoved, we play our part
Continue, or some new thing start

Some vision, motivation now
Be inspired, and in worship bow
Some fruit to share, some gift to give
From Christ, for He does ever live

Look Lord upon me, look and see
That I not frozen, chilly be
But choose your narrow way each day
Your love, comfort, with me alway

Atonement Assurance

Fits tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

I shall bring a song to you
Something old or something new
You who gave yourself for me
Offering, sacrifice I see

For in you Lord, we set free
Laws of Moses ne'er could be
Enough to redeem our soul
You come to us, make us whole

But for olden days suffice
Animals paid the sin price
Substitutes, for humans stood
Permanent atone, ne'er could

'Til the New Covenant came
Things then remained ne'er the same
Christ did come the way to make
Lay His life down for our sake

That we forgiven, restored
In repenting are assured
That our sins taken away
By Him, so dawns our bright day

For none can themselves here save
But Christ the way He did pave
For mankind, salvation brings
And now joyful praises ring

Life eternal granted sure
Peace with God for evermore
Lord I trust with all my heart
Spirit fill me, every part

Seed Sowing

Fits tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Lord speak to me that I may hear
Some message from you, plain and clear
Strength, comfort or encouragement
Of Christ your Son who you have sent

Some word to evangel also
That others hear you, and too know
Your message of salvation sure
Not spoiled by sin, but whole and pure

Word to sustain, to ease our pain
To heal, restore, forgive again
Words planted now in hearts refined
By grace, and transformed be our mind

To think on you, focus, align
Here nothing of you dark, malign
But presence comforting, you near
May we worship with godly fear

So may seed of your word now fall
Into our hearts, we hear your call
O may it fall in soil found good
For we pray and desire it would

Though there different responses be
Seed falls on various grounds, see
Whether on path or rocks or thorns
Or on good soil, for harvest morns

Those morns, those fruitful days of when
Seeds sown do produce growth, and then
Comes pruning, but purpose is for
Lives to glorify God e'en more

Creator Contemplations

Fits tune: Royal Oak

('All things bright and beautiful')

Based on Psalm 8

Chorus

You our Lord are great o'er all

And to you each one call

We shall worship, praise your name

You ever stay the same

Your name, O Lord, excellent

You us good things have sent

Your glory great, and honour due

Creator God, to you

Chorus

All in the earth, sea, sky, seen

You have made all, not mean

But all show of your making sure

We praise you and adore

Chorus

And so great God, my thoughts be

You look on man, him see

Crown him with honour, glory

Redeem, and set him free

Chorus

Dominion you to man give

That he should work and live

Tend your creatures lovingly

Care-taking destiny

Chorus

Given rule o'er all you made
Your beauteous works displayed
Grant mankind power to serve
You faithfully, ne'er swerve
Chorus

Ne'er swerve from devotion strong
Honour you all day long
Praise your name, join angel throng
Ne'er ceasing joyful song
Chorus

Triumphant Testimony

Fits tune: Battle Hymn

('My eyes have seen the glory')

Based on Exodus 15 v.1 - 21

Sing to the Lord, our Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously
Egyptian horse and rider He has thrown into the sea
His strong right arm, His power, has gained Him the victory
His mighty works we see

Chorus

Praise His glory, praise His greatness!

Trust in Him and He will you bless

He Deliverer, He Saviour

He will our hearts assure

So sang Moses and the Israelites, we join their happy song
For the Lord is our strength, song, and our salvation all day long
When in Exodus the Red Sea parted due to God's wind strong
Yet drowned enemy throng

Chorus

For the enemy as stone did sink, vanished beneath the sea
But God led His people through and gave deliverance, set them free
And now in New Covenant, Jesus redeems you and me
His people for to be

Chorus

Celebrations, songs of joy outburst, Lord none is like to you
You are glorious in holiness, in awe we worship you
You do wonders beyond human means, your works are not a few
You save, redeem, renew

Chorus

Let all rejoice, let all sing praise, victory songs to Him raise
Employ all instruments and voices, high in noble praise
In His wrath He shatters enemies, their foundations does raze
Those Old Covenant days
Chorus

Invite Intreaty

Fits tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Based on part of Isaiah Chapter 55

Come to Christ, accept His invite
He the Saviour, Lord of life
In Him you shall find redemption
He is God the Father's Son

'Tis like water, bread, without price
His atonement will suffice
Find in Him your sins forgiven
Here on earth a taste of heaven

Seek the Lord while He may be found
Come to Him, praises redound
Humbly now accept His pardon
He the saving work has done

Call upon Him while He is near
With desire and lowly fear
Turn from sin, repentance He gives
That each soul may ever live

This His grace, His love, His favour
Activate your heart, it stir
He shall be your faithful Saviour
You shall not wrath here incur

Invitation to all people
He does hear who on Him call
Only one way, 'tis exclusive
Yet who accept Him, they live

Heartful Hopes

Fits tune: Ruth

('Summer Suns Are Glowing')

Based on part of Jeremiah Chapter 31

Hope of restoration
To each tribe, nation
You do make, do offer
Blessed we, you confer
Of your graces glorious
Reaching unto us
We have hope, assurance
You give confidence

New Covenant you made
Christ for us price paid
That we may hope sure have
Christ for us [His] life gave
Laws written in hearts, minds
Who looks there each finds
Your words, words of life true
Treasures not a few

And you our God shall be
We your people, see
Each knowing you, we share
In your love and care
And with sins forgiven
Nor remembered, when
Guilt and shame may trouble
Yet we shall not fall

'Tis your Spirit who dwells
In us, and He tells

Of Christ, He does witness
Gives us hope, does bless
So through all life's journey
Your strong hand we see
Guarding, keeping, leading
Loving even me

Departure From Despair

Fits tune: Beatitudo

('O for a closer walk with God')

Based on part of Job Chapter 19

Despair not heart, if life seems hard
Be not o'ercome, o'er-tired
But trust as patient Job, for he
A fair outcome did see

Though trials real and suffering
Affected him, each thing
Made heavy, pained, and burdensome
He to his God did come

Did pour out troubles, expressing
His grief, distress, did bring
To God who could alone give hope
Enable him to cope

Yet mystery, Satan enticed
That Job was all sufficed
Made comfy, cosy, by God's hand
And prosperous in his land

Satan, permitted Job to test
By God, who o'er-watched, lest
Evil should win, and destroy all
Cause destruction, appal

Strong faith shone forth, a servant sure
Job held to God e'ermore
Though at the end repented he
When he Gods' ways did see

Submitted to God's wisdom fine
Job to Him did align
Worshipping His omniscience
Mere glimpses Job did sense

Triumphant Tellings

Fits tune: Hanover

('O Worship The King')

Based on Luke 1 v.46 - 55

Mary's triumph song, we sing all day long
The 'Magnificat', we join cheerful throng
For her soul did magnify the Lord sure
Her spirit rejoiced in Him for evermore

For tidings of birth to her announced
She would bear God's Son, it was thus pronounced
And in her thanks grateful she praises outpoured
In humble obedience to her worthy Lord

The Lord He regarded her low estate
He would extol her and make her then great
For behold from henceforth all peoples they would
Call her blessed, it is right, that they all should

For God that is mighty, great things He did
Revealed His plans to her, they were not hid
And holy His name, so did Mary confess
His mercy on those who fear Him, He shall bless

He with His arm strength shows, puts down the proud
E'en though their protests may be sharp and loud
He brings them low, raises the humble on high
Assured of His presence, they know He is nigh

The hungry He fills with good things, fine fare
But the rich and greedy, they have no share
He His servant Israel has helped all along
Remembering His mercy, they sing worship song

His covenant to Abraham He recalled
Did not it forget, and was never stalled
His promise to bless his people for all time
Throughout all life's journey, each season and rhyme

Humility Honouring

Fits tune: Ellingham

(One tune to 'Gentle Jesus meek and mild')

Based on part of Philippians Chapter 2

Grant me help, humility
May I your example see
Christ, of your life lowly, meek
I your nature more do seek

Though not solely meek and mild
But you holy, undefiled
Having too judgement, anger
When righteously it you stir

Yet by grace tempered it is
You us favour, here true bliss
To know you the lowly one
You redemption's work have done

So exalted now on high
You the one who ne'er shall die
Taking up your servant role
To save us and make us whole

May our minds be set that they
Lovingly do watch and pray
Seeking not our good only
But that all live prosperously

Patient here in suffering
You your comforts to us bring
Cross before crown, no detour
Outcome, glory evermore

All to Jesus' name shall bow
Whether they do here and now
Yet shall bow in final day
Honour Him as King alway

And too every tongue confess
Jesus Christ is Lord, Him bless
To the glory of God high
He, Christ's Father, and ours, nigh

Inscrutable Incomparabilities

Fits tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Based on Romans 11 v.33-36

Sing a song unto God's glory
Honourable, worthy, let it be
He who reigns for e'er and ever
He Sovereign, loses sway ne'er
For His glories, bright and shining
Let each creature to Him sing

O the depths, the riches displayed
Both, of His wisdom arrayed
And His knowledge, here fathomless
He with mercies shall us bless
How unsearchable His judgements
Humans fully cannot sense

And His ways past finding out now!
So to Him we humbly bow
For who has mind of the Lord known
Except what He has us shown?
Or who His counsellor has been
What human has all things seen?

Or who has to Him first given
That God should repay Him then?
For 'tis foolish, vanity, pride
There is none but God beside
Never He any man's debtor
Yet He granting man's heart-cure

Praise and glory everlasting

To our God, He is our King
For of Him and through Him, see
And to to Him are all things, be
To whom glory now and ever
All may worship, glorious share

Redemption Revelings

Fits tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Based on part of Revelation Chapter 5

Worthy the Lamb, to John revealed
A scroll with seven seals sealed
Christ as the Lion, Lamb, only
Those seals could break and free

To set earth's future, destiny
He, Lamb, that scroll took, see
Yet having power of Lion strong
Amid the angelic throng

He, Lamb of God, we to Him sing
Honour and praises bring
For He redeeming work has done
He the atoning One

So endless worship pours out forth
From east, west, south, and north
Earth, heaven, sea, the countless host
Do make in Christ their boast

Their boast that He them has redeemed
In sin, darkness, there beamed
Christ's light, the light of life is He
Through Him we now may see

See by the eye of faith the scene
Of glory, not small, mean
But scene of heaven perfectly
Where endless worship be

For all do worship with loud voice
With words, songs, hope, rejoice
In adoration their love sure
To Him who saves e'ermore

Power and riches, wisdom strength
Praise unmeasured, no length
They give Christ honour, glory too
And blessings as His due

Passionate Penitence

Fits tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Based on parts of Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, Lord, you loving, kind
That I forgiveness now in you may find

According to your mercies my sins take
Clean heart in me create, right spirit make

Wash me from sin, I do confess, here plead
Come relieve, cleanse me, tend now to my need

For my sin 'tis against you, it defiles
I penitently wait on you a while

Come now restore, that I thus humbled made
Give thanks, praise to you, ransom price you paid

So here repentant heart [be]'fore throne of grace
Empower me [to] continue [at] even pace

At even pace, to follow you, be healed
By you, your children to you have you sealed

I cannot save myself, cannot atone
But trust to you my Saviour, you alone

Covenant Certainties

Fits tune: Leominster

('Make me a captive, Lord')

My thoughts of you (Lord) shall be
Here meditatively
Or at times be in heartfelt praise
Joyful songs to you raise
For our high priest you are
Removed to heaven the bar
Of sin, that all my enter in
And find your peace within

Peace within hearts thus cleansed
Though we cannot amend
Our lives by our efforts alone
You do for us atone
Forgiven, loved, and free
That state attain to be
'Tis possible through Christ your Son
The true, the holy one

He saves to uttermost
In Him shall be our boast
With pride untainted by self-will
But trusting in Him still
He ever lives and prays
And intercedes and says
'Forgive them Father', for I gave
My life them for to save

And here new covenant
You shall it not relent
But place in hearts and minds words true

Your laws, and us renew
So inner witness sure
Resides in us e'er more
Your Spirit to us your words bring
To you we praises sing

Forgiveness Freedom

Fits tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, forever full')

Based on part of Psalm 32

Blessed they whose sins forgiven are
Whether from near or far
Near Jews, far Gentiles, all may share
In this sweet heavenly fare

Blessed they whose sins imputed not
To them, they have better lot
The Lord He counts their sins not, so
Forgiveness, grace, they know

My sin I acknowledged unto you
Lord, you knew my state true
As I confessed, you came to my aid
My ransom-price have paid

You forgive, forget, in you I hide
In your love, comfort, reside
As we repent, we do decide
To your presence confide

For you will instruct, teach us the way
We should go on each day
Your eyes shall be upon us sure
To guide us evermore

Many sorrows to wicked shall be
But trust in the Lord shall we
And so find mercy, gladness and joy
Our praises to Him now employ

Justice Judgements 1

Fits tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Based on parts of Psalm 9

I will praise you with my whole heart
O Lord, employ my every part
To worship you, and your works great
They marvellous in their estate

I will be glad, rejoice in you
Sing praise to your name, most High, too
When my enemies turned back are
They shall fall, perish, from you far

For you my right, cause, have maintained
Sat on your throne judged right, not feigned
Heathen you have rebuked, destroyed
The wicked, made their name devoid

Destructions to enemy came
Their cities gone, perpetual shame
Memorial of them perished
You will to them as you have wished

But you Lord ever shall endure
Prepared your throne for evermore
For righteous judgement, uprightly
You will dispense here perfectly

For the oppressed a refuge He
The Lord will be, they shall Him see
In times of trouble and distress
He will come, help them, and them bless

And they that your name will it know
Shall put trust in you, their lives show
That you Lord, them have not forsook
But unto them in mercy look

Sing praises to the Lord, He dwells
In Zion, and each tongue it tells
Of His doings, humble He hears
Who call on Him with godly fears

Arise, O Lord, and let not man
Prevail, lift each oppressive ban
In your sight judged the heathen be
So they confess you worthily

Inspire in them the fear of you
That nations know, whate'er they do
Themselves to know they are men poor
And you Lord Almighty e'ermore

Thankful Tributes

Fits tune: Abridge

('Be Thou my Guardian and my Guide')

Based on part of Psalm 116

I love the Lord for He has heard
My voice, heeded each word
My supplications, humble, plain
I seek His grace again

Because He has His ear inclined
To me, 'tis now my mind
To call upon Him here as long
As I live, with joyful song

The sorrows of death compassed me
Pains of hell held me, see
I did find trouble, sorrow sore
But called on you e'ermore

O Lord, here I do beseech
My soul deliver, reach
For you are gracious, righteous too
And have great mercies new

The Lord the simple does preserve
None of it I deserve
But by your grace, when I brought low
You to me help did show

Return unto your rest, my soul
The Lord shall make you whole
Bountifully has dealt with you
With blessings not a few

For you my soul have delivered
From death, my cries have heard
Have dried my tears, my feet have kept
In your ways when I wept

I will now before the Lord true walk
And in communion talk
With Him, in [the] land of living here
His presence always dear

What shall I to Him now render?
My shield, my defender
What give unto Him for benefits?
He my heart to Him knits

I shall cup of salvation take
That the offering make
And call upon Him my Lord, my King
Thus praise Him, to Him sing

I will give thanks, call in His name
Give Him His worth and fame
Pay my vows to Him, seek His way
He saves my soul each day

Processional Parade

Fits tune: St Patrick's Breastplate

('I bind unto myself this day')

Based on parts of Psalm 68

Let God arise, enemies be scattered
Let them that hate Him before Him flee
Flee, be gone, as smoke driven away
We process in victory this day
At presence of God wicked melt
They His righteous judgement have felt
But let the righteous all be glad
He comforts them, they stay not sad

Let the righteous now all rejoice
For they have made the Lord their choice
Exceeding glad they all may be
Share with their Lord eternity
Sing unto God and praise His name
Extol Him who e'er stays the same
His name JEHOVAH, high over all
Welcoming to who on Him call

O God when you in power went forth
Before your people, they you had sought
When you through wilderness did march
The heavens dropped, earth shook, desert parch[ed]
E'en mighty Sinai, awesome mount
Saw you, your glories did recount
At presence of the Lord most high
Yet to your people you are nigh

Chariots of God twenty thousand are
E'en thousands of angels, many by far

Outnumbering evil, your praise we sing
Almighty One, Lord o'er everything
You have ascended now on high
Hear prayers of those who to you cry
You bless us with daily benefits
Enduing us as grace befits

Singers go forth in procession long
Let all contribute in joyful song
And dance and clap, all instruments
Employ, focus on Him, each sense
There twelve tribes go, they celebrate
Your goodness, not mere luck or fate
For God has commanded your strength
He will you favour at great length

To Him who rides the heavens of heavens
Sing unto Him in 'perfect sevens'*
His voice He does sound out, 'tis heard
And is a mighty voice, His word
Ascribe you strength to God most high
Who ever lives, will never die
His excellency o'er Israel
His strength is in the clouds, we tell

O God, how terrible, awesome you are
We would you worship from afar
Yet you have bid us through your Son
Come to you, He the atoning One
Before you we in Him do stand
Gathered from each and every land
'Tis you O God, strength, power give
To your people that they may live

* 'perfect sevens' - Seven is a symbolic number for perfection.

If non-rhyming this could be replaced by 'perfectly'.

Salvation Security

Fits tune: Randolph

('God be with you till we meet again')

Based on parts of Psalm 53

The fool says in heart, There is no God
Corrupt they, abominable deeds done
There is none that does good, not one
The fool says in heart, There is no God

God looked down from heaven upon men
Seeing if any did Him seek
None understood, all gone back, weak
God looked down from heaven upon men

Those who continue sin, know they not?
Who eat up God's people as bread
Have followed evil ways instead
Those who continue sin, know they not?

God shall put His enemies to shame
Those who oppress sore, persecute
All their troublous deeds shall refute
God shall put His enemies to shame

O that salvation of Israel
Would come out of Zion, tongues tell
How He would redeem them, do well
O for salvation of Israel!

Exalting Encouragements

Fits tune: Remembrance

('Tell me the old, old story')

Based on Psalm 99

The Lord reigns, you people tremble
At His feet humbly fall
He sits between the cherubims
To Him offer thanks, hymns
Let the earth be moved, for
He great in Zion, sure
And high above all people
Though on Him all may call

Chorus

Exalt the Lord our God high
Yet knowing that He is nigh
Worship here, His holy hill
For He is holy still

Let them praise, raise your name great
Awesome it is, so state
You love judgement and equity
Your judgements right we see
So exalt Him highly
The Lord our God is He
The earth His footstool, heaven His throne
He salvation has shown

Chorus

You spake from cloudy pillar
Commandments did confer
You forgave them, your people sure

Though took your vengeance pure
On evil deeds, invented then
Plots, plans, schemings of men
For still remained your holiness
Sin's stains you will ne'er bless

Chorus

Authority Awesomeness

Fits tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Based on Psalm 76

In Judah's land God is right known
His name great in Israel, there shown
In Salem, tabernacle fair
God's dwelling place in Zion there

Zion, that mount in holy land
Where Temple of the Lord did stand
The tribes they gathered worshipping
There they did praise, there to Him sing

There brake He the weapons of war
Arrows, bow, shield, sword, evermore
Ended the battles, showed His power
He was glorious all, each hour

More glorious, excellent you are
Than all great mountains, yes by far
The stout-hearted are spoiled, they sleep
But you your people you do keep

None of the men of might have found
Their strength, they all have gone to ground
At your rebuke, O God of hosts
Horse, chariot, rider sleep, no boasts*

You, even you, are to be feared
And who unto you dare be neared
When once you are angry, reprov'd
Who may stand in your sight unmoved?

You did cause judgement to be heard
From heaven, earth feared, heard your word
[The earth] Was still, when God He did arise
To save all those meek in His eyes

Surely the wrath of man shall praise
You, and you worthy honour raise
The remainder of wrath you shall
Restrain, that it no evil tell

Come, now unto the Lord God pay
Your vows, bring Him presents today
He the One to be feared, he ought
To be feared, for us He has sought

He terrible, God awesome He
Shall deal with evil, He shall be
Terror to such, e'en prince and king
Who do Him not true worship bring

** This recalls the deliverance of God's people when He turned back
the Red Sea on the Egyptians, their enemies.*

Deliverance From Destruction

Fits tune: Caswall - Wem in Leidenstagen

('Glory be to Jesus')

Based on part of Psalm 79 - A Lament

O God, we lament here
For heathen, no fear
Of you, but they plunder
Us, cut asunder

Theme of mourning, sadness
Come, restore us, bless
For enemies reviled
Your temple defiled

Here dead bodies scattered
No mercy conferred
Left unburied, birds, beasts
On them they do feast

Bloodshed, carnage, horror
We a reproach, slur
To ur enemies strong
Help us Lord, we long

Pour out wrath unfailing
Our complaint we bring
Save us from enemies
Deliver, set free

God of our salvation
Help us here, each one
Forgive, take sins away
Restore light and day

So we still your people
Shall unto you call
In your pasture us keep
We by grace your sheep

Creation Celebration

Fits tune: Thaxted (Holst)

('I vow to thee my country')

Based on Psalm 104 v.1 - 16

Bless the Lord now, O my soul, praise Him now with your all
O Lord my God, you very great, clothed with honour, your state
And majesty most glorious, not revealed full to us
You cover yourself with light, to human sight too bright
That light as a garment pure, eternal evermore
And heavens like curtains you stretch, vaster than sail of ketch*
(ketch - a sailing vessel)*

You lay the beams, your chambers, in the deep dark waters
Make the clouds your chariot, you walk on wind's wings lot
You make your angels spirits, ministers it befits
They they be as flames of fire, as servants, not mere hire
Foundations of the earth you laid, all creatures you have made
The earth founded, not removed for ever, so 'tis proved

You cover the earth with the deep, and water's bounds you keep
That they may not pass o'er, see, the limits you decree
At flood the waters they did stand, above mountains, each land
Yet then at your rebuke they fled, for you spoke, you had said
Through thunder, they must haste away, ne'er return any day
To flood the earth as Noah's day, rainbow cov'nant [given us] always

Now those waters peacefully, go at your pace, your way
By mountains, valleys, each place, for folk of every race
You springs into the valley send, among hills they run, bend
They give drink to every beast, from greatest unto least
E'en wild asses quench their thirst, water supplies outburst
And birds of heaven habitate, 'midst branches small and great

From His chambers He waters the hills, refreshments pure
The earth it is satisfied, in you it does confide
For you have shown your works' fruit, 'twill content us, will suit
Will meet our needs, providing, your graces us you bring
Providing food for beast and man, perfectly as you can
Your trees full, so full of sap, Lebanon's cedars map

Palms Processings

Fits tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Chorus

All glory to the Saviour

All praises to the King

On humble colt He rides now

To Him creation sings

1. He rides on humble donkey

And did in meekness mount

Now we again His worthies

Paschal Mystery recount - Chorus

2. He rides forth into [Jeru]Salem

The city, name of peace

To bring His great salvation

His honours never cease - Chorus

3. Tell to daughter of Zion

Prophecy fulfilled thus

Your King on lowly beast comes

Brings salvation to us - Chorus

4. Crowds gathered by the waysides

To Him they homage give

Palm branches waved before Him

They trust in Him and live - Chorus

5. Their garments spread before Him

Along the royal way

And this their joyful anthem

'Hosanna', [they] sing and say - Chorus

6. So as they their possessions
Along the road did give
Help us service you offer
That we may truly live - Chorus

7. 'Save now Lord', that their tune sweet
Procession marches on
The Lord will then His life lay
Down for them, Holy One - Chorus

8. Come process in His victory
O'er sin, death, gloom's dark night
For 'tis all in the Son sure
He is the world's true light - Chorus

9. Eternal King now living
Triumphant o'er the grave
Come to our hearts, abide now
And stay, us fully save - Chorus

10. 'Blesséd be the one who
Comes in the Lord's name true'
Their shouts, their songs, rejoicing
Praises to Him anew - Chorus

11. Though later then their pleading
Is 'Crucify' and die
Yet He on cross the Victor
Given the name most high - Chorus

12. Our suffering Saviour dying
There seen upon the tree
Now we sing to Him and praise
He redeemed you and me - Chorus

13. Lord of Lords reigning on high
On us favours bestow
That all the world confess you
And all peoples you know - Chorus

14. For Easter message fades not
Christ died and rose again
Will return for His own soon
Unending glories then - Chorus

Prospering People

Fits tune: Jerusalem

('And did those feet in ancient times')

Based on Psalm 75

Unto you, O God, unto you
We give you thanks, you us renew
Your wondrous work they do declare
That your name near, your presence fair
When the Lord the peoples receive
He will judge uprightly, not leave
Them in a poor estate, but shall act
Committed to them, cov'nant pact

The earth and all inhabitants
Are dissolved, removed from their tents
The Lord the world's pillars up bers
The foolish of His grace no shares
For He did speak, did to them say
Deal not foolishly, and your way
Lift not on high, be proud no more
Speak not with stiff neck, not self-sure

For promotion comes not from east
Nor from west, south, north, not in least
But God the judge is, puts down one
Sets up another, it is done
For in the hand of the Lord is
Cup of red wine, and mixed, no bliss
For dregs thereof wicked shall taste
Their evil deeds shall go to waste

But I for ever will declare
Sing praises to my God, right there

Within His temple, in His land
For He has saved us by His hand
All strength of wicked He cuts off
Though they may view and to Him scoff
Yet strength of righteous as horns bold
Shall be exalted, all be told

Suffering Sustenance

Fits tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere he breathed')

Lord help us in our sufferings
To see you in all things
As you will, 'whys', 'whats', plans [are] revealed
Our hearts be stilled

Help us to follow, take up cross
Daily, will be no loss
Only to self and selfish ways
We give you praise

Grant us wisdom to understand
And see your guiding hand
Your cross it be, to work in me
Redemptively

Not burdens made of our own sort
Nor in our vain traps caught
But cross which puts to death our self
And gains your wealth

If we will follow, 'tis our choice
May we so choose, rejoice
In serving you, to put you first
You quench our thirst

The living bread you do supply
Your water of life nigh
Thus you give food, drink, spiritual
Sustaining all

So daily walk constructively
Changed to your image, see
We shall be fashioned by your grace
Then [at last] view your face

Communing Contemplations

Fits tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Based on 1 Corinthians 11 v.23ff

When at supper Jesus took
Bread, disciples did upon look
In the upper room gathered
They assembled, and His words heard
Take and eat this bread, my body
My life given, broken, here see

Broken here for you, partake
Do this when you meet, not forsake
Eat in remembrance of me
He would give His life on the tree
For you and for many, bidden
Mysteries revealed, not hidden

And too shared the cup of wine
Would be His new testament fine
His blood poured out, all to drink
We do ponder, and on it think
Drink in remembrance of me
Jesus' passion here foretold, see

So search heart, mind, prepare fine
When sharing this meal of bread, wine
For 'tis no mean fare, no dearth
But of value, meaning, great worth
Each time bread, wine, taken, symbols
The Lord's death consciously recalls

Holy gifts, our salvation

Assured for each people, nation
Accept invite plain, receive
Confidence in Christ find, believe
Christ who died, who rose again sure
We praise Him who lives now e'ermore

Victory Voicings

Fits tune: King's Weston

(One tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Based on Psalm 108 part

O God, my heart is fixed
My motives unmixed
I will sing and give praise
My tongue will you raise
Awake, harp, psaltery
I wake early, see
I will praise you, O Lord
Hearken to your word

I will praise you anew
Among people true
And praises to you sing
Nation's voices ring
For your mercies are great
They do ne'er abate
And your truth it reaches
Above cloud's vaultings

O God, be exalted
By you we are fed
And let your glory be
Above all earth, see
That your here beloved
May be delivered
Save now with your right hand
Protect us, your land

God here He has spoken
Shown us His token

He remains still holy
Rejoicing shall be
He Lord o'er all peoples
He enemy stills
Though seems we are off cast
Your purposes [they] last

We shall still you e'er seek
Humbly now, and meek
Give us help from trouble
Vain man's help, we fall
But through you God, we shall
Do valiant, tell
Of your saving power
O'er enemies bower*

* *bower = dwelling*

Glory Graces

Fits tune: St Gertrude

('Onward, Christian soldiers')

Based on Psalm 89 v.1 -10

Chorus

O Lord God, God of hosts

Who is strong like you?

Who like to you faithful

Great in glory too?

I will sing of mercies

Of the Lord for e'er

With my mouth will make known

Generations share

In His faithfulness sure

Mercy shall be built

Built for ever, this your word

None can hinder, stilt - Chorus

He a covenant made

With His chosen one

David , he His servant

Christ, His only Son

David's seed for ever

Would established be

Built up his throne would sure

Be for evermore - Chorus

The heavens shall thus praise

Your wonders, Lord, true

And your faithfulness sing

Congregation too

For who in the heaven

To the Lord compares?
Who among the people strong
His same glory shares? - Chorus

God, greatly to be feared
When saints gather near
And be had in reverence
Of those round Him here
Rage of seas you rule o'er
When the waves arise
You do then quiet still them
Each one do down-size - Chorus

And enemy peoples
You have broken, slain
They be gone and scattered
None [be]'fore you remain
Your strong arm has lightened
Descended with power
Triumphant your victory
'Tis seen every hour - Chorus

Salvation Safety

Fits tune: Monks Gate

(He who would valiant be' OR 'Who would true valour see')

Based on Psalm 77

I cried to God with my voice
And made Him my choice
He did give ear to me
My trouble did see
I sought Him when my soul
Was troubled, was not whole
When comforts flew away
Darkening my day

I God remembered, see
Complained I, for He
Holds my eyes waking, so
No sweet sleep I know
My spirit o'erwhelmed then
And could not speak when
In troubles, distressed I
To your grace did fly

I considered days of old
Years past I retold
Called unto remembrance
Songs, praises, from thence
Communed with my own heart
My spirit searched each part
Diligently to know
Why my state now so?

Will the Lord forever cast
Us off, we gone, past?

Will He favour no more
Help humble, meek, poor?
Is His mercy full gone
His light's beam no more shone
Does His promise fail e'er
Blessings no more share?

Has God forgotten to be
Gracious, now Him see
Has He in anger rose
Tender mercies close[d]?
This my infirmity
I said, but let it be
But I still Him recall
His times, one and all

I will His works remember
Swiftly, not defer
His wonders of old wrought
His people He bought
Redeemed from enemy
Crossing dry land, Red Sea
Waters stood as a heap
His own did He keep

Of your words I meditate
You, O God, here great
Of your doings I talk
In my daily walk
Your way, O God, it be
Within the sanctuary
None great a God as you
Wonders do you do

You your strength have declared
Your people well fared

You redeemed with strong arm
Your own kept from harm
Thunderous voice out sent
Before your own you went
Moses, Aaron, your sheep led
By your hand all fed

Road To Redemption

Fits tune: Rockingham

('My God, and is thy table spread')

Based on Luke Chapter 23 part

When Christ on road to Calvary

Simon was made to carry tree

Cyrenian he, journey did make

Jesus on cross our sins did take

On way to cross there women wept

They had a faithful vigil kept

But Christ said, 'Weep not daughters for me'

Though consider this times green tree

Fro green the day, yet what shall be

When troubles more, and dry the tree?

Mourn, sorrow, repent, turn from sin

Be filled with His Spirit within

And there on cross, His words were said

'Forgive them Father', when He bled

'For they do know not what they do'

With e'en them [He] shared His covenant new

The dying thief rejoiced that he

Same day he would in paradise be

Granted request then by Christ sure

He would remember him e'ermore

With your grace, help, we journey on

Follow your footsteps, you have gone

Before us, lived, died, rose again

To save all children, women, men

Dark, dark, the day, you crucified
No other could pay price beside
For our sins, yet from tomb you rose
Your glorious kingdom ever grows

Gospel Gladness

Fits tune and hymn title: 'Will your anchor hold?'

Here a tune to sing
And my praise to bring
To you, my Lord, King
Now let voices ring
Tell that you atone
Only you alone
You save us, redeem
Shine your light's bright beam

Chorus

We have salvation, redemption too
Christ comes to us, and makes us anew
Trust unto His love, His wondrous plan
Showed, revealed to each child, woman, and man

Come now, search my heart
Look in every part
Bring forgiveness where
Dim our faith or care
And re-light a flame
That burns for your name
River's waters flow
From us, we you know - Chorus

Yet will still be so
First you us did know
Came to seek us out
And to leave no doubt
That in love to save
You your all you gave
To save such as me

And to set me free - Chorus

Strike a tuneful note
There it buoy and float
Like a life-belt ring
Unto you we sing
Songs of sins forgiven
And hopes of heaven
To me, for many
Not to lose any - Chorus

Fervent praises due
Always unto you
For eternal life
You grant us, no strife
'Til your kingdom come
And your will be done
Give your Spirit's power
To us every hour - Chorus

Salvation Sureties

Fits tune and hymn name: 'Be still for the presence of the Lord'

Based on 1 Corinthians Chapter 1 part

We now preach Christ crucified, for He
Did die upon the tree
And then o'er the grave did rise again
Salvation for all men
He showed God's wisdom for
He obeyed His plan sure
A sign too, He showed God's mighty power
Delivers us each hour

That wisdom, sign, satisfaction be
To all Jews, Gentiles, see
Those Jews who did seek always for signs
Did fall on pleasant lines
And Gentiles wisdom sought
Christ to them He has taught
His plan of salvation now for all
Who on Him humbly call

Of God, Christ is made unto us sure
These graces evermore
Wisdom and righteousness these gifts fair
We may now in them share
Sanctification too
Redemption, made anew
And so as is written, it is this
Glory in Him, find bliss

Peace Petitions

Both fit tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Based on two Collects = Formal Prayers

- 1 -

Give unto us Lord, your servants peace
Which the world cannot give, does cease
To satisfy, we retain our rest
With peace you give us, we are blest

We ask, give us peace, for causes two
Come to us here, and us renew
That our hearts they would here true be set
To obey your commands, not fret

And also that we defended be
Kept by you from fear of enemy
So that we here shall then pass our time
In rest and quietness, life's rhyme

And so we asked, pleaded to you above
Trusting in your only Son's love
You will give peace, Christ's peace promised, He
Our good Shepherd shall ever be

- 2 -

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we beseech
And by your great mercy do each
Defend from all perils, dangers too
Of this night, for love of [your] Son true

Praise Prosperity

Fits tune and hymn name: Lord of the Dance

Based on Psalm 66 v.1 - 12

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all lands
He has created all things by His hands
Sing forth the honour of His name
Make His praise glorious, His the fame

Chorus

O bless our God, all you people
Turn unto Him, He will hear your call
And make the voice of His praise to be heard
Depend and trust now on His every word

Say unto God, how awesome your works are
Earth, sky, sea, heavens, and each bright burning star
Your enemies shall submit to you
Through works great in power that you do - Chorus

All the earth shall give worship unto you
And shall sing to you, you do them renew
Come see God's works, the deeds that He does
Awesome deeds among mankind, the cause - Chorus

The cause why we praise Him, He does e'er rule
By His power for ever, He does us call
He turned back the sea by His strong hand
And so we went through as on dry land - Chorus

His eyes do the nations behold now sure
Let not rebellious exalt selves no more
He holds our soul in life as Shepherd
And we His sheep, His voice we have heard - Chorus

You suffer not our feet here to be moved
Though you have tested us, and have us proved
You tried us as silver fine is tried
But brought us forth, as unto you we cried - Chorus

Obedience Outcomes

Fits tune and hymn: Blessed Assurance

Based on Psalm 81 part

Sing aloud unto God our strength
And make a joyful noise to him at length
Take a psalm, and raise a thankful song
Bring here instruments, praise all day long

Chorus

O that my people hearkened to me
And they had walked in all my ways, see
Then I should soon for them have subdued
Their enemies, my people renewed

Praise Him with timbrel, harp, psaltery
Or lute or lyre, with them now worship free
Blow trumpets loudly, time of new moon
Festival days return here quite soon - Chorus

His people called to Him, He did hear
He did deliver them, they did He fear
And He did test, waters Meribah
Strife, contention, yet did not them bar - Chorus

Hear, O my people, I to you speak
Turn now unto me, and me now do seek
Worship no strange gods, idolatry
I am your Lord God, see only me - Chorus

If they had listened, He would then act
Faithful and true to His covenant pact
But Israel's people, they heard Him not
Trusted not to Him, Him they forgot - Chorus

If having obeyed, the Lord had done
Deeds wondrous for them, e'en to every one
Then submitted unto Him, they would
Be, the haters of the Lord, as should - Chorus

But Israel's time should e'er have endured
He finest food, drink, would to them procured
Would have fed wheat fine, them satisfied
Honey from rock too, none Him beside - Chorus

Troublous Times

Fits tune: Gute Baume Bringen
('Christian, dost thou see them')

Psalm 55 part

Give ear to my prayer God
You this earth have trod
In person of Christ sure
Our Saviour e'ermore
Hide not Lord from my voice
I make you my choice
Hear all supplications
From your daughters, sons

Attend unto me here
Troubles sore are near
I mourn, wander, roaming
My complaint I bring
To you, for I needy
Voice of enemy
Has oppressed me, troublous
Come to me, me bless

My heart severely pained
Terror on me rained
Like terrors of death dark
Unto me now hark
I fearful and trembling
Prayers to you I bring
Horror has o'erwhelmed me
Pity me, me see

Then 'twas my thought, desire
That I may go far

From my troubles flying
Like dove, wings m bring
Then I far off should go
Escape the storm, so
Dwell in wilderness sure
'Til distressed no more

I shall my burden cast
On the Lord, and last
Sustained by Him strongly
He my refuge be
He has never approved
Righteous to be moved
But shall keep them wholly
In Him they be free

Passion Perusals

Fits tune: Coelites Plaudant

('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

Christ's passion we recall, graces here so fine
Salvation to all be, here is pleasant line
Comfort to weary souls, our burdens He bears
And in our sorrows shares

Passionate in your love, you worked us to save
We saved by your merits, nothing to you we gave
That could help, assist our cause, you save, you alone
You do for us atone

Your blood shed, sacrifice, off'ring eternal
You do save each one now, that unto you call
Accepted through Christ the Son, and none else, see
Can our Redeemer be

Sin's stains are washed away, each dark blot removed
Forgiveness now for us, your love you have proved
For us you gave your life, and before you died
'Tis finished', then you cried

Your death was not the end, tomb opened, arisen
You burst forth there in power, rock and earth riven
Death's victory lost its sting, you now live for ever
You die no more, never

So celebrations bright, vanquished not the light
Of the world, but full seen, Christ the one between
Man and God, as Advocate, Mediator sure
Living for evermore

Righteous Recognitions

Fits tune: Quem Pastores Laudavere

('Jesus good above all other')

Based on Psalm 112

Praise the Lord, blessed they that Him fear
They greatly delight to Him hear
And do His commandments, hearts set
Do them daily, ne'er forget

Their children upon the earth be
Mighty, generation upright, see
Wealth, riches, prosperity there
In His righteousness they share

Unto the upright there arises
Light in the darkness, no despises
Such are gracious, have compassion
Righteous they be, every one

Good people, they will show favour
Help each fellow-soul in labour
They will lend, assist, with grace fair
Show discretion, day's load bear

Surely they shall not be moved, for
Righteous be remembered e'ermore
They not fear of evil tidings
Their hearts fixed, to their Lord sings

They trust in the Lord for ever
Their hearts established, need fear never
Their desires on enemies shall
They see, hope their tongues shall tell

They disperse, unto the poor give
That with help the needy shall live
Their righteousness does endure e'er
They do good with godly care

Exalted their horn with honour*
Strengthened, they aid one another
Wicked see this, they anguish, grieve
Their desires melt, they go, leave

*horn = a symbol of strength or power

Priestly Praises

Fits tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Based on Hebrews 7 v.23 - 28

See, priests of the Old Covenant
About duties they went
But they did not continue e'er
Common fate, death, did share

But Christ our high priest now is here
Worship with lowly fear
His priesthood e'er unchangeable
Saving to uttermost all

For He is able e'er to save
As he His life He gave
And now does live, eternally
Intercedes e'en for me

We come to God through Christ the Son
He Saviour, Holy One
Sharing in man's identity
He fully God, [and] Man, be

And what the nature of this priest?
Who invites us to feast
Of His own body and His blood
Sparkling redemption flood

'Tis such a one, holy, harmless
Undefiled, He will bless
Separate from sinners, He be
No sin found in Him, see

Yet sinners He does not off cast
Forgives sins present, past
He higher than the heavens too
Though reaching e'en to you

He needs not to, as priests of old
Their daily sins retold
Needs not to offer for His own
Sins, He has none, He alone

Yet sacrificed Himself He did
Offered Himself, not hid
Once given, perfect and complete
A high eternal feat

The law does make high priests of men
They continue not then
For ever, but for mortal span
They no more than that can

But Christ was made priest with an oath
He Priest and Victim both
He Christ the Son, consecrated is
Evermore, He us bids

Dwelling Delights

Fits tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O God, Wherein thine honour dwells')

Based on Psalm 48 part

The Lord God, great is He
Greatly to be praised be
In His city most bright
Source of endless pure light

Mount of His holiness
From Zion He will bless
On the north side it stands
Desire of every lands

City of the great King
Unto Him do we sing
The joy of the whole earth
We praise Him, give Him worth

Within her palaces
God is known, and He is
A refuge, stronghold sure
Protecting evermore

For kings assembled were
They looked, did not defer
To pass by, troubled they
Knew God was there alway

God it will establish
To bless, it is His wish
And in midst of city
W have thought, even we

Thought of your mercy, grace
Lovingkindness, this place
Wherein you choose to dwell
Your goodness we do tell

For this our God for e'er
We shall prosper, well fare
For He will be our guide
E'en to death, we [in Him] confide

Palms Passion

Fits tune: Laus Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Based on part of Matthew Chapter 21

Jesus rides on humble donkey
Here a fair procession see
Singing, shouting, loud Hosanna
Raising palms as love's banner

'Hosanna', 'Save now, Lord', they cry
Yet later they bid Him die
Through religion's cruel inciting
'Crucify', now voices ring

Tensions mounting, yet God's will done
Prayed in garden, only Son
Not my will but yours be done sure
Father-Son love evermore

Lowly beast transports the Saviour
See the whole city does stir
In Jerusalem, the place where
God's Temple situate[d] be

Grant our hearts may trust in you whole
Your praises, Saviour, extol
To keep Temple, your house of prayer
Den of thieves it cannot share

May we continue on daily
You our guide and helper be
Follow in your victory, lead us
If path smooth, rough, still us bless

Deeds Decidings

Fits tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Based on parts of Matthew 26 v.1 - 30

When Jesus He in Bethany
At house of Simon be
A woman precious ointment poured
On Him, she Him adored

Then protests, why this seeming waste
Poured out at once with haste
Why not sold, plus three hundred days
Of wages, total pays

Yet Jesus comforts her, her deed
Done out of love indeed
A good work done, though still the poor
Remain with them for sure

For Jesus would not always be
With them, company, see
And He explained to them that she
Anointed His body, He

He so commended her right true
A great work she did do
Did what she could, as days went on
'Til burial of the Son

She had anointed Him, prepared
Him for burial, shared
In such a deed. world-wide would be
Told, memory of her, see

Sad, dark, compared was Judas' deed
He to evil did heed
Betrayed Jesus, for silver priced
Thirty pieces sufficed

Passion Progressing

Fits tune: Divine Mysteries

('Sweet Sacrament Divine')

Based on part of Matthew 26 v.31 - 75

There in the garden dark
And with atmosphere stark
Jesus to Father prayed
To be strong, unafraid
For His soul in Him sorrowful
Unto His Father He did call
Father, if possible
Remove this cup, it all

Yet not what I do will
But what you do will still
And if it pass my not
I drink it, this my lot
This cup of suffering you ordain
Though bringing toil, grief and pain
For the spirit willing
Flesh weak here in this thing

Three times there Christ did pray
Did accept Father's way
To gain our salvation
Treasures for each nation
Though the disciples not one hour
Stood then with Christ, small was their power
But He did not condemn
As still He did love them

Judas, traitor appears
Jesus' passion it nears

Betrayed there with a kiss
A bittersweet fine bliss
Then Christ does go forth peacefully
Innocent one arrested, see
Then trial and mockery
For Son of God there be

There Peter did deny
Thrice, then cockerel's cry
Though said he would not bend
Defend Christ to the end
Yet he and all forsook, they fled
Now leaving him, their hearts in dread
But Scriptures all fulfilled
As the Lord God had willed

Pursuing The Passion Path

Fits tune: Malvern

(One tune to 'Jesus where'er they people meet')

Based on parts of Matthew Chapter 27

When Judas found Jesus condemned
He did seek his life to amend
But sad his fate, blood-money paid
The price for Jesus' betrayal made

Though showing remorse, silver gave
He back to priests, but it they waived
Then 'twas the end of Judas, see
End of his life disastrously

Then at trial, there Pilate's wife
She in a dream had suffered strife
Advised Pilate not to ensue
Anything with Jesus, not do

But religious leaders incite
To make the crowd with all their might
Cry 'Crucify', Jesus to tree (cross)
And prisoner Barabbas free

Delivered was He to their will
As frenzied they bayed for blood still
And washing hands there in their sight
Pilate disowned them, took his flight

Then mocked and jeered, and crown of thorn
As innocent Lamb he was shorn
Crucified, darkness o'er all the land
As if akin to dust-storm's sand

At Jesus' death the Temple veil
Tore top to bottom, sure, not fail
And earth did quake and rocks did rend
Victory, triumph, the outcome, end

Simple Services

Fits tune: St Agnes

('Jesus the very thought of Thee')

Based on John 13 v.1 - 15

An upper room disciples made
All items set and laid
For Jesus with them then to share
In fine communion fare

During supper, Jesus arose
All things sure there He knows
Knowing now had come His hour
Yet still He showed God's power

His love, His care, compassion true
Will serve both me and you
As He did love, and loves us still
Fulfilling Father's will

So He arose, disciples feet
He would wash, that was meet
In service as their Lord, Master
Grace on them did confer

In humble deeds, example set
He gently their needs met
Nor taken up with over-care
Of load He chose to bear

Chose to bear for our sakes, that we
Redeemed by Him may be
He would love all unto the end
Then death's strongholds did rend

Risen from tomb on Easter morn
Bright beams, salvation's dawn
He died once, now to die no more
Now lives for evermore

Suffering Saviour

Fits tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

Chorus

We praise you Lord, your passion we recall
You died and rose again, for one and all

There in the garden, dark Gethsemane
You prayed and pleaded to Father for me - Chorus

There for me you sweat blood in agony
That mankind be redeemed, and so set free - Chorus

Your Father's will you sought and not your own
Your love, obedience there to Him shown - Chorus

Let pass this cup of suffering if you will
Father, but I desire what you will still - Chorus

Through depths of pain, griefs, sorrows you did know
Way to forgiveness and new life did show - Chorus

So strengthened there by angel, garden prayer
Nothing did halt you, you our sins did bear - Chorus

Onwards to cross, you gave your life for all
That all may be saved, whome'er on you do call - Chorus

Cross not the end, for glorious you did rise
You in our hearts, even though you fill all skies - Chorus

Grant us our cross to here daily uptake
Denying self, and living for your sake - Chorus

Heal us and comfort, ever may we see
Cross before crown, working redemptively - Chorus

Resplendent Resurrection

Fits tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

'Alleluia!' is sung after every line

There we on a green hill fair - Alleluia!
We in Christ's passion did share
Walked along the road He trod
Followed Him, the Son of God

We recalled too of His suffering
Which our salvation did bring
Now we share in Easter sure
Christ does live for evermore

Pray for peace of [Jeru]Salem here
Many troubles world does fear
But Christ, Lord, He King of Kings
Let all that has breath, Him sing

Burst the gates, the gates of hell
Deaths' victory gone, we do tell
Christ has dealt with death's sharp sting
Sins forgiven, let praises ring

Shine, arise, the dayspring dawns
Downcast souls no longer mourn
For the light of life is risen
Opened tomb of death's dark prison

Pray for peace in every nation
Joy and hope and true elation
Darkness scattered, love unfeigned

Scars still shown where he was pained

Visitors to garden tomb

Found Him there not, empty room

He the perfect work has done

Resurrected, Holy Son - Alleluia!

Victory Vanguard

Fits tune: Judas Maccabaeus

('Thine be the glory')

Based on John 20 v.1 - 18

Hail, Easter fair morn, resurrection dawn
Mary comes to tomb now, though her heart was torn
Saw the stone was rolled away, the entrance clear
Mighty and mysterious, special events here

Chorus

Angel announces, Jesus is not here
Burst the grave for ever, His victories appear

Peter and John hastened to that tomb too
There to be amazed by wondrous doings new
For they saw tomb empty, Christ He was not there
They would see Him risen, in His glories share - Chorus

Linen clothes lying, burial garments white
Christ had overcome death, turns our dark to light
And Mary too seeking, weeping there distressed
She Jesus' voice recognised, was truly blessed - Chorus

'Twas by her name called, Jesus spoke to her
'Mary' said He to her, then her heart did stir
'Rabboni', 'Master', was her sure reply
Now she knew that Christ would never, never die - Chorus

So she instructed by Jesus did go
And to the disciples the glad tidings show
That the Lord she had seen, He was risen indeed
Great comforts, Good Shepherd, He would still them feed - Chorus

Risen Recognition

Fits tune: Salzburg

(One tune to 'At the Lamb's high feast we sing')

Based on part of Luke 24 v.13 - 35

Travelling to Emmaus, two
Disciples, Jesus they knew
Not then there at the first sight
Of Him, later dawned their light
When He did bread with them brake
They then knew Him, did partake
In the joyous good news sure
Christ arisen evermore

They did say how hearts did burn
When they on the road did turn
To behold Christ, He drew near
Comforted them, removed fear
Explained how Scriptures fulfilled
How He did all that God willed
Be not slow of heart, believe
He the Lord, this truth receive

Said He that through suffering
He would go, ordained each thing
And so enter His glory
Exalted, each eye shall see
Him arisen from the dead
Met disciples, still broke bread
Refreshed souls, no more downcast
His eternal victories last

Disciples they then returned
For by faith they had discerned

That the risen Christ they saw
Shared among the others sure
Who were in Jerusalem
Of this news, this precious gem
That the Lord had risen indeed
Left them not bereft, bereaved

Appearance Alightings

Fits tune: Lancashire

('The day of Resurrection')

Based on Luke 24 v.36 - 53

Jesus appears, Jerusalem
Reveals Himself to them
Disciples there, He risen
His peace to them is given
But they thought a ghost they saw
Yet it was true and sure
That it was Christ the risen Lord
The one eternal Word

And gracious invitation now
For them to touch, see how
He was no ghost, but flesh had
And bones, He made them glad
Then while they wondered, amazed
Jesus a question raised
Have you here food I may eat?
They did His presence greet

Then He did eat some boiled fish
A resurrection dish
And honeycomb, sweet to taste
Lovingly interlaced
For meal in fellowship they shared
Nothing could be compared
To it, for Christ from the dead
Had risen, their living Head

Was all done Scriptures to fulfil
Whether seemed good or ill

That Christ should suffer, rise again
On the third day there then
And that repentance, remission
Of sins be preached, be done
Preached in His name through all nations
By His redeemed ones

This at Jerusalem would start
For Christ He would impart
His Holy Spirit, them empower
To meet needs of each hour
And so they witnesses, and we
By faith Him do we see
So going forth to evangel
We good news all folk tell

Blessed Believers

Fits tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Based on John 20 v.24 - 31

The disciples they witnessed bold
And unto Thomas told
That they the risen Lord had seen
He with them He had been

But then the doubt, for Thomas he
That time Christ did not see
And said, I must view hands and feet
And Christ myself must greet

For he desired to see Christ's hands
Scarred, to redeem all lands
And too His feet, the nails print
Then I be sure, no hint

No hint, but for self I shall see
That He risen Christ be
And put my hand too in His side
Pierced, then I shall confide

Shall confide in Him, not before
I see His presence sure
Then Jesus comes again, appears
peace, quietens their fears

And says to Thomas, see and touch
Me, for 'tis I, 'twas such
That Thomas then he did confess
My Lord, my God, you bless

Yet Jesus says to Thomas then
Have you believed me when
You saw me here in person sure?
But there are blessings more

For blessed are they who have not seen
Him, yet in faith have been
Assured of Him, for they believe
And Christ arisen receive

Kingship Knowings

Fits tune: Anima Christi

('Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast')

Based on Psalm 2

Why do the heathen rage, and the people
Imagine a vain thing, their end they fall
Kings of the earth together they have set
Themselves against the Lord, with rulers met

And against His anointed, Christ the Son
Saying, Let us break their bands off, each one
And cast away cords that do bind us strong
He that sits in the heavens laughs along

For He the Lord shall in derision put
Them, and shall speak to them, dislodge the foot
Of those that plot and scheme against Him sore
In His displeasure He shall vex them sure

Yet have I set my king upon my hill
My holy hill of Zion remains still
The decree of the Lord I will declare
And with all peoples with them I will share

This the decree, the Lord said unto me
You are my Son, today begotten be
Ask of me the Lord, to you I shall give
Heathen for inheritance, they shall live

And too the uttermost parts of earth, for
Your possession I shall give evermore
Them you shall break with rod of iron strong
Dash like potter's vessel, shatter the throng

Be wise now therefore, O you kings, now learn
Be instructed, and judges to Him turn
Serve the Lord with fear, before Him rejoice
Trembling with holy awe, listen to His voice

Come, kiss the Son, come in communion sweet
Lest he be angry, worship at His feet
And lest you perish when His wrath kindled
yet blessed those who trust Him, them He has called

Justice Judgements 2

Fits tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's Anointed')

Based on part of Psalm 7

In you Lord I put my trust
Who am but small and dust
But save me in your mercy
My persecutors see
Deliver me, lest trouble
Overtake me and be
Like lion that my soul tears
Conscienceless without cares

I ask not if me guilty
My soul to here set free
Yet search me, come forgive me
My heart, my mind, you see
Arise Lord, in your anger
Your righteous wrath do stir
For you shall judge us truly
Your favour shall we see

O let the wicked deeds end
The dove of peace now send
And the just, right, establish
Fulfil their goodly wish
For you the righteous God try
The hearts, there stands no lie
Before you, for you view all
Reins, conscience of great, small

And so your judgements righteous
You do perform, though bless

The upright, those who seek you
Come to them as blessed dew
But daily you are angry
With the wicked, they be
Unable to escape, for
He sees all their deeds sure

But hope is if they then turn
And from Him they shall learn
Though if continue sinful
They under wrath dreadful
Yet love, mercy avails still
If they repent, they will
Share in His whole salvation
Christ's redeeming work done

As for me I shall Him praise
His name extol and raise
Shall praise Him, He is righteous
My heart and voice confess
He Lord of all the nations
Though all evil He shuns
He shall come to us, help us
Great God, you shall us bless

Prayer Streams

Fits tune: Canonbury

(one tune to 'New every morning is the love')

Some song I shall to my God sing
And from my heart, life, praises ring
He Lord of all, to Him I bring
Body, soul, spirit, everything

Forgive where self put first, no care
And where conditions may impair
Me your voice hearing, may I turn
Afresh to you, and of you learn

If heavy or afflicted be
Help me your timing for to see
Bring healing, comfort, be my guide
Holy Spirit in m reside

And flow out as a watering stream
Sharing the light of your bright beam
To share with others, evangel
Your goodness and your wonders tell

Stream of waters as rivers pure
And stream of consciousness, though poor
At times my be my love, desire
Come light a flame in me of holy fire

Then praises worthy, [you I] worship here
Recognising your presence near
Around, within me, guard from sin
That I thus be cleansed, whole within

Worthy Waiting

Fits tune: Tyrol

('The wise may bring their learning')

Based on Psalm 62

Truly my soul upon God waits
He does see my estates
From Him comes my salvation
Open to each nation
He only is my rock, defence
My salvation from hence
I shall not so be greatly moved
He has of me approved

How long foes, you imagine
Mischief against each one?
You shall be slain, yes all of you
As wall, fence, that falls true
They plot and plan to good o'erthrow
Sincerity not know
Delighting in their lies, they proud
Bless, though inward curse loud

My soul, only upon God wait
he will aid, not be late
From Him my expectation is
My rock, salvation, this
My defence strong, moved not am I
To you I refuge fly
God of my salvation, my rock
My glory, though foes mock

Trust in Him at all times, trust sure
Pour out your heart before

Him, for God is our refuge strong
Hold to Him all life long
Surely men of low degree [are] vain
And so too it is plain
That men of high degree a lie
Are, we cannot deny

Trust not in oppression, now cease
'Tis not the way of peace
Become not vain in robbery
Set not on riches, see
That God has spoken, and I heard
Power is His, His word
He has declared, and too mercy
Just to each one He be

Light Liberty

Fits tune: Chalfont Park

(one tune to 'Eternal Light! Eternal Light!')

Based on 1 John 1 v.4 - 10

For I am with you, says the Lord
Go forth now, hear my word
Follow in each my steps each day
For I the Life, the Truth, the Way
Continue, watch and pray

This be the message John declared
He with all peoples shared
That God is light, in Him no dar
Is found at all, unto Him hark
And His words truly mark

If we say we have fellowship
With Him, so say our lips
But if we walk in darkness we
Do lie, do not His true light see
Nor comforts to us be

But if we in the light do walk
In all our deeds and talk
Walk in the light, as Christ does sure
So His blood cleanses us e'ermore
Redeems us, makes us pure

If we say we do have no sin
We deceive selves within
And the truth is not in us, so
Forgiveness then we shall not know
Blocked is the healing flow

The flow of Christ's blood, to us made
For He our debt has paid
If confessing to Him our sins
He that forgiveness, cleansing brings
Our soul to Him then sings

For faithful He is to forgive
To cleanse from sins, we live
And wash away unrighteousness
Thus with His grace He will us bless
As we our sins confess

We cannot hope another way
To find that light of day
If we do say we have sinned not
We retain then, unhappy lot
Our sin's stain like dark blot

Mercy Missioners

Fits tune: Little Cornard
('Hills of the north rejoice')

Christ lives, He dies no more
He has opened the door
Door to eternal life
Not our own efforts, strife
Be quick to hear, respond today
While still 'tis time, still mercy's day

Pray, watch, your servants here
Faithful with godly fear
Sure resurrection hope
In hearts, not downcast, mope
But trust in His almighty hand
He Lord of life o'er every land

This life eternal is
To know you Lord, true bliss
Know you the one God true
And Christ your one Son too
For you Father your Son have sent
Saviour on earth, He walked, He went

Went among poor and meek
Longing lost sheep to seek
That they come to His fold
Man, woman, child, young, old
For all you call inclusively
And yet your way exclusively

For there no other way
We can come, for you say

You Christ, the way, the light
The truth, the life, e'er bright
Bring light, we pray, where hearts dark are
Shine luminous beams, fine day-star

Look on this world troubled
Where peace, mercy is stalled
Return us to first-love
O Spirit, holy dove
Peace desires you in us inspire
Grant peace world o'er, like holy fire

Saviour Sightings

Fits tune: Noel Nouvelet

('Now the green blade riseth')

Matthew 28 v.1 - 10

Christ arose at Easter, resurrection power
Now He lives for ever, each day and hour
On Easter morn a great earthquake did rend
The land, when women came gently tomb to tend

Rolled away the stone was, tomb entrance open
They did see an angel sitting in tomb then
Then shone his countenance like lightning bright
Raiment white as snow, gleaming, awesome sight

Then for fear of angel, keepers there did shake
And an appearance as dead men did make
Angel then answered to women, 'Fear not'
I good news for you have, this your happy lot

I know you seek Jesus, who was crucified
He is not here, see the place when He died
Where they laid Him, now go quickly and tell
His disciples He has fulfilled all things well

Yes, go tell that He is risen from the dead
Goes before to Galilee, your living Head
There shall you see Him, truth, it is no lie
You shall see the Lord who nevermore shall die

Thus they went so quickly, with fear and joy great
Told disciples good news, they were not late
Then on the road Jesus met them, 'All hail'
Tell friends meet me at Galilee without fail

Confident Communings

Fits tune: Salzburg

('At the Lamb's high feast we sing')

Psalm 65 v.1 - 7

In Sion praise waits for you
O God, you the only true
To you shall vows be performed
By you shall our hearts be warmed
O you that hear prayer, to you
Shall all people come, they do
Seek your forgiveness afresh
Their transgressions do confess

You shall hear, you shall forgive
We shall be blessed, we shall live
For blessed are they who you choose
You do keep them, none them lose
By your grace we may approach
To your courts without reproach
And of your goodness shall we
Satisfied in your house be

By terrible, awesome things
You will answer us, so sings
Our souls of your righteousness
And salvation, us you bless
You the confidence of all
The ends of the earth, they call
Upon you, and all afar
On the sea, none do you bar

You by your strength do set fast
The mountains, they ever last

Girded with power is He
Who does still noise of the seas
Makes the noise of waves to cease
Brings in quietness and peace
And tumults of peoples halts
He all-perfect with no faults

Endeavouring Evangelists

Fits tune of same hymn name:

'I clasp the hand of love divine'

On in Christ's way, the light of day
I go with His presence always
His Spirit promised for each our
Enduing me with power

Chorus

Come, Holy Spirit, aid
Me, Christ the price has paid
For me, and you the Comforter
Are sent now from Him sure

Where love goes dim, inspire me, do
With love for you, and Christ anew
And for the Father, God of all
He hears who on Him call - Chorus

Spontaneous, and yet the stream
Of consciousness with good its theme
Meditates now a while on you
Only good, only true - Chorus

Forgive where desires turn faint, low
Wind, breath of your Spirit, do blow
As days of old Ezekiel
Strong army you did call - Chorus

Taking our part now by your grace
Love, mercy, truth, all interlace
We all a part, Christ's body we
His church, His people be - Chorus

Spirit inspire strong confidence
That we may rise and go forth hence
Not in our strength, but by your hand (Spirit)
Evangel each land - Chorus

For that the final witness be
When gospel preached to each land, see
To give all opportunity
To be saved, redeemed, free - Chorus

The Christ shall be seen to reign o'er
All heaven and earth for evermore
Kingdom of love, peace, joy shall be
E'en for eternity - Chorus

Repentant Returnings

Fits tune: Ellers

('Saviour again to thy dear name we raise')

Based on 2 Chronicles 7 v.14 - 15

Come to the Lord, your Lord, Him come and seek
Hear His promise now to humble and meek
That if His people, those called by His name
Return unto Him, He will receive, no blame

If they His people humble themselves, do
Turn from pride, vanity, He will renew
If they do pray and seek His face here sure
And turn from wickedness, His grace implore

The will He hear from heaven, His dwelling place
And will forgive their sins, them all efface
And too will heal their land, give blessings fair
Enough for all to partake, have rich share

For says the Lord, my eyes shall open be
And my ears they shall too be opened, see
To regard the prayers made here in this place
In Zion's Temple, here His mercy, grace

Cause us to search our hearts Lord, to you turn
That for you we with holy passion burn
Forgive pride, strife, confusion, vanity
Help us your good will, your wisdom, too see

That one thing sure, the only thing will do
Repenting, turning back to you anew
Though worldly systems plan for lasting peace
'Tis only your peace that shall never cease

Mercy Marvellings

Fits tune: Louvan

(one tune to 'Lord of all being, throned afar')

Psalm 57

1. Unto me, O God, be merciful

For my soul it trusts in you all

And in the shadow of your wings

I will hide myself, my soul sings

2. Will hide me until troubles pass

Will cry to you, whose mercies last

You who for me all things perform

Shelter me from the raging storm

3. He shall save me from reproach

Of those that against me encroach

God shall send forth His mercy and truth

Keep me in His shadow, His booth

4. My soul among lions it is

And I amongst men, such as this

They who are set on fire to do

Evil, their deeds, words, against you

5. Be you exalted, O God high

Above the heavens and the sky

And your glory so let it be

Above all the earth, bold and free

6. They for me have prepared a net

But I fall in it not as yet

Though my soul bowed down heavily

And they do dig a pit for me

7. But, behold, that same pit have they
Fallen into it, their own way
Returned upon their heads, for you
O Lord do save me, me renew

8. My heart, O God, is on you fixed
I shall have no allegiance mixed
For on you I shall ever stay
Singing and praising you alway

9. Awake my tongue, and psaltery
Harp shall play too, all skilfully
I will praise you 'midst nations sure
For your mercy great evermore

10. And too your truth, great to the clouds
Not covered now by any shrouds
Above the heavens be exalted
Above the earth your glory's stead*

* stead = placing, dwelling

Comfort Consolings

Fits tune and hymn name: 'All For Jesus'

John Chapter 14 part

If you love me, my commands keep
Jesus said unto His sheep
Those who do take Him as Saviour
Do hearts to obey Him stir

For Christ would pray to the Father
For another Comforter
That He may abide thus ever
With us, and leave us never

Even the Spirit of truth, He
Whom the world cannot receive
Because it does not see Him here
Nor knows Him, His presence dear

But His people, we Him do know
For he dwells with us, 'tis so
And is in us, we His temples
He inhabits humble souls

Comfortless He does not leave us
Comes to us, and does us bless
Comforter, the Spirit Holy
He will our strength, solace be

The Father sends Him in Christ's name
He shall teach us all things, same
As what Christ has taught us truly
He shall help us, show us, He

And too bring things to remembrance
Quicken and inspire each sense
All things whatsoever Christ said
Leads us to our risen Head

Evening Exhortations

Fits tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn

('All praise to Thee, my God, this night')

Psalm 4

Hear me, O God, now when I call
You God of my righteousness all
When in distress me you enlarged
My prayer to you you have not barred

You sons of men, turn not for me
My glory, that it then shame be
And how long will you here vainly
Live, and seek stealing, cease, my plea

But know you that the Lord has set
Apart for Himself, even yet
The godly, they shall be His choice
Will call on Him, in Him rejoice

Stand in awe, sin not, here commune
With your heart on your bed, some tune
To praise your Lord, and then be still
He will guard you from all evil

Offer Him righteous sacrifice
And trust in Him, He will suffice
Many say, 'Who us good will show'?
Lord, lighten them, that they may know

May know when you, your countenance
Lifted upon them, they you sense
Gladness you have put in my heart
A well-spring that shall not depart

More gladness than in harvest time
When in the course of life's year's rhyme
The corn and wine it does increase
Thus you provide and give us peace

For in peace I will lay me down
And sleep, fearing not my foes frown
For you Lord, you alone, do make
Me to dwell safely for your sake

Peace Prayer

Fits tune: St Catherine [Walton]

(one tune to 'Jesus, Thy boundless love to me')

Psalm 72 part

Note: 'He' or 'he/him' refers originally to King Solomon, and ultimately to Jesus' title of King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The last line of each verse may be repeated in some tune settings.

Give your judgements, O God, we pray
To Kings, Queens, Governments alway
That they shall judge with righteousness
Look on them, do graciously bless
And too that they with poor shall deal
With mercy, judgement, for their weal (well-being)

He shall judge the poor people
Banish oppressors, those who steal
The children of the needy save
Restoring blessings that He gave
Before their persecutors there
Took away their rightful share

But he shall all oppressors break
What in they trusted, he shall take
So godly rule, authority
Shall then be seen, fair justice be
And they shall fear you, e'er as long
As sun and noon endure so strong

He shall come down then like the rain
Upon mown grass, and graces gain
As showers that water the earth
He will provide, there be no dearth

His dominion from sea to sea
No place where his rule shall not be

His name it shall continue for e'er
Continue long as sun is there
All nations shall be in him blessed
In him shall find comfort and rest
'Tis God alone works wondrous things
So all creation to Him sings

Lament Learnings

Fits tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Lamentations Chapter 5 v.15 - 22 and Chapter 3 v.22 - 26

1. Joy of our heart has ceased
Our mourning has increased
The crown from our heads has fallen
We turn from sins again

2. Turn back to the Lord, for
Our heart is faint, we poor
And eyes are dim from weeping sore
Leave us not evermore

3. The mount Zion barren
Desolate, foxes den
You Lord for ever do remain
You rule o'er all unfeign[ed]

4. Why do you us forget
Forsake us long time, yet
Turn unto us, O Lord, and we
Shall be turned, and you see

5. Renew our days as when
Olden days blessings then
But all rejected here we seem
Devoid of your lights' beam

6. Very wroth sure you are
Against us, removed far
Your presence, yet still do we say
Come restore us we pray

7. It is because of this
The LORD's mercies, sole His
That we are not consumed away
Nor vanish from the day

8. Because His compassions
Fail not, He shows to ones
As us, for each morning they new
Are, great faithfulness too

9. The Lord is my portion
Says my soul, He has done
Righteous judgements, for He is good
I shall hope as I should

10. Shall hope in Him, quiet wait
For His salvation, state*
That it is good that one does bear
The yoke in youth, it share

(*state = in the sense of 'say' or 'mention')

Portion Possession

Fits tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Psalm 73 v.23 - 28

I, O Lord, am always with you
You do guide me, and me do renew
By my right hand you hold me sure
I rejoice in you evermore

You shall me with your counsel guide
It from me you shall never hide
And afterwards shall me receive
To glory, blessings, I believe

Whom have I in heaven but you?
The only God and only true
And there is none on earth beside
That I desire, in you I confide

My flesh and heart fail do they
But God my strength, to Him I pray
The strength of my heart, portion here
I worship Him with godly fear

My portion for ever is He
Those far from Him, they shall not be
Among the saved, but perish they
But you me protect every day

It is good for me to draw near
To God, and find His presence here
For I have put my in God my Lord
My trust, declared His works assured

Holy Helpings

Fits tune: Christchurch [Steggall]

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 86 v.1 - 10

1. Bow down, O LORD, your ear
Receive your servant dear
For poor and needy I
To you for refuge fly
Preserve my soul, I to you pray
For I am holy, this I say

2. You my God surely are
You hear me from afar
And too when I am near
And feel your presence here
Save your servant, I trust in you
Come help me with your graces true

3. Be merciful to me
And my afflictions see
Return unto my soul
Grant me joy, make me whole
For to you my soul I uplift
Let not evil me shake and sift

4. For you, O Lord, are good
I worship as I should
For you shall come, forgive
In your sight I shall live
Plenteous in mercy you are
To who call on you, morning-star

5. Give ear, Lord, to my prayer

I trust that you are there
And to my voice attend
Supplications I send
Unto your throne of grace, you will
in my troubles answer me still

6. Among the gods there be
None other like you, we
Confess you Lord of all
Hear those who on you call
Nor any works are like to yours
Your creation it you adores

7. All nations who you made
Redemption price you paid
For them, they shall come to
You, and shall worship you
And too your name shall glorify
Almighty God, who ne'er shall die

8. For you, O Lord, are great
Majestic your estate
And you do wondrous things
Your people to you sings
For you, O God, are God alone
The earth and heavens are your own

Vengeance Vindications

Fits tune: Eine Fest Burg

('A mighty fortress is our God')

Psalm 94

1. O LORD God, vengeance it is yours

Show yourself, our hearts assure

Lift up yourself, judge of the earth

Render reward to proud, their worth

O Lord, how long shall be

That wicked triumph, see

How long they speak hard things

And not you glory bring

Nor praises to you they sing?

2. How long they boast them in their deeds

They break in pieces, nor not heed

Your words and ways shown to them there

Your heritage they not share

They slay widow, stranger

Murder orphans, not care

Yet they say the Lord He

Shall not regard, not see

In oppressive state are we

3. Understand this, you brutish ones

You fools, when be you wise once

God that planted the ear, he hears

He that formed the eye, appears

And sees, chastises just

For righteous judgement must

Be done, He shall correct

And protect His elect

Act, bring all to good effect

4. The Lord the thoughts of man does know
That they are only vain show
Blessed are those who He does chasten
Discipline, it shall hasten
To turn them back humbly
To Him, and it shall be
That He shall teach them sure
E'en from His holy law
Give them rest from their troubles sore

5. For the LORD will not forsake
His people, them to Him will take
And righteous judgement shall be seen
Where wicked actions, words, [had] been
Who will for me arise
Against evil and lies?
Who will stand up for me
Against wrong-doers, se
The Lord seeks such, who shall be?

6. Unless the Lord my help had been
My soul near-silence would glean
When I said, My foot slips, then you
O LORD, held me up, 'tis true
And in my many thoughts
Your comforts [to] me are brought
For they delight my soul
And they shall make me whole
Your great name I shall extol

7. Shall throne of iniquity
Have fellowship with you, be
Side by side with you, and abide?
No, it cannot there reside
For you are our defence

Lord God, help us now hence
You my rock, my refuge
[I am] Safe from evil deluge
God of righteous vengeance, you

Five Favoured

Fits tune: Wareham

(one tune to 'Jesus where'er thy people meet')

Part of 1 Corinthians Chapter 14

Just five plain words now do say I
For they be sure to edify
More than ten thousand in tongues when
I speak, unless interpreter then

For Lord, when your people do meet
We in your name each other greet
With gifts shared, psalms, and doctrines too
And revelations shown anew

Tongues there are too, and so the need
For interpretation, to feed
People of God gathered in one
Worshipping God and Christ His Son

His Spirit lives in us, within
Our hearts, and draws us from our sin
For holy He, His love and power
Strengthens and sanctifies each hour

For all may prophesy, and speak
Submit to each other, be meek
Learn, grow, abide in Christ the vine
So fruit produced, pleasant and fine

"Jesus is Saviour, Lord of all"
Here five, six words, any may call
Upon Him today, He saves alway
'Til dawning of eternal day

Little Life

Fits tune: Living Lord

('Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us')

Psalm 39

I said, I will
Take heed to my ways
That my tongue not sin
All my days
I will my mouth with bridle keep
While wicked are now before me
I too dumb with a silence was
Help, me see

I held my peace
Even from the good
My sorrow was stirred
Good I should
Have done, and not held back from it
My heart was hot in me, it burned
Then I did speak out with my tongue
Thus I turned

I said, Lord me
Make me know my end
Measure of my days
Wisdom send
Show me my frailty, briefest days
As a hand-breath they are, a span
My age nothing before you is
You know man[kind]

Truly each one
At best state is vain

Walks in vain show does
All again
Gathering riches quick they do
Knowing not who after them be
To take their place, their goods to gain
They not see

Hear Lord, my prayer
Give ear to my cry
Look, view now my tears
Be you nigh
O spare me, grant me now your strength
I trust you do me good, me keep
Before this brief life ends, do so
Guard your sheep

Worship Wholesomeness

Fits tune: Culbach

(one tune to 'Songs of praise the angels sang')

Psalm 96

1. Sing to the LORD a new song

Sing it loud and sing it long

All the earth join in the praise

And His wondrous name up raise

2. Sing to the LORD, His name bless

And His saving deeds confess

Show forth His salvation sure

Day to day for evermore

3. Among the heathen declare

His glory, for He is there

Among all people now tell

His wonders, all things done well

4. For the LORD high, great He is

Greatly to be praised, 'tis bliss

To Him praise above, and fear

Him above all gods, He near

5. The gods of the nations be

Nothing but idolatry

But the LORD the heavens made

And our redemption price paid

6. Before Him there be honour

Majesty on Him confer

Strength and beauty there they be

Where He dwells, His sanctuary

7. Give unto the LORD glory
And strength, all you people see
That He worthy, this His due
To receive glory from you

8. Bring an offering, and come
To His courts, contribute some
Words, deeds, praises, thankfully
The great God of all He be

9. Worship the LORD in beauty
Of holiness, pure and free
All the earth before Him fear
Respecting His presence here

10. Say among the heathen, say
The LORD reigns, eternal day
he bring in judgement true
And in righteousness renew

11. The world stablished it shall be
Not be moved, be strong and free
Let the heavens and earth be glad
No more downcast, no more sad

12. Let the sea too, fields rejoice
And extol Him with one voice
Righteously He shall judge all
And with truth, we shall not fall

Vials Vicissitudes*

* Vicissitudes - changes of circumstances,
especially of conditions or fortunes.

Fits tune: Es Ist Ein Ros = Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

('A great and mighty wonder')

Part of Revelation Chapter 16

1. A great voice from the Temple

God did His angels call

To pour out vials of wrath sure

His judgements, right and pure

Chorus

Seven angels mission

Obeying the holy one

Father, Spirit, and Son

2. First vial upon the earth poured

Caused noisome, grievous sore

On those who had mark of beast

Worshippers, great and least - Chorus

3. Second angel poured on sea

Sea became as blood, see

As the blood of a dead man

All died, none lived, could, can - Chorus

4. Third angel reached the rivers

Fountains, floods, and waters

They too turned into blood red

Undrinkable, quite dead - Chorus

5. Fourth angel turned to the sun

It burnt, scorched, every one

But they changed not, no repent
Blasphemed Him, no relent - Chorus

6. Fifth angel to the beast's seat sent
To beast's kingdom he went
Kingdom then turned to darkness
Pain, torment, godlessness - Chorus

7. Sixth angel to Euphrates
Great river, dried, for this
To prepare God's great battle
His battle called, final - Chorus

8. Seventh angel poured in air
Hearken, great noise from there
Saying, 'It is done', so be
Awesome sighs now to see - Chorus

9. Voices, thunders and lightnings
Great earthquake 'midst all things
Babylon, city evil
Drinks God's fierce wrath, does fall - Chorus

Comforting Consolations

Fits tune: Angel Voices

('Angel voices ever singing')

Parts of Isaiah Chapter 40

1. Behold the LORD comes with strong hand
To defend His land
His strong hand, His arm o'er ruling
Over everything
Behold His reward is with Him is
You shall see this
It be bliss

2. And His work before Him it be
He good shepherd, see
He shall with His arm gather then
It shall be so when
And shall carry lambs to Him close
With gentle pose
Each He knows

3. He shall not o'er stretch or them strain
Nor cause grief or pain
But to each one shall with care tend
Not spoil, break, or rend
All nations before Him as nought
Us He has sought
Us has bought

4. For see nations, as a drop be
In a bucket, see
And they so inconsequential
Compared unto all
That he Lord is, he Almighty

Ever holy
Great and free

5. Yes, the nations small counted are
God greater by far
They the small dust of the balance
Which the scales do sense
To God the isles be as little
Frail and brittle
Vain them all

6. He the Lord, the great Creator
Does His power stir
Never faints, is never weary
Unsearchable be
Limits of His understanding
Yet we Him sing
Worship bring

7. To the faint He does give power
Sustains every hour
To those with no might He gives strength
Empowers at length
Even youths shall be faint, weary
Tired and dreary
Their state be

8. But they that upon the LORD wait
They shall be helped great
Their strength shall renew, they mount shall
On eagles wings well
They shall not be weary, but run
Walk, all be done
Through God's Son

Poems From Formal Prayers Series - 1

Fits tune; Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Almighty God, you give us grace
Humbly to seek you, seek your face
With one accord our prayers we make
O hear us for your dear Son's sake

Your promise is when two or three
Are gathered in your name, you be
There in the midst, will grant requests
As is your will, as you see best

Fulfil now , O Lord, the desires
And petitions from your inspires (inspirings)
Of your servants, expedient
As shall most be, most provident

Grant us in this world the knowledge
Of your truth, it to us full fledge
It reveal to us, it us bring
And lead us to life e'erlasting

Judgement Joyfulness

Fits tune: Lyngham

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Note: this is the tune that has the 'repeats' or 'extensions'
on some of the lines.

Psalm 98

1. O sing unto the LORD a song

If old, new, short, or long *(repeat second line of each verse once)*

For He has done marvellous things

Creation to Him sings *(repeat last line of each verse twice)*

2. His right hand, and His holy arm

Has brought victory, balm

The LORD His salvation made known

He all the world has shown

3. His righteousness displayed openly

To all heathen, they see

He has remembered His truth, mercy

To His people it be

4. And all the ends of the earth have seen

God's salvation, not mean

But extending to all the world

His love's banner unfurled

5. Unto the LORD make a joyful noise

Men, women, girls, and boys

Make a loud noise, noise to be heard

To Christ, th' eternal Word

6. Rejoice, sing praises, loud outburst

For redeemed now, not cursed

Are we, for Christ took penalty
That should by due ours be

7. Sing to the Lord with harp and psalm
He brings to lives His calm
With trumpets, cornets, joyful extol
The LORD, King over all

8. Let the sea roar, and all therein
The world and all within
Let the floods their hands clap, be glad
No more now mourn or sad

9. Let the hills be joyful, as one
Before the LORD, for none
Shall stop His judgement of the earth
He shall judge with true worth

10. For He does come, He shall return
And all nations shall learn
That He shall judge with righteousness
And with equity bless

Choosing Considerations

Fits tune: Mozart

(one tune to: 'Your hands, O Lord, in days of old')

For St Matthias Day (May 14th)

Part of Acts Chapter 1

In early days believers met
New apostle to get
To appoint one in Judas' place
When sad he fell from grace
Yet in a mystery prophesied
By psalmists, they not lied
Spoken, 'May his house be empty
No one live in it', see

Also 'May someone his place take'
Again group of twelve make
Someone needed to join the band
To evangel each land
Such a one should a witness be
Who did Christ's rising see
His resurrection from the dead
He now our living Head

Must be one from the group chosen
Who with the others when
The Lord Jesus with them travelled
Not one who left or stalled
But one who stayed for all the time
Throughout the Lord's life-rhyme
Beginning from when John baptised
'Til Christ's ascent apprised*

Joseph, Matthias, were proposed

Yet not idly supposed
But prayer was made, the Lord to ask
Who should fulfil the task
To take the place of Judas now
They prayed the Lord, show how
If either of the two should be
To join the company

Method of the lot was used
Not 'lucky dip' abused
But choice was made there after prayer
Which one should with them share
And so Matthias, chosen he
Apostle for to be
Yet all in Christ do have a place
Joseph too, every race

(*apprised - given notice of, informed)

Kingdom Kindlings

Fits tune: Ach Gott Und Herr (= O God and Lord)

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Based on a Formal Prayer

Goodness' fountain, God Almighty

Look on our nation, do see

Kings, Queens, Governments, our plea

[That] They lowly, penitent be

This our prayer that they may order

According to your will sure

All things in righteousness and peace

Enhance your kingdom, uncease (unceasingly)

And too in wisdom, equity

That your fair judgement we see

All to the honour of your name

Lord, who remains e'er the same

For the good too of your church here

Your saving mercies appear

And for people of every race

Comfort them by your true grace

Lord our petitions now do hear

We ask all with godly fear

And in the name of Christ your Son

Who saves, He the only one

Deliverance Desirings

Fits tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 74 v.12 - 23

1. For God of old, He is my King
To Him let praises ring
He works salvation in the earth
Brings people to new birth

2. The sea He divided it strong
The people passed along
Through on dry land to safety brought
For God His people sought

3. The day is yours, night is your too
You prepare light, sun, new
That it shine bright with glorious ray
Enlightening our way

4. You have set all borders of earth
Given each land its worth
Summer, Winter, Autumn you make
And neither Spring forsake

5. Remember Lord, the enemy
Has reproached you, here see
And that foolish ones have blasphemed
Have not your name esteemed

6. O deliver me not, my soul
To them, but make me whole
For I am as your turtle-dove
The focus of your love

7. Forget not Lord, here be the poor
Needing strong help for sure
Have respect to your covenant
Evil does not relent

8. Dark places of the earth contain
Dwellings of cruelty, pain
O let not oppressed be ashamed
Nor be their name defamed

9. Let the poor and needy you praise
And thanks to you upraise
Arise, O God, plead your own cause
Bring peace to tumults, wars

10. Forget not the foolish reproach
Of wicked who encroach
Nor forget voice of enemies
You who all good, evil, sees

Poems From Formal Prayers Series - 2

Fits tune: Old 100th

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Heavenly Father, you promised
Through your Son Jesus to assist
Us, that when we meet in His name
You will come to us. you the same

The same Lord, who will, if we pray
According to His mind always
Be among us, and our prayers hear
Offered humbly with godly fear

In you love and wisdom fulfil
Our desires, and keep us from ill
God, us your greatest gift bestow
Which is you and your Son to know

Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord e'er
Who is alive, does your reign share
With the Holy Spirit, God one
E'en while eternal ages run

Trust Through Trials

Fits tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 56

To me, God, be merciful
To you I on you call
For man would seek to swallow
Me up, and bring me low
He fights against me daily
Look on me, and me see
My oppressors, my many foes
All of them the Lord knows

What time I am here afraid
I will trust in you, staid
In God I will His word praise
He will help me, me raise
I will not fear what man can do
To me, for I trust you
Though each day my words they wrest
Yet I in you am blest

Their thoughts to me are evil
They wish me wrong, ill-will
Gather themselves together
I at end of tether
Be so, humanly speaking
But you my needs I bring
They shall not escape by their sin
For they shall fall therein

You know my wanderings here
You see my every tear

When I unto you do call
My enemies, they all
Shall turn back, for this I know
God is for me, will show
His help, His power, meet my needs
I His sheep, He me feeds

For my soul you have tended
Your mercies did you send
To deliver me from death
You renewed me, gave breath
That I not fall, be overcome
For you victory have won
Have saved me, I again walk
In your light, of you talk

Grieving?

I cannot say 'Rest in peace' poor cat
As I don't know the situation
Tending, caring for a neighbour's cat
We semi-adopted him
Though have had our own cats in the past

Then he became a bit poorly
A bit 'messy' really - you know - the rear end
But only because he had not strength
To get out of his litter tray one night

Then a labour of love trying to clean him up a bit
Messy - but difficult or unpleasant things can be done
If we have to do them - put our mind to them

What to do? We can't pay neighbour's vet bills
Contact the neighbours to come and collect him
So we did

All fine and OK now? But why my weeping?
Well, it seemed harsh to me
Not much thanks from the neighbours
For our looking after their cat
Not that we insisted they should be grateful to us
But the response was 'I thought he was dead'

Then unceremoniously plonked in a cat basket
And whisked off home - harshly, I thought
But what more can we do?
Could enquire of the neighbours of how the cat is now, I suppose

But doubt he can climb fences now
To get back to our garden

I hate myself in a way
As I feared to return the cat to them
But they are the owners
They know the cat stays with us

Happy fireside days
And garden enjoyments in fine weather
Cat was no trouble
We fed him out of our own pockets often
Out of love and care
Though the neighbours brought cat food round
When they went on holidays

I'll say prayers for him
For animals - and for people
I know - it seems wrong
Weeping more for animals or pets
Than we may weep for people
Some of it's sentimental, we know.....

Rogation Monday

Rogation - from 'Rogare - to ask'

One of three days before Ascension Day

Fits tune: Laus Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Matthew 6 v.1 - 15

Take heed, do not alms before men

For that your reward be then

Sound not trumpets as hypocrites

Do, man's praise for them befits

And when you pray be in secret

Not as does the hypocrite

Praying to be seen of men sure

Boasting in man's pride e'ermore

But give, pray, and fast in secret

With hearts, minds, to Father knit

Pray not with vain repetition

Not performance, audition

For the heathen they do think so

When they to times of prayer go

That they be heard for much speaking

Multitudes of words they bring

Be not like to them, the Lord taught

Vain repeatings avail nought

For your Father knows all our needs

Before we ask, He us feeds

So pray as the 'Lord's Prayer' daily

He will look on us and see

Grant petitions, His kingdom come
And His perfect will be done

Rogation Tuesday

The second of three Rogation Days before Ascension Day

Rogation - from rogare - to ask

Fits tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Luke 11 v.5 - 13

Which of you has friend at midnight

Calls at your house, ere dawn's light

Requesting loaves for visitor

That he with them share

Saying, 'Friend, please lend me three loaves'

For our friendship it behoves

You to rise, to give me, I pray

E'en though it not day

Yet response is, 'I cannot rise'

We are sleepy, tired our eyes

But persistence does avail for

He opens the door

Opens door to give him fine fare

To sustain visitor there

And Jesus says, 'Ask you, knock, seek'

Be not timid, weak

For in asking you shall receive

In seeking shall find, believe

In knocking door shall be opened

Good gifts shall God send

Whether bread, fish, or egg request

God shall it to you bequest

And give e'en His Spirit Holy
Ask Him, you shall see

Rogation Wednesday

The third of three Rogation Days before Ascension Day

Rogation - from 'rogare' - to ask

Fits tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Mark 11 v.22 - 26

Have faith in God, did Jesus teach

As we Him do beseech

For truly, whoe'er to mountain say

Be removed, not static stay

Who shall say, 'Be removed, and be

Cast now into the sea'

And shall not doubt within their heart

That mountain shall depart

Be believing, that those things said

We shall have, not misled

But what we say shall come to pass

If we pray, trust, and ask

Therefore Jesus says, 'Whatsoe'er

Things you desire in prayer'

When you pray, believe that you receive'

So given you, no deceive

And when you pray, forgive if you

Have ought 'gainst any, do

Forgive that your Father also

Forgive you, grace bestow

But if you do not here forgive

'Tis a blockage to live

For neither will Father you then
Forgive, He knows all men [mankind]

Ascension Aspirings

Fits tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

'Alleluia! after every line

Eyes aloft now, see the sight (Alleluia!)

Christ ascends the realms of light

Completed work Father gave

All peoples He came to save

Heaven awaits eternal guest

He all-blessing and all-blest

Mighty victor o'er the grave

He the Way to heaven did pave

High-sung praises, angel-throng

Rejoice and join in the song

With us mortals here on earth

Made by Him sons of new birth

Awesome, gravity defied

Disciples on mount espied

Christ up taken in the cloud

Shattered is death's darkened shroud

His the glory, His the power

All worship Him every hour

He the Lamb, the Lion too

Done what none other could do

Promise of the Spirit sent

When Jesus to heaven went

Returned to His throne above

Establishes reign of love

Joys most wondrous, salvation
He achieved for each nation
Grant us grace on earth below
'Til your endless glories show (Alleluia!)

Faith Flowings

Fits tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

O see the Lamb, on Him all my sins laid
For He has suffered and for me price paid
That I be free, unburdened from sin, fear
And truly sense His loving presence near

Comforts He brings, relief from guilt and shame
To all who trust Him, call upon His name
His Spirit given, our old creation done
Born to new life through Him the holy one

Not stain nor spot need hinder nor defile
Forgiveness here, we stay not condemned, vile
But appointed to eternal life we
His graces, mercies, we do know, them see

O wondrous hope of life eternally
Only through Jesus can it ever be
He welcomes all, come to Him, on Him call
You shall be saved through Him, you shall not fall

No accusation of Satan can stand
For we are blest, and in a pleasant land
Christ's blood has power, He died there in my place
He brings redemption unto every race

Let heart be free, mind set to on Christ think
He only is the way to God, the link
Then souls arise, for grace has come to you
Christ ever forms in you His image new

Where dark, downcast, shall not for ever last
For you all your burdens on Him may cast
Then light's-day dawns, of Him your risen King
Well-springs flow out, and praises to Him sing

Poems From Formal Prayers Series - 3

Fits tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Be with us Lord, in prayer
Answer by your grace fair
Direct our way that we attain
Salvation with no feign

That in this life's changes
And too in its chances
Of this mortal life, may we be
Defended by you, see

See our state, Lord, and give
Your help that we may live
Come to us, help us graciously
So we be whole and free

Creation Celebration

Fits tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen [Let Us Delight]

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 104 v.16 - 28

Come let us now give thanks and praise

And some joyful song here up raise

Alleluia, Alleluia!

See all around God's creation

Displayed in beauty, each nation

Praise His glory praise His glory!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The trees of the LORD full of sap

They in hills, valleys, rejoice, clap

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Birds there they make their nests their home

And on hills, rocks, goats, conies* roam

Here great wonders, here great wonders!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The LORD the moon, sun does appoint

Crowning His works does them anoint

Alleluia, Alleluia!

He gives us darkness, time of night

When beasts of forest prowl till light

God does feed them, God does feed them!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The sun arises, beasts to dens

Lay down to sleep, He them defends

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Then man in daytime labour knows

Unto the evening here he shows

So days work done, so days work done!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O Lord, your works, how manifold!
Your love and care to all, young, old
Alleluia, Alleluia!
In wisdom you have made them all
You tend to each, long, short, small, tall
We you honour, we you honour!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The earth full of your riches is
So too the great sea, wherein this
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Things creeping, they innumerable
And small and great beasts wonderful
You have made all, you have made all!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

These all your creatures wait on you
For you to feed them, then renew
Alleluia, Alleluia!
That which you give them they gather
You the all-providing Father
Blessing abound, blessings abound!
Alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia!

*conies - badger-like creatures, but smaller

Prayer, Prosperity, Protection

Fits tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Parts of Psalms 121 - 126

Psalm 122 v.6

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem

God looks to bless, and not condemn

They that do love you, they shall prosper

longing hearts unto God's city stir

Psalm 122 v.7

Peace be within your walls, 'tis God's dwelling

Sing praises to Him, the great King

And in your palaces prosperity

That God's kingdom and reign shall be there

Psalm 121 v.1 - 2

I shall mine eyes lift unto the hills

God's presence my troubled thought stills

From whence comes my help from God above

heaven, earth made, sustains me with His love

Psalm 121 v.5 - 8

The LORD is your keeper day and night

He slumbers not, but in His sight

Does keep you, and He not sleeps, forgetful

But shall protect you in your ways all

Psalm 125 v.1

They that do trust in the LORD, they shall be

Like as mount Zion, steadfast see

Cannot be removed, abides for ever

Shall be cut off from the LORD never

Psalm 126 v.1

When the LORD did our captivity
Turn, we did dream, and we were free
Then we did sing and laugh in fullness
For God had helped us, us did bless

Psalm 126 v.6

So in prayer if going forth weeping
Bearing precious seed, we shall bring
Our sheaves with rejoicing, God shall hear
Answer our petitions, to us draw near

Delightful Dwellings

Fits tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Psalm 84

1. O LORD of hosts, how amiable be
Your dwellings, tabernacles, which we see
My soul longs, yes, and e'en faints for your courts
For us you have us sought

2. My heart and flesh they do now true cry out
For you the living God without a doubt
The sparrow too there she a house has found
Praises to you redound

3. The swallow also has found her a nest
Where she may lay her young, e'en place the best
Even your altars, yours, O LORD of hosts
In you creation boasts

4. Blesséd are they that in your house do dwell
They will be praising you, your goodness tell
Blesséd are they whose strength is all in you
You will help them, renew

5. And blessed too are they who have their hearts set
To know your ways, they shall not fear or fret
Passing through Baca's* valley, sorrows dell
They turn it to a well

6. The rain too fills the pools, waters the land
Provided sure from God and His strong hand
Such who trust in Him go from strength to strength
Prospering through life's length

7. Each one of them before God does appear
In Zion, His city, they love Him dear
O LORD of hosts, my prayer hear, you our shield
To you our praise we yield

8. Look upon us, see your anointed ones
Your children, people, us your daughters, sons
For one day in your courts it better is
Than any other bliss

9. Yes, better than thousand days spent elsewhere
For we in sweet communion with you share
I rather doorkeeper in your house be
Than dwell with wicked, see

10. For you LORD God to us are sun and shield
You will give us grace, glory, free, unstealed**
No good thing to the upright you withhold
We be blessed in your fold

* Baca - a valley of sorrow or weeping
(unsure of origin of the word).

** unstealed is not actually a word,
but I use poetic licence.

Deity Declarations

Fits tune: Ville Du Havre

('When peace like a river')

Psalm 19 v.1 - 5

The heavens the glory of God do declare
And so too the firmament fair
Does show forth His handiwork, His crafts true skilled
All created as He has good willed

Chorus

Day to day (day to day)
Night to night (night to night)
God's works seen, God's works known, praise His name

Day to day utters speech, night to night knowledge
Does show, His works they encourage
There be no speech and there be no language, none
Where their voice is not heard, no, not one - Chorus

Their line is gone out throughout all of the earth
Showing the Creator's great worth
And their words have gone out to the ends of the world
He His works He has shown, them unfurled - Chorus

In the sky He a tabernacle for sun
Has set, gloriously has done
'Tis as a fine bridegroom, graciously prepared
As strong man running race, unimpaired - Chorus

Available Access

Fits tune: Trewen

(one tune to 'A debtor to mercy alone')

Romans 5 v.1 - 9

Being justified by faith, see
We have peace with God, it now be
Possible through Christ, His own Son
He the redemption work has done
And by Christ we have access too
By faith into grace, it is true
This grace wherein we now do stand
Avails to all of every land

And this is not only so, for
We glory in troubles, are sure
That troubles work patience, and too
Patience works experience new
And experience hope does bring
Hope makes not ashamed any thing
Because the love of God is shed
Love of Christ who rose from the dead

This love shed abroad in our hearts
By the Spirit who ne'er departs
He given to us by the Son
He the holy dove, He the one
Who leads us into the truth all
E'en each one that does hear His call
Come fill us, each day, heavenly guest
Live in us, reside, in us rest

For when we were yet without strength
Christ did come to die, and at length

In due time did die for us, give
Himself for us that we may live
We the ungodly far away
From Him, yet He did the price pay
To bring us all back to His fold
And in His strong care gently hold

Here God His love to us commends
A love shown that is without ends
'Tis in this, that Christ came to die
For us, ever truth, is no lie
Much more now, being justified
By His blood we in Him confide
And so from wrath we shall be saved
Through Christ, for He the way has paved

Vials Vicissitudes*

*Vicissitudes - changes of circumstances, especially
of conditions or fortunes

Fits tune: Es Ist Ein Ros = Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

('A great and mighty wonder')

Revelation Chapter 16 part

1. A great voice from the Temple

God did His angels call

To pour out vials of wrath sure

His judgements right and pure

Chorus

Seven angels mission

Obeying the holy one

Father, Spirit, and Son

2. First vial upon the earth poured

Caused noisome, grievous sore

On those who had mark of beast

Worshippers, great and least - Chorus

3. Second angel poured on sea

Sea became as blood, see

As the blood of a dead man

All died, none lived, could, can - Chorus

4. Third angel reached the rivers

Fountains, floods, and waters

They too turned into blood red

Undrinkable, quite dead - Chorus

5. Fourth angel turned to the sun

It burnt, scorched every one

But they changed not, no repent
Blasphemed Him, no relent - Chorus

6. Fifth angel to beast's seat sent
To beast's kingdom he went
Kingdom then turned to darkness
Pain, torment, godlessness - Chorus

7. Sixth angel to Euphrates
Great river, dried, for this
To prepare God's great battle
His battle called, final - Chorus

8. Seventh angel poured in air
Hearken, great voice from there
Saying, 'It is done', so be
Awesome sights now to see - Chorus

9. Voices, thunders and lightnings
Great earthquake 'midst all things
Babylon, city evil
Drinks God's fierce wrath, does fall - Chorus

Resurrection Reassurance

*Fits tune: Gelobt Sei Gott = God be praised
(‘Christ is the King! O friends rejoice’)*

1 Thessalonians 4 v.13 - 18

1. Here be much comfort and hope strong
Resurrection joys all life long
Praise Christ in celebration song
Alleluia! Alleluia! With angel throng

2. For if we believe that He died
And rose again, no one beside
Him our salvation could provide
Alleluia! Alleluia! In Him confide

3. If that our faith, then hope have we
That those asleep in Him we see
When the Lord returns for His own
Alleluia! Alleluia! His mercies shown

4. Those alive then shall not precede
Those now asleep, they shall indeed
Rise first, share in His victory
Alleluia! Alleluia! her glories be

5. For the Lord Himself shall descend
To bring eternal day, no end
His shout, and archangel's voice heard
Alleluia! Alleluia! True is His word

6. And too the trumpet of God sound
At that high day it shall redound
The dead in Christ be first to rise
Alleuia! alleluia! Look to the skies

7. Then we which are alive shall be
Caught up together with them, see
In the clouds gathered, meet Him we
Alleluia! Alleluia! E'er with Him be

8. Bold source of comfort, hope assured
For Christ grace on us has outpoured
Spread forth the word of life and peace
Alleluia! Alleluia! Joys that ne'er cease

Waiting A While

Fits tune: All for Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come confirm us')

Acts 1 v.4 - 8

Wait a while for Spirit's power
To meet needs of every hour
Jesus promised His disciples
And each one to whom He calls

For He taught that John did baptize
From waters folk did arise
Cleansed, forgiven, they repented
He them to new pastures led

But in few days hence they would be
Baptised with the Spirit, see
He would come, and in them reside
Banish human strife and pride

When disciples they did enquire
Lord, is kingdom near or far?
Restoring of Israel's kingdom
When shall be the final sum?

The Lord He did reply, 'tis not
For you to know times, or what
The Father has put in His power
In His times it sure will flower

But for you, power you soon shall
Receive, and go forth and tell
In Jerusalem, Judea
And on to Samaria

On and on the bounds outstretching
Witnesses of me, your king
You shall be to uttermost ends
Of the earth, God's Spirit He sends

Deliverance Declaration

Fits tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, Thine the splendour')

Part of Psalm 30

I will extol you, O LORD, great
You lifted me up, my state
Here my foes rejoice not o'er me
You heard my cry, me did see
And have healed me, raised me up sure
You save my soul evermore

From the grave you have up brought me
Kept me alive, here I be
So sing to the LORD, we shall do
He does save, and does renew
At remembrance of Him holy
Give thanks you saints, His you be

For His anger for a moment
Endures, favour He has sent
In His favour there is life bright
Weeping may endure a night
But joy comes then in the morning
Rise from darkness, to Him sing

Hear, O LORD, have mercy on me
Come to me, my helper be
You for me my mourning have turned
Into dancing, grace unearned
And my sackcloth you discarded
With gladness you me girded

So that then my tongue, my glory

May praise you, your goodness see
And I shall not silent here be
But shall worship strong and free
O LORD my God, everlasting
Thanks for ever I you bring

Righteous Reflections

Fits tune: Rivaulx [Dykes]

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Psalm 37 v.30 - 40

1. Mouth of the righteous, wisdom speaks
Tongue talks of judgement, it they seek
The law of their God in their heart
Their steps shall not slide, not depart

2. Not depart from their Lord, for they
Each day shall always watch and pray
But the righteous, the wicked would
Do them despite, slay if they could

3. The Lord will help the righteous sure
Defend them, come help them, e'ermore
Nor allow good to be condemned
They shall be justified, their end

4. Wait on the Lord, and His way keep
He shall exalt you, you His sheep
And the land inherit you shall
The wicked's fall you shall see, tell

5. Though wicked like a bay tree green
Spreading themselves by yonder stream
Having great power, yet comes their hour
They vanish, but still God our tower

6. Mark well the mature, wholesome ones
And see the upright, they God's sons
With daughters too, their end is peace
God's presence with them without cease

7. But the transgressors they shall be
Destroyed together, you shall see
Their end time come, the be no more
No more to persecute you sore

8. But righteous ones salvation is
Of the LORD, he is their strength, this
Their confidence in troubled days
He shall help, deliver always

9. This their faith, hope, and trust is strong
They will trust to Him all along
In His love He shall come to save
A way through for them He shall pave

Mournful Memories

Fits tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 137

1. By rivers of Babylon, there we sat down
Not joyful, but sad, beneath enemy's frown
Yes, we wept when we Zion's city recalled
Sat grieving, mourning, our faces were appalled

2. We hung up our harps on sad willow's tree
It bowed its poor boughs, no joys would there be
Yet they our captors requested a song bright
E'en though our souls heavy, encased in the night

3. They desired us be so mirthful and free
Sing us Zion's song, that their taunting plea
But how shall we sing the LORD's song in land strange?
Our homeland desolate, out of our sight's range

4. If I forget you, Jerusalem true
Let my hand forget its skills, not renew
If I not remember you, city of God great
Let tongue cleave to my mouth, let that be my fate

5. For I should esteem city of God high
Be it my chief joy, for there God is nigh
Remember, O LORD, our pains, enemies sore
Who would raze Jerusalem e'en to the floor

6. Edom, Babylon, you to be destroyed
With righteous judgements to you we have toyed
Though severe punishments, yet they just and fair
For this your reward be, in it you shall share

7. Happy they shall be, who do take and dash
Your little ones against stones, though seems rash
Yet this your reward, even as you us served
Justly and fairly disaster you deserved

Presiding Presence

Fits tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Psalm 139 v. 14 - 24

1. O sing unto God now a song of praise
With tuneful melodies His name upraise
He Lord of Lords e'en unto endless days
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. I will praise you, for I made fearfully
Am, and too wonderfully made I be
Marvellous your works, O my God, I see
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. These things my soul it does know true, right well
All my substance, my being you did tell
Before my appointed lots they fell
Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. And all my parts, when yet I as unborn
You wrote them in your book, did me adorn
Desiring I never from you be torn
Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. How precious too are your thoughts unto me
O God, how great the sum of them sure be
More than sand's grains if I inventory
Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. When I awake, I still then am with you
You will me help, protect from wicked too
Render to them their recompence, their due
Alleluia! Alleluia!

7. Search me, O God, and here my heart do know
And too my thoughts, if wicked ways do show
Lead me, [in] way everlasting, grace bestow
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Poems From Formal Prayers Series - 4

Fits tune: University

('The Church of God a kingdom is')

Almighty God and eternal
Come help us, lest we fall
Sanctify, govern here our hearts
That we shall not depart

Sanctify too our bodies, souls
And spirits, make us whole
Keep us in the ways of your laws
That your will be our cause

Keep too us here in your commands
The righteous, true demands
That protected by you we be
Forgiven by you, made free

And so we pray you us preserve
That we your strength conserve
To serve you body, spirit, soul
Through Jesus, who saves sole

Thessalonians Testimony

Fits tune: Tallis' Ordinal

("Father of mercies, in thy word")

1 Thessalonians Chapter 1 part

1. Paul to the Thessalonians

Wrote to them, they the ones

Commended for their faith, love, hope

Along their upward slope

2. Their slope in following the Lord

Adhering to his word

Through troubles, opposition too

They held to their Lord true

3. Thus thanks and praises mentioned there

For their work of faith fair

And labour of love, diligent

Patience of hope, content

4. So these things did they witness sure

In Christ their Saviour pure

And in the sight of God, who saw

Their good words, deeds, e'ermore

5. And so the gospel to them came

Its message e'er the same

Came not only in word alone

Its power too was known

6. And too it was shared fervently

With hearts assuredly

Confident made by God's Spirit

Not omitting one whit

7. They turned to God, from idols turned
And from Him they had learned
Of Christ who lived, died, rose again
Saviour now for all men [mankind]

Triumphant Tellings

Fits tune: Nicaea

('Holy, Holy, Holy')

Revelation 11 v.15 - 19

1. Seventh angel sounding

Trumpet blast hailing

Great voices in heaven say

'Tis come, eternal day

For kingdoms of this world

Are become, 'tis unfurled

Kingdoms of our Lord

And His Christ, the Word

2. He shall reign for ever

Ceaselessly, ever

Then twenty four elders

Humble act then them stirs

For they from their seats rise

Worship Him who ne'er dies

Fall on their faces

Offer fair graces

3. Saying, We you thanks give

You who ever live

Lord God the Almighty

Of earth, sky, land, and sea

You are, you were, and too

You are to come, make new

Have your great power took

And us not forsook

4. All power yours by right

You shall reign, grand sight

Though the nations angry were
Time of your wrath you stir
Now there the dead's judgement
Hour has come, no relent
Rewards to all good
Promised as you would

5. Rewards, servants, prophets
All who goldy witness
Saints there too, small and great
Blessed is their estate
And all who your name fear
All who love you sure, dear
But too destruction
[To] Who creation shun

6. For judgements to those who
Despite to earth do
Then Temple of God opened
In heaven, sky did rend
There seen in His Temple
Ark of Cov'nant, awful
Lightnings, thunderings
Earthquake too, storm's wings

Faith For Friends

Fits tune: St Stephen

(One tune to 'In Christ there is no east or west')

We thank you Lord for fellowship
Shown, shared in deed and lip
Help us to love, not take granted
Folk you to us have led

Your love to all, salvation free
This their greatest need be
Whether young, old, whate'er class, creed
Good Shepherd, you them feed

Protect us, keep from harm, from ill
Guide us in your right will
Strengthen each one, their needs daily
Do meet, tend to them, see

Times spent with friends and family
Grant they purposeful be
And that we share
With them Christ true
Draw them nearer to you

And if friendships they be short, long
May they be as a song
Melody sweet, loved ones commend
To you, them blessings send

Bring to salvation whole each one
Redemption work is done
By you, Lord Christ, the Father's Son
You welcome all, bar none

Procession Of His Presence

Fits tune: Monk's Gate

*('He who would valiant be',
sometimes entitled 'Who would true valour see')*

Psalm 68 v.18 - 35 parts

1. You, LORD, ascended high

But still to us nigh

Led captivity captive

Your people, they live

You received gifts for men

E'en for rebellious then

That you might with them dwell

Then they shall fare well

2. Blessed be the Lord who does

Gives benefits [to] us

Daily loads us with grace

His mercies we trace

He God of salvation

E'en our God, each nation

Who shall in Him believe

New life does receive

3. In procession, sure and strong

We praise all day long

Singers, instruments employed

Your presence enjoyed

Timbrels, young, old, girls, boys

Free from all sins alloys

All bless God, mighty throng

Whole congregation

4. 'Midst the tribes is Benjamin

Rulers, princes therein
Judah's council, Zebulun
Naphtali, each one
Sings forth His praises bold
No heart be tepid, cold
For God your strength commands
Guides with His sure hands

5. Sing to God, kingdoms of earth
Give Him His true worth
Praise Him, who rides upon
The heavens, the one
Who mighty voice out sends
Though He to His sheep tends
To Him now strength ascribe
A free-flowing tide

6. His excellency is o'er
Israel evermore
His strength is in the clouds
Praise Him, great, aloud
You, O God, terrible
You do wonders awful
Holy, you strength and power
Your people endower

Praise Privileges

Fits tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 149

1. Praise the LORD, sing Him a new song

The joyful praises now prolong

Praise Him amidst the peoples here

You congregations, worship share

2. Let Israel in Him rejoice

People of Zion, he you choice

He is their King for ages all

And hears those who upon Him call

3. Let them praise His name in the dance

Trusting in Him with np mere chance

Sing praises with timbrel and harp

In pleasant tunes, not forced or sharp

4. For the LORD does pleasure true take

In His people, and He will make

The meek beauteous, the lowly soul

With His salvation make them whole

5. Let [the] saints be joyful in glory

Sing aloud upon their beds free

Let the high praises of God ting

From their pure mouths as they do sing

6. Let a two-edged sword, let it be

In their hand, the word of God, see

For them to vengeance execute

Punish those who them persecute

7. And so too bind their kings with chains
To suppress wrongful, evil reigns
And nobles too with fetters bind
They who rule wicked, cruel, unkind

8. Thus saints they do these deeds perform
They judge those who afflict and scorn
This honour granted to His saints
Righteous judgements, with no sin's taints

Given Graces

Fits tune: New Britain

('Amazing Grace')

Colossians 3 v.12 - 17

1. Put on today, as God's elect
His people, not some sect
But those whom He has chosen sure
To be His evermore

2. So put on, holy and beloved
His people, His encov'ed (encovenanted)
Depths of mercies and kindness too
And humble mind anew

3. Also meekness, longsuffering
Each other forbearing
And if any complaint, quarrel
'Gainst any has at all

4. Then be forgiving, e'en as Christ
Forgave you, unenticed
Be to seek vengeance and repay
But live as sons of day

5. Above all these things do put on
Charity, love, the bond
Of perfectness, whole, and mature
The hallmark of Christ sure

6. And let the peace of God rule in
Your hearts, guard you from sin
For called to His peace, His body
One in His grace so be

7. Be thankful too, and let the word
Dwell in you, it you heard
Reside in you richly, not poor
And with His wisdom pure

8. Teach and admonish now each one
Each one a daughter, son
Of God the Father, so too sing
And Him psalms, hymns, do bring

9. Bring spiritual songs, and do sing
To your God the great King
Sing with grace to Him, hearts set free
He heals redemptively

10. And whate'er in word or deed done
Do all in name of [the] Son
To God the Father ever give
Thanks through Christ, and well live

Ageless Assurance

Fits tune: Old Yeaving

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 71 v.1 - 12

1. In you, O LORD, I put my trust
Whate'er my age, I am but dust
And let me not now confused be
But your ways here clearly see

2. In your righteousness deliver
Me, on me your graces confer
Incline your ear to me, hear me
Save me, here your servant see

3. Be you my strong habitation
You Lord over every nation
I to you do always resort
For you my soul it has sought

4. You have commanded to save me
You my rock and fortress still be
Deliver me, Lord, from wicked
Their ways from you are not hid

5. For you are my hope, my Lord you
You my trust are from my youth too
You upheld me since I was born
Left me not bereft, forlorn

6. I a wonder unto many
Am, but you my strong refuge be
Let my mouth with your praise be filled
Heart be trusting and be stilled

7. Cast me not off in my old age
Nor when my strength it does assuage
For my enemies against me
Speak and plot, O Lord, them see

8. They say God me has forsaken
From me mercies now has taken
Yet, O God, come to my help sure
Come near, save me evermore

Harvest Honourings

Fits tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise')

Psalm 65

1. Praise waits for you, God in Sion

Vows be made to you, each one

O you that do hear prayer, us hear

We come now in lowly fear

Unto you all flesh shall come sure

Shall your name praise and adore

Though sins do against us prevail

You do forgive, without fail

2. For our sins you shall purge away

Bringing us to light and day

Blessed are the ones who you do choose

To approach you, share good news

That such may within your courts dwell

And your saving mercies tell

We shall share, be satisfied sure

With your goodness evermore

3. The goodness of your house, temple

You hear those who on you call

By terrible awesome things you

Will answer us, great things do

You O God of our salvation

Confidence of each nation

E'en unto ends of the earth be

And all far off on the sea

4. You by your strength set the mountains

So your mighty power extends

You do the noise of the seas still
Quieten waves, and peace fulfil
Too the tumult of the people
You do calm bring unto all
That all fear you with true worship
And praise you in deed and lip

5. You visit the earth and water
It, for your sons, your daughters
River of God, with water full
Does outpour, enriches all
Corn you prepare for daily bread
By you Lord we still are fed
Gracious provision, our needs met
Never you unfaithful yet

6. Springs and showers, here refreshment
You from heaven have them sent
To bless your land, your creation
Sent to countries, each nation
Crowned the year is with your goodness
You do favour, you do bless
Abundance you give at harvest
Thankful our hearts in you rest

Rejoicing Resoundings

Fits tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Psalm 121 v.1 - 3

I will lift up my eyes
And my soul arise
Look unto the hills high
For my help is nigh
It comes from the Lord sure
He will keep e'ermore
His servants, His children
Young, old, women, men

Psalm 122 v.6 - 7

Pray for peace of city
Jerusalem, be
City where the Lord dwells
Evry tongue it tells
That they shall true prosper
Who love you, hearts stir
To seek its good welfare
God's presence is there

Psalm 124 parts

If the LORD has us not
Helped, unhappy lot
Would our state be, we say
Light had turned away
But the LORD did us hear
Came to us, drew near
Freed us from enemy
Escaped now, we free

Psalm 125 v. 1

They that in the LORD trust
Though we are mere dust
They shall be as Zion
Mount of God, the one
Which cannot be removed
But constant renewed
Does abide for ever
Vanishes never

Psalm 126 v. 1 - 2

When the LORD did turn sure
Captivity sore
Of His people, then we
Were as dreamers, see
Then our mouth it was filled
With laughter, not stilled
And our tongue with singing
Was filled, praise did ring

Devoted Dedication

Fits tune: Hendon

(one tune to 'Take my life and let it be')

Colossians 3 v.12 - 18

1. Put on you, as God's elect
You accepted, not reject[ed]
Holy and beloved you be
Chosen by God, her now see

2. Put on depths of true mercies
Kindness, humbleness, wide seas
Humble mind and meekness too
Longsuffering, image new

3. Image of the Saviour, who
Forms His life within e'en you
Be forbearing and forgive
With each in harmony live

4. Forgive, for Christ forgives you
Show in words,actions, so do
Above all things put on love
Bond of perfectness, encove[enanted]

5. Let God's peace rule in your hearts
And influence all life's parts
For called to this peace you are
In one body, no sins mar

6. And be thankful, gratitude
For graces on you endued
Let the word of Christ in dwell
You richly, His good works tell

7. Richly, with His wisdom bright
he does impart full insight
Teach, admonish, each other
Every sister and brother

8. Use psalms, hymns, songs spiritual
Comfort, strengthen, one and all
Singing to the Lord with grace
In your hearts, and seek His face

9. And whatever it you do
In word or deed, so pursue
To do all in the Lord's name
And thanks to Father God frame

In Memory of C.B.

Fits tune: Ravenshaw
(Lord, thy word abideth')

A kind of hymn-poem in memory of CB,
from a school event in June 1968

Lord, now in memory
Of that day years ago, see
Encounter with death, children
Senses numbed, grieving then

When in swimming session
Children did their lesson
One must have swum in back-stroke
Sadly water did choke

For arm stuck in pipe pool
Did emergency help call
To do all they could to free
C.B. from distress, see

He sadly departed
Though none could have started
To do more, so now to mourn
Like for lamb new-born shorn

For in school primary
Of age ten class, weep did we
Yet comforts in assembly
Bird-bath in memory

A good swimmer taken
Gone, but not forsaken

Atmosphere of meek and mild
For the loss of a child

People not die at [age] ten?
Age when life still blossoms then
Rest in peace, friend, swim now strong
Through eternal days long

Land Longings

Fits tune: Albano (Novello)

('Once, only once, and once for all')

1. For watering of parchéd land
Lord, dispense your good hand
Refreshing showers of rain outburst
E'en where sin does its worst

2. Whether land dried though heat or drought
Or freezing icy bout
Grant pleasant atmosphere that we
Your true salvation see

3. If land looks famished, as unfed
By you the living bread
Yet you will provide all we need
You will us still each feed

4. For weary souls beset by sin
You will help, cleanse within
The land, territory of the soul
You will heal and make whole

5. And too our bodies, spirits tend
Protect us and defend
The bread and water of life you
Ever are, us renew

6. Rest troubled heart, mind, in your Lord
He is the living Word
Through each season He will attend
Us, His love, graces send

7. Fall raindrops of the Spirit free
Or rays of sunshine be
Our life's garden you cultivate
In Christ is our blessed state

Voice Visitation

Fits tune: Missionary Chant

(one tune to 'The Lord is King! lift up thy voice')

Psalm 29

1. Give to the LORD, you mighty ones
Glory and strength, you are His sons
Give to Him glory due His name
He evermore remains the same

2. Worship the LORD in the beauty
Of holiness, His graces see
His voice upon the waters pure
He, God of glory, thunders sure

3. Upon many waters He is
His voice powerful, and in this
Is known, is seen, His majesty
His voice breaks Lebanon's great trees

4. He makes trees to skip like a calf
Brings them joy full, and not a half
His voices divides the flames of fire
And shakes the lands both near and far

5. The LORD's voice makes the hinds to calve
Discovers forests, here His salve (salvation)
In His temple each one does speak
Of His glory with heart true, meek

6. The LORD upon the flood does sit
King for ever, o'er all, each whit
Strength to His people He will give
Bless them with peace that they will live

Praise Plenipotentiaries*

* Plenipotentiaries - full powers.

Fits tune: Darwalls 148th ('Ye holy angels bright')

Psalm 148

1. Praise you the LORD, we praise
And high our anthems raise
Praise Him in heavenly heights
Glorious to our sights
Praise Him angels
Life-giving wells
In Zion dwells
God, each tongue tells

2. Praise you Him, all His hosts
And unto farthest coasts
Praise you Him, sun and moon
Through night, day, eve, and noon
You stars of light
Praise Him for He
Light of world be
Judge of all right

3. Praise Him, you heavens of heavens
Praise Him in 'perfect sevens' (i.e. perfectly)
And too you waters, rains
For He holy remains
Let them His name
Praise, for He spake
And did them make
Great is His fame

4. He stablished them for e'er
Thence they do remove ne'er

Decrees He made, them set
They shall not pass, for yet
He does ordain
Their bounds, limits
Gives their remits
True, clear and plain

5. Praise the LORD from the earth
Each creature give Him worth
Dragons, all deeps, fire, hail
Praise Him sure without fail
Snow, vapour, storms
Fulfil His word
You have Him heard
He none you scorns

6. Mountains, hills, fruitful trees
All cedars, beasts, all these
Praise Him, and too cattle
Creeping things, one and all
And flying fowl
Kings of the earth
Serve Him with mirth
His glories tell

7. Princes and you judges
Young, old, boys, girls, riches
Of His grace do tell forth
From east, west, south, and north
Let them all praise
The LORD's name high
All to Him cry
And trust His ways

8. His name is excellent
Blessings us he has sent

Above earth, heaven, His glory be
His works we see
His praise our strength
Is, this we know
We saints below
Life, endless length

Sacrament Soliloquy

Fits tune: Horbury

('Nearer my God to thee')

1. I shall in the Lord trust
Me, but mere dust
Yet He will take me up
Share communion cup
With me, and all redeemed
Though all was lost it seemed
He to our rescue came
Saved us through His name

2. Name of Jesus, Saviour
He does confer
On us, and He invites
To His delights
Of bread and wine here shared
We by His grace well-fared
Sustaining meal provides
None better besides

3. He bread of life e'er is
Find content[ment], bliss
In this feast here set out
Sanctified, no doubt
And too water of life
Is He, and without strife
We may here quench our thirst
Removed [is] the curse

4. O may we here abide
With you reside
Come to us, Spirit true

Fill us anew
Empower every day
Us to know your will, way
To obey, love, serve you
Only God and true

5. What does heart meditate
At place so great?
Of your communion feast
To greatest and least
Your words they spirit be
And true life, this we see
Go forth from gathering here
Good news to share

6. And if praise grandiose
Or simple chose
Matters not, but that heart
From you not depart
And mind to be renewed
That has by faith you viewed
Partook of sacraments
Strengthened, departs hence

7. For 'tis in memory
Of your grace free
That we share at table
Each one you call
Yet not a feast of dead
For you, our living Head
Here with us and within
Cleansing us from sin

Righteous Rulings

Fits tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty?')

Psalm 97

1. The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice
Make Him, the LORD, your choice
Let all the many isles be glad
Not mournful, downcast, sad
Clouds and darkness about Him are
He exalted by far
Righteousness and judgement they be
Virtues of His throne, see

2. For they are the habitation
Of His throne, He the one
Who rules righteously, judgements fair
And none can them impair
A fire goes before Hm, up burns
His enemies, save turns
Of repentance to Him they show
He does each heart full know

3. His lightnings the world enlightened
He them in power did send
To the earth, it saw, and trembled
It His presence recalled
The hills did melt like wax, for he
Lord of the whole earth be
Ever reigning, holy and good
We worship as we should

4. The heavens His righteousness declare
His glory everywhere

Is seen by all the people, known
He has it revealed, shown
Confounded they that serve idols
Be, who follows them falls
But Zion heard, in Him was glad
In robes of praise were clad

5. They rejoiced for you good judgements
O LORD, with no relents
You to them sent such, you are high
Above earth, sea, and sky
Exalted above all gods far
The bright, the morning-star
You that love the LORD, hate evil
He keeps those He does call

6. He preserves the souls of His saints
Sets free from all sins taints
Delivers them from wicked hands
Each one before Him stands
And light for the righteous is sown
Upright hearts gladness known
Rejoice in the LORD, righteous we
Give thanks, He e'er holy

Extolling Exuberances

Fit tune: Blaenwern

(One tune to 'Love divine, all loves excelling')

Psalm 145 v.1 - 11

1. I will extol you, my Lord, King
To you praises will I bring
I will bless your name for ever
And ever, and cease never
Every day will I bless you true
And for ever will praise you
For great are you, greatly praised be
Greatness unsearchable He

2. One generation your works shall
Tell to another, not fail
To declare your mighty acts strong
Speak them, sing them, all life long
And your wondrous works declaring
Our true worship you we bring
Light our hearts, a flame aspiring
Unto you, our God and King

3. I will speak of glorious honour
Of your majesty, and stir
My heart to speak of works wondrous
That you do, you come to us
And people shall speak of the might
Of your awesome power, insight
And too of your greatness telling
We to you our praises bring

4. The memory of your goodness
Great it is, for us you bless

It shall be uttered abundant
Each good gift that you have sent
And tongues shall sing of you righteous
You merciful and gracious
Full of compassion, you are kind
Slow to anger, patient mind

5. The LORD is good to all, o'er all
Does He reign, He does us call
His tender mercies are over
All His works, He does cover
Them, and they shall praise Him ever
Saints praise Him with endeavour
They shall bless you, speak your glory
And your power, kingdom, free

Whether The Weather Whatever

Fits tune: North Coates

('O my Saviour lifted')

1. Breathe, cool Spirit, refreshed
Hearts, minds, souls oppressed
Are renewed when you send
Your grace and us tend

2. Light to see the way plain
More [of] your image gain
Step by step to follow
More of Christ to know

3. Water here to quench thirst
If draught e'en does worst
And bread of life to feed
Us, meet all our need

4. Grant your balm of healing
Peace in everything
Quieten man's long strivings
Then praise to you rings

5. I shall by you aspire
Seek a spark, a fire
Of your Spirit's presence
Then be strengthened hence

6. To go forth in your power
To live every hour
Unto you, if I fail
Your grace will prevail

7. Meditate a while, hear
To your Lord draw near
In simple tones praising
Honour to Him bring

8. On through life, each journey
Here your Spirit be
Within and beside me
Faithful, true, and free

9. And to other witness
In your name them bless
The gospel, evangel
Confident them tell

10. How His full salvation
Is for each nation
So breathe on all we pray
'Til eternal day

Heart Harmony

Fits tune: St Francis Xavier
('My God, I love thee, not because')

Based on a prayer by
St Thomas Aquinas, 13th Century

Give me, O Lord, a steadfast heart
True to you in each part
Which no unworthy affections
Drags me down, nor you shuns

Give to me an unconquered heart
Which no troubles can start
To wear me out, to bring me low
But I your presence know

Give to me too a heart upright
And pleasing in your sight
May no unworthy purpose tempt
Me aside, nor contempt

Bestow on me also, O Lord
My God, your living word
Understanding to here know you
The only God and true

And diligence to here seek you
Wisdom to find you through
Events of life, and [give me too] faithfulness
To embrace you, me bless

City Citadel

Fits tune: Lauda Anima

('Praise my soul, the King of heaven')

Psalm 48

1. Great the LORD, greatly to be praised

Now to Him hymns be upraised

Praise Him in His city Zion

He the Lamb, He the Lion

Zion, mountain, God there holy

Worship Him, bold, strong, and free

2. Beautiful its situation

Joy of whole earth, each nation

Is mount Zion, on the north side

Here God dwells, He does reside

'Tis the city of the great King

Sweet melodies to Him sing

3. God is known in her palaces

For a refuge, comfort this

Enemies did look, fled apace

There they did God's presence trace

As we have heard, so we have seen

That city great, not small, mean

4. O God, in midst of your temple

We have thought of you, recall

Your lovingkindness, and your name

As your praise, it is the same

Even to earth's farthest ends shown

Here your righteousness is known

5. Let mount Zion rejoice, be glad

Mournful hearts now be not sad
You people in Zion, judgements
You know He has true, fair sent
And too walk about the city
God's providings you shall see

6. Tell her towers, mark her bulwarks
Ramparts and fortified works
Consider her palaces bright
That you view there with delight
Tell the generation following
That they too of God may sing

7. Sing of all His grace, he presides
O'er His city, none besides
For He is our God for ever
And ever, forsakes never
He will be our guide for always
E'en to death, and endless days

Progressing In Promises

Fits tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Philippians Chapter 4 part

1. Be anxious for nothing, but call

On the Lord in them all

Always to pray, give thanks and find

God's peace for heart and mind

2. His peace beyond understanding

He will it to you bring

To keep your hearts and minds, nights, days

Through Christ Jesus always

3. Think on such things as that will life bring

Meditate on them, sing

Of them, their beauties, wholesome, sure

Abiding evermore

4. Think not on things disturbing, harm

They shall bring, hinder calm

Disrupt, annoy, unsettle, pains

Shall bring, ill-gotten gains

5. Think on things true, honest, and just

Not false, dishonest, lust

And too think on the pure, lowly

No un-attractions see

6. Think too on things of good report

And virtuous things, those sort

Of matters, and praiseworthy here

Living in godly fear

7. Finding with grace, contentment true
If having much or few
Whate'er each situation be
Grow in grace, you and me

8. That grace of Christ to do all things
With the help that he brings
His strength for all we face each day
May we each watch and pray

9. And God shall all our needs supply
His resources ne'er die
Riches in glory He has true
Through Christ He comes to you

Sheep Story

Fits tune: Unter Herrscher

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Psalm 95

1. O come let us to the LORD sing
Praises from each heart now ring
Joyful noise make, acclamation
He the rock of salvation
Let us come before Him thankful
He will greet us, one and all

2. Make a joyful noise now, psalms bring
All that has breath, every thing
For the LORD, a great God is He
Great King above all gods be
In His hands are the deep places
Of the earth, e'en all races

3. The strength of the hills is His too
He creates all ,does renew
The sea is His, and He made it
His hands made dry land, each bit
O come let us bow down, worship
Kneel, and praise with joyful lips

4. For He is our God, and we be
People of His pasture, see
And the sheep of His hand, we say
He our good Shepherd for aye (ever)
Today if you will hear His voice
Make Him now your loving choice

5. Harden not your hearts, as in past

People's faithfulness not last
But the LORD they did provoke sore
Tempted Him so, more and more
In the wilderness they wandered
Proved, tested Him, undeterred

6. Forty years the LORD He was grieved
Murmurings He heard, received
And said, 'tis a generation
That err in heart, whole nation
And they had not the LORD's ways known
Though He there to them had shown

7. And so the word pronounced, spoken
This His displeasure's token
That He swore in His wrath truly
To them, that they should not be
Partakers of His rest, for they
Did not follow Him alway

Prayer Ponderings

Fits tune: Manchester

("Father of mercies, in thy word")

John 16 v.19 - 28 parts

1. Jesus was from the Father sent
And to Him then He went
At His Ascension clouds they did
Receive Him, from us hid

2. But the Holy Spirit promised
Not forgotten, remissed
Sent upon us, and us indwells
We His life-giving wells

3. Prayer promises to us He gave
His nature e'er to save
Truly, truly, do ask in prayer
The Father, always there

4. There to accept prayers in the name
Of Christ His Son, the same
One who was with us on earth here
Does now in heaven appear

5. Appears now as our Advocate
Helps us early, not late
Whate'er we ask in Christ's name for
The Father will do sure

6. If it be we have asked nothing
Yet in His name, now bring
Your prayers, requests, and not delay
For bright shall be your day

7. Ask, and you shall receive, 'tis so
And joy full you shall know
Content to pray God's will, His way
Not our own wants or say

8. In that love relationship grow
Seek His commands to know
And obey by the Spirit's power
Enabling every hour

Pleasant Prosperings

Fits tune: Ach Gott Und Herr [English: O God and Lord]

('Strengthen for service, Lord')

Psalm 25 v.10

All the paths of the LORD they be
Truth, mercy, to such who, see
Who keep His covenant, it know
And His testimonies show

Psalm 26 v.8

LORD, I have loved the place wherein
You inhabit, there no sin
Your house, place where your honour dwells
My tongue your praises it tells

Psalm 27 v.4

One thing have I desired of you
Lord, only good, only true
That will I seek, I it pursue
To dwell in your house, you view

Psalm 27 v.4

In your house I would ever stay
Commune with you night and day
And there behold your beauty bright
Your presence, endless delight

Psalm 27 v.4

I would too there of you enquire
From your temple not be far
It be the place where you reside
Where I trust in you, confide

Psalm 27 v.14

Wait on the Lord, good courage take
He will help you, and you make
Strong in heart, so each day to face
Progress on at even pace

Psalm 23 v.6

All my life goodness and mercy
Shall be with me, follow me
E'en all my days, and I shall dwell
E'er in His house, His praise tell

Love Lightings

fFits tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, o thou great Jehovah')

1 John Chapter 4 parts

The last line of each verse is repeated

1. Love of God, John did full proclaim

Love of Jesus, Saviour's name

Love of the Spirit, in union

With the Father and the Son

Lift our hearts that we may praise you

And our minds daily renew

2. Christ they saw in human person

He redemption work has done

Fully human, fully divine

Born of God, of David's line

Seen and heard and touched here on earth

Bringing souls to true new birth

3. Here is love, 'tis not we first loved

But God to us He encoved (encovenanted)

Showed us first love while still sinners

Mercy, grace, on us confers

So our response, to Him our love

Inspired by the Spirit, dove

4. Eternal life to us promised

Lord, grant this we have not missed

Life is as we you, your Son know

He the Way, Truth, Life did show

That we may be saved for ever

Departing from Him never

5. Love here shown in word and action

Shown, revealed, unto each one

Love in giving and receiving

All our lives to you we bring

Asking humbly your anointing

Pour upon our every thing

Favourable Filling

Fits tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

1. Come fill me, my heart open be
My mind your truths to see
Needing your Spirit here daily
Continually to filled be

2. So progressing, perfection's way
Until eternal day
Changed to the image of your Son
The true, the holy one

3. Lord, motivate, inspire me, guide
That I not selfish hide
Desires of pride, greed, sinfulness
But come to me and bless

4. To grow in love, your love to know
You have revealed, did show
It here on earth, in word and deed
And still you meet our need

5. Through sun and rain, through joy and pain
We learn of you again
Grant us grace e'er to follow you
We your creations new

6. If things thus hard or easy be
help us your hand to see
Each step to take, to trust you more
'Til reaching heavenly shore

7. Co-workers with you, you do give
Your Spirit, and we live
Though we as grass, we soon are past
Your words and will e'er last

Life And Light

Fits tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

John 8 v.1 - 12

1. Gracious and merciful

The Lord acted to all

When woman [in] adultery

Committed, here see

Though law's demands

Means death by hands

To stone such one

It should be done

2. This said to tempt Him sore

And to accuse Him more

But Jesus to ground stooped

He would not there be duped

Wrote on the ground

As though no sound

Heard He from them

Who did condemn

3. Questionings continued

And then events ensued

Jesus did lift up self

Spoke to them with no stealth

He who without

Sin, with no doubt

Let him first stone

Cast of his own

4. Then Jesus stooped again

Wrote on the ground too then

And they which His word heard
Were from stones throws deterred
Conscience them smote
Recognised mote
In their own eyes
This truth, no lies

5. Jesus to woman said
Where are they who have led
You to me, accusers
They to me made refers
Has none condemned?
And outcome, end
They all are gone
Each man, each one

6. Nor do I condemn you
Go, live in paths good, true
And sin no more, desist
Temptations do resist
For I the light
For each one's sight
Light of the world
Love's beam unfurled

Bounteous Blessings

Fits tune: St Helen

('King of Kings and Lord eternal')

Psalm 103 v.1 - 14

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul, Him praise

Songs, melodies, to Him raise

And all that is here within me

Bless His holy name, strong, free

Bless the LORD O my soul, Him sing

Let the earth with praises ring

2. Forget not all His benefits

He who throned in heaven sits

Who forgives all your sins, He is

Who heals all your diseases

Who redeems your life and crowns you

With lovingkindness, grace too

3. And with tender mercies to you

He does help you, and renew

Satisfies your mouth with good things

Youth like eagle's He you brings

Executes righteousness, judgements

For all oppressed, confidence

4. He made His ways known to Moses

His will, not mere supposes

And His acts to Israel's people

They did unto Him then call

The LORD merciful and gracious

Comes with favour unto us

5. He is slow to anger, mercy

Has he plenty, kind He be
He will not chide with endeavour
Not keep His anger ever
He has not dealt with us after
Our sins, but mercy prefer[s]

6. For as heaven high above earth
So great His mercy, his worth
Towards them that fear Him, He knows
Them, and he His love true shows
As far as east is from the west
So our sins gone, we are blest

7. For He has from us them removed
His goodness to us has proved
Like a father pities children
The LORD pities sons of men
Those that fear Him, He knows our frame
Dust we are, yet praise His name

Respectful Reverence

Fits tune: Laudate Domino

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 111 v.1 - 6

1. The LORD will I praise

I will Him up raise

Engage my whole heart

My all, every part

Singing with His people

Gathered, one and all

The great congregation

Partakes, each nation

2. The LORD's works are great

Of noble estate

And they are sought out

Without delay, doubt

And all those that pleased be

They in His work,s ee

Rejoice therein, praising

To God their true King

3. The LORD's works they be

Displayed honourably

He glorious too

Worship to Him due

His righteousness endures

E'ermore to all shores

His works they wonderful

We may them recall

4. And gracious is He

Compassionate be
The LORD, His nature
We here discern sure
To those who do Him fear
He feeds, He is near
Of His covenant mindful
Trusting, we not fall

5. The works of His power
He has shown each hour
That He may us give
Heritage, we live
Even heathen places
Of all creeds, races
Given to His peoples
Each one that he calls

Lamb Life

Fits tune: Mannheim

(One tune to 'lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Lamb of God, sins of the world took
You in love us not forsook
Offering, sacrifice, salvation
Provided for each nation
For none other could atone sure
To redeem us evermore

Cleansing flow that brings forgiveness
You come to us, and us bless
Body broken, your blood shed forth
Reaches to east, west, south, north
Here be relief, here be comfort
For you thus our souls have sought

Communion commemorates
Of your grace that ne'er abates
Bread and wine in symbols simple
Made life unto all you call
Eating, drinking, here our fine fare
At your table all may share

From your riches you became poor
To lead us to heavenly shore
No salvation have we besides
But your gospel brings good tides (tidings)
Your life given that we may live
We you worship, praises give

Peace with God now for mankind made
For Christ He the price has paid

Of our sins, though He the sinless
One, our Saviour, we confess
Graces, favours, every good thing
In your love you each one bring

Kingdom Kindlings 2

Fits tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Save us from sin, your cooling balm
Send by your Spirit, keep from harm
Those who trust you, salvation sure
You do grant them for evermore
And so progresses on your reign
Freedom from mourning, crying, pain

And too an end of sin shall come
You the redemption work have done
God the Father shown in the Son
Shall finish what you first begun
Death shall be o'er, the curse removed
Power of the gospel you proved

In Revelation's mysteries
Those open secrets, each one sees
With symbolism, metaphor
Yet we can learn and thus be sure
That all you have so appointed
Shall come to pass as you have said

Hearts be uplifted, minds aspire
To catch vision of holy fire
Here granted power, to witness free
To evangel each country, be
This our mission, fruit God to bear
By His grace in it we do share

On through the daily things of life
Trusting Him we have peace, not strife

Then noble destiny in sight
City, land of eternal light
Where all the saved through Christ shall be
With Him, and ever shall Him see

Walking On In The Way

Fits tune: Grafenberg

(one tune to 'Come let us join our cheerful songs')

Psalm 25 v.1 - 8

1. Unto you, LORD, I lift my soul

Come to me, make me whole

You are my God, I trust in you

Refresh me, me renew

2. Let me not now here be ashamed

I your promise have claimed

That you are always here with me

My Lord and God you be

3. Let not my enemies o'ercome me

And grant no triumphs be

To them which transgress without cause

They continue, no pause

4. Let none that wait on you be shamed

Nor be their name defamed

Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me

And your paths may I see

5. Lead me in your truth and teach me

That I in you be free

You the God of my salvation

The great, the holy one

6. On you do I wait all the day

Help me to watch and pray

Remember, Lord, your sure mercies

And lovingkindnesses

7. For such have ever been of old
From years to years retold
But remember not my sins here
I trust that you are near

8. The sins of my youth put away
I came from night to day
When you forgave me, with pardon
You the Father's own Son

9. And too remember me, me see
According to your mercy
Keep me in mind, for your goodness
Sake, and me do here bless

10. Good and upright the Lord true is
I know it, even this
Therefore in the way will He teach
Sinners, His grace them reach

Deliverance Desirings 2

Fits tune: Wiltshire [Smart]

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalm 79 v.8 - 13

O Lord, remember not our sins
Nor those of kiths or kins
Let your tender mercies help soon
Us, we to you attune

For we very low are brought
Help us, you we have sought
You the God of our salvation
To all and each nation

Help us for your glory, us aid
Then we be not afraid
Deliver us, our sins forgive
That we through you may live

Let sighing of the prisoner
Come before you, and stir
Yourself, your great power it show
That they your grace may know

Render to enemies righteously
Their reproach, so it be
For they have you reproached, O Lord
And not believed your word

So will we, sheep of your pasture
Give you thanks e'er, concur
To show your praise, and thus your song
Generations prolong

Worship Worthies

Fits tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Psalm 20 v.5

We will rejoice in your salvation
With praise and elation
In the name of God we set up sure
Our banners evermore

Psalm 20 v.7

Some trust in horses, chariots
Or human compatriots
But we will remember the name
Of the LORD our God, His fame

Psalm 21 v.13

In your own strength, LORD, be exalted
You are our living Head
And so will we sing and praise your power
Eternal every hour

Psalm 24 v.7

Lift up your heads, you gates, you doors
Peoples from farthest shores
Shall enter city of the great King
In Jerusalem Him sing

Psalm 24 v.8 - 10

He the King of glory, mighty
And all nations shall see
That He the LORD of hosts is sure
Who reigns, holy and pure

Psalm 25 v.20

O keep my soul, deliver me

Let me not ashamed be

For in you I do put my trust

E'en though I be but dust

Prosperous Paths

Fits tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

Psalm 84 v.11

O LORD God, you a sun and shield

By your grace we are healed

For grace and glory will you give

And we shall live

Psalm 84 v.11

No good thing will the LORD withhold

But give more than fine gold

To them that do walk uprightly

They His ways see

Psalm 85 v.8

I will hear what the LORD will speak

He comes to lowly, meek

He will speak peace to His people

We shall not fall

Psalm 85 v.8

But let them not to folly turn

Nor for sinful paths yearn

For He will guide us in His way

Through night and day

Psalm 85 v.11

Your way, O LORD, teach it to me

I will walk your way, see

Walk in your truth, my heart unite

To your true light

Psalm 86 v.10

O turn to me, be merciful

I unto you do call

Give me strength, I your servant be

In godly fear

Psalm 86 v.15

You, LORD, I have know, compassion

You have, no child you shun

That you have made, and gracious too

You each renew

Psalm 86 v.15

Longsuffering and plenteous

In mercy, truth, to us

You are the same LORD, hear our prayer

Your love we share

Meditative Meanderings

Fits tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

O sing to the Lord a new song
Or some old melody prolong
His Spirit's showers every hour
Shall fill you with His love and power

The contemplation of your heart
Let it resound in every part
To tell a lost world, evangel
Of Him who has done all things well

If in life things do seem the same
Yet same remains the Saviour's name
Seek on, His purpose, plan for you
He will reveal it, you renew

He shall show what next stage shall be
In His will, for your destiny
For 'tis no common drudge or fate
His ways for you are wise and great

What will He say to you today
As you continue, watch and pray
Commune, walking with your Lord sure
On this earth and for evermore

Before us on the way you went
And now us your Spirit have sent
To change us to your Son's image
He sole 'tween man and God the bridge

Wholesome Witness

Fits tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Psalm 146

1. Praise the Lord, O my soul
He will come, make you whole
While I live I will praise His name
Who ever stays the same

2. While I have being, life
I will praise Him, no strife
Put not your trust in princes, men
They will fail you again

3. No help lasting through man
He only surely can
Avail temporary for a while
Then gone his breath, his style

4. But happy are such, they
Who to the Lord do pray
And whose help He is, they do trust
E'en though they are mere dust

5. And happy they, who hope
In the Lord God, their slope
Through life steadily upwards is
Until eternal bliss

6. The Lord is He who made
Heaven, earth, sea, arrayed
He does for ever His truth keep
And tends and guards His sheep

7. He judgement does perform
For oppressed, help from storm
He too the hungry does them feed
Comes to them, meets their need

8. The Lord prisoners does loose
Opens eyes of blind, abstruse
Are not His ways, but plain, revealed,
He has not them concealed

9. The Lord to them bowed down
Does raise them, lifts their frown
The righteous He does love, and sure
Preserves strangers e'ermore

10. He relieves fatherless
And widows too does bless
But way of wicked does He turn
Upside down, so they learn

11. The Lord shall reign for e'er
E'en Zion's God, from there
His holy mount, and in His care
All generations share.

Heritage Hope

Fits tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus, I have promised')

Psalm 16

1. Preserve me, O God, for I trust
In you, hear me, renew
Your goodness extends to your saints
You uphold them, none faints
Sorrows shall come to those who go
After other gods, so
Their offerings I not follow
But only you I know

2. The LORD is becoem my portion
He true, the living one
He my inheritance, my cup
I commune with Him, sup
You O LORD, do maintain my lot
Unfaithful be you not
The lines have fallen pleasantly
In places fien for me

3. A goodly heritage have I
I bless the LORD, he nigh
Who counsels me, my conscience too
He does instruct, imbue
With His sure wisdom perfectly
And all my ways does see
Through day and night He leads me on
To image of His Son

4. The LORD I have set before me
Always, at my side, see

So shall I not be moved, for here
A firm ground do I share
With those who too trust in Him sure
In His providing store
Therefore my heart it is now glad
My tongue sings, 'tis not sad

5. My flesh also in hope shall rest
In you I shall be blest
For my soul you leave not in hell
But I your mercies tell
And Christ your Holy One, you will
Resurrect, Saviour still
This prophesied, and it did pass
To every age, race, class

6. You will show me the path of life
I shall have peace, not strife
In your presence fullness of joy
Sin not disturb, annoy
At you right hand, LORD, pleasure are
You the bright morning star
Pleasures for evermore there be
For each saved soul made free

Trusting Times

Fits tune: Song 1

('Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round')

Psalm 33 v.11 - 22

1. The counsel of the LORD for ever stands
His wisdom spread and share over all lands
The thoughts of His heart, they reach unto all
To all generations who on Him call
Blessed is the nation whose God the LORD is
They whom he has chosen, they know true bliss
2. He them has chose for His inheritance
The LORD look from heaven, sees all from thence
From place of His habitation does view
All earth's inhabitants, knows each one too
Their hearts He does alike them each fashion
And considers their works sure, every one
3. There is no king saved by the multitude
Of a host, though he human strength renew
And horses too, armaments of war vain
They shall not alone raise the victory strain
Nor safety found by man's power or might
But only in trusting the LORD aright
4. Behold, the eye of the LORD be upon
Those that fear Him, and too fear Christ the Son
They that hope in His mercy, to Him hold
He shall deliver them, keep in His fold
Deliver their soul from death, and provide
In times of famine, they in Him confide
5. Our souls wait for the LORD, our help and shield

He has His grace shown, unto us revealed
For our heart shall in Him rejoice, for we
Have trusted in His holy name, Him see
By faith, and so LORD, let your mercy be
Upon us, we have hoped in you, e'en me

A Life To Live

Fits tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Hold to the Lord, His mercies sure
Whate'er your state now be
He will come aid, defend you sure
And guide you evermore

Lift heart, mind, soul, His praises sing
He e'er is Lord and King
Focus upon His greatness wide
And love His flowing tide

Grow in relationship, His child
You are, be meek and mild
Though strong too, be your confidence
Rise, go forth in Him hence

Go by His power, not human might
But guided by His light
His Spirit He will give, you fill
Christ is your Saviour still

A light to share, a love to give
That others know and live
Each has some part, some evangel
To go, preach, heal, and tell

Tell of the gospel, and gifts too
In His service renew
Those gifts and fruit of His Spirit
As in the Scriptures writ[ten]

So preaching, teaching, healing too
We each may hear and view
The Spirit, He not obsolete
Still today our needs meet[s]

Forwards in Him, not rule or rite
That can obscure our sight
But knowing Father, Spirit, Son
Eternal life [is] begun

Truthful Trustings

Fits tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

1 Timothy Chapter 1 parts

Hold to the truth as in God's word
It you have known, it you have heard
Not heed fables, superstitions
God's words be the wholesome true ones

Godly edifying in faith
These words do follow, and them saith (say)
Outcome of obeying commands
Of God, will be good understands (understanding)

The outcome shall be charity
Love from a pure heart shall it be
And [love] from a good conscience, from you
And [love] from faith unfeigned, ever true

Some from these things have turned aside
Now darkened paths do them betide
Vain jangling, that they choose to hear
Minds not settled on godly fear

They do desire teachers to be
Of the law, but they do not see
Nor understand of what they say
Their teachings not in the good way

The truth it is in things as such
Grace, faith, love, avails to us much
All in Christ Jesus, He the one
Who the redemption work has done

Faithful saying, worthy of all
Acceptance, on Christ we may call:
"He came to us, sinners to save
E'en for the worst the path did pave"*

** This is the 'faithful saying', adapted in this poem,
within the quotation marks of this stanza.*

Perpetual Presence

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 47 v.1-2

Clap your hands. people all
Unto your God now call
Shout with triumphant voice
You have made Him your choice
For the LORD most high terrible
Is great King o'er the earth awful

Psalm 48 v.1

Great is the LORD, greatly
To be praised e'er is He
In the city of God
Where your footsteps have trod
Mount Zion, city of the King
In Jerusalem to Him sing

Psalm 48 v.12

Walk about Zion, go
Round her palaces, know
'Tis where the LORD resides
Whence do flow all good tides (tidings)
Tell too her bulwarks and towers
Hs grace generations empowers

Psalm 47 v.7

God o'er the earth is King
Come now, Him praises bring
Sing with understanding
Let voice of worship ring
He reigns o'er all, o'er heathen too

Holy, enthroned, makes all things new

Psalm 46 v.1-2

God is our strength, refuge

He will help us, deluge

Pour upon enemy

We His victory shall see

For He our help, is here present

In Him we trust, full confident

Psalm 48 v.14

This God our God for e'er

In His life we may share

He will us always guide

He has not us denied

Our guide even unto our death

Until we draw our final breath

Salvation Strength

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 20: A prayer for the King/Queen (adapted)

1. The LORD hear you in trouble

Attend your call

The name of God you defend

Unto the end

He God of Jacob, he be

Of Israel, see

Send you help from sanctuary

Strengthened you be

2. From Zion where He resides

There none besides

Him, the God who strengthens you

Shall you renew

He remembers the offerings

Each one Him brings

And too sacrifices made

On altar laid

3. The Lord grant you the desires

No evil mars

Desires of your heart, godly

Unto Him be

And all your counsels fulfil

Guard from all ill

So we shall in Him rejoice

Make Him our choice

4. Rejoice in His salvation

To each nation

And set up our banners here
Of our Lord dear
Your petitions shall he hear
Made in lowly fear
Each prayer answer in His will
He faithful still

5. The Lord saves His anointed
And has them led
He will help with His right hand
To save our land
Some in chariots do trust
Or in horses must
Put their confidence, but we
Trust in God, see

6. We His name shall remember
To Him refer
Enemies brought down, fallen
But it is then
That we are risen, and stand
Upright by His hand (Spirit)
Save, LORD, King of Kings, us hear
You to us near

Disconsolate Depths

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Psalm 88 parts

1. Lord God, you my salvation are
Though seeming now you are afar
Yet day and night I to you cry
My soul feels as if it will die

2. From deep I call to you, bereft
all seems dark here, I am in fear
Hoping, praying, you have not left
O coem to me, to me draw near

3. I mourn, I weep, yet still a spark
Of confidence that you will hark
Will hear my troubles, tend my need
You still my Shepherd, will me feed

4. Fro shall death praise you, does grave know
How to your works and glories show?
But here the living praise your name
Recount your worthies and your fam

5. Afflicted I, ready to die
Make haste to help me, to me fly
Abandon me not, help me sure
Then I shall live for evermore

Praise Parade

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 140 v.7

1. O LORD God, you strength of my salvation
And unto each nation (x2)
You my head covered in day of battle
I unto you did call (x3)

Psalm 142 v.4

2. When my spirit was o'erwhelmed in me
You did then my path see (x2)
And knew where enemies their snares had laid
By you they be repaid (x3)

Psalm 143 v.10

3. Teach me, O LORD, to do your will
For you are my God still
Your Spirit is good, lead me to upright land
Guide me by your strong hand (Spirit) (x3)

Psalm 145 v.18

4. The LORD for ever, he shall reign
He shall His rule retain (x2)
He God in Zion, to all generations
And we His daughters, sons (x3)

Psalm 147 v.2

5. The LORD does heal broken in heart
Restores them, every part (x2)
Binds up their wounds, bears their griefs, sorrows
Compassionate, us knows (x3)

Psalm 149 v.2

6. The LORD pleasure in His people takes

Each one He creates, makes (x2)

He will meek beautify with His salvation

Whate'er their class, station (x3)

Psalm 150 v.6

7. Praise Him, let everything the LORD, Him praise

Exultant anthems raise (x2)

All that has breath, your voices here employ

Afire with holy joy (x3)

Perpetual Presence 2

*Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen = Let us praise
(All creatures of our God and King')*

Psalm 1 v.2

1. Blessed they whose delight in the LORD

And in His law, His living word

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessings to those who meditate

In His word day, night, early, late

Pleasant, fine, fair, be their estate

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 1 v.3

2. Like tree planted by rivers they

Shall be, they still shall watch and pray

Alleluia, Alleluia!

That tree brings forth fruit in season

Its leaves not wither, no, not one

They shall prosper in whate'er done

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 1 v.4

3. Ungodly not so, they as chaff

Shall not enjoy e'en blessings half

Alleluia, Alleluia!

And as chaff they be blown away

Soon as does come a windy day

They shall not last, they shall not stay

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 3 v.3

4. You, O LORD, are a shield for me

Guard me and keep me company

Alleluia, Alleluia!

You my glory, you lift my head

Give me joy for mourning instead

My needy state you did see, view

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 5 v.11

5. Let all that trust in you rejoice

And shout for joy all with one voice

Alleluia, Alleluia!

For you defend them by your power

Keep them through every day and hour

Those that love your name shall joy, flower

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 4 v.8

6. I will lay me down, now in peace

And sleep, my troubled thoughts shall cease

Alleluia, Alleluia!

For it is you, LORD, who do make

Me to dwell safely for your sake

You still with me when I awake

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 5 v.3

7. And in the morning you shall hear

My voice LORD, I love you and fear

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Morning, noon, night I still shall pray

Look up to you, e'er with me stay

You constantly present alway

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gracious Grantings

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Based on a prayer of Thomas á Kempis

[German monk, 15th Century]

1. Grant me, Lord, devotion
May each thought, each notion
Be with your grace enabling me
To your holy ways see

2. O Lord, you are all good
I worship as I should
Though I mere dust, a worm, you bid
Me, you from me not hid

3. Remember me, Lord, do
Nothing I have, save you
You do all things, you fill all things
My soul humbly you sings

4. Be merciful to me
Fill my heart, may I see
Your graces true, I worthless not
In you my fine fare lot

5. How can I here endure
Without your grace, the cure
To aid me through life of sorrows
You each one's burdens knows

6. Strengthen me with you grace
And mercy too, your face
Turn not from me, to me come soon

I rest in you, in tune

7. Withdraw not help from me
Or else I then shall be
Like waterless desert, my soul
Shall be dried and unwhole

8. Teach me Lord here, your will
To live humbly, meek, still
And worthily live in your sight
Who dispel dark and night

9. You are my Wisdom all
I ever on you call
You know me truly, before I
E'en uttered my first cry

Gracious Giftings

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Ephesians 4 v.11 - 16

Some now are apostles, prophets
And some are evangelists
Here too be pastors and teachers
Studiers, learners, researchers
All for perfecting, maturing
Of the saints in everything

And too for work of ministry
Gifts given to each one, see
And for edifying, build strong
Body of Christ, mighty throng
Not small army, but victorious
Through what Christ has wrought for us

Gifts continue until all come
To unity of faith, one
And in unity of knowledge
Of God's Son, each encourage
Until perfect man of Christ formed
In each one, our hearts are warmed

'Tis the measure of the stature
Of the fulness of Christ sure
That we grow to, shall attain to
He will strengthen each, renew
So no more we children, but grow
Into Christ, and more Him know

For no more we children, deceived

False teaching s we have perceived
But now speaking the truth in love
With grace of the Spirit, Dove
We may grow up into Christ all
He our Head, we hear His call

So a body whole and glorious
It shall be the church, 'tis us
We His people each take our parts
Contribute our lives, minds, hearts
Thus as each part fully functions
God anoints with His unctions

Priestly Professions

Tune: Bread of life [Sherwin]

('Break thou the bread of life, Dear Lord to me')

Hebrews 7 v.24 - 28

1. Jesus continues on
He the true Son
Of the Father above
Shows us His love
Unchangeable priesthood
Has He, for good
So He able to save
His life He gave

2. Saves to th uttermost
In Him our boast
Who by Him to God come
The total sum
For He does ever live
Graces does give
For us He intercedes
His life it pleads

3. He such a high priest is
Glory in this
Full human, full divine
One Saviour fine
Holy, harmless, he be
Undefiled, see
Separate from sinners
No sin allures

4. Higher than heavens made
The price He paid

For our salvation sure
For evermore
Not daily offering
As days Old [Covenant] bring
Nor many sacrifice[s]
One would suffice

5. Himself that offering
We to Him sing
Himself the sacrifice
Ne'er made out twice
He Son for alway
Here our New [Covenant] day
High priest eternally
To us He be

Light Leadings

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Wait a while, here meditate
The Lord will come, not be late
He with us, e'en dwells within
Heals, forgives, cleanses from sin

Though things needful to attend
To each day that life does send
Help us know your Spirit sure
Residing in us e'ermore

What be in the deepest part
Of your sanctuary, your heart
Let not surface vain matter[s]
Inner peace disturb, shatter

Where words lessen, silence falls
God's still small voice to you calls
Not confused by outward noise
Nor distraction that annoys

Offering to Him our lives
Not complex plan He contrives
For us, but His purpose, will
Continue to show us still

Forgive Lord, us penitent
You your grace to us have sent
May we draw from your love sure
Be guided by conscience pure

Troubles real, yet small compared
With the blessings you have shared
Of future glory to be
Heaven with you, perfect, free

Take me on a step with you
Grant me graces, me renew
Earth-bound longings put to flight
All be lived here 'neath your sight

Prosperous Plans

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu lover of my soul')

Ephesians 1 v.3-10

Blessed the God and Father be
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, see
He has blessed us here with all
Spiritual blessings, [we] recall
Blessed in heavenly realms now
In Christ this is so, 'tis how
It is thus in His wise plan
Salvation to every man [all mankind]

According as He did choose
Us in Christ, that none should lose
[We were] Chosen before [the] world was found
Here we stand upon this ground
That we should be holy here
And without blame, He is near
Our place [is here] before Him in love
Strengthened by the Spirit, dove

He has predestinated
Us to Him, His adopted
Children, by Jesus Christ we
According to His will be
His good pleasure and good will
[Is] That we praise His glory still
[The] Glory of His grace, where see
Accepted in beloved [are] we

In Him we have redemption
Through His blood, the sinless one

Forgiveness of our sins, this
[Is] By [the] riches of His grace, bliss
This His grace to us He shares
Takes our sins and them He bears
Grace abounding rich and free
[His grace] Wise and prudent ever be

He has made known to us, we
Share in [the] revealed mystery
Of His will, 'tis in accord
With His good pleasure, the Lord
This His purpose, 'tis His own
To gather all things, atone
Through Christ gather all in one
All [that is] in heaven, [and in the] earth, in the Son

Glory Greatness

Tune: Ye Banks and Braes

('We cannot measure how you heal')

Psalm 77 v.11-20

I will remember of the LORD
His works true and His living word
Surely recall wonders of old
That He has done, that have been told
Your way, O God, it is found in
The sanctuary, yes there within
And who so great a God as you
We here your holy way pursue

You are the God who wonders do
Have shown your strength, and do renew
Your people, keep them as you sheep
Through pathways smooth, rugged, or steep
You have with your arm redeemed sure
Your people Israel evermore
Sons of Jacob and Joseph, they
Do follow you and watch and pray

The waters, O God, you they saw
And they were there affrighted sore
The depths too, troubled at you sight
You, Lord of power, wisdom, might
The clouds poured water on the earth
The skies did thunder, sound their worth
Your arrows of lightning went forth
Spread o'er the land, east, west, south, north

The earth trembled at such a scene
Your greatness shown, not small or mean

Your way, O LORD, is in the sea
Your path in the great waters be
And your footsteps, they are not known
Cannot to humans full be shown
Your people like a flock you led
Moses and Aaron at their head

Garden Glories

Tune: Newington

(one tune to 'Thine for ever, God of love')

Copious shower, sun's spell
You do weather our souls well
Tend to drought, desert dryness
You do refresh us, us bless

Soul, draw near, and here commune
With your Lord, with Him in tune
With His Spirit abiding
Ever in you residing

You Lord are the husbandman
Working as only you can
In our soul's garden to bring
All to your glory, each thing

Fragrant flowers, colourful
Green trees, bushes, strong and tall
Fruitful plants, they shall us nourish
You the land do bless, cherish

So taking our part, may we
Produce good fruit, you it see
Patient endure pruning's time
Then bear more fresh fruit sublime

Sincere Serving

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, the that love God')

Matthew 20 v.20-28

1. Here James and John, disciples two
Did to Jesus ensue
And their mother brought her request
Desiring high bequest

2. For grant to my sons, was her plea
That they should highest be
At Christ's right hand and at His left
To work some favour deft

3. Then did Christ ask, this be the cup
Could they then with Him sup?
The cup of suffering to drink
What of it did they think?

4. Yes, yes, we can, able we be
We can drink of it, see
Christ says, You shall it drink indeed
Though courage they would need

5. Yet on my right, and my left hand
You true must understand
'Tis not mine to give, I cannot
Appoint, 'tis my Father's lot

6. Then indignant, pressing for place
Others must not lose face
So there the ten disciples were
Discordant strife did stir

7. No, no, Christ said, this not the way
Wherein true greatness lay
Worldly pride rules in hierarchy
Though this not my way be

8. For whoever would be great, learn
To minister's tasks turn
And whoever chief ones would be
Let them serve humbly, free

9. Even as I, Son of man came
Christ Jesus be my name
Came not to be ministered to
But to minister to you

10. To give His life, to lowly serve
High honour now deserve[s]
Life given, ransom for many
Our true Redeemer He

Cooling Comforts

Tune: Everlasting Love

('Loved with everlasting love')

The last two lines of each verse are repeated.

Come to us, balm in the heat
 Lord, we worship at your feet
 Or where cold, come warm our heart
 That we serve in every part
 You, our Lord of life and grace
 Salvation for every race
 You achieved, made possible)
 Help us trust you, one and all) (x2)

For you us made not bereft
 But promise made when you left
 Of the Spirit, Comforter
 He would strengthen, solace, stir
 Such your people, that they may
 Be empowered night and day
 Not hope in our strength alone)
 But in you who do atone) (x2)

Come to us, inspire where tired
 That we with your Spirit fired
 Be renewed, refreshed, upbuilt
 Though like flowers, humans wilt
 Yet this treasure placed within
 Helps us, guides us, guards from sin
 Saved by you now, such are blest)
 Enter your covenant rest) (x2)

Peace abiding in our soul
 Changed more to your image whole

Daily walk, whate'er we face
Grant we go at steady pace
Growing in love, mercies sweet
Your presence in us, we greet
Heavenly guest, remain e'ermore)
And e'en to the eternal shore) (x2)

Healing Helps

Tune: Ode To Joy

('Joyful, joyful, we adore thee')

Psalm 31 v.1-2

In you, O LORD, I put my trust
I who am but earth and dust
Let me never be ashamed for
I do trust your mercies sure
Deliver me, you are righteous
You will keep and guard sure us
Bow down your ear, deliver me
You my strong rock e'er will be

Psalm 31 v.2-3

And a house of defence, shelter
Graces on me do confer
Save me, you my rock and fortress
Come to me, and do me bless
Guide me, keep me, from the trap set
By enemy, still foiled yet
With your help, you are my strength here
I worship with godly fear

Psalm 30 v.10-12

You for me my mourning have turned
Into dancing, I had yearned
And prayed to you, your help needed
From troubles you did me lead
So my sackcloth do I put off
Enemies now, now more scoff
You have girded me with gladness
i shall praise you, you confess

Psalm 30 v.10-12

Praise and joy and celebration
Let rise now from each nation
My tongue 'tis my glory, will sing
Unto you my thanks shall bring
Not silent or downcast for e'er
Radiant joys in you we share
I will thank you, I will praise you
You come to my help anew

Psalm 28 v.7

The LORD my strength and my shield is
I take courage bold in this
My heart did trust in Him, and I
Am helped, this I not deny
So now my heart great rejoices
Happy now my state it is
And with my song I will sure praise
Grateful anthems to Him raise

Psalm 30 v.5

His anger endures a moment
Righteous judgement He has sent
In His favour there is life whole
His name glorify, extol
Weeping for a night may endure
But will not last evermore
For joy shall come in the morning
God's bright beams on us dawning

Inimitable Inauguration

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Revelation 21 v.1 - 5

1. New heaven, new earth revealéd

John in vision he was led

To see, first heaven, first earth gone

Passed away, remaining none

2. No more sea, no separation

Unified now each nation

Holy city, Jerusalem new

Comes down from God, time now due

3. Comes down from Him, from heaven, sent

As bride for her husband meant

Christ's people the Bride, he the Groom

Glorious abode, ample room

4. Great voice sounds from heaven saying

See, tabernacle of King

God He be, and will with man dwell

We shall all His great works tell

5. We shall be His people ever

He shall forsake us never

But shall be with us, our God be

Perfectly, eternally

6. He shall wipe away all our tears

Leaving only godly fear

End of death, sorrow, crying, pain

These blessings from Him we gain

7. For those shall be things of old time
But now a life with new rhyme
Holy comforts, for God will make
All things new for His name's sake

Nature Numinous

Numinous - divine; presence or influence of a god.

Tune: Dix [Kocher]

(one tune to 'For the beauty of the earth')

Hill and flower, tree and vale
All by your grace still prevail
Colours, light, and season's hue
Sun bright, dark rain-sky or blur

Chorus

You Lord, Creator of all
Trusting you we shall not fall

You Creator God have made
Myriad beauteous things arrayed
And you too Father, your Son
He redemption work has done - Chorus

Times to walk on country lanes
To enjoy before day wanes
Then night comes, you do ordain
Cycles of life, clear and plain - Chorus

So help us to see each thing
Matters each day to you bring
What wisdom we need, please give
Thus we shall know how to live - Chorus

Seeking that your kingdom come
And your will done, the whole sum
As we offer selves to you
Fill us, your power anew - Chorus

Deliverance Desirings

Tune: Lyons

('Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim')

Psalm 144 part

1. Blesséd be the LORD, my strength for the fight

The fight spiritual, in Him I see light

He my goodness, and my fortress He is sure

My high tower, my deliverer evermore

2. He my shield is too, He in whom I trust

He helps me, me aids, e'en though I am dust

LORD, what is man, that you knowledge of Him take

And make account of Him for your great name's sake

3. Man is like vanity, his days short, small

Like shadow that passes away, fades all

Bow the heavens, O LORD, come down from above

Come, help, defend us, with your power and love

4. I will sing to the LORD on psaltery

And an instrument of ten strings, so be

With such I will sing praises to my LORD here

He gives us salvation, worship, He is near

5. Rid me, deliver me, from enemy

Their mouth vanity, their hand falsehood, see

And so our sons the shall be as plants up grown

And daughters as polished corner stones be shown

6. And too we pray bless our garners, our store

That they may be full, you our hearts assure

And that our sheep may bring forth ten thousands worth

Oxen strong too in labour, brought safe to birth

7. No complaining then, not there in our streets
For happy are we, God He our needs meets
Yes, happy the people whose is such a case
Of God as their LORD, His providings they trace

Terrible Trustings

'Terrible' is in the sense of 'aweful' here.

Tune: St George's, Windsor)

('Come, ye thankful people, come')

Psalm 65 v.1

Praise waits for you, God our King
In Sion to you we sing
Unto you vows performed be
You will hear them and us see
O you, Lord that do hear prayer
You shall save us, we will far
Unto you shall all folk come
E'en all nations, not just some

Psalm 65 v.5

By terrible things, awful
You will answer when we call
Shall act in your righteousness
Respond to us, and us bless
You the confidence of all
All the earth, we shall not fall
All on earth, on sea, in sky
Shall trust you, and to you cry

Psalm 66 v.3

Say to God, how terrible
Are you in your works, awful
Through greatness of your power
Enemies shall hear and cower
And they to you shall submit
For you are Lord, it is fit
That all should come, worship you
Eternal God, good and true

Psalm 67 v.1-2

God have mercy, us do bless
We your great name do confess
Cause your face on us to shine
Radiance of life divine
So that upon earth your way
People shall know every day
And your saving health make known
To all nations, be it shown

Psalm 68 v.35

O God, terrible you are
Great God over all by far
Ever holy, strong, and free
God of Israel you be
Strength and power to your people
You do give unto them, to all
Blesséd be your name for e'er
In your glories we may share

Passion For Peace

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Romans Chapter 5 part

Peace, peace, it good folk do seek sure
Whence comes peace, where be it e'ermore?
Surely when human hearts changed are
By nature they from God far

Yet Jews counted near to God be
And Gentiles as far from Him, see
Both to Him can be reconciled
Though sin's state makes all defiled

How this reconcile, atonement?
'Tis through Christ, God's only Son sent
Being justified by faith here
Believing the gospel clear

So thus justified we have peace
With God, a peace that shall not cease
Obtained through our Lord Jesus Christ
Offering, sacrifice, sufficed

Human plans for full peace measure
Somewhat only gains this this treasure
A fruit of the Spirit, peace be
God's power through you and me

Resurrection Raptures

Tune: Mount Zion [Pleyel]

('Give me the faith which can remove')

1 Corinthians 15 v.49-58

As we have borne image earthy
We shall too bear image heavenly
O Lord give faith that we believe
And shall this promise true receive
Though flesh and blood inherits not
The kingdom of God, 'tis believers' lot

Neither corruption inherits
Incorruption, but see this
In a mystery, here revealed
It shall be shown, and not concealed
We shall not all sleep death's long sleep
But shall all be changed, God [shall] us keep

In a moment, twinkling of [an] eye
At the last trumpet, the trumpet high
For the dead shall be raised up then
'Tis the time appointed for when
They be raised incorruptible
And we shall be changed, [to] Christ's image full

For this corruptible must put on
Incorruption, full life of [the] Son
And this mortal, it must put on
Immortality, for 'tis done
That then the saying shall show true
God has acted, made all things new

Then comes to pass the prophecy

'Death swallowed up in victory'
O death, where is your sting, where be?
O grave, where is your victory?
The sting of death is sin for sure
And the strength of sin is the law

But thanks to God, who gives victory
To us through our Lord, here Him see
Our Lord Jesus Christ, risen from dead
He e'er alive, our living Head
So continue steadfast, you know
No good deeds [are] wasted, in Him grow

Simplicity Sentiments

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

A hymn sing fast or slow
But ensure that you know
The words, and understand
They all from God's good hand

Though pace of life may rush
Quieten heart now, and hush
Approaching Communion
Holy, with Christ be one

He has the way opened
And did His Spirit send
To us, we forgiven
Offer sweet praises then

For meditate a while
If life is calm or trial
Yet your Lord present still
Shall show you His good will

Eat, drink, at table spread
Christ the food, living bread
His blood the wine to drink
On these symbols now think

Not transubstantially
Bread, wine, here simply be
They representatives
Of Christ's life He us gives

For Christ did institute
Those gifts, the vine's good fruit
And bread, a staple meal
They will our souls true heal

His invite made to all
Whoe'er shall hear His call
Be saved by Him, redeemed
Loved by Him, high esteemed

Favourable Fare

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia, hearts to heaven and voices raise')

Have bold courage, step of faith take
Faithful souls, to God awake
Not spirit of fear to hold you
But His Spirit to renew
Spirit of power, love, sound mind
In Him riches you shall find
Hearts inspired and minds renewed sure
Living in Christ evermore

Not by might or by own power
But trusting Christ every hour
He shall gifts on you endower
Fresh and bright, not stale or sour
And too fruit your life shall produce
Firm set in Him, not weak, loose
But abiding as branch in Vine
He shall work in you, refine

Ever changed into His image
Christ 'tween man and God the bridge
Promise of His Spirit outpoured
We are certain and assured
He, Comforter, ne'er t oelave us
He shall guide us, teach us, bless
'Til we come to full conformance
Through His work, His performance

Trusting daily, on through thick, thin
Following where He has been
With His Spirit He enables

Each His children, that none falls
But His loving purpose working
In our lives, we them Him bring
Seeking, praying, discern His will
He shall aid through good and ill

'Til bright morning, lasting dawning
When we shall e'er worship, sing
And too praise Him here on earth while
He heavenly mansions compiles
In our brief life, gospel message
Lasts through every time and age
Help us Lord, the time to redeem
Fleeting this world's sojourn seems

Kingly Kindlings

Tune: Dambusters March

('God is our strength and refuge')

Psalm 73 v.25

Whom have I in heaven but you
You God, you only faithful, true
And there is on the earth none
Like you, no, not one
And none other I desire
Come, light my heart with your fire
You my life your holy longings do inspire

Psalm 73 v.26

My flesh and heart do fail me
But God is my strength sure, see
Strength of my heart to sustain
Through temptings, toils, pain
He be my portion ever
Will fail me, disown, never
Joined to Him, naught can us from His love sever

Psalm 76 v.1-2

In Judah, there is God known
There His wonders and power shown
His name great in Israel
His glories we tell
In Jerusalem His tent
His presence true, no relent
His tabernacle in Zion, there we went

Psalm 74 v.19

O God, come save your people
As we unto you do call

Take us as your turtle-dove
Enfold us in love
Save us from wicked schemings
Shine on us your bright beamings
Forget not the poor, bring them to redeemings

Psalm 74 v.12

For God is my King of old
In the earth His works are told
He does work salvation
Unto each nation
Here in the midst of the earth
He acts, we give Him His worth
Blessings on dry souls shall bring an end of dearth

Sheep Shepherding

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, they word abideth')

Psalm 95

1. O come, let us now sing
Unto the LORD, praise bring
Let us make noise joyful
And unto Him here call

2. For He is our rock sure
Rock of salvation e'ermore
Let us thus come before
His presence and adore

3. Offer Him thanksgiving
He the LORD, e'er living
Make joyful noise with psalms
And give dutiful alms

4. For the LORD a God great
Is, He helps us not late
And a great King above
All gods is He in love

5. In His hand deep places
Of the earth, all races
Strength of hills is His also
Sea is His, we too know

6. He made sea and dry land
All created by His hand
O come, let us worship
Serve Him here in deed, lip

7. Let us before Him kneel
He our Maker, this we feel
He our God, we His sheep
His people He does keep

8. Of His pasture we are
None He will fail or debar
Today if you will hear
His voice, heed, and draw near

9. Harden not your heart tough
Provocation was enough
Of old days, they Him provoked
And His judgement invoked

10. They did tempt and Him proved
Then He His help removed
For they in heart did err
His ways not know, not share

11. In His wrath He did share
They not enter rest there
Promised Land not entered
Generation censured

12. Yet a people following
After, did obtain good thing
Let us have faith, hearing
Obedience Him bring

Prayer Prosperings

Tune: Taizé Chant

('O Lord, hear my prayer')

Psalm 62

O God, hear my cry
I feel you are nigh
Listen, pass me not by
From the earth's far end
My prayer you I send
Come to me, to me tend

When o'erwhelmed my heart
Is, do not depart
From me, come me and quiet
To the rock me lead
Higher than I, plead
I, see, come meet my need

For you have been sure
A shelter e'ermore
Unto me, I adore
You, a strong tower
You are every hour
Inspire me with your power

You from enemy
Have defended me
Rescued, saved, I now be
And I will abide
In your tent reside
Under your wings confide

God, you my vows heard

You heard every word
Your ear to me conferred
You have given me
The heritage, see
Those who fear you, they be*
(*i.e. the heritage are the people who fear God)

The king's life will last
Generations fast
Future glories and past
Before God he shall
Abide, ever tell
Of His graces, fair, well

Prepare truth, mercy
Which shall to him be
To preserve him, and free
Him from troubles here
He (the king) offers vows clear
So praises your name dear

Righteous Rulings 2

Tune: St Gregory [Wainwright]

('With glorious clouds encompassed round')

Psalm 49 v.12-20

Man being in honour abides
Not, but temporary resides
He on the earth, perishes soon
As light darkened at noon

The upright shall have dominion
O'er the wicked, each one
Rich, greedy, their beauty, consumed
For they boasted, presumed

They set themselves up to live long
Nor worship God, no song
From them was heard, for they involved
In evil deeds, hearts cold

But God my soul he will redeem
From power of grave, though seem
My troubles great, me [He] will receive
For in Him I do believe

The righteous, they be those, the blessed
In the Lord find their rest
And sinful, selfish, shall vanish
Unfulfilled be their wish[es]

Communion Capturings

Tune: Margaret

('O love that wilt not let me go')

Here tokens sure be of your passion
You, Jesus, God the Father's own Son
Bread, wine, simply displayed, inviting
Us to come to you, our lives bring
To you hymns, praises sing

A time alighting, preparation
Your redemption for each nation
You the Priest and Victim, this feast
Open to greatest as to least
From north, west, south, and east

So hearts, minds, lives, gracious anointing
You who know us through, everything
Yet bid us sinners be forgiven
From your hands, feet, and side riven
Your life for us given

And meekly kneeling at altar rail
These gifts shall help, strengthen, not fail
We take, eat, drink, we by you fed
You Lord risen e'er from the dead
Now you our living Head

Here hymns, songs in contemplation
Bright joys of your love, and elation
Blessed comforts here, eternal life sure
Who eats and drinks of you e'ermore
Lives in you safe, secure

So taking your life to share out
To help, encourage others from doubt
To inspire faith in them, that they
With us may too all watch and pray
'Til dawns e'erlasting day

Take us, take me, your Spirit fill
With your power, to help those still
Who none, or part, your gospel know
That so here on your earth below
Your kingdom, [and] will, [may] full grow

Thirsty Trustings

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

The last line of each verse is repeated

Psalm 63 v.1

O LORD, to you I sing a song

Help me, for you I long

Like Psalmist in dry, thirsty land

Lead me in still by your good hand

With all true Christians' band

Psalm 63 v.1

As if my soul, as if it parched

My purpose overarched

'Tis to seek you, to know you more

Until reaching eternal shore

Blessings for humble, poor

Psalm 61 v.2

From ends of earth I cry to you

Come to me, me renew

When my heart overwhelmed it be

Guide m to rock higher than me

It your true presence be

Psalm 62 v.2

he only is my rock, defence

My salvation from hence

And I shall not be greatly moved

For you to me your love have proved

My troubles you have soothed

Psalm 63 v.7-8

Because you my sure help hav been
Generous, and not mean
In shadow of your wings I do
Rejoice, follow hard after you
And worship you, your due

Praise Performings

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 139 v.1-4

1. Lord you have known, searched me
There no thing you not see
When I sit, stand, walk, you know all
Whether day, night, you call
You compass our path round
Praises to you redound
And too our laying down, you know
All our ways, words, 'tis so

Psalm 139 v.17-18

2. How precious be your thoughts
To me, of all good sorts
They are, and great he sum they be
We cannot total, see
If I should count them, they
More than sand's grains I say
And when I wake from restful sleep
You sill with me, your sheep

Psalm 145 v.9-11

3. The Lord, He good to all
Trusting Him, we not fall
His tender mercies o'er all things
His works Him honour brings
For they shall all praise you
Your saints shall bless you too
Of your glory, power, they speak
And do your kingdom seek

Psalm 147 v.1

4. Praise the Lord, it is good
That all folks surely should
Praise Him in song and melody
Hearts rejoicing, set free
To praise Him is pleasant
Comely, and He has sent
His Spirit to us, to empower
Our worship every hour

Psalm 149 v.4

5. For the Lord takes pleasure
In His people, measure
Of blessings rich with them He shares
Knowing our toils and cares
He will the meek espy
And them will beautify
With salvation, redeeming sure
They His for evermore

Psalm 146 v.10

6. The Lord shall reign for e'er
In Him you shall well fare
Even 'tis your God, O Zion
He the Lamb and Lion
To all generations
And over all nations
he shall rule o'er all lands, ne'er fail
His Lordship all shall hail

Psalm 144 v.9-10

7. I will sing a new song
To you Lord, day, night long
With psaltery and instrument
Of ten strings, no relent
Will sing praises to you

You save me, me renew
And deliver from troubles sore
You my Lord evermore

Psalm 150

8. Praise Him in sanctuary
Let earth and heaven agree
All that has breath here join in to
Sing His praises anew
His mighty acts recall
His power and love tell all
Sweet music make, He excellent
His praise our good intent

Creation Cycles

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

Psalm 104 v.24-35

1. O Lord, how manifold all your works be
By our senses we do them hear, see
And in appreciating your glory
We too can smell, touch, taste them for free
2. In wisdom all your works you have made sure
The earth full of your riches e'ermore
Things of earth, sea, sky, under the earth too
You your world visit, refresh, renew
3. All wait upon you, dependent, trusting
That you may daily provide, them bring
All that is needful, food, drink for each day
Sufficient for strength along life's way
4. What you do give them, that they do gather
You open your hand, they do prosper
They filled with good are, mindful of your grace
All that you give in love to each race
5. But if you hide your face, they are troubled
For the supply dried, providings stalled
If taking away their breath, they do die
They return to dust cannot deny
6. You send forth your spirit, all life giving
Then is created of you each thing
And you renew the face of the earth here
We worship you, trusting you are near

7. The glory of the LORD it shall endure
For ever, and in His works, His store
He shall rejoice in His works, He made all
Come, sing. meditate, on Him now call

8. My meditation of Him shall be sweet
I shall adore Him, fall at His feet
I shall sing to Him while I have being
In Him I be glad, my life Him bring

Covenant Communings

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

Hebrews 10 v.12-18

Christ, when offered self did give
Sacrifice that we may live
Offered once, sufficient be
That we can salvation see
Now sat down at Father's side
In high heaven He does reside

He sits, prays, and intercedes
For our forgiveness he pleads
Awaiting expectantly
'Til enemies [His] footstool be
There placed form beneath His feet
Separating chaff from wheat

For by that one offering
That [to] the Father Christ did bring
Perfected, amde whole, are they
That are sanctified, who say
'Christ has lived, died, rose for me
Salvation in Him I see'

For the Spirit witnesses
A foretaste of heavenly bliss
That this is the covenant
Which God to us He has sent
That the Lord His laws would write
And put in hearts, minds aright

And too sins, iniquities

He would not upon them seize
But remember them no more
Not guilt, sin, nor any flaw
So now here is remissing (remission)
For sin no more offering

No more offering can be
For Christ has done it all, see
Come, avail of body, blood
Spiritually cleansing flood
And the Spirit in each one
Who trusts themselves to the Son

Peace Provision

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Ephesians 2 v.12-17

At one time we from Christ far off
We did deride and scoff
Were aliens from [the] commonwealth
Of Israel, in need of health

Strangers too from the covenant
Of promises us sent
Having no hope, and God without
Him in the world, no doubt

But now in Christ, we sometimes far
From Him, our morning-star
Now made nigh by Christ's blood, 'tis shed
With power to raise the dead

For He our peace, has made both one
He the Father's own Son
Peace between man and God, the Way
He leads to endless day

He has broken middle wall down
No longer wrath or frown
Need we experience, for He
Has come to set us free

In His flesh, he took enmity
That separated us, see
Of laws and rules, and strife to be
He took it all for me

And to God and man reconcile
It was the plan, the style
That He make us one through His cross
His body bore the loss

The loss that we could not amend
Nor by good deeds defend
But Christ did save, took enmity
That peace with God may be

He came and preached to those afar
Gentiles, with no debar
Peace to them, and to the Jews near
All to the Saviour dear

Concluding Formal Prayers Series - 5

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Guide us, Lord, in all we do
Come to us, and us renew
With your gracious favour sure
You our Shepherd evermore

Further us continually
With your help, that we agree
In you all our works begun
Continued, ended, and done (in you)

In those works we pray we may
Glorify your name alway
Your name holy does remain
By your mercy we attain

Attain life everlasting
Through Jesus Christ each good thing
He our Saviour, does atone
We His people, we His own

Victory Vindications

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Revelation 19 v.11-16

Heaven opened, white horse
Goes forth now on its course
The rider, He called 'Faithful, True'
A mission has to do
In righteousness He does
Judge and make war, but loves
The good and right with pure delight
But hates all shades of night

His eyes a flame of fire
he the bright morning star
And on His head were crowns many
All visible to see
And too a name written
Which no one could know then
Except Himself, and whom He willed
That it should be revealed

Clothed with vesture stained-blood
For us, redeeming flood
The Word of God it is His name
E'er of eternal fame
His armies followed forth
From east, west, south, and north
They too on white horses displayed
In white linen arrayed

From His mouth goes a sword
Sharp, He o'er all the Lord

With sword He shall the nations smite
And bring in truth and right
He shall rule with a rod
Of iron, and He for God
Tends to evil and with it deals
Whate'er destroys, kills, steals

Awesome sight, God's winepress
Of His fierceness, no less
'Tis full of His anger and wrath
Consumes evil like moth
On His vesture and thigh
His name is seen, draw nigh
It written KING OF KINGS is He
And LORD OF LORDS He be

Creation Contemplations

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

1. Lord, you give skill and art to all
You do hear all who on you call
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Your bright creation shows your power
Through days and seasons ,every hour
You your graces us endower
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

2. Work, talents, gifts, shared, all mankind
Has somewhat to offer, we find
Alleluia, Alleluia!
That you enable by your grace
Your wisdom through us we do trace
Life you sustain at even pace
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. Glories of changing seasons shown
Physically, spiritually known
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Through autumn, winter, summer, spring
Still faithful blessings you us bring
All shall join to honour, you sing
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

4. Rain, sky, and clouds, clear, dark or blue
You face of earth constant renew
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And warmth of sun, it shining bright
Resting a while, we here alight
Your beauties revealed to our sight

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

5. In your redemption plan you gave
Your Son for us, He does us save
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To free from sins holds, bonds, and chains
He, Christ your Son for ever reigns
Chose to die for us, bear our pains
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

6. Sharing in hope, resurrection
Gospel avails ot each nation
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Muse on eschatalogical* (*es-ka-ta-lo-gi-cal)
End-times, when Christ shall gather all
Repent, believe, come hear His call
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

7. So gathered in safe, free from harm
We shall partake of peace and calm
Alleluia, Alleluia!
In heaven, colourful displayed
Multi-faceted grace arrayed
Of Christ's people, He their debt paid
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

8. Fair shall dawn the eternal day
When all sin, sorrow, swept away
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And no more pain, crying be here
No more death, and gone human fear
When Christ second time does appear
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Spirit Sealings

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty')

John 14 v.13-21

Whate'er you ask now in my name
It shall be done, the same
Said Jesus, so that Father be
Glorified in Son, see
And if we shall ask anything
He will do it, will bring
To us those things of God's good hand
To folk of every land

And Christ will pray the Father too
Send Comforter to you
That He may abide for ever
Remain, leave you never
Even the Spirit of truth he
Shall with you, in you be
He whom the world cannot receive
They see not, know, believe

Comfortless he will not us leave
Nor stay in sadness, grieve
For Christ shall come to us again
The Spirit's presence then
They that have His commands and keep
Them, they are e'er His sheep
And they are those who do Christ love
Inspired by grace above

They too be by the Father loved
He holds them, His encov'ed (encovenanted)

And Christ will love them, and will show
Himself to them, they know
Then of His presence, kindly blessed
In Him they find their rest
Come to our hearts now, holy dove
Spirit of truth and love

Meadow Meanderings

Tune: Christchurch [Steggall]

('Now is eternal life')

Passing through meadows green
God's creation is seen
For He has it all made
In His beauties arrayed
Nature unspoiled by human blight
Viewed resplendent to our delight

Yet here, conservation
Inhibit species none
But do for them provide
They cannot be denied
For sharing earth's resources, this
Man and beast in peace co-exists

Weep sad, you willow trees
We espy clusters, these
Growing tall, shadowing
Shelter from rain, sun bring
They weep where man's greed and misuse
Have damaged lands with no excuse

Here too be birds resting
And their young do they bring
Within sanctuary there
With humans they do share
In pleasant joys by river's side
Taking life daily in their stride

'Tis all works marvellous
God does great things for us

Though Spring, Summer, and Fall
And Winter, He o'er all
We His sheep, He through pastures guides
His presence from us He not hides

Leaving our country lane
To turn to town again
Or river's ramble, stroll
Where'er we be, our soul
Is strengthened, supported by you
Lord, you us help and us renew

Evangelism Encouragements

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

O magnify the Lord, come praise His name
He ever stays the same (x2)
Faithful and loving, worthy of praise
Psalms, songs, and anthems raise (x3)

Let all that has breath it employ
In strains of holy joy (x2)
To worship Him the Lord o'er all
Near those who on Him call (x3)

With hearts, minds, lives from sins redeemed
Though helpless may have seemed (x2)
Yet Christ did to our rescue came
Worthy of endless fame (x3)

The gospel message e'er resounds
That mercy, grace abounds (x2)
And in His love redemption avails
His salvation prevails (x3)

What can we do more in word and deed
That others too may heed (x2)
The truths of eternal life free
Open to you and me (x3)

He His Spirit gives, He indwells
That each, empowered, tells (x2)
Of His mission, Christ came to save
For us His life He gave (x3)

Once died, but now from dead arose
Each believing heart knows (x2)
He the life and resurrection
For us great things has done (x3)

'Til rapture's call, last trumpet sound
Pray that lost souls be found (x2)
And come to share e'erlasting bliss
God's wondrous plan is this (x3)

Glory Gleanings

Tune: Thaxted

('Jerusalem the golden')

Psalm 103 v.20

Bless the LORD, you His angels
Of Him wonders each tells
You excel in strength mighty
Do His commandments free[ly]
You hearken to His voice sure
The voice of His word pure
Delighting in His presence
His glories you do sense

Psalm 104 v.24

O LORD, how manifold be
Your works, we each one see
In wisdom have you all made
Each one for them plans laid
The earth of your riches full
Is, unto you we call
You LORD, the great Creator
How fine your treasure-store

Psalm 105 v.4-5

Seek the LORD, and His strength sure
Seek His face evermore
Remember His works marvellous
That He has done for us
His wonders, judgements, rulings
His salvation He brings
To all who will accept here
His Son as Saviour dear

Psalm 103 v.12-13

As far as east is from west
He has granted us rest
Has our sins removed from us
Forgiven, we profess
That like a father's sparings
He us His mercy brings
We pitied, as His children
Do trust Him, fear Him then

Psalm 103 v.14

We dust, dust, and like worms are
He God greater by far
Yet He has made and us known
And blessings us has shown
He knows our frame, we little
Oft weak, poor, and brittle
But He cares, and us His sheep
In His fold does us keep

Psalm 103 v.15-17

Mankind, days like fleeting grass
When o'er us wind does pass
As flowers of field flourish
After a time perish
So mankind, temporary
On earth his state it be
But the LORD, He His mercy
'Tis everlasting, see

Hasten My Help

Tune: Bullinger

('I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus')

Psalm 40 v.11-17 parts

1. Withhold not your tender mercies

From me, me LORD, see

Let your truth, your loving kindness

Do me sure bless

2. Let them keep me and preserve me

For there here do be

Many evils, sins abounding

My pleas I bring

3. Bring them to you, O LORD, be pleased

My burdens be eased

Deliver me, make haste to help me

Do set me free

4. Let all those that seek you rejoice

In you, you their choice

Let such as love your salvation

Praise you, each one

5. Look on me, I poor and needy

LORD, think upon me

You my helper and deliverer

Graces confer [on me]

Mount Meetings

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand O God has guided')

(Hebrews 12 v.18-25)

1. You have not come to Sinai
From which dread man would fly
Unless God bid him approach
Such mount without reproach
Burning with fire, blackness there
Darkness, tempest, none dare
Come to such place, save God them call
He awesome Lord of all

2. Sound of trumpet loud they heard
And trembled at the word
So terrible the sight made
Though Moses, he obeyed
And did exceeding fear and quake
For he made no mistake
That God atop the mount dwelt
They bowed before Him, knelt

3. But we are come to Zion
Mount and city where none
Be excluded, all welcome
May come through Christ the Son
The living God, His presence there
We may partake and share
The heavenly Jerusalem
From where His blessings stem

4. And too innumerable
Angels, they serve God all

They there, and too assembly
And church of firstborn be
The church of Christ, firstborn He
First risen from dead, see
Their names in heaven written
With spirits of good men

5. Spirits of just men, they made
Perfect, Christ ransom paid
To save them and us, trusting
Salvation He does bring
And there is God, Judge of all
To all He makes His call
And Jesus, mediator
Of new covenant sure

6. His blood does speak things better
Than of Abel, confer
Does He on us His graces
To folk of all races
That blood speaks our forgiveness
In Christ God shall us bless
Turn not away, take heed today
Hear His voice clear alway

Sheep Salvation

Tune and Hymn Name: 'To God be the glory'

Luke 15 v.4-7

'Twas like one day when a hundred sheep kept
By a shepherd, but then was of one bereft
Though not lost for ever, nor abandoned e'er
Shepherd sets to find it and shall give up ne'er

Chorus

Salvation is proclaimed, now hear the joyful sound
Where one sinner repents, joy in heaven is found
And angels too share in the exaltation
This invite open to souls of each nation

So ninety-nine sheep left in wilderness there
But surely providing they have loving care
Yet lost sheep must needs be found, search diligent
Shepherd searched till he found sheep, on travels went - Chorus

When finding his lost sheep, he on shoulders laid
And brought it home to fold, his toils repaid
Friends, neighbours called, for time of celebration
For the sheep is found now which once was lost one - Chorus

And so welcome home, for the sheep safe, secure
From heaven's delights may it depart ne'er more
'Tis so for each soul that salvation receives
Who the wondrous truth of the gospel believes - Chorus

Prayer Petitions

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 51 v.10-11

Create in me clean heart

O God, renew me, each part

Renew a right spirit

Your light of life in me lit

And cast me not away

From your presence today

And do not take away

Your Holy Spirit, stay

Psalm 52 v.8-9

I like a green olive

Tree, in your house Lord I live

I trust in your mercy

For ever, endless it be

I will praise you for e'er

You helped me, you were there

Saved me from enemy

I shall wait, trust you, see

Psalm 54 v.4-5

Behold, God my help is

I know so, 'tis even this

That He is with them sure

Who uphold my soul e'ermore

And to my enemy

His reward, it shall be

Evil lots they shall know

God shall appoint it so

Psalm 53 v.6

O that the salvation
Would come to Israel's nation
Out of Zion, the hill
On which it is founded still
When God shall captives bring
From captivity, sing
Shall His people, rejoice
They glad in God their choice

Psalm 51 v.15

O Lord, my lips open
And I shall show your praise then
My mouth it shall true tell
Of you who do all things well
Silent I shall not be
But shall offer you free
The sacrifice of praise
Fair anthems to you raise

Ageless Abidings

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

Psalm 71 parts

1. Cast me not off in my old age

Forsake me not, this stage

I am in human life, so be

E'en if my strength fail, see

2. I hope in you continually

Will praise you constantly

More and more shall to you abound

My songs of praise resound

3. My mouth your righteousness shall show

Your salvation I know

But how many days of live I live

I know not, you them give

4. You give each day and night, ordain

Them, and o'er them do reign

I will go in the Lord's strength sure

O sustain me e'ermore

5. And of your righteousness i shall

Make mention, on you call

From my youth you have taught me here

I follow in lowly fear

6. I your wondrous works have declared

With others have them shared

Now when I old, grey-headed be

Do not forsake e'en me

7. For I shall act, and I shall know
To next generations show
Your strength and power, eternal
Trusting you, none shall fail

8. So shall I sing, rejoice greatly
You set free from enemy
And me redeemed, my tongue shall tell
you have done all things well

Ennobling Entrance

Tune: Truro

(one tune to 'Jesus shall reign where'er the sun')

Psalm 24

1. The earth it is the LORD's always
And its fullness to endless days
The whole world is His, it He made
All they that dwell there He arrayed

2. He founded it upon the seas
Creating it as He did please
Who shall ascend His holy hill
Those who have clean hands, pure heart still

3. They who have not soul up lifted
To vanity, nor deceit-led
Such who ascend His blessing may
Receive, they humbly watch and pray

4. And too righteousness they shall know
He His salvation shall them show
This the generation who do
Seek your face LORD, you them renew

5. Lift up your heads, ye glorious gates
The King of glory, He awaits
To enter in Jerusalem
There His people to dwell with them

6. And lift up, everlasting doors
The King of glory of all shores
Shall enter in, He strong, mighty
Mighty in battle, you shall see

7. Who is this King of glory here?
Worship Him now with godly fear
The LORD of hosts, this King is He
His kingdom come, eternal bliss

Storm Stillness

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Mark 4 v.36-41

Christ who quietened restless waves
Still today He saves
Lord of all, earth, sea, sky
For refuge we fly
From storms of enemy
Physically, spiritually
Look Lord, have mercy here
Where troubled hearts fear

Crossing sea of Galilee
A storm rose up see
Jesus in boat, disciples
Each unto Him calls
Wakes Him from sleep, He rose
He all creation knows
Rebuked winds, said to sea
Peace, let there calm be

Wind did cease, storm did abate
Waves lulled, were not late
To obey His sure command
Ordered by His hand
And word of power true
Spoken, be it to you?
That when He to them there
Recognised their fear

For to them, He said the word
They each it knew, heard

Why so fearful, why you be
In consternancy?
How is it you have not
Faith, what is it, your lot?
Your state, small trust in me
Though you to me flee

Help us Lord, to see as they
What be your will, way
They did fear with godly fear
Knowing you were near
With them in person, for
Your works caused over-awe
What manner [of] man you be
Commanding wind, sea?

Concluding Formal Prayers Series - 6

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu thou joy of loving hearts')

Almighty God, you the fountain
Of all wisdom unto all men
Yu know our needs before we ask
Help us, give power for each task

You too do know our ignorance
When dull is here our mind and sense
Have compassion on our weakness
Turn to us now, and us sure bless

Give us those things, we here now pray
Which for our unworthiness, say
We, that we dare not ask of you
Nor for our blindness [we] not see true

But ask we now through Christ your Son
He our mediator, the one
Who by Him we are saved, set free
And His eternally to be

Comforting Commissioning

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Isaiah 40 v.1-5

Comfort, comfort you, my people
This your God does to you call
Speak comfortably, to them saying
Your troubles are o'er, Him bring
Songs of praise and gratitude
He has helped you, you renewed

For your war is over, and see
Your sins are pardoned by me
Then hark to a voice in desert
Prophet he, and wears hair-shirt
John the Baptist's work foretold
By Isaiah from of old

His voice cries, prepare you the way
Of the LORD, see clear as day
Make straight in desert a highway
In dark places do not stay
Make a highway for God sure
He does reign for evermore

Each valley shall be exalted
Hills, mounts, made low, He has said
Crooked places shall be made straight
Rough places plain, celebrate
For God shall come in His Son
Christ Jesus the holy one

And the glory of the LORD shall

Be revealed to one and all
All flesh it shall see together
Unto Him repentant stir
The mouth of the LORD this says
So would come prophesied days

Anointed Assurance

Tune and Hymn: 'Make me a channel of your peace'

Psalm 118 v.1-9

O give thanks unto the LORD here
Worship Him now with godly fear
Because His mercy endures e'er
And we all in His good things share

Chorus

You are my God and I will praise you true
You are my God, and I exalt you, I do
O give thanks unto the LORD, good is He
And His mercy forever it shall be

Let Israel, house of Aaron, now say
And those that fear the LORD each day
Say, His mercy endures for e'er
And we are blessed, in it we share - Chorus

I called upon the LORD in distress
He answered, did my need address
Brought me forth into a large place
By faith I do now see His face - Chorus

The LORD is on my side, now not fear
Shall I, He will my prayers sure hear
What is it man can do to me
When I you saving hand do see? - Chorus

The LORD, He does act, takes my part
With them that help me, knows their heart
Therefore shall I my desire see
Upon those that hate me, so be - Chorus

It is better to in the LORD trust
Than to confide in man, mere dust
It is better to in Him reside
Than in princes to here confide - Chorus

Incomparable Inconceivabilities

Tune: Laus Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Isaiah 40 v.13-18

1. Who has the Spirit directed?

Who has taught Him, who Him led?

Who has been His counsellor sure?

That He should exalt you more?

2. With what humans took He counsel

That He without us should fail?

Cannot be thus, for He acts so

His own plans, will, does He know

3. None has taught Him judgement, learning

Nor knowledge any does bring

To Him, nor showed Him the right way

His own purpose clear as day

4. He almighty, none can compare

To His wisdom, none can bear

To see Him in full revealing

Yet Him praise we can Him bring

5. Behold, the nations so small are

He omnipotent by far

Nations as a drop in bucket

As mere dust of sand or grit

6. For see, He the nations up takes

As very little thing makes

Lebanon's forest, cedars tall

If burnt, shall not cover all

7. For they not sufficient to be
Used in burnt offerings, see
Nor there beasts enough to offer
To Him, we do all concur

8. For He is Lord, and all nations
All their daughters and their sons
Are as nothing, less than nothing
Vanity be everything

9. He the Lord incomparable
None is like Him, none at all
Yet we humbly here His people
May praise Him and on Him call

Communion Closeness

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

1. Since you invite us, come to feast
From greatest unto least
At your Communion table spread
You there, the living bread

2. And too wine poured, your life you gave
Each sinner for to save
These simple gifts, rich treasure-store
Sustain us evermore

3. Bread for your body, broken here
We feel your presence near
Wine for your blood, for us outpoured
Your name be e'er adored

4. We cannot earn, cannot obtain
Life, our own efforts vain
But you life give us in your Son
He the redeeming one

5. Come sanctify me, me forgive
And I through you shall live
Shall reverently partake sure
You are our heart's-ease cure

6. I come to share with Christ's people
He meets with one and all
None else has died for me, nor could
Do so, e'en if they would

7. For you only the sinless one

Jesus the Father's Son

Gave up yourself, an offering

To you we humbly sing

8. Eat and drink in remembrance

Of Christ's death, it do sense

With prepared heart, mind, meet your Lord

He the life giving Word

Daylight Dawning

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Matthew 3 v.14-25 parts

To Galilee, Capernaum
Did Christ the Son of God come
Land upon the sea coast, set on
Bordering there Zebulon
In Nephtalim too, north country
Was His glorious presence, see

To Jews and to Gentiles came He
As Isaiah's prophecy
People rise, bright hopes abounding
To your Saviour praises sing
You which sat in darkness now know
Light of Christ which He does show

'Tis a great light, all illuming
Does life and salvation bring
They who sat in region, shadow
Of death, to them light bestow[ed]
Light sprang up, end of woe, mourning
Christ transforming everything

There His ministry continued
Bodies, souls, spirits renewed
Teaching, preaching, healing, prayer, praise
Now has come salvation's days
In town, country, to all peoples
Message of the gospel calls

Gospel of the kingdom preached then

All manner sickness healed when
Jesus met with poor and needy
Knowing what each their need be
Good news, gospel, for all prevails
Stay no more 'neath death's dark veils

Reaping Revelings

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields and scatter')

Revelation 14 v.14-20

I looked, behold, a white cloud
Revealed, and in unshroud
One sat upon this cloud, he was
Displayed majestic thus
Having on head a gold crown
And name of great renown
One like the Son of man He
Had sharp sickle, now see

Chorus

Angel from the temple
Loud, loud, His message call
'Thrust in your sickle, the earth reap
Harvest it, the good keep'

Time for the earth to be reaped
E'en seemed in evil steeped
But there good too, the harvest-tide
Fruits ripe it does provide
So he that on the cloud sat
Thrust in His sickle, that
The earth should then be reaped sure
The good gathered e'ermore - Chorus

Then another angel
Who too had sharp sickle
Came out of temple, waits for
An angel from altar
This one had power o'er fire

Having words solemn, dire
Spoke to angel with sickle
Who true did hear his call - Chorus

Said angel from the altar
Thrust in your sickle, stir
Yourself to gather earth's vine
For see this, this the sign
The grapes are fully ripe now
They must be reaped, and how
Righteous judgements of God known
Victory o'er evil shown - Chorus

Residency Restoration

Tune: Unde Et Memores

('And now, O Father, mindful of the love')

Isaiah 30 v.24-29

Look, Lord upon the city, Zion see
Tis the city of our solemnity
You people, you shall Jerusalem see
A quiet habitation it shall be
As tabernacle set up, removed ne'er
For the Lord shall forever abide there

Not one of those tent pegs shall e'er be loosed
Nor strength of cords upholding it reduced
But there the glorious LORD will be to us
A place of broad rivers and sanctuary
And streams shall flow with water of life pure
All wondrous, perfect, we shall Him adore

No galley with oars shall be seen therein
No human strength, pride, vanity, or sin
Nor gallant ship of human boasting seen
Nor bitterness, spite, greed, and nothing mean
For the LORD is our judge and lawgiver
Clear, crystal, sparkling there be the river

The LORD is our King, He will save us sure
With help and graces from His goodness' store
Teh people that dwell there He shall forgive
They shall know His blessings and they shall live
Restored, renewed, they give Him thanks and praise
And to Him songs of gratitude do raise

Harvest Humblings

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Isaiah 55 v.6-13

Seek the Lord while He may be found
Hear His voice now, hear the sound
And call upon Him while He near
Approach with humble, meek fear
Let wicked forsake their wrong way
Turn unto Him now today
Let unrighteous forsake their thoughts
Return to Him in good sorts

For the Lord will them mercy show
His pardon, peace they shall know
Will show His grace abundantly
That they His goodness shall see
For my thoughts be not yours, says He
And my ways be not yours, see
For as heavens higher than earth
My ways, thoughts, higher, more worth

For as rain does from heaven come down
Upon each land, country, town
And snow from heaven not returns
But waters the earth's concerns
That it may bring forth, bud and flowers
Until the harvest hours
Then seeds to sower, bread to eat
Full fields of golden blessed wheat

So as that rain and snow are sent
So shall God's words, no relent

Not return unto Him void, for
They shall all accomplish sure
The things He pleases shall be done
They shall be hindered by none
They shall prosper, where sent His word
Word of life they shall have heard

You shall go out with joy and peace
Know favours, harvest's increase
Creation joins, mountains, hills, trees
In all God's goodness agrees
Instead of thorns shall come the fir
Myrtle come instead of briar
The Lord's name shall be glorified
He for us all shall provide

Royal Residency

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O God')

In Zion God does dwell
Let each mouth and tongue tell
Of His blessings daily
His faithful hand we see

And too a human heart
May be filled, every part
With His Spirit, presence
Within us Him we sense

For He shall there abide
In believers reside
Granted life eternal
They who have heard Christ's call

Grieve not His Spirit here
A treasure-store most dear
Anger do put away
Rest in Him, content stay

And quench not His Spirit
Heart still to Him be knit
Fears be gone, love replace
Them by His fair good grace

Church Continuances

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Acts Chapter 2 part

O wind and flame of Pentecost
Come to our hearts, seek, save the lost
Your Spirit here, He manifest
'Til last you kept new wine, the best

As cloven tongues of fire did rest
Upon them there at your behest
So filled were they with your Spirit
Filled with the life of God, each whit

So gift of tongues was there displayed
Among the peoples there arrayed
'Twas from your hand, your Spirit sure
They could worship in languages more

The wonderful words of God they spoke
Simply, with no complex invoke
Not only for that first church, that fare
All believers by grace may share

The message there, repent and be
Baptised in name of Jesus Christ, see
Remission of sins to you sure
Receive gift of the Spirit pure

They continued daily, one accord
In temple, houses, with the Lord
Broke bread and prayed, bold, unafraid
Teaching and fellowship, strong, staid

They praised God, gained favour with all
The Lord added daily, who His call
Did hear, respond, and His salvation
Open to all of every nation

Treasure Trove

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Psalm 19 v.7-14

The law of the Lord is perfect
Converts souls in each respect
Testimony of the Lord sure
Makes wise the simple e'ermore
Statutes of the Lord they right are
They rejoice the heart by far

The commandment of the Lord pure
Enlightening the eyes more
And the fear of the Lord it is
Enduring for ever this
Judgements of the Lord they are true
And righteous they be to you

More to be desired are they than
Gold, fine gold, riches of man
Sweeter than honey, honeycomb
Or all dainties we have known
And by them your servants are warned
Light of life has on them dawned

In keeping of them great reward
Is, we can too be assured
Who can understand their errors
Cleanse me from sins, endeavours
Do I make, my faults to forsake
Where things secret I partake

Keep back too your servant, I pray

From presumptuous sins ay (always)
Let them not dominion o'er me
Have, then I upright shall be
And innocent from great sin, so
Trusting you, I your way go

Let the words of my mouth, my part
And meditation of heart
Be acceptable in your sight
O Lord, full of power and might
You my strength, and my redeemer
You who will be, are, and were

A Time For All

Tune: Richmond

(one tune to 'O for a closer walk with God')

Ecclesiastes 3 v.1-11

1. To everything a season be
Time to each purpose, see
All that under heaven is done
Pointless and useless none

2. A time to be born, time to die
Life passing by and by
A time to plant, time to up pluck
'Tis not mere fate or luck

3. A time to kill, a time to heal
Such states continue still
A time to break down, and up build
To these laws all life yields

4. A time to laugh, a time to weep
Matters shallow or deep
A time to dance, a time to mourn
To every human born

5. A time for stones be cast away
Gather another day
A time to embrace, or refrain
From embrace, it is plain

6. A time to get, a time to lose
'Tis all how God does choose
A time to keep, time cast away
All under God's wise ways

7. A time to rend, a time to sew
Here throughout life we know
A time for silence, time for speech
How best each one to reach

8. A time to love, a time to hate
Life in its varied states
A time of war, a time of peace
Our time here God does lease

9. All made beautiful in God's time
All part of life's fine rhyme
The world He has set in our hearts
We cannot tell all parts

10. Cannot tell all of what He does
Nor all His works with us
Only He knows from the beginning
To the end, everything

Prayer Protection

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your strong name
You ever remain the same
Judge me by your strength perfectly
Then I true helpéd shall be

Hear my prayer O God, do give ear
Show me life, may it appear
Give ear to the words that I speak
I, your servant, do you seek

For strangers are risen 'gainst me
Oppressors seek my soul, see
They you, O God, they have not set
You before them, but forget

Behold, God is my helper sure
Will come to my aid e'ermore
He is with them that do uphold
My soul, they too in His fold

He shall unto my enemies
Reward evil, He them sees
Shall cut them off in His truth pure
Act from His treasure's great store

I will to Him free sacrifice
Praise His name, he does suffice
The LORD, my help, His name is good
I worship Him as I should

For He has come, delivered me
From all trouble, now I see
His desire on my enemies
Though I was 'midst contraries

Plentiful Pleas

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Colossians 1 v.9-13

A prayer in need, what here to pray?
What do we need each night and day?
Here some things prayed, we may receive
Come to the Lord now and believe

That you might be filled, this a plea
Wit the knowledge of His will, be
Filled with all wisdom, and spiritual
Understanding, so shall not fall

That you might of the Lord, worthy
Walk unto all pleasing, true, free
Being fruitful in every good
Work, increasing as you sure would

Increasing in the knowledge true
Of God, and strengthened so be you
With all might, be it according
To His glorious power living

So strengthened unto all patience
And longsuffering, too presence
Of joyfulness, and thanks giving
Unto the Father, to Him sing

He who has made us partakers
Of the inheritance, confers
Grace on us, we share, saints in light
Delivered by Him from dark night

Seeds And Sowing

Tune: East Acklam

('For the fruits of His creation')

Matthew 13 v.18-23

Parable of sower was shown
Jesus made known
It to His disciples, they heard
Truth of his word
The seed, it the word of God be
Falling on our lives soil-types see
hearken with hearts, ears, eyes open
Prospering then

Seed by wayside, it be they who
They the word knew
But they did not understand it
Not in hearts knit
So came along the wicked one
Caught away seed, no sowing done
They not fruitful, made no progress
Productive-less

Seed that fell in stony places
It made traces
Of growth, for was straightway received
Words were believed
Yet no root have, a while endure
But when troubles come it is sure
By and by offended they be
Partial fruit, see

Seed that fell among the thorns may
Inconstant stay

For the cares of this world close in
Like weeds begin
To choke the word, as do also
The deceit of riches they know
So become their lives unfruitful
Their growth does stall

Seed sown in the good ground, they hear
Understand clear
They do bear fruit, do bring it forth
Of precious worth
Some a hundred fold, some sixty
And some thirty fold from them be
Harvest time, fruit to God's glory
Eternally

Communing Contemplations 2

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Psalm 131 v.1

Lord, my heart it not haughty is
But I content myself in this
That my eyes they not lofty be
Nor too great matters do I see

Psalm 131 v.2

I have behaved, quieted myself
This shall be to my soul's good health
As a child weaned of mother, my soul
Is, in simplicity made whole

Psalm 130 v.1

Out of the depths to you I cried
To you, Lord, draw near to my side
Lord hear my voice, my prayer to you
Come to me, hear me, me renew

Psalm 132 v.13

The Lord Zion has chosen sure
His residence for evermore
'Tis holy mount, His habitation
Welcoming all of each nation

Psalm 132 v.16

Priests clothed there with His salvation
Saints shout for joy there, every one
Gone gloom and darkness, none affright
Day break dawns there with His true light

Psalm 134 v.1

Behold, bless the Lord, you servants
of His, who do take up night stance
In His house, to praise Him, His name
And proclaim his eternal fame

Psalm 134 v.2-3

Lift up your hands in sanctuary
In His Temple, holy it be
Bless His name you on night duty
And He bless you, your watchings see

Simplicity Seekers

Tune: Malvern

('one tune to 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

1 Timothy 6 v.6-12

Godliness with contentment, gain
Great it is, and it be no feign
For into this world we nothing
Brought, and cannot take out one thing

So having food, raiment, then let
us therewith be content, ot fret
For they who will be rich do fall
Into snares, temptings, hear not call

The call of God to live simply
Rejoicing and too penitently
But many foolish lusts hurtful
Rich fall into, a state appal[ling]

For the love of money the root
Of all evil, they quick, astute
To gain more and more, selfish ends
Treacherous through life their path bends

For if coveting worldly wealth
They err from the faith in their stealth
And sorrows know, as piercing pain
As they seek for self, greed retain

But rather seek to follow true
Righteousness, godliness, renew
And faith, love, patience, meekness too
Christ's lowly image formed in you

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold
On eternal life, here it told
'Tis to know the Father and the Son
And Spirit, they the Three in One

Righteous Renderings

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Romans 2 v.4-10

1. See here, riches of God, here see
His goodness here it be
And forbearance, longsuffering too
His graces unto you

2. His goodness shown to lead you sure
To repentance, true, pure
Be not hard-hearted, impenitent
Salvation he has sent

3. Treasure not up to yourself wrath
Will consume you as moth
In the day of wrath, is revealed
God's righteous judgement sealed

4. He will to each one then render
For each one's deeds confer
To those who patient continue
Shall be blessings anew

5. For they in well doing do seek
For glory, honour, they meek
And honour, immortality
For those, their hearts set be

6. Such shall obtain life eternal
And then their joys be full
They always knowing God's presence
His love they have and sense

7. But if contentious, and do no
Obey the truth, their lot
Is that they do unrighteousness
God shall not them more bless

8. But indignation, wrath, troubles
Anguish that has appalls
The shall have, for they work evil
And do not hear God's call

9. Though glory, honour, peace to each
Who do good, so they reach
Full state of grace eventually
The Lord they ever see

Journeying Joys

Tune: St Matthew

('Thine hands, O Lord, in days of old')

Give praise and thanks, stir joyful heart
Some melody now start
To worship Christ, your Lord and King
And Him gratitude bring
He is your Saviour, Redeemer
Does on you grace confer
No other hope, none to atone
Christ saves and He alone

He brings forgiveness to each soul
meets with them, makes them whole
By His Spirit lives, works within
To cleanse each one from sin
And change into His image more
Does of His plan assure
That none left out, there be no doubt
Spread the good news about

He comes to tend us, every part
Body, soul, spirit, heart
And to renew mind to think on
All things of Him, the Son
A destiny, a purpose sure
His good will in His store
Of blessings for us every day
As we walk in His way

If troubles sore, and life now hard
Yet His working not barred
Still in our life he acts and guides

No better choice besides
Hold to your Lord through dark and night
'Til clear vision of sight
And by His mercy you restored
To grow more in your Lord

Spring up well-spring from deep within
If heavy you have been
Waters of life to quench your thirst
Shall once again outburst
And refreshment to weary land
Evangel the dry sand
That those who need salvation sure
Trust in Christ evermore

Faithful Favourings

Tune: Darwall

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Psalm 105 v.1

O to the Lord thanks give

For He does ever live

Call upon His name true

He will come, will help you

Chorus

His mercy is for ever sure

Come to Him, worship and adore

Psalm 105 v.1-2

Make known deeds He has done

Salvation through His Son

Sings psalms, hymns, to Him free

Great God He ever be - Chorus

Psalm 104 v.31

His glory shall endure

For always, evermore

The Lord shall too rejoice

In His works, they our choice - Chorus

Psalm 106 v.4

O Lord, remember me

Look on me, and me see

Tend me with your favour

My heart does to you stir - Chorus

Psalm 106 v.4

The favour that you bear

Unto your people, share
And visit me, each one
With your blessed salvation - Chorus

Psalm 102 v.17

You us our prayers shall hear
We pray with godly fear
Destitute, poor, you aid
Their faith in you is stayed - Chorus

Psalm 104 v.34

My meditation here
Of you does sweet appear
In you we glad shall be
Lord, with us constantly - Chorus

Sing-song Serenadings

Tune: Majestas

('Name of all majesty')

Psalm 98 v.1

Sing to the LORD new song
He mighty and e'er strong
Marvellous things He
Has done, now here see
His right hand glorious
Holy arm bared for us
Has gained Him victory
So shall it be

Psalm 98 v.4

Make joyful noise to Him
Sing chorus, psalm, and hymn
All the earth join in
Fresh praises begin
Make unto Him loud noise
Men, women, girls and boys
Rejoice now, worship raise
Through nights and days

Psalm 99 v.1

The LORD reigns, let all fear
With awe, wonder, draw near
He sits above, Him
'Midst the cherubims
Let the earth be moved for
He reigns from shore to shore
God of love, judgement too
Will us renew

Psalm 100 v.4

With thanks His gates enter
Your hearts unto Him stir
And in His courts go
For you do Him know
We are His people sure
His sheep for evermore
Those of His pasture here
We to Him dear

Psalm 95 v.1

O come, sing to His name
His the eternal fame
Make a noise joyful
Unto Him now call
He is our solid rock
Will withstand every shock
Rock of our salvation
Cares for each one

Salvation Sensitivity

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Since 'tis you Lord bid us approach
Though on holy ground we encroach
Yet you bid us welcome, and to
Feed and drink on you anew

For no other has paid the price
Your offering it does suffice
Bread and wine for us are share here
As we to you do draw near

Yet you with us still abiding
By your Spirit, still residing
In hearts true that are believing
That worship you, to you sing

At Last Supper you a meal shared
In the Upper Room was prepared
You and your disciples eating
Fine fare, and with you drinking

That bread shared would be your body
That wine would be your blood shed free
New Covenant, that we may be
Saved through you, we do it see

Lifting praises, adoration
Salvation unto each nation
We give thanks, communion holy
Partaking, lowly, humbly

Hope we have in you our Saviour
You have given grace and favour
Here remember we your death shown
You atone, and you alone

Travelling On Trusting

Tune: Anima Christi

('Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast')

Psalm 9 v.1-2

I will praise you, O LORD, with my whole heart
Marvellously you helped me, every part
I will show forth all your works wonderful
Will be glad, rejoice, in you I not fall

Psalm 9 v.2-3

I will sing praise to your name, O most High
I pray to you, to you for refuge fly
When my enemies are turned back, they shall
Perish at your presence, you for me do well

Psalm 8 v.1

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent your name
Worthy of honour and eternal fame
In all the earth your name exalted yet
Your glory above the heavens you set

Psalm 7 v.9

Let the wickedness of the wicked end
O do your righteous judgements to us send
But the just do establish strong and clear
You God, righteous, you try hearts and reins* here
(*reins = consciences)

Psalm 6 v.9-10

The LORD my supplication He has heard
He will receive my prayer, my humble word
Let all my enemies be vexed and shamed
Though I still you Lord, as my God have named

Psalm 5 v.11

Let all that put their trust in you rejoice
And ever shout with joy, lifting one voice
To you, for you defend them, protect sure
Let all that love your name joy e'ermore

Psalm 5 v.12

For you, LORD, the righteous you will them bless
Those who serve you and who your name confess
With favour you will compass them as shield
Glories bright and graces to them revealed

Awake Alertings

Tune: Webb

('Stand up, stand up, for Jesus')

Awake, awake, church growing
Unto your Lord now sing
Employ each gift, each fruit sure
In His service e'ermore
Cast off dullness, apathy
Let all light of Christ see
Rise up from slumber, sleeping
Faithful now to your King

Not ritual, institution
But all in Christ made one
His living body whole, free
That all the world may see
Lord inspire with your Spirit
Empower every whit
Your people for to follow
And you more love and know

We pray dark senses lighten
Of children, women, men
To seek your kingdom, guiding
With wisdom in each thing
And to know your will, doing
What does you glory bring
Sharing of your salvation
To folk of each nation

Forgive us, where faith be dim
We focus fresh on Him
Your Son, Christ, gone before us

He our Lord, we confess
In your name grant that we be
Your servants on earth, see
In small or great, whate'er ways
Proclaim redemption's days

Creature Comfortings

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

O LORD, your works how manifold
Cannot by humans all be told
Alleluia, Alleluia!
In wisdom you have made them all
In them we rejoice and enthrall
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The earth full of your riches is
We see, observe, confess to this
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Sea, land, and under earth there be
All creatures you made perfectly
All your wonders, All your wonders
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In sea and rivers, lakes, waters
There be fish and abundant stores
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Those you ordain in ocean's depths
Your way in the sea, there your steps
All marine life, All marine life
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

On earth be animals great, small
They inhabit it, one and all
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Each one you feed, you do provide
Give drink to them, they here reside
All things living, All things living

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

And flying fowl aloft the skies
With gift of flight they do arise
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Too creeping things, insects many
Countless varied species there be
Birds and bees and all fine beasties
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

So help us Lord, your care-takers
Conservation desires to stir
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To tend environment, respect
Your world, all in it, not neglect
Till new earth come, Till new earth come
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Here St Francis' example be
Of twelfth and thirteenth century
Alleluia, Alleluia!
He in Assisi and around
Cared for all creatures, love profound
Holy memory, Holy memory
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The world and all in it is yours
Send us your Spirit, fresh outpours
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Guard from all ill, creation bless
Prosper with harmoniousness
You Lord of all, you Lord of all
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Comforting Considerations

Tune: St Helen

('God of grace and God of glory')

2 Corinthians 1 v.3-7

Blesséd be God, He the Father
Blessings on us does confer
He the Father of our Lord sure
Christ who lives for evermore
He the Father of all mercies
And of all comfort, He sees

Sees our tribulations and He
Comforts us in them that we
May be able with that comfort
To comfort others, same sort
Of comfort that we have received
Consoling them in their need

For it is the same comfort sure
Strength and solace, whole and pure
That we have ourselves received, known
From God, now to others shown
Sharing in the sufferings here
Help each others load to bear

If in times of trial, affliction
Bright shall dawn our comfort's sun
Or if comforted, and easy
Load to bear it sometimes be
Whate'er be our situation
Comfort abounds for each one

So partaking all in highs, lows

Through all each God's grace He shows
Trusting Him, who shall not us fail
His love to us will prevail
Help us Lord, whate'er our state be
Your strong comfort, mercies see

Harvest Homage

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Psalm 65 v.9

At harvest celebration

Recalling your works done

O Lord, you do earth visit

Water it as seems fit

To enable growth, blessing

And too sunshine you bring

River of God, abundance

Flowing from your grace hence

Psalm 65 v.10

When you have so provided

For man's needs, they not hid

From you, but you them know all

And as to you we call

So you prepare corn to reap

Good, wholesome, it you keep

Then man's labours do gather

What you on us confer

Psalm 67 v.5-7

Let the people, God, praise you

All people sing anew

Then shall earth yield her increase

That which you to us lease

And you our God, you shall bless

We gratefully confess

All ends of earth shall you fear

And know your presence near

Psalm 66 v.3

In your works how terrible
You are Lord, how awful
Through greatness of your power
Foes submit every hour
Unto you, for almighty
You evermore shall be
Whate'er enemies plot they
Shall end in vanity

Psalm 65 v.11-12

You crown the year with goodness
Pastures of wilderness
And little hills on each side
Rejoice, for you provide
Fields clothed with all their flocks are
Valleys with corn, look far
They extend wide, broad, showing
Fullness, they joy and sing

Psalm 66 v.8-9

O bless our God, you people
Come praise, worship Him all
Make the voice of His praise sure
To be heard, strong and pure
He holds our soul in life here
Each one to Him is dear
Sets us firm, so we unmoved
Our harvest-tide renewed

Wisdom Ways

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Psalm 90 part

LORD, you have been, yes, you our dwelling place
In all generations, and every race
Before the mountains were brought forth and ere
The earth and the world were formed, you were there

From everlasting to everlasting
You are God, and unto you shall we sing
You were, you are, and still are yet to be
Reigning to and from all eternity

A thousand years in your sight, brief and small
They are but as yesterday, you them call
Each day and night into being, ordained
All appointed by you, your hand unfeigned

And as a watch past in the night, 'tis so
Passing of many years, yet each you know
Ours days average seventy full years
Or if by strength, eighty or more appears

So teach us our days here to number fine
For you have planned out each human life line
And so may we our hearts here thus apply
Unto wisdom, living for you, us nigh

Perpetual Presence

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Come search my heart, O Lord today
Help me to humbly watch and pray
To see your purposes fulfilled
That they be each as you have willed
And that your kingdom still may come
Through us may your good will be done

Give peace in world's storm, troubled lands
Oppressed sore here by evil hands
Show your great sovereignty here
Until your Son again appear
Then shall you be seen sure to reign
End of death, crying, mourning, pain

Till then grant patience, calm our fears
While living in this vale of tears
Yet comforted by your presence
We go forth, resting in you hence
To share your salvation with all
Which avails to who on you call

Life eternal, you have promised
Grant us turn to you, not resist
Forgiveness can be found in you
You only God, and only true
Your Son for us has made a way
That we may share in wondrous day

Along the journey, Spirit sure
Do guide us, lead us, evermore

And find our hearts a welcome place
Where you may reside by your grace
Changed more into Christ's image by
Your Spirit who can never die

An anchor for our souls have we
Sufficient Christ's work for us be
Who lived and died and rose again
To bring salvation to all men (mankind)
O keep us till e'erlasting light
Shall dawn perpetual on our sight

Firm Focused

Tune: Franconia (Konig)

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 42 v.11

Why cast down, soul distressed?
Why heavy and depressed?
Hope you in God, I shall yet praise
Him, and joyful songs raise

Psalm 43 v.5

He is my strength, my health
In Him I find true wealth
He shall look on me, favour me
Uplifted shall I be

Psalm 44 v.8

In God we boast all day
We shall profit and say
You are our God, we will you praise
You wise in all your ways

Psalm 42 v.2

My soul does for God thirst
For I am blessed, not cursed
When shall I before God appear
Sense sure His presence near?

Psalm 42 v.8

Lovingkindness will you
Show me, will me renew
Day and night my song to Him be
The God of my life He

Psalm 41 v.12

You Lord do uphold me

In my integrity

You set me before your face e'er

I in your graces share

Persevering Progress

Tune: Hyfrydol = Cheerful

('Alleluia, sing to Jesus')

Psalm 11 v.4-5

The LORD in His holy temple
Look to Him and on Him call
The LORD'S throne it in heaven is
His eyes see the world, all this
He tries and tests out the righteous
But wicked He does despise
Shall help, aid those, who in Him trust
Though we are but made of dust

Psalm 12 v.6

The words of the LORD, they pure words
We have known them, have them heard
As silver tried in a furnace
Purified by Him no less
Seven times unto perfection
They are tried, and true, each one
Our guide they be through all life's days
And too your presence always

Psalm 13 v.5-6

I in your mercy have rusted
Your good way you have me led
My heart shall in you salvation
Rejoice, tell to each nation
I unto the LORD will sing sure
he does keep me evermore
Bountifully has dealt with me here
I in Him do blessings share

Psalm 16 v.8

I have set the LORD before me
I shall focus on Him, see
he there always shall b with me
And from sins, burdens set free
Because He is at my right hand
E'en when travelling each land
I shall not be moved, but abide
By grace He with me resides

Psalm 17 v.5-6

Hold up my goings in your paths
Saved I am from doom and wrath
So my footsteps, the shall not slip
I serve you in deed and lip
I upon you have called, you will
Hear me, answer my prayer still
O God incline your ear to me
My speech hear, and gracious be

Deliverance Days

Tune: Lux Benigna = Light Benign

('Lead, kindly light')

Psalm 18 part

I will love you, O LORD, you are my strength
E'en now at length
The LORD my rock, my fortress, here I stay
And constant pray
He my deliverer, my God always
My strength lasting sure, unto endless days

In Him will I trust, He my buckler* too (* a small round shield)
Shall me renew
He the horn#, the strength of my salvation (# a symbol of strength and power)
The holy one
I will call on Him, worthy to be praised
Is He, from my enemies has up raised

So calling on Him I shall thus be saved
Rescue not waived
But He did unto my help come, I called
Mercy not stalled
In my distress I to Him, came, provide
For me I pray, for you none there beside

For who is a rock, except God the LORD
His living word
Does He give unto us, he does us save
His help He gave
He girds me with strength, makes my way perfect
And too 'tis true for each of His elect

My steps you have enlarged now under me

I firm shall be
My feet not slip, but in an even place
By your good grace
My enemies I overtook, consumed
Trusting in you, not in my strength presumed

I will give you thanks, you deliver me
And set me free
From all the power of the enemy
Here so it be
Mercy and grace to His people He shows
And His anointed favours each one knows

Praise Plenitudes

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's Anointed')

Psalm 146 v.5-6

Happy who have God's help, they
Hope in Him, watch and pray
He God who earth, heaven made
His creation arrayed
With all His several beauties
Which wondering eyes may see
He keeps the truth for ever
Deceives and lies never

Psalm 147 v.7-8

Sing praises with thanksgiving
To Him your worship bring
Play on harps, all instruments
With whole and good intents
He covers heavens with clouds
Rain clouds give darkness shrouds
Waters the earth, the sunshine
Gives warmth and brightness fine

Psalm 148 v.11-13

Praise the Lord, all things living
A song and tribute bring
Kings of the earth, all people
Turn to Him, on Him call
Young men and maidens, old too
Children, women, anew
Praise His name, it excellent
He blessings us has sent

Psalm 145 v.4-5

One generation shall speak
To another one, meek
Shall declare His strength mighty
His strength true, bold, and free
And speak of His great honour
Hearts, minds, and spirits stir
To tell of your majesty
And your works wondrous be

Psalm 150

Praise, praise Him all that has breath
He Lord o'er life and death
Exultant voices ringing
Join in all, everything
Make sound of music joyful
His love, mercies, recall
His grace and every good thing
With myriad angels sing

Lord Of All

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Colossians 1 v.15-19

Christ Jesus the image
Of God, He is the bridge
For man to come to God, He saves
For us the way He paves
Though God invisible
Jesus reveals Him all
He the firstborn of each creature
Has first place far, is sure

For by Christ all things were
Created, all concur
To confess Him their Creator
Let all to worship stir
Things in heaven and earth
He gave all value, worth
Things visible, invisible
All are made by Him, all

Whether they be thrones here
Or dominions near
Or principalities or power
Through years and days and hours
Natural, supernatural
Each creed, class, state and school
All created by Him and for
Him, He Lord evermore

And He before all things
Is, all Him homage brings

By Him all things consist, for He
Head of the body be
His body here the church
His Spirit does us search
He the beginning, and firstborn
From the dead, curtain torn

Curtain that veiled he way
To God, lest man should stray
Unholy into such a place
Awesome place, He does grace
Holy of Holies now
Opened, and this is how
'Tis through the Son, God's holy one
His redemption work done

So all it is ordained
That He should e'er be named
pre-eminent in all things He
Takes the highest place, see
For the Father is pleased
Humbly received, not seized
That in Christ should all fulness dwell
His glories we e'er tell

Restoring Reassurance

Tune: Laudes Domini (Barnby)
('When morning gilds the skies')

Isaiah 54 v.1-5

Sing O barren, childless
The Lord does you address
And you His name confess
Break forth into singing
For joy He does you bring
Shall bless you, everything

Children of the desolate
Shall meet with wondrous fte
God shall bless them not late
For more children they be
Than of the married, see
Trust in Him now do we

Enlarge place of your tent
No sparing, no relent
No curtains shall be rent
But firm it shall abide
With the Lord here beside
You shall sure in reside

Expansion to left and right
Enlarged shall be your sight
And banished be yoru night
your seed shall inherit
The Gentiles lands you get
Restore them even yet

On you my name is named

Fear not, be not ashamed
Though enemies, they blamed
You, yet not confounded
Need you be, not be hid
The Lord with you amid

Your Maker is your husband
The LORD and He does send
His grace, does to you tend
The LORD of hosts is He
Your Redeemer He be
God of the whole earth, see

Freedom Foundings

Tune: Sagina

('And can it be')

Psalm 124

The last two lines of each verse are repeated.

If it had not been the LORD who
Was on our side, what could we do?
When men rose up against us here
Oppressing harsh your people dear
Then they would have swallowed us quick
Our lives desolate, our hearts sick

For their wrath to us directed
Was, unto us, your elected
Then waters they would us have drowned
And we should have been overwhelmed
Proud waters of men gone o'er our soul
We would be left bereft, unwhole

But you LORD helped us, to our aid
Came, assured, not to be afraid
Blessed be your name, we not a prey
Were not to them given away
Our soul escaped is as a bird
God has done great things, all have heard

Yes, we are escaped from the snare
And we do prosper and well fare
Mounting with wings we fly once more
The snare is broken, troubles sore
We have escaped, have freedom found
The LORD our help is, praise redound

Appointed Anointings

Tune: Laus Deo (Barnby)

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Isaiah 61 v.1-3

Spirit of the Lord God upon
Christ the Son, the holy one
Because the LORD has anointed
Him, He all our hearts has read

Anointed to preach good tidings
To the meek, He blessings brings
Sent to bind up broken-hearted
Healing grace [to] them imparted

Proclaims liberty to captives
Life and freedom them He gives
Opening of prison to those
That are bound, He each one knows

Proclaiming acceptable year
Of the LORD with lowly fear
Day of vengeance to enemies
He looks on them, their deeds sees

To comfort all them that do mourn
Strength, solace, to all forlorn
Appointing beauty for ashes
Fulfilling their deep wishes

To give them the oil of joy for
Their mourning, it shall lift sure
Garment of praise if they heavy
Such spirits shall dispelled be

That they might be called the trees strong
Of righteousness, raising song
To Him the LORD, He them planted
They glorify Him, their Head

They be named the Priests of the LORD
In accordance with His word
And Ministers of our God true
His Spirit poured e'en on you

Rest Resolvings

Tune: Abbot's Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

Hebrews 4 v.9-16

A rest to God's people remains
Though 'tis not through our own gains
But resting from our own striving
Our own salvation to bring
Yet we labour, seek to enter
Rest through Him, He does confer
Salvation on us through Christ, He
By faith our true Saviour be

Living by the word of God sure
It is alive, whole, and pure
Sharper than any two-edged sword
Spoken by Him, He the Lord
Piercing, does divide asunder
Soul and spirit, brings wonder
Discerns thoughts, intents of the heart
Searches to our deepest part

All is open to His sight keen
Every creature great or mean
All is open and revealéd
To the Lord, our living Head
He sees all, none can be hidden
From His sight, and 'tis so then
That we have to come, to relate
To Him who knows every state

Yet seeing we have a high priest
Avails for greatest to least

Passed into the heavens, there He
Jesus, Son of God, He be
Let us hold fast our profession
Trusting Him, the holy one
For He not a priest unfeeling
To us, but us comforts bring

He can be touched with the feeling
Of our state, yes everything
Our infirmities, our weakness
He will help us, will us bless
For He was tempted like we are
He not distant, removed far
But no sin did He e'er commit
O'ercame temptations, each whit

Let us therefore come boldly to
The throne of grace, come, e'en you
That there we may obtain mercy
And find His grace, given free
He with love and with compassion
Shall succour us, help each one
Humbly pleading, His help needing
Trusting Him in everything

Confident Compendium

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee O Lord our hearts we raise')

Psalm 128 v.1-2

Blessed every one that the Lord fears
Who do sense His presence near
Blessed they that do in His ways walk
And of His works they do talk
They shall eat labour of their hands
What they produce from the lands
Happy shall they be, all be well
God does provide, they shall tell

Psalm 126 v.5-6

They that sow in tears, they shall reap
In joy, and harvest shall keep
In plenitude, share resources
From God's creative sources
They that go forth weeping, bearing
Precious seed, they shall plant, sing
Without doubt return rejoicing
Sheaves, fruits of labours shall bring

Psalm 131 v.1-3

Lord my heart not haughty, and I
Lofty things do not espy
But trusting lowly, child-like heart
I take the simple, low part
Not exercised in things too high
For me, nor great matters nigh
But my soul as a weaned child is
I hope in Him, I am His

Psalm 133 v.1-3

What blessings unity afford
Who are one in you, our Lord
Like ointment, Aaron's anointing
When oil they did to Him bring
Poured on him and his sons, they priests
In all their service and feasts
Unity too like dew on mount
Whence springs forth blessings true fount

Psalm 125 v.1-2

They who trust in the LORD shall be
As the mount Zion stand, see
Which cannot be removed for ever
God His presence always there
As mountains round Jerusalem
His people, the LORD round them
Is now, and evermore shall be
Even to eternity

Healing Hues

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Luke 10 v.1-9 parts

Medicine of the gospel true
Did Luke show, works did do
Healing for body, spirit, soul
In Christ all be made whole

Commissioned by Him they went forth
To east, south, west, and north
Part of their mission was to heal
Working for mankind's weal (well-being)

To heal the sick, to them proclaim
The gracious Saviour's name
And say 'The kingdom of God is
Come to you, e'en in this'

For this a sign, healing meets needs
May plant in faith fresh seeds
And too resources natural
We use, do on them call

Come search us, show to us your plan
Where seems no healing can
Progress, for sometimes mystery
Surrounds healing, so be

Yet your will often is to heal
To show compassion still
As on earth you did restore men
Though did not finish then

For ministry continues now
Your Spirit's gifts, 'tis how
You by your grace renew, restore
That you kingdom come more

'Peace to this house' was their intent
They shared it, no relent
Grant healing peace, each town, each land
All 'neath your loving hand

Restoring Rejoicings

Tune: Malvern

('Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Zephaniah 3 v.14-20

Sing, O daughter of Zion, be glad
Rejoice in the LORD, not be sad
Shout, Israel, exult, whole-hearted
Enemy from you departed

The LORD has now taken away
Your judgements, confident here pray
For the Lord, your King, He amidst you
Shall remove evil, you renew

Then it be said, Zion, fear not
For the LORD helps you, happy lot
The LORD in midst of you, mighty
His favour, graces, you shall see

He will save, will o'er you rejoice
He will joy o'er you, you His choice
Will in His love rest, bring you peace
Joy o'er you with singing, not cease

He will save poor, afflicted ones
For they be His daughters and sons
Will make them a name, a praise too
Great things for them He sure will do

Priestly Propitiation

Tune: Marching

(faster tune to 'Father hear the prayer we offer')

Hebrews Chapter 2 parts

We see Jesus, He was made sure
Offering for us, heart's-cure
Made little lower than angels
Now each tongue His glory tells

He crowned now, glory and honour
Earth and heaven agree, concur
For He by grace of God tasted
Death for each man, none wasted

That the extent of His grace good
That who trust in Him, they should
Know forgiveness, life eternal
As they respond to His call

He made full human, full divine
Sharing human life like mine
Made a merciful and faithful
High priest who atones for all

He the way, our reconciling
He to us God does Him bring
Through Himself, the living curtain
Welcomes children, women, men

For He has shared in temptation
Common to men, each station
So able now, helps those tempted
We on life's path by Him led

Petition Portions

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul and with the sun')

Psalm 69 v.13

My prayer, O LORD, is unto you
You will come hear me, me renew
I pray in acceptable time
While continuing in life's rhyme

Psalm 69 v.13

O God, hear in the multitude
Of your mercies, they have ensued
For me, and too your salvation
Your truth is shown, your great works done

Psalm 70 v.1

Make haste, O God, deliver me
Help me soon, here my troubles see
For you ever my God shall be
Now and through all eternity

Psalm 71 v.16

I will go in His strength alone
The LORD, who does for me atone
Of your righteousness will I speak
Shall share it with humble and meek

Psalm 72 v.17

The LORD'S name it shall e'er endure
Shall always be good, holy, pure
And continue long as the sun
All shall be blessed in Him, each one

Psalm 73 v.17-18

When I went in your sanctuary

O God, you did reveal to me

End of wicked I understood

You cast them down, you always good

Psalm 73 v.28

For me to draw near God, 'tis good

I will worship Him as I should

And trust in Him, His works declare

The Lord GOD with me, always there

Communing Continuings

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

You, Lord, eternal redemption
Have brought us through your Son
O kindle fresh a flame in me
That for your glory be
Enliven hearts and minds inspire
Where we grow dull or dour
Sharing the treasures of your grace
To all of every race

Lord, still my heart, yet not silent
I lowly, penitent
Show forth your praise, your mercies sure
Your love here evermore
For you are with us, you our guide
You will not from us hide
Except that sin your Spirit grieves
Yet your pardon relieves

So finding e'er a spark of grace
We come, we seek your face
You form your nature in us so
In Christ's image we grow
That nature does not seek to sin
But to be pure within
Righteous and good and all holy
Through you we more shall be

Drawing near in Communion feast
Welcome, greatest to least
To partake of your bread and wine

'Tis a rich banquet fine
Without your call we shall not dare
To share in such fine fare
But you do bid us now draw night
Risen, and once did die

Did die, take my pace, so that I
Respond to you, reply
Accept you as my Saviour here
Grateful for your love dear
Not ending with your human death
But infused vital breath
For you the one who rose again
Redeemer of all men

Constructive Chastenings

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Lamentations 3 v.26-32

It is good we should wait
In penitential state
Hope and quietly wait, the Lord
Will give His quickening word

What hope, what waiting for?
'Tis His salvation sure
And good it we should the yoke bear
In our youth, in it share

So we may sit alone
His discipline be known
We keep silence, for the Lord, He
Has borne it on us, see

Borne it on us, we bear
And in chastening share
'Til time does come for our relief
We fleeting as a leaf

Though the Lord grief may cause
There is an end and pause
For yet will He have compassion
Shall comfort every one

For it is in accord
With His word, we assured
That multitude of mercies He
Has, and we blessed shall be

Thy Will Be Done - Thomas á Kempis Series - 3

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Most kind Jesus, grant me
Your grace, may I it see
Dwelling and working in me sure
Abiding evermore

Grant me always to will
What will best please you still
And to desire what you desire
Stir in me, holy fire

May it acceptable
Be unto you, I call
Unto you, pray your will be mine
True whole and true divine

Let my will here follow
Your will, conform, and know
Your plans, purposes, what you choose
My self deny and lose

Grant I the world not know
Its will, its ways and show
But to die to all worldly things
My heart to you sole sings

For your sake may I be
Despised, unknown here, see
And love such state, humility
From worldly passions free

Grant me to rest in you
You refresh me anew
You the heart's true peace, comforted
My life in you is hid

Outside of you, restless
Hard all is, profitless
In you who give true peace I rest
I dwell, am endless blessed

Shield Safety

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 3

Lord, they are increased that trouble
Me, unto you I do call
Many that do rise against me
Look on me, my state now see

Many say no help for my soul
For me in God is there, null
But you, LORD, as shield to me are
My glory, my morning star

You too the lifter of my head
I stay not downcast nor dread
I cried to the LORD with my voice
He did hear me, I rejoice

From His holy hill He heard me
So I laid down, my sleep be
Pleasant, free of troubles, torments
Through nights I His presence sense

And too when I new awaken
The LORD still sustains me then
I will not fear e'en ten thousands
Nor if enemy abounds

Arise, O LORD, save me, you be
One who saves from enemy
Salvation does belong to you
Blessings on us you renew

Spirit Showerings

Tune: Ash Grove

('Sent forth by God's blessing')

Acts Chapters 1 & 2 parts

O wait for His power
The appointed hour
When He shall pour on you in copious shower
The Spirit He promised
And sins He has remitted (forgiven)
Wait for His good hour, so it not be missed
And there were they gathered
Together, not scattered
Soon, soon comes the fulfilment of His true word
And so then empowered
His Spirit endowered
Was given, and all there His praises they heard

Power then to witness
And all nations to bless
Who Christ as their Saviour accept and confess
And from Jerusalem
From there it did then stem
Flowed to Judea, Samaria, all them
Then on to uttermost
The gospel makes its boast
In all the earth showing, from coast unto coast
His Spirit fulfilling
Christ's mission, grace giving
To spread word of life unto all things living

They continued in prayer
And fellowship did share
Tending to each one with compassion and care

In doctrine and teaching
Each soul they were reaching
Enlightening path for those who were seeking
Broke bread in communion
Including full each one
Accepted by grace through their faith in the Son
And prayers too ascended
As the Spirit He led
Saving some daily, hope of life from the dead

Persevering Progressions

Tune: Cranbrook

('On Ilkley Moor baht'at)

(Also one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Philippians 3 v.13-15

I say that I have not attained

Not attained

To perfection as yet

Yet I my heart and mind have set

I labour on, desire whet

With Christ, His mighty power (x2)

Enabling each hour

For Christ He has each one here called

Has here called

And us He apprehends

He does see all our needs, them tends

His gracious favour lends

And so I do press on (x2)

Before me He has gone

One thing I do, I do forget

Do forget

Those things which are behind

I reach forth, thus I seek and find

To things ahead, defined

I press toward the mark (x2)

To the Lord's voice I hark

Pressing towards Him, the high prie

The high prize

Of God, His high calling

To know Him here in everything

Worship and praise Him bring
So let us have this mind (x2)
Be to Him full aligned

Let us go on, and not stand still
Not stand still
Nor retreating backwards
But more of Him known, understood
Following Him, He good
'Til by His grace we all (x2)
Gain the prize of His call

Communion Call

Tune: Unde Et Memores

('And now, O Father, mindful of the love')

Father in the Son, Son in Father sure
You live and reign and rule for evermore
And with the Spirit, Trinity e'er blessed
This be our witness, this our tongues confessed
For none higher than you can ever be
We praise you, formal or extempore

You invite to Communion, call our hearts
Seeking to possess us in all our parts
Your living Spirit to us dwell within
To form us in Christ's image, free from sin
Great destiny of man, your love prevails
Persevering with us through all entails

Still, still, heart, mind, and meditate a while
Let nought of body, soul, spirit, defile
But come into His presence by His grace
By faith behold, and look upon His face
Though no human in actuality
Can see God's face, He the Eternity

Bring peace, forgiveness, comfort to each soul
See now our deepest longings, make us whole
For you do see all things, whether we see
Or not, but all to you open it be
Things visible to us, and too unseen
You Lord of all, view all things, none are mean

So partaking of this your bread and wine
'Tis a rich banquet, pure and sweet and fine

Water of life, come close, come quench our thirst
And so from us shall living streams outburst
With bread of life, sustain us, sanctify
Thus hid in you, we safe, shall never die

Praise, praise to you Lord, risen from the dead
You e'er alive, and you our glorious Head
Keep us your servants, guard us from all ill
And feed us with your provisions good still
'Til day does dawn, the everlasting morn
Which heavenly beauties shall e'er adorn

Praise Perusals

Tune: Old 100th

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 47 v.1

O clap your hands, all you people
Shout unto God, unto Him all
Lift voice of triumph high, He reigns
And blessings on you He ordains

Psalm 47 v.6

Sing praises unto God, Him raise
Melodies and tunes, endless days
Sing to Him, our King, Lord o'er all
Trusting in Him we shall not fall

Psalm 48 v.14

This God is our God for ever
Worship Him, to Him your hearts stir
He will our guide be e'en to death
Until we draw our final breath

Psalm 46 v.1

He is our strength and our refuge
Showers His help on us, deluge
He a very present help is
In times of trouble, we know this

Psalm 50 v.2

Out of Zion, His holy hill
'Tis His dwelling place, He there still
From that place, 'tis the perfection
Of beauty, God shines, He bright sun

Psalm 48 v.10

According to your name is your praise

O God, to you we worship raise

To ends of earth, and your right hand

Full of righteousness, tends each land

Rapture of the Redeemed

Tune: St Gertrude

('Onward, Christian Soldiers')

Revelation 7 v.9-17

1. Lo, a multitude great
Of a blessed state
Number uncountable
Clothed in white robes all
Palms in hands they carried
Christ their living Head
This their cry with voices loud
'Midst the holy crowd

Chorus

Salvation to God who
Sits on throne, His due
And to Chris the Lamb true
Praises e'er renew

2. And all angels joining
Myriads, they sing
And for beasts, twenty-four
Elders too adore
God who sits on His throne
Each one to Him known
Falling on their faces
Praise Him for graces - Chorus

3. Thus they worshipped, saying
Amen, God is King
Blessing, wisdom, glory
Be all His now, see
And too honour, power

And might every hour
To God for ever, ever
Praises cease never - Chorus

4. Elder said, Wh are these?
Tell me if you please
Who arrayed in robes white?
They the sons of light
Elder his own answer
Did to John confer
Saying, these are they who
Washed their robes anew - Chorus

5. From great tribulation
They came out, have shown
That they have their robes washed
Enemies have squashed
Made robes white in the blood
Of the Lamb, the flood
Sparkling fountain, sin's stain
Cleanses, none remain - Chorus

6. Therefore they with God are
With Him, not afar
Serve Him each day and night
In His Temple bright
And He among them dwells
Each His glory tells
Hungry, thirsty, ne'er be
Through eternity - Chorus

7. The Lamb in midst of throne
Calls them all His own
He Christ, God's only Son
Victory has won
He shall them feed, them lead

Meet their every need
To living waters founts
Tears gone on joy's mounts - Chorus

Saints Shekinah* (*glory)

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

You saints above, who bright in glory shine
Now do behold the countenance divine
And do partake of eternal fare fine
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Yet too on earth, your people saints you make
Sanctified, the price you paid for our sake
We redeemed, on cross you our place did take
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And ongoing, sanctifying process
We changed to image of your Son no less
By working of your Spirit we confess
Alleluia, Alleluia!

We all saints, not just some preferred elite
Accepted by you at your mercy seat
Sharing in your victory, not defeat
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Mansions you prepare us, you gone before
Giving us grace now from your treasure-store
To grow in all things loving, true, and pure
Alleluia, Alleluia!

We have no merits of our own, for we
Cannot ourselves save, this you know and see
And sent us Christ, our Saviour for to be
Alleluia, Alleluia!

All glory, honour, praise and thanks your due
Salvation you bring us, you great things do
Graces and gifts your people you endue
Alleluia, Alleluia!

'Till Rapture calls us to eternal shore
There to be with you, our Lord evermore
We endless shall praise, worship, and adore
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Highlighting Hopes

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

1 Thessalonians 4 v.13-18

You souls that sleep, we pray
We shall meet you one day
When gathered in the heavenly fold
There shall be joys untold

We have a hope, we sing
Of life Jesus does bring
If we believe He died and rose
So shall those who Him chose

Those He chose, now passed on
Before us they have gone
He will bring them on His return
Darkness to light shall turn

For the Lord shall descend
And there shall be no end
Of life eternal, for no doubt
We shall hear victory shout

Voice of archangel high
Trump of God by and by
The dead in Christ they shall first rise
We meet them in the skies

We who are then alive
Shall meet them, shall not strive
But caught up with them in the clouds
Where no death mourning shrouds

And so shall we ever
Be with them, part never
And lasting comfort with Him when
Him, [and] loved ones we see then

Open-Door Heaven

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, He comes with clouds descending')

Revelation Chapter 4

1. Behold a door in heaven open
Was revealed to John, who then
Heard voice as of trumpet sounding
Angel message did him bring
Come up hither (x3)
I will show you future things

2. Then in vision John did see clear
Throne in heaven did appear
One sat thereon like precious stones
Jasper, sardine, finest hones
Rainbow round throne (x3)
Emerald gleamings there shown

3. Round throne there twenty four seats be
Twenty four elders sat, see
Clothed in raiment clean, white and pure
They the Lord God do adore
Having gold crowns (x3)
They do worship evermore

4. From throne did proceed awesome sights
Lightnings, thunderings, affrights
And voices, seven lamps of fire
Burning before throne, ne'er tire
Seven Spirits of God (x3)
Such as they, bright as sun's star

5. Before throne a sea of glass seen

Like to crystal, glorious sheen
In midst of throne and around were
Four beasts full of eyes, they stir
To praise and worship (x3)
Captured by glory's allure

6. Beasts like lion, calf, and eagle
One had face of man, not all
And too they each had their six wings
They full of eyes, see all things
Resting never (x3)
They worship the King of Kings

7. Holy, holy, holy, the theme
Theirs is, they do honour deem
To Him the Lord God Almighty
He was, is, is to come, He
Lives for ever (x3)
Eternal His kingdom be

8. When the beasts give glory, honour
To Him on the throne, a spur
Unto the twenty four elders
Is given, nothing deters
Them to worship (x3)
All to Him praise true renders

9. He lives for ever and ever
So they seek, they endeavour
To worship Him full worthily
Elders cast down crowns here, see
All created (x3)
For His good pleasure it be

Glory Greatness

Tune: Halton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Psalm 83 v.17

Lord, let your enemies all be
Confounded and troubled, see
Let them be put to shame, perish
Put down every evil wish

Psalm 83 v.18

That people may know that you are
JEHOVAH, God great by far
That your name is through the ages
O'er all history's pages

Psalm 82 v.8

Arise, O God, the earth judge for
You shall true inherit sure
All the nations, they shall you own
As the Sovereign Lord alone

Psalm 81 v.13-14

O that my people had heard me
It would prosperous then be
For them in days of old, if they
had walked daily in His way

Psalm 80 v.7

Turn us again, O Lord, save us
God of hosts, grace us you gave
Cause your face upon us to shine
And we shall be saved sure, fine

Helpful Hopings

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Psalm 42 v.5

Why are you cast down, O my soul
The Lord will make you whole
Hope you in Him, I shall yet praise
Him, and shall more songs raise

Psalm 42 v.5-6

I shall praise Him for His help sure
Yet now soul cast down, poor
But you will come unto my aid
Plans good for me you laid

Psalm 42 v.11

He the health of my countenance
His presence near I sense
He my God be, I Him worship
Serve Him in deed and lip

Psalm 43 v.3

O send out your light and your truth
Shelter me in your booth
Your light and truth, I pray lead me
To [your] tabernacle free

Psalm 43 v.3

Then I will go unto your place
Your holy hill, where grace
Flows forth from you, my God, my joy
And where no sins annoy

Psalm 41 v.11

By this I know you favour me
Your good hand here I see
That you do not let enemy
Have triumph over me

Psalm 41 v.1-3

Blessed are they who do help the poor
The Lord will help them sure
In their own troubles and distress
Will strengthen and them bless

Living Love

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu, lover of my soul')

1 John Chapter 4 parts

Here is love, not that we loved
God, He first loved, we beloved
Sent His Son to take our place
Saviour over every race
Propitiation was He
Comfort through eternity
Mild sacrifice, offering
Eternal life did us bring

Beloved, if God so here
Loved us, counted us so dear
We ought one another love
Empowered by Spirit, dove
No one has seen God, no time
Through history's pages, rhymes
Yet if we love each other
God dwells in sister, brother

Dwells in each one, family
Of believers, love we see
Shared among His people true
With His grace He does endure
So in loving, His love grows
In us, till perfection knows
Each child of God, so we blessed
Dwelling in us, heavenly guest

We can know and can believe
Love of God to us, receive

Can each one, and be assured
He is God and He is Lord
God is love, and they that dwell
In love dwell in God, and tell
That they dwell in Him, and He
Dwells in them eternally

Herein our love made perfect
That we may stand, no defect
Before Him having boldness
In day of judgement no less
Because as He is, love, so
Are we in this world, Him know
This our life, our confidence
Living, loving, penitence

In this love there is no fear
For when perfect love is here
It does cast out fear because
Fear has torment sure, it does
Hinder, blight, and paralyse
Those who fear, we realise
Not made perfect in love they
Yet they can grow in love's way

Beautiful Bounties

Tune Name and Hymn: All for Jesus

Acts 3 v.1-16 parts

Peter and John went to Temple
At the ninth hour*, prayer's call (*3pm)
There at gate Beautiful men laid
Lame man, and there alms were made

Lame was he from day he was born
Enduring each day, each morn
Seeing Peter, John, asked an alms
Thus his daily need becalms

Peter, John, did upon him look
Yet no alms from them he took
For silver and gold they had none
But had life of Christ the Son

This to him they sure imparted
Bringing true, whole-hearted
In name of Jesus he was healed
Life revealed and not concealed

Then he leaped and stood and walking
Praised God for each gracious thing
Bt faith of Jesus he [was] made sound
Healing grace in Him he found

Reigning Reassurance

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 93

The lines as shown are sung twice (x2) or three times (x3)

The LORD reigns, He clothed in majesty

Let every eye look, see (x2)

He clothed with strength, wherewith girded He

Almighty One He be (x3)

The world is established, not moved

Creator, He has proved (x2)

That all things, they be seen or unseen

Made by His hand have been (x3)

Your throne, LORD, established is

Of old, and we know this (x2)

You, LORD, from everlasting be

Heaven and earth agree (x3)

The floods lift up their voice to praise

They to you anthems raise (x2)

E'en the high waves your praise declares

And nought your way impairs (x3)

The LORD on high is mightier

Than many waves that stir (x2)

Higher than many waters here

See the LORD great appear (x3)

Your testimonies, very sure

Are, and they all be pure (x2)

Holiness your house does become

You wondrous works have done (x3)

Relationship Resting - Thomas á Kempis Series - 4

Tune: St Leonard's

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Grant me Jesus, most dear, loving
To rest in you, and nothing
To take your place, you alone reign
In my heart unfeign

Help me rest in you above all
Else that would upon me call
Health, beauty, glory and honour
Or what would allure

Above power and dignity
Knowledge, skill, fame and praise free
Sweetness, consolation, merit
Trusting you each whit

Above hope, promise and desire
Gifts, favours, that I admire
Joy and jubilation the mind
Can conceive or find

Above Angels and Archangels
Hosts of heaven, whate'er calls
All visible, invisible
Things, I count them all

Count them less than you yourself Lord
Hearken I unto your word
'Tis you I desire, in you rest
E'er our heavenly guest

Friendship Fondness

Tune: Oh how I love Jesus
('There is a name I love to hear')

Jesus, constant companion
Who leaves the sheep not one
But seeks the lost, though they have strayed
Need no more be afraid

Chorus

Jesus, He is Saviour and Lord
He ever has the living word
His love it reaches unto all
All on His name may call

You leave us not, our help and guide
Within us you reside
By your Spirit, holy is He
Our comfort, strength He be - Chorus

Choosing to give your life that we
From our sins be set free
You forgive, restore, make us whole
In body, spirit, soul - Chorus

May our hearts be moulded to you
Know you compassions new
Each fresh new day along your way
Stay with us, we do pray - Chorus

And trusting that you faithfully
Shall stay, and our needs see
Provide for us our daily bread
By you our Shepherd led - Chorus

Change us where hard, impenitent
Grant gace that we repent
Tun to you in commitment sure
Friends with you evermore - Chorus

Remembrance Reconcilings

Tune: Thaxted (Holst)

('I vow to thee, my country')

An autumnal remembrance, we once again do sense
Recalling those partaking, each sacrificial thing
Come Lord, our memories heal, where we torment still feel
The pain of wars and conflict, where they hinder, restrict
Memories too we recall, those who gave some or all
Their love, their duty faithful, they did obey their call

For peace we pray, beseeching, you Lord of peace, our King
Who too your life did give free, suffered redemptively
Bring comfort and forgiveness, look on us and us bless
Turn hearts to you repentant, and faith in you, you [were] sent
From the Father in your love, and Spirit, holy dove
Spread wings of mercy and grace o'er all the human race

Man's fightings, wars, man 'gainst man, who seeking, supposed can
Gain earthly kingdom, though be in total vanity
For nothing can we retain, all shall be loss and feign
Lord help us your kingdom seek, revealed to humble, meek
But not all men we condemn, for flow of evil's stem
Caused many necessary that they should engage combat

Help us Lord, take up spiritual weapons and on you call
To fight not with flesh and blood, but rather that we should
Partake spiritual warfare, do our part, take our share
Not go in our strength alone, God's power be it known
As we put on whole armour of God, to action stir
So His kingdom shall increase and endless never cease

Affliction Assistance

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 119 v.65-72

You have dealt well with your servant
Faithful and true with no relent
Have dealt according to your word
On me your mercies have conferred

Teach me good judgement and knowledge
To keep your commandments I pledge
I have believed them, they do keep
Me in your fold, safe as your sheep

Before I was afflicted, I
Went astray and stayed not you nigh
But now here I have kept your word
Attentive your voice my ears heard

You are good, and do good too
Teach me your statutes, me renew
The proud against me forged a lie
I keep your precepts, to you fly

Kept them with my whole heart, this true
Though the proud do not follow you
Their heart is fat as grease, so be
But I delight in your law, see

It is good for me I have been
Afflicted, and your statutes seen
And so may I them learn always
Living for you through all my days

The law of your mouth better is
Than thousands of gold, silver, this
I know, am assured, your word love
Help me obey sweet Spirit, dove

Persisting Praises

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Jehovah')

Repeat last line of each verse.

Psalm 68 v.4

Sing praises to God, His name raise
Glorious through endless days
Extol Him, the heavens aloft
He rides o'er each town and croft
His name JAH, Jehovah, the Lord
Rejoice in His living word (x2)

Psalm 68 v.17

God's chariots, twenty thousand
All under His mighty hand
Even thousands of angels bright
They behold Him, that their sight
The Lord He among them is there
As in Sinai He did fare (x2)

Psalm 68 v.35

The Lord terrible and awesome
From holy places does come
God of Israel, strength and power
Gives His people every hour
He worthy be of our thanks, praise
For all glory it be His (x2)

Psalm 69 v.33-34

The LORD hears the poor, He does not
Despise His prisoners lot
For He comes to help, deliver
To set them free He does stir

So let all things, heaven, earth, seas
Praise Him, pray with humble pleas (x3)

Psalm 70 v.4

Let all those that seek you rejoice
And exalt you with one voice
Let them be glad in you, and let
Such as love you, no regret
Say continually, 'Let God be
Magnified', the whole world see (x2)

Psalm 71 v.3

Be you my strong habitation
Wondrous works great you have done
Unto you I constant resort
You have led me, me have taught
Command you did give to save me
My rock, my fortress you be (x2)

Psalm 71 v.16

I will go in your strength daily
Strength of you Lord GOD it be
I will make mention too here sure
Of your righteousness e'er more
Through all ages of my life span
And of each child, woman, man (x2)

Reigning Rhapsody

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Psalm 72 v.11-20

All kings shall (be)'fore Him fall down - Alleluia!
As Lord and King Him shall crown - Alleluia!
All nations shall serve Him sure - Alleluia!
He shall reign for evermore - Alleluia!

The needy He does help, hear - Alleluia!
To souls of needy draws near - Alleluia!
They shall be delivered soon - Alleluia!
And praise Him in joyful tune - Alleluia!

Worthy of earth's richest store - Alleluia!
That we can offer Him pure - Alleluia
His name shall endure for e'er - Alleluia!
Prosperity, ours a share - Alleluia!

His name shall continue on - Alleluia!
As it has through ages gone - Alleluia!
Long as the sun it remains - Alleluia!
In Him mankind blessing gains - Alleluia!

All nations shall call Him blessed - Alleluia!
This their witness, they confess - Alleluia!
That He is blessed, He the LORD - Alleluia!
The LORD God, by all adored - Alleluia!

He the God of Israel - Alleluia!
Only does great things, we tell - Alleluia!
Wondrous things, blessed be His name - Alleluia!
Worship His eternal fame - Alleluia!

And let the whole earth be filled - Alleluia!
With His glory, He has willed - Alleluia!
All things below and above - Alleluia!
O'erseen supreme by His love - Alleluia!

Here doxology we raise - Alleluia!
Let all creation Him praise - Alleluia!
Prayers as incense waft on high - Alleluia!
To Him who lives, ne'er shall die - Alleluia!

High Hopes

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Hope starts with the gospel shown

Evangelists it us make known
The good news shared, forgiveness
Eternal life, nothing less

Hope in Jesus, He the one
He the Father's only Son
Makes all this here possible
For all who do on Him call

Call on Him, salvation take
He the Way to God does make
Going through the narrow gate
And strait pathway, celebrate

Hope comes from the Scriptures true

Read each day and find anew
Comforts for each spirit, soul
And for body, be made whole

Hope comes from the power sure Of the Spirit evermore

Holy Spirit, one of three
Person of the Trinity

He to guide, to strengthen, fill
With His presence, guard from ill
That we may abound in hope
And joy, in Him daily cope

Hope can inspire endurance

To go on with wisdom, sense
Not to give up, not hopeless
Hope will encourage and bless

Hope can produce joy, so we

Have good cheer, God's servants be
Not downcast, but lively spring
Motivation shall hope bring

Hope, it should not be misplaced

Nor be unevenly paced
Hope not in world's riches, wealth
That deceive, waylay by stealth

Hope of Christ's return us gives

Power over sin, He lives

For we know when Him we see
We shall complete like Him be

And each one who has this hope
Walks in the light, does not grope
In the darkness, for they do
Purify themselves anew

Listening Lord

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus in thy dear Sacrament')

Genesis 16 v.6-14

Lord, hear us now, we ask today
And even every day
Through night watch keep
Guard us your sheep
Hear night and day, we pray

Help us to listen unto you
With us your grace endue
Speak your message clear
Cause us to hear
Obey with godly fear

For you did unto Hagar hark
Her situation stark
Sarah cast her out
Without a doubt
Her state abandoned, dark

Yet you Lord, found her, desert land
Where she escaped the hand
Of her stern mistress
Who caused distress
To her, no more did bless

You promises to Hgave
You did visit and save
She would bear a son
Ishmael the one
"God shall hear" it be done

And well nearby she did then name
Beer-lahai-roi, the same
"The well of Him, He
The God, He be
Who does live and sees me"

Presence Protection - Thomas á Kempis Series - 5

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

My Lord God, look and see
Do not abandon me
Remember my need, see me here
With your grace do appear

For many evil thoughts
And horrid fears of sorts
Trouble my mind, and terrify
Save me, lift me on high

How shall I unhurt pass
Through them, not cry alas
How shall I break their power, hold
Guard me within your fold

'Tis by your word, you said
You will go before, led
Shall I be, and humble the proud
That state to them endowed

Hidden treasures, secrets
You will reveal, befits
Me not to deserve here such things
Yet them your mercy brings

Come to me, put to flight
Lord, all of dark and night
I trust in you and on you call
My comfort, all in all

Worshipful Wonderings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

O song a song, sing praises all day long
Hearts be uplifted, join the angel throng
Though they ne'er cease, and 'holy' be their cry
They worship Him, the one who ne'er can die

Yet we our voices unto Him too raise
From treasures new and old we give our praise
To worship God, and Christ His only Son
And Holy Spirit, the blessed three in one

In formal style or extempore free
The Lord seeks such as who their worship be
In spirit and in truth to Him alone
The great God, He revealed to us, made known

Add talents, gifts of playing instruments
Sing with understanding and give the sense
Of words, and all invited, all welcome
Contribute your part, excluded are none

Make melody, with tunes harmonious
Give Him the best, the best He gave to us
Christ's life given in our place on the cross
Then rose again, there no eternal loss

Beauty for ashes, joy for mourning He
Will give us, we made righteous in Him, see
And garment of praise for the heavy hearts
Robe of righteousness He to each imparts

Restoring Renewals

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Isaiah Chapter 62 part

In the hand of the LORD, crown you shall be
A crown of glory, restoring shall see
And too a diadem royal, glorious
The LORD has thought on us, and us shall He bless

You shall no more be termed as Forsaken
Nor land Desolate, shall be renewed when
The LORD calls you Hephzibah, for He delights
Among you, where His gracious presence alights

Your land shall be called Beulah, not off cast
But sorrows now gone inhabit the past
For Hephzibah, the LORD delights in you true
And Beulah, your land married to Him anew

For as a young man his virgin does wed
So shall your sons marry you, the Lord said
And as bridegroom over the bride does rejoice
So God rejoices over you, you His choice

Say to the people of Zion, plain, clear
Your salvation comes, behold it is near
God's reward is with Him, His work Him before
He shall come to help, to redeem and restore

Then shall they be called 'The holy people'
'The redeemed of the LORD', yes one and all
And be called 'Sought out', 'City not forsaken'
For the LORD you as His people has taken

Majestic Marriage

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 21 v.1-7

The Queen, she shall joy in your strength
O Lord, grant her at length
Your blessings still, prosperity
[And] All royal family

In your salvation lord shall she
Greatly rejoice, here see
You have given sure unto her
Her heart's desires secure

You heard her prayers, did not withhold
Them, kept her in your fold
Before her you went and did bless
With goodness, we confess

You set upon her head a crown
On evil does she frown
Asking you to bless in Anthem
National, you do bless them

E'en length of days, prosperity
Her glory great shall be
In your salvation, and shown free
Honour and majesty

For you have here made her most blest
Grant her your peace and rest
Shine evermore your countenance
On her, may she you sense

For she does trust in you, the Lord
Seeks to live by your word
Through your mercy, most High, may she
Never be moved, so be

Grant wisdom to all ministers
That serve her, may hearts stir
That your kingdom come, will be done
Through Christ's power, your Son

Rejoicing, platinum marriage
Years of grace, privilege
Seventy full years, true, unfeign[ed]
Faithful her glorious reign

Ethiopian Evangelism

Tune: Tyrol

('A man there lived in Galilee')

Acts 8 v.26-40

In Samaria an angel
Spoke to Philip, did tell
Him, go south unto desert land
Be guided by God's hand
So he arose, went forth and he
Man travelling did see
Ethiopian official
His carriage did not stall

For Philip to the carriage ran
And met therein the man
Who invited him come aboard
Read Scriptures of the Lord
From Isaiah, about sheep shorn
From him his judgement torn
He desired Philip to explain
And give the message plain

Then Philip his mouth did open
And proclaimed to him then
That those Scriptures of Jesus speak
To all who do Him seek
Then to water they did approach
And so with no reproach
Philip said, 'If with all your heart
You believe, whole not part'

Receive salvation, and you may
Be baptised in this day

He believed, 'Jesus Christ He is
The Son of God', sure this
Was his confession, so they went
To water with intent
Philip him baptised, was not long
And he went home with song

Praise Parade

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen (Let us rejoice)
(All creatures of our God and King')

Introduction

We gather gleanings from the Psalms
Your word does comfort, strengthens, calms
Alleluia, Alleluia!
So seeing treasures in your word
We rejoice in what we have heard
Unto you our spirits are stirred
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 130 v.7

With the LORD there is sure mercy
Gracious, compassionate He be
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And with Him we find, there shall be
Plenteous redemption, here see
Offered to us by His grace free
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 125 v.1

They that trust in the LORD shall be
As mount Zion eternally
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Which cannot be removed for e'er
Its firm foundations do we share
For we know the Lord God dwells there
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 125 v.2

As those mountains are round about
Jerusalem, the LORD no doubt

Alleluia, Alleluia
Is round about His people e'er
They in His glories now do share
In true fellowship unimpair[ed]
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 126 v.4
Turn again our captivity
So shall we be released and free
Alleluia, Alleluia!
LORD, come to our help, be not late
For you do see our needy state
May we flow as streams, ne'er abate
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 127 v.2
'Tis vanity to early rise
To sit up late our faith belies
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To eat the bread of sorrows, be
Profitless, for gives sleep does He
To His beloved, to you, me
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 133 v.1-3
Behold, how good, how pleasant be
When brethren dwell in unity
Alleluia, Alleluia!
It like the oil of Aaron's* beard
That ran down, and as dew appeared
The LORD blessings to us endeared
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

* Aaron - a Jewish high priest.
The oil refers to his anointing/consecrating ceremony.

Mindful Ministerings - Thomas á Kempis Series - 6

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

O merciful Jesus
Send light now unto us
Lighten my mind, banish all dark
Song rise as morning lark

Rise from the sanctuary
Of heart, inspired be
By your light, guarding all my thought
In me your grace has wrought

Grant peace to mind and heart
Illumine every part
Strengthen us body, spirit, soul
To be in you made whole

I am dull, formless, void
With sin's taint am alloyed
Until your light come to my soul
You my purpose, my goal

Pour forth grace from above
Refresh me with your love
Send dew of heaven to me bless
I your good name confess

Turn me from earth-bound things
They shall pass, e'en all things
Help me focus on you alone
In you true joys are known

Multicultural Marvellings

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

A church multicultural

We pray we hear your call
The mystery revealéd
Comes to pass as you said
Lord, that Gentiles should be part
In life and mind and heart
Of the same body as Jews
Which your Spirit renews

So included all people
Open to each race, school
Each country and each nation
The worldwide salvation
With Christ the living Head, He
O'er the church e'er Lord be
We members of His body
Th church eternally

For all nations of the earth

Are blessed since Abraham's birth

Such promise was to him made
Foundational and staid

And too a great multitude

A Revelation viewed
By John of all nations, kins
Praising God, freed from sins

For you Lord, true did pray sure
That believers e'ermore

May show that through unity

Message to world, it be

That the Father the Son sent
Who obeyed, no relent
And that the Father loves none
Less than He loves His Son

Christ our peace, for He has made
Peace for us all, price paid

Upon the cross He removed

The wall that hostile proved

'Tween man and God, man and man
No enmity now can
Separate out Christ's people
Where gathered in love all

Pure Heart And Heavenly Wisdom - T. á Kempis Series - 7

Tune: Thaxted

('Jerusalem the golden')

For pure heart, heavenly wisdom
I pray, I to you come
Strengthen me, Lord, by the grace
Of your Spirit, efface
All vanities, profitless
Things that shall never bless
Grant me inward strength, power
To follow you each hour

O keep my heart in your way
That through each night and day
I be not drawn far from you
By temptations old, new
Help me see all is passing
Only you, Lord and King
Remain eternal, living
Of all life the well-spring

Grant me Lord, wisdom heavenly
That above all I see
You, learn, search, and discover
Turn from all false allure
To know you and love you more
Seeing all things for sure
As they really are, truly
As you order, they be

May I avoid prudently
Those who with flattery
Seek to deceive, confuse me

Hinder my liberty
And too help me deal patient
Who oppose, obstinant* (*obstinate)
Towards me be, yet wisely
May my responses be

True wisdom cannot be swayed
By arguments displayed
Not by many words spoken
Nor by flattering men
Who seek to me keep earth-bound
When treasures I have found
Of you, and onwards desire
Your wisdom, best by far

Subliminal Shinings - T. á Kempis Series - 8

Tune and Hymn Name: 'Eternal Light! Eternal Light!'

O light uncreated, you be
Everlasting and free
Surpassing all created light
Dispelling all the dark of night
Shine in my heart true, bright

Pour forth from heaven, glorious rays
Taste of eternal days
Pierce depths of my heart, purify
Gladden, lighten me, be you nigh
I to you fervent cry

Quicken powers of my spirit
With your light be it lit
So may my spirit hold to you
With joy unspeakable anew
You only good and true

I long for you, that final hour
When by your grace you shower
The fullness of your presence on
Me, ever, image of your Son
Glories compared to none

That shall be my full destiny
To full of your joy be
Yet while here still in earths abode
Thankful for graces here bestowed
You share my burden, load

Come near, help me, you dwell within

Me, guard, keep me from sin
Help me draw on your Spirit's power
For I do need Him every hour
He my refuge and tower

'Til my soul, spirit, sure shall soar
To your rest evermore
Then light perpetual I shall know
All I ever wished here below
Your love it shall bestow

Mission Mandate

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice!)

Luke 10 v.1-24 parts

The Lord did seventy
Send out in pairs, we see
To teach and preach and heal
To show of God's good will
And to say that God's kingdom near
Is, Christ will soon again appear

Into each house they went
Desiring folk repent
Bringing blessings of peace
Preaching freedom, release
From sins and sickness where folk bound
Salvation all in Christ is found

If peace not accepted
Yet it not forfeited
But did return to those
Who greetings made, they chose
To share God's peace with everyone
The lasting peace of Christ the Son

And too a ministry
Of healing to sick, see
Restoring body, soul
Spirit, that all be whole
Sharing Christ's compassion and love
By the Holy Spirit, the dove

They to the Lord returned

Their hearts with fervour burned
Lord, even the demons
Flee in your name, each runs
Yet the Lord says greater it, see
That their names writ in heaven be

There the Lord rejoiced too
Freshly inspired anew
That the Father had hid
This from the wise, not bid
Them to know it, but to simple
Was it revealed, to babes the call

Blessed were they, and too we
See things which some not see
Though prophets, kings desired
To see them, spirits fired
Yet they did not see, nor them heard
But we see, hear, His living word

Day By Day

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
('All praise to thee my God, this night')

Forgive me Lord, I fear and fret
And your love, mercies, do forget
Though we human, we cannot know
All things, why you have made some so

But help us trust, your will discern
That we in you more grow and learn
Leaving all in your tender care
There they shall prosper and well fare

In doubts and turmoils, mind's distress
May we come to you, and confess
Your wisdom be best, higher than
Thoughts, plans, workings of any man

So in searching our own hearts we
Pray your Spirit our guide shall be
Patience and perseverance give
We shall grow as in you we live

On day by day, 'tis all you ask
To tend to each day's duties, tasks
Not stay in past of yesterday
Nor anxious of tomorrow's way

For each day given from your hand
You sustain all of every land
Help us your kingdom to seek first
And to do your will be our thirst

Lordship Laudings

Tune: Unter Herrscher - 'with ruler'
('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Psalm 95 v.1

Come let us unto the LORD sing
Grateful worship, praises bring
Let us make a noise true joyful
To the LORD, the King of all
He the rock of our salvation
Availing to each nation

Psalm 95 v.6-7

O come let us before Him kneel
He will hear us, forgive, heal
Let us bow before Him humbly
He the penitents shall see
For He is our God, he us made
We sheep in pasture arrayed

Psalm 96 v.7-8

Give to the LORD glory and strength
His praise be of endless length
Give Him glory due to His name
He who e'er remains the same
Bring an offering to His courts
He accepts good gifts, all sorts

Psalm 96 v.10-11

Say among heathen, the LORD reigns
Does as He wills, as he deigns
The world also shall be stablished
Nothing unsteady or missed
He shall the people judge rightly

In Him we shall joyful be

Psalm 97 v.12

Rejoice in Him all you righteous
He comes to us, us shall bless
Give thanks at the remembrance
Of His holy, pure presence
He e'er the LORD, reigns for ever
And shall abdicate never

Psalm 98 v.2

The LORD His salvation has shown
To all lands it He made known
His righteousness openly too
Shown to heathen, not a few
Good news message sowed unto all
Who do hear His gracious call

Psalm 99 v.9

Exalt the LORD our God, Him praise
At His holy hill songs raise
Worship Him, for He is holy
Now and evermore shall be
Join each voice in acclamation
Of the LORD, and Christ His Son

Psalm 100 v.3

Know you that the LORD he us made
In creation us outlaid
We His people in His pasture
Sheep of His, we are kept sure
For He the great Shepherd us feeds
Tends us, cares, and meets our needs

Concluding Formal Prayers Series - 7

Tune: Beatitudo

('O for a closer walk with God')

Almighty God, you have promised
Us your grace to assist
And to hear prayers made in Christ's name
He ever stays the same

We pray what we have asked here now
That you will answer how
Most effectively for your glory
That shall be yours, all see

For you have us inspired aright
To ask what in your sight
Is pleasing to you, so faithful
We pray in Christ's name all

Concluding Formal Prayers Series - 8

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Now unto Him who is able
To do all that we call
Unto Him for, more than we know
Immeasurably so

More than we can ask or conceive
By His Spirit, believe
For 'tis by His power works He
Great things shown here shall be

To Him, To God, be all glory
In the Church, so we say
And in His Son, Christ, He our Lord
He the eternal Word

Advent Announcement

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Matthew 1 v.18-25 parts

Now comes again season Advent
Jesus Christ from the Father sent
The Son of God, from ages long
Was promised, this the joyful song

Chorus

God's promise kept, His Son appears
Delivers from our sins and fears

Mary found to be with child, for
It be the virgin birth so pure
Joseph her husband to be, heart torn
Yet by the Spirit her child born - Chorus

For Mary would bring forth a son
All by the Spirit's working done
His name to be JESUS, Saviour
Blessings on all He would confer - Chorus

Would save His people from their sins
As His redemption dawn begins
Now all this done, that prophecy
Might be fulfilled, amen, so be - Chorus

The word was, Behold a virgin
Shall be with child, lowly within
And shall bring forth a Son, Him dear
Emmanuel, God with us here - Chorus

Advent Aspirings

Tune: Darwall

('Rejoice the Lord is King')

Again the Advent call
Is made to one and all
For He, Emmanuel
Shall come, let all tongues tell
He once to earth has come, we know
And He a second time will show

Prepare the way that He
May come to each heart, see
For His eternal reign
Shall be, no crying, pain
Nor death nor mourning shall there be
We by Him redeemed and made free

Make crooked places straight
Rough places plain, not late
Every valley it shall
Be exalted, fare well
Each mountain and each hill made low
Make it for His return, be so

Rejoicing there shall be
Witness, evangel we
That others too believe
Christ as Saviour receive
'Til gathered in, no trace of sin
Multitudes of all kith and kin

Spirit Stream

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Flow Spirit free, flow from my heart
Illuminate my every part
That I worship in spirit, truth
Reverently, not rude, uncouth

Inspire, anoint, 'tis our desire
To join to sing like heavenly choir
And too each instrument be played
That your gifts, glories, be displayed

Work through each style and each approach
Of worship new or old we broach
Through our lives, personalities
We pray each in us the true Christ sees

To witness, to evangel, you tend
The lost sheep to bring in, them tend
Sharing your love and holy dove
Of your Spirit, them you encove (encovenant)

Going forth daily, word and deed
May others you in us see, heed
And come to know your salvation
Open free unto each nation

Give strength and help, persecuted
Soem they be, through still elected
By you, your power to each one
Who seeks to live as Christ the Son

Deacons Dynamism

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Acts Chapters 6 & 7 parts

'Midst the seven deacons chosen
Stephen, he among them one
Man full of faith and the Spirit
Holy fire in him was lit
Sharing in ministering
Widow's food distributing

Though seemed menial service they
Full of the Spirit each day
And full of wisdom, they stewards
Taught they true with wholesome words
Stephen full of faith and power
Ministry did sure flower

For he did great wonders, sharing
Christ, and miracles bringing
To the people, though some up rose
To dispute with him, they chose
Yet not able to resist
All his message did consist [of]

Brought to appear before council
He did fare excellent well
Looking on him there they did see
Face as of an angel, he
Did show, bright God's glory blazed
He showed gospel, whole, unfazed

So through much words, many Scriptures

He showed how God, He confers
Graces on people, salvation
Open to all, each nation
His plan wrought through Christ His Son
he the Saviour for each one

But they turned, and cut to the heart
Opposed him in every part
Stephen stoned, though prayed forgiveness
Devotion ne'er faltered, yes
Holy martyr as he died
Saw God's glory, Christ beside [God]

Fill us with your Spirit, as they
Deacons served you, we do pray
Move us from all earth-bound longings
May we rise on eagle's wings
Grant us your wisdom, power
Inspire, energise each hour

Discipleship Discourse

Tune: Ye Banks And Braes

('We cannot measure how you heal')

Luke Chapter 6 part

'Blessed be you poor', the Lord did say
You who stay with me, watch and pray
For yours the kingdom of God is
You can be assured well of this
And blessed be you that hunger now
For you shall be filled, and too how
Blessed are those who do now weep
For you shall laugh and dance and leap

Blessed are you too when people shall
Hate you, and of you not speak well
And when you they shall separate
From their company, not be late
But shall reproach you, cast you out
Treat your name as evil, no doubt
'Tis all because of the Son's sake
They do not Him their Lord true make

Rejoice in those days, leap for joy
Though those you agitate, annoy
Are of the world, have not believed
Have not Christ as Saviour received
Yet those troubled, persecuted
have great reward in heaven, not hid
For in like manner they did do
Unto previous prophets true

Who build their lives upon a rock
Dig deep, and withstand the storm's shock

For such are they with godly fear
Who do Christ's words, not only hear
So not lip-service or talk fine
Nor sole mental assent align
But such obey, the Spirit's power
Is given unto them each hour

Unforgiven Unease

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Psalm 38 part

O LORD, in wrath rebuke me not
Or fearsome be my lot
Nor in hot displeasure chasten
Us, we who are mere men

For 'tis as your arrows in me
Stuck fast in me they be
And as your hand heavy does press
Me, if I not confess

Not confess my sins, hold them tight
Abhorrent in your sight
So no soundness in my flesh be
For you are angry, see

Nor rest in my bones day or night
Burdens hard, they not light
They too much are for me to bear
Others cannot them share

For I my sin I will declare
To you Lord, just and fair
I shall sorrow, penitent be
Come, forgive and cleanse me

Forsake me not, you are my Lord
You have each living word
Make haste to help me, for you give
Salvation, I shall live

Presence Pleasantness

Tune: Beatitudo

(one tune to 'O for a closer walk with God')

Lord, in your presence there is peace
Wonders shall never cease
Comfort us by your love, draw near
We find a haven here

Where your presence is, there is light
And glories to our sight
Help us to trust, to wait on you
You will our strength renew

Each day to take, not fret or fear
Your mercies still appear
Then fresh anointings do us grace
To follow, even pace

For you are with us, e'en within
To cleanse, keep us from sin
Your Spirit in each believer
Does assurance confer

Help us to witness in some way
In words or deeds each day
That others see you in us true
Evangel bold, anew

Content to know you, in you rest
Doing your will, we blest
Progressing on, your kingdom seek
Revealed to humble, meek

Faithful Focus

Tune: Staff of Faith

('My faith it is an oaken staff')

Hebrews 10 v.22-23 & v.35-39

Let us with a true heart draw near
To God in lowly fear
In full assurance of faith, we
Having hearts sprinkled, see
Cleansed from an evil conscience
Bodies washed with pure water hence
Holding fast our faith's profession
In Father, Spirit, Son

Not wavering, for He faithful
Who did us to Him call
His promises sure, to them hold
We are all of His fold
Cast not away your confidence
For it does have great recompence
Of reward, comes day of the Lord
According to His word

For you have need of patience, for
Having done God's will sure
You then might His promise receive
He shall not you deceive
But promise of inheritance
Eternal, it shall be the stance
For yet a little while, and He
The Lord will come, so be

Now the just they by faith shall live
And shall worship still give

But if any draw back, then no
Joys in Him we shall know
But let us be those who on on
Pressing on our good Lord to know
Believing to saving of soul
Becoming in Him whole

Glory Gleamings

Tune: Antioch

('Joy to the world')

Luke 2 v.9-14

The last line of each verse is repeated 3 times.

Angel to shepherds did appear
And told them, 'Have no fear'
For behold, I bring good tidings
All creation it sings (x3)

Good tidings of great joy to all
People, come, on Christ call
For unto you is born this day
A Saviour for alway (x3)

In city of David, He born
He brings redemption's dawn
This Saviour who is Christ the Lord
He e'er the living word (x3)

This be the sign, how Him you find
Take to you as remind[er]
That you shall find the babe therein
A manger, free from sin (x3)

He shall be wrapped in swaddling clothes
Humility He knows
A manger, animal food-trough
Sufficed, it was enough (x3)

Then suddenly angelic host
'Glory in highest most'
All praising, peace and good will

He has thought on man still (x3)

Serving Serenity

Tune: Lobe Den Herren = Praise the Lord

('Praise to the Lord, the Almighty')

Psalm 119 v.73-80

Your hands, O LORD, have made me
And have fashioned me, I see
Give me understanding
That I learn your commands, each thing
They that fear you
Will be glad when they anew
See me, I hope in your word true

I know, LORD, your judgements
Are right, and are of wise, good sense
And I know that 'tis sure
In faithfulness you afflict, for
To chasten me
In your plan, purpose it be
That your will and mine do agree

Let, I pray your mercies
And kindness for my comfort be
According to your word
To your servant, I it have heard
Mercies tender
Come to me, to me render
That I may live, your grace confer

For your law it be here
My delight, I serve you with fear
Let the proud be ashamed
They care not, nor have they you named
They dealt perverse

Without a cause through life's verse
Only going from bad to worse

But I will meditate
In your precepts, and not be late
Let those that fear you
And know your testimonies true
Turn unto me
That my servant heart they see
And unto you for refuge flee

Let my heart be sound in
Your statutes, your Spirit within
Teach me and guide me here
That I obedient you fear
So I no shame
Shall have, for I know your name
Faithful LORD, for ever the same

Gabriel's Greetings

Tune: Branle de L'officiel

('Ding, dong, merrily on high!')

Luke 1 v.26-33

Angel Gabriel was sent
From God, to Nazareth went
Message to virgin Mary
She would bear the Christ-child, see

Chorus

Glory! The light of the world is here
Glory! Worship Him with lowly fear

Hail, highly favoured one she
Was, and the message it be
That she should conceive a son
All by the Spirit's work done - Chorus

He be born of David's line
Blessed you among women fine
Not to fear for she had found
Favour with God, praise resound - Chorus

Her son to be named JESUS
He would take our sins from us
He the Son of the Highest
Comes to earth, heavenly guest - Chorus

The Lord God shall give Him sure
The throne of David e'ermore
He shall reign, endless kingdom
Of the like there shall be none - Chorus

Servant Salvation

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Isaiah 42 v.1-8

Behold, my servant here be
I uphold Him here, see
He my chosen, my elect
Will do my will perfect
My spirit on Him, anointed
By me He shall be led
He shall bring forth my judgement
To Gentiles, no relent

He shall not cry, nor shout out
But He without a doubt
Shall continue ministry
Though voice in street not be
Heard loud or raucous, yet He shall
Through me do all things well
A bruised reed He shall not break
But restoring shall make

A smoking flax shall not be
Quenched by Him, He will, see
Bring forth judgement unto truth
Renew us as in youth
He shall not fail, not shall be
Discouraged, know we He
Shall set judgement in the earth
All shall give Him His worth

Thus says the LORD who made all
I did unto you call

My servant, and did Him bless
Called Him in righteousness
And will your hand hold, you keep
You shall gather my sheep
And give you for a covenant
To my people you [be] sent

To Gentiles you be a light
And give spiritual sight
To open blind eyes and free
Prisoners who bound be
To bring from darkness to light
Make prison houses bright
The LORD be my name, this I do
Bring salvation anew

Helping Hope

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Psalm 13

How long, LORD, you forget
Not think on me yet?
Will you your face hide here?
Woe to me, betide

How long shall I sorrow
Not your comfort know?
How long enemy be
Exalted o'er me?

Consider and hear me
LORD, my troubles see
Lighten my eyes, me keep
Lest I sleep death's sleep

Lest my enemy say
'I have had my way
Have prevailed and o'ercome
Victory I have won'

And lest those that trouble
me when I near fall
And rejoice against m
When my state they see

But I have here trusted
Your mercy, you led
Me from troubles, saving
Praises you I bring

I shall in you rejoice
Lifting heart and voice
For you have dealt bounteous
With all, even us

A Christmas Contemplation

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Christmas contemplations share
Time of peace, good will, fine fare
Yet for many poverty
Still straitened their state it be

Chorus

Lord, look on us, have mercy
Come to us and set us free

Light of life, light of the world
Here love's banner is unfurled
Incarnation, God made man
Doing what no other can - Chorus

Comes to provide salvation
Children, women, men, each one
JESUS, Saviour, saves from sin
In Him each new life begins - Chorus

Fully human, full[y] divine
Taking on my state, e'en mine
As a human babe, there found
In a manger, praise resound - Chorus

Lord, we forget not the poor
They with us from shore to shore
Grant your power, to act, so
They love, practical help know - Chorus

For what use, we say, 'Be fed

And eat of your daily bread
And be clothed, keep warm always'
If they stay poor all their days? - Chorus

Though we cannot all needs meet
Some we can in Christ's name greet
Give of our substance and share
Tending poor with loving care - Chorus

Lord, meek and mild, yet a King
Needs of season we you bring
And through the year, diligent
Follow you, midst poor you went - Chorus

Constructive Change

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Lord, help me trust, help me believe
And your words true receive
Holding to each your promises
That I your ways not miss

Help me to will what you do will
My heart, mind, comfort, still
To go your way, though I may choose
It not, your grace endues

For you endue us, that we may
Continue, watch and pray
Working through needed discipline
You cleanse our souls from sin

Though time of trial, heaviness
Your intent still to bless
To form the image of your Son
In us, the perfect One

And then when season joyful here
Does come to us, appear
It sure shall be profitable
That we did heed your call

Saving Securities

Tune: Eventide

('Abide with me')

Psalm 25 v.10

All the paths of the Lord, mercy, truth be
To such as keep His sure testimonies
And His covenant, and for His name's sake
Shall pardon our sins great, our burdens take

Psalm 25 v.17

Turn to me Lord, on me do have mercy
For I am desolate, afflicted be
Troubles of my heart, they enlarged here are
Bring me out of distress, save me from far

Psalm 26 v.8

Lord I have loved the sure habitation
Of your house of prayer, set for each nation
And 'tis the place wherein your honour dwells
They who reside there, each your glories tells

Psalm 27 v.4

One thing of the Lord, it i have desired
That will I seek after, and ne'er grow tired
'Tis that I may dwell in His house always
To behold His beauty for endless days

Psalm 27 v.4-5

And to enquire there in his house, temple
He graciously shall hear who to Him call
In times of trouble, He shall shelter, hide
Me in His tent, in Him I shall confide

Psalm 25 v.20-22

O keep my soul, O do deliver me

Let me not be ashamed, I trust you, see

Grant integrity, uprightness, keep me

I wait on you God to redeem, set free

Winsome Worship

Tune: Guiting Power

('Christ triumphant, ever reigning')

Songs and praises everlasting
Bring to Christ your King
Melodies pleasant now raising
Above everything
He the Lord for evermore
He reigns for sure
We Him adore

Scriptures they to us are written
All contained therein
We may grow so, ever learning
With thoughts discerning
Led by His Spirit to know
His truth, 'tis so
Grace here bestow[ed]

Lifting hearts and hands and voices
We worship in this
Trusting to His presence daily
To continual be
With us, in us, all around
The solid ground
In Christ we [are] found

All shall come to obey your rule
None shall doubt or stall
But you shall show yourself as Lord
True, it be your Word
And each enemy submit
In every whit

'Tis meet and fit

Orchi Progress Report

Now look, listen in!
I got summat of major importance to tell ya.

Will ya be cruel?
Will ya say 'hooray?'
Or 'about time too?!'

Whatever's up, Orchi?
Well, I had a sneezing fit
Lost me voice almost - spoken and....
More importantly(?)... singing voice!

Ohh it's a lament today
A very dark write!
You won't hear me melodious tones
Don't mean to say I've stopped writing though
The hymn-poems!

Boo hoo, I know it's difficult to tell
If it's me singing
Or two cats fighting
But it can't be helped!
Only the cats are 'singing' at the moment!

They may not have to put up with me
Caterwauling Carols
Though Carol only appears in December
Who is she? What is her surname?
Do ya know her?!

I know you lot - you will hide me Lem-Sips
Or other 'potions' I may try
Please pour me a large whisky without water

(I'm delirious now with a fever, to say that!)

Ohh, poor old me

Very old me!

Shall I go back to bed?

Did I get out of bed the right side?

Sing a song or two for me meanwhile

Will ya?!

Heehee a hymn says:

'The voice of prayer is never silent'

Hope I won't be silent too long!

I dunno what all the fuss is

It's a fine Christmas gift from me

To all of ya! lol.

No singing from me, I mean!

Think carefully -

Will ya wish me well?

I shall only sing again! lol.

Preparing A people

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Matthew 11 v.1-15 parts

Jesus spoke of John Baptist, He
Said, 'What went you to desert see?
A reed shaken with a wind strong?
Or one clothed in flowing robes long?'

Did you go a prophet to see?
Yes, I tell you a prophet he
Was, John the Baptist, and he more
Than a prophet he was for sure

For he that 'second Elijah'
Was, messenger of God did stir
Sent before the face of the Lord
To prepare folk to hear His word

The Lord's way John prepared, and true
Among them all, that born of you
The human race, there none more great
Than John, his be the highest state

Yet even so, the least, whoe'er
In God's kingdom, 'tis no compare
Such a one is greater than he
They are now saved eternally

Look up, take comfort, for you be
Included in His kingdom free
Where all confess Jesus, Lord He
Subject to Him, all bow the knee

Gifts And Graces

Tune: Ever Faithful

('Let us with a gladsome mind')

Romans 12 v.4-9

Having each gifts differing
Let us to the Lord them bring - Chorus

Chorus
We all in Christ, one body
Members of each other, see

Many members, one body
Let each use gifts full and free - Chorus

So according to the grace
Given us, all interlace - Chorus

If prophecy, prophesy
With what faith does in us lie - Chorus

If ministry, minister
Or teaching, teaching gift stir - Chorus

Or [if] exhort, exhortation
If giving, simply be done - Chorus

They that rule, use diligence
If show mercy, [use] cheerfulness - Chorus

Let love be without false show
Abhor evil, it not know - Chorus

Cleave to that which is good hence

Christ shall be your confidence - Chorus

Historic Herald

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched')

Luke Chapter 1 parts

Angel to Zacharias spake
Announcement he did make
Gabriel sent from God's presence
Went to the temple hence

While Zacharias he there served
Came fully undeserved
The message that his prayer would be
Answered by the Lord, s ee

For wife Elisabeth and he
Would bear a son, he be
Named John the Baptist, to prepare
Way of the Lord, it share

Zacharias did not believe
Did not by faith receive
So psychophonosthenia
'Soul-sound-less', tongue not stir

Did not stir until John was born
Upon that glorious morn
Then his tongue loosed, outburst of praise
To 'Benedictus' raise*

John did go forth, prepare the way
For Christ to come one day
It not be long, but imminent
Christ from the Father sent

** Benedictus - a prophetic 'hymn' at the
end of Luke Chapter 1.*

Tuneful Tidings

Tune: Regent Square (Smart)
('Angels from the realms of glory')

Luke 2 v.10-20 part

Love, humility abounding
Earth and heaven join to sing
Tidings of a Saviour's new birth
His the name of endless worth - Chorus

Chorus
Re----joice! Christ the King is born
Re----joice! Now has dawned redemption's morn

To shepherds first, lowly station
Came the news for each nation
Christ born in Bethlehem, go see
Prince of Peace, Light of world He - Chorus

Though no room in the inn was found
Joyful stable did resound
Animals the wonder they share
Mary, Christ-child she did bare - Chorus

So shepherds they did view Him there
Journeying they well did fare
For they saw as they had been told
Messiah, promised from old - Chorus

Mystery, a hidden truth shown
Now revealed, it was seen, known
Mary, Joseph, they chosen sure
Parents of Jesus, Saviour - Chorus

Friendship Fulness

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of Mankind')

1 Thessalonians Chapters 1 and 2 parts

The last line of each verse is repeated.

Paul commends Thessalonians

They faithful daughters, sons

Remembered always, never cease

They a true source of comfort, peace

Blessings they did release (x2)

Remembered was their faithful work

From it they did not shirk

And labour of love, and patience

Of hope, serving Christ, penitence

They continued on hence (x2)

Was in the sight of Christ the Son

Their faithful tasks were done

And in sight of God the Father

They did choose to suffer rather

Afflictions, spirits [did] stir (x2)

Paul and companions, they gentle

Not wanting one to fall

But as nurses cherish children

So they were there among them when

Help, support, needed then (x2)

They exhorted and comforted

Them in Christ's way, them led

And charged them, encouraged them so

More of Christ, of His life they know
Grace of the Spirit's flow (x2)

Helping Hopes

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Lamentations 3 v.21-27

It is of the LORD's mercies
That we are not consumed, these
His compassions, they fail not
Blessings to us are our lot

His graces new each morning
He us them does daily bring
Great is His faithfulness too
Reaching unto me and you

The LORD is my portion here
Says my soul, I will Him fear
And will hope in Him each days
He shall show me His good way

The LORD is unto them good
Those who that wait for Him would
And to the soul that Him seeks
He shall help humble and meek

It is good that all, each one
Should hope in Him, all bar none
And quietly wait, draw near
His salvation shall appear

Good to bear yoke in our youth
Yoke of the LORD, it is truth
I these things recall to mind
Therefore hope in Him I find

The Favoured Faithful

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come thou long expected Jesus')

Malachi 4 v.1-3

For the day it comes that does burn
As an oven, repent, turn
To the LORD, be not proud, wicked
Nothing can from Him be hid

For evil shall burn as stubble
All causes of woe, trouble
There left be no branches or roots
Nevermore shall spring new shoots

But to you who fear the LORD's name
His the honour, His the fame
To you shall Sun of righteousness
Arise upon you, you bless

He shall dawn, healing in His wings
His people, each to them sings
You shall grow up as calves new-born
Not be from your stables torn

The righteous shall tread the wicked
Down, through Christ, He is their head
They shall be as ashes under
The righteous' feet, and not stir

Salvation Sufficiency

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

1 Peter 1 v.18-21

The last line of each verse is repeated.

We redeemed by the precious blood
Of Christ, a cleansing flood
As of a lamb without blemish
He meets true freedom's every wish
His presence we relish (x2)

No blemish, no spot, perfectly
A whole offering He be
Sacrifice sufficient for me
And for all who look and see
Receive salvation free (x2)

For truly He was foreordained
Prophets of old explained
Before foundations of world laid
He the one who our sins allayed
God's plan, He our price paid (x2)

He shown here, the last days it be
He shown for you and me
By Him we do in God believe
And His eternal life receive
True life with no deceive (x2)

For God did raise Christ from the dead
He now our living Head
God gave Him glory, and too we
That our faith, hope, in God it be

Reaching e'en you and me (x2)

Pleasant Praisings

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalm 125 v.1

They that in the Lord God do trust
Though they but small and dust
Yet they as Mount Zion shall be
Abides eternally

Psalm 124 v.7

Our soul is escaped as a bird
From a snare, the Lord heard
Us, came to us, the snare did break
He helped for His name's sake

Psalm 126 v.1

When the Lord our captivity
Did turn, we were set free
Seemed like a dream, and mystical
Trusting, we shall not fall

Psalm 128 v.1

Blessed each one that does the Lord fear
Believing He is near
And in His ways they ever walk
Of Him too they do talk

Psalm 126 v.3

The Lord for us great things has done
Has sent His only Son
Blessings for body, spirit, soul
In Him we glad, made whole

Praise Persuals

Tune: Camberwell

(One tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 92 v.1-12

It is true, a good thing
To give praise and sing
To give thanks, exalting
You our LORD and King
For your name is most High
Yet your presence nigh
So in celebration
We rejoice, each one

For your lovingkindness
With it us you bless
And too your faithfulness
Shown to us no less
Every morning, evening
Through each day we bring
Praise and worship to you
You do us renew

Play upon instruments
Here God's goodness sense
Join in orchestration
Folk of each nation
For you, LORD, make us glad
We stay no more sad
Works done by your hands are
Great, we triumph share

And your thoughts they be deep
You your sheep do keep

Though wicked know them not
Disaster their lot
For when evil does rise
Their plans do capsize
Flourish a while, then gone
Destroyed, remain none

Bur you, LORD, e'er remain
Holy, pure, unfeign
You most high for ever
Lose your reign never
Your enemies perish
Vain their evil wish
Scattered by your power
You display, your hour

But my strength you exalt
I not stumble, halt
Anointed with fresh oil
Enemies I foil
I shall hear and see sure
When they be no more
[The] Righteous as a strong tree
They shall prosper, see

Passion Prosperings

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

1 Peter 1 v.18-21

Christ-child to earth did come for all
All may be saved who on Him call
Not corruptible things redeem
But by Christ's blood, its high esteem

Not silver or gold, cannot pay
Not open up to us heaven's way
'Tis only Christ, by His life free
Given, that we delivered be

That precious blood, it does atone
It be sufficiency alone
To cleanse, forgive, ransom each one
He has true salvation's work done

Blood of Christ, He a lamb, no spot
Innocent, guiltless, sinless lot
Taking our sins, my sins, that we
Forgiven, new life may have, see

No blemish, defect, offering
Sacrifice of self did He bring
Giving His life, it foreordained
To heal in each one's life sin-stained

Now He be revealed, and on cross
Did pay price to redeem our loss
By Him we do in God believe
Christ as our Saviour we receive

God did raise Him up from the dead
Gave Him glory, our living Head
So that our faith and hope might be
In God throughout eternity

Unity Unctions

Tune Name and Hymn: Amazing Grace

Psalm 136 v.1

O give thanks to the LORD, He good
We worship as we should
For His mercy endures for e'er
In it we all may share

Psalm 135 v.6

Whatsoever the LORD pleased, He
Did in heaven, earth, see
And in the seas, all deep places
Among each, all races

Psalm 138 v.3

In the day when I did cry you
Answered me, me you knew
And strengthened me with strength within
My soul, and cleansed from sin

Psalm 133 v.1

Behold, how good and how pleasant
In this we confident
When brethren dwell in unity
Together, peace shall be

Psalm 133 v.2-3

'Tis like ointment on the high priest
Poured, from greatest to least
May partake in this favouring
Blessings like dew it brings

Victorious Visitation

Tune: Was Lebet, Was Shwebet

('O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness')

Matthew 2 v.1-12 parts

From the east came wise men
Did look for the Christ-child then
They did hear words of prophecy again
That you Bethlehem small
From there the Lord one would call
To be Governor, Ruler over all

He would rule God's people
His reign be o'er Israel
And message for Jews and Gentiles to tell
That He would Saviour be
Coming to us, to set free
All shall adore Him, to Him bend the knee

The wise men star followed
It hovered o'er ground hallowed
For 'twas at place where young Christ-child abode
Their rejoicing was great
They found holy place not late
Exceeding great joy theirs, high celebrate (celebration)

To young child with parents
Mary and Joseph's presence
They to Jesus gave gifts, gold, frankincense
And myrrh, precious treasures
Worshipping Him, great pleasures
Their desires fulfilled with firm endeavours

Evangelism Expression

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Inspire us, O Lord, heart and mind
So may we in you find
Fresh grace and strength, and penitent
From our sins true relent

You who have bought us with a price
Your offering, sacrifice
Of yourself there upon the cross
Though human state was loss

For only you our help, our life
You give peace, end of strife
Make way that man to God may come
Through you, the Father's Son

On in each day, may we follow
And seek you more to know
You there to bless, to change us sure
More to your image pure

We have message to evangel
With a whole world to share
To those near, far, who yet not know
Do your salvation [them] show

Your grant your power, Spirit, dove
He comforts, shows your love
And too reproves of sin, leads right
To bring us to your light

Your righteous judgements e'er avail
They still to man prevail
Come save us, stir us, fervently
May our witness true be

Praise Perusals 2

Tune: Dix (Kocher)

('As with gladness men of old')

Psalm 85 v.7-8

Show us, O LORD, your mercy
Grant us your salvation, we
Shall hear what you LORD will speak
To those open, humble, meek
For He will speak to us peace
But let us from folly cease

Psalm 86 v.5

For you Lord are good, ready
To forgive, your grace we see
Plenteous in mercy you
Be to us, you us renew
Each who does upon you call
You will bless and keep them all

Psalm 86 v.9

All nations who you have made
Shall come to you unafraid
Though not without godly fear
Shall worship you, know you near
They shall honour, glorify
And to your presence draw nigh

Psalm 87 v.5

Of Zion it shall be said
The LORD is there, He their Head
It shall be said that each one
Was born in Zion, bar none
For this be their named home town

Full of grace, honour, renown

Psalm 89 v.6

For who in heaven can be
Compared unto the LORD, see?
Who among the mighty ones
Any daughters, any sons?
No, none greater than Him for
He Almighty LORD e'ermore

Psalm 89 v.14

Justice and judgement abide
At your throne they do reside
And proceed from there, for true
Be your ways, you us renew
Mercy and truth they shall go
Before your face, righteous show

Holy Homage

Tune: Morning Star (Harding)

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Matthew 2 v.1-11

There as a young child in house you revealéd
To the wise men, by a star they were led
Exceeding joyful and high exaltation
They saw you there, Lord of every nation

Precious gifts they there to you then presented
As lowly there they bowed to you, worshipped
Treasures of gold, myrrh, frankincense, high value
Given in gratitude all unto you

Epiphany light shine bright in hearts daily
That others Christ in us true they shall see
Be led to worship you, humbly repenting
Forgiveness, eternal life you do bring

For Bethlehem, 'tis small in land of Judah
But from there prophecies fulfilments stir
For from there would a Governor come forth, rule
God's people Israel, He Lord over all

Pleasant Prospects

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

Psalm 84

How amiable be
Your tabernacles, see
We, O LORD of hosts, there your presence be free
My soul longs, even faints
For your courts, no sin's taints
May e'er defile there, your love reigns, no restraints

My heart and flesh they cry
Out for you, you are nigh
The living God, you will not our needs deny
Yes, the sparrow has found
A house there, holy ground
And swallow too, nests they build, graces redound

Blesséd are they that dwell
In your house, they shall tell
Still of your praises, you have done all things well
Blessed they whose strength in you
Is, you will them renew
And in their hearts are your ways, ever good,true

They pass through valley low
Of Baca*, sorrows know (**Baca - valley of tears and sorrows*)
There, but they turn tears of weeping to wells, so
Here be there refreshment
Rain too the LORD has sent
To fill the pools, the dry ground, effervescent

They go from strength to strength

Know more the depth, width, length
Of God's love, also too know its endless breadth
O you LORD God of hosts
Hear our prayer, our soul boasts
In you alone, you LORD reign over all coasts

Behold, our God, our shield
Help us to our lives yield
To you, look on us, you have to us revealed
Great treasures of your grace
By faith we see your face
And seek to follow you daily, even pace

For in your courts one day
Is better, now we say
Than a thousand elsewhere, all the world's array
I desire humble task
A doorkeeper, I ask
To be in your house, than in wicked's tents bask

For the LORD shield and sun
He is to every one
That walks uprightly, He will aid, forget none
Will give grace and glory
Pleasant our state shall be
He in us, we in Him, through eternity

Trusting Truly

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Isaiah 26 v.3-4 and v.8-9

You will keep them in perfect peace
Whose mind is stayed on you, uncease (unceasingly)
Because they in you do trust sure
You will keep them for evermore

Trust you in the Lord for ever
He will keep you, leave you never
For in the LORD JEHOVAH is
Everlasting strength and true bliss

In the way of your judgements Lord
Have we waited and heard your word
The desire of our soul unto
Your name is, we remember you

With my soul I you have desired
In the night you me have inspired
With my spirit within me here
I will seek you with lowly fear

Early will I seek you, for when
Your judgements are in the earth, then
Its inhabitants they will learn
Righteousness, and will to you turn

Rock Residings

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Psalm 59 v.16-17

I will sing Lord of your power
You help me every hour
I will sing loud of your mercy
For you my defence be
And too my refuge in trouble
When unto you I call
To you, my strength, Lord will I sing
And grateful thanks here bring

Psalm 60 v.11-12

Give us help from trouble, for sure
The help of man is poor
'Tis vanity, but you we trust
Lord, though we small and dust
Through God we shall valiant do
He shall tread down, pursue
Our enemies, and we shall see
Through Him the victory

Psalm 61 v.1-2

Hear my cry, O God hear my prayer
I trust you always there
From ends of earth I cry to you
Come to me, me renew
When my heart it overwhelmed be
I to your refuge flee
Lead me to rock higher than I
Your saving presence nigh

Psalm 61 v.3-4

For you have been shelter to me
Tower from enemy
Strong, fortified, they cannot broach
When evil, they approach
I will abide, I shall not fall
In your tabernacle
For ever there I stay, remain
Your protection I gain

Psalm 62 v.7-8

In God [is] my salvation, glory
Rock of my strength He be
My refuge is in God, I hid
In Him, He to me bid
Trust in Him at all times, people
Pour out hearts, on Him call
For He a refuge for us e'er
We [are] kept with loving care

Prayer And Praise

Tune: North Coates

('O my Saviour lifted')

1 Timothy 2 v.1-5

Make your supplications
People, all nations
Unto the Lord gracious
He will hark to us

Prayers and intercessions
For all daughters, sons
Giving of thanks, asking
Of our Lord and King

All sorts of prayer make for
All people, be sure
That He will attend us
Will our requests bless

Kings, queens, authority
Who powers that be
Pray we lead a quiet
Peaceful life, good heart

Having all godliness
And our sins confess
Honesty in living
Him our worship bring

This good, acceptable
In God's sight, when all
Call upon Him, for He
Favouring shall be

He desires all be saved
Christ the way has paved
He the mediator
Let earth, heaven concur

Profitable Progressions

Tune: Trentham

(one tune to 'Breathe on me, breath of God')

James 4 v.13-18

Consider, you who say
We shall do so today
Of this and that, whate'er we please
What with us all agrees

You say a year you shall
Continue there, do well
And gain and profit true surely
Whate'er will be, will be

Yet sure you do not know
If any thing be so
Not e'en tomorrow's matters see
You know not what shall be

Your life a vapour is
Thus be assured of this
That it appears a little time
Then is gone from life's rhyme

For this you ought to say
'If the Lord will', and pray
So shall we live and do His will
Safe in His presence still

But here if you rejoice
In boastings of your choice
'Tis all evil, good you not do
So 'tis sin unto you

Rapturous Rose

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

A rose it is the most perfect flower
Of many colours, many scents and shapes
Whether a single stem or in a bower
Beauty of the rose you cannot escape

How can I make a rose, the gardeners plead
I smile and say, it is not make, but plant
So first that is needed 'tis tiny seed
Which colour, size and shape and scent will grant

A tiny seed, has the rose within it?
Yes, 'tis programmed, 'tis in its DNA
Just plant in soil, the way to begin it
Every seed special and designed that way

The DNA makes enzymes which control
Pathways to create the colour and scent
And leaves, stems, thorns, and all the rigmarole
To make a rose that is the seed's intent

When plucked a rose is, I feel its beauty
Perfect blossom upon a slender rod
I look up and I feel it my duty
To state, 'The foolish say, "There is no God"'

Redemption Rememberings

Tune: Divine Mysteries

('Sweet sacrament divine')

Come to Communion feast
Come, greatest unto least
For bread and wine here shared
I access unimpaired
For Christ has bid each one unto
His table, to taste fresh, anew
These token of His love
Teach us, O Spirit, dove

Teach us, that here we see
Displayed this mystery
Christ's body in the bread
Symbol, crucified, dead
Yet on the third day rose again
Salvation free unto all men
And wine, Christ's body shed
Symbol, for us He bled

Rich food, spiritual
Enough to suffice all
Sacrifice, offering
His own self did He bring
To pay the price for all our sin
To forgive and to cleanse within
Granting life eternal
To all who on Him call

This be our sustenance
No repeat, only once
He hung upon the cross

Came to redeem our loss
So in fair common-union
In fellowship with Christ the Son
Peace now with God and man
Lifted the curse and ban

You meet our deepest needs
Your loving presence leads
Us unto pastures green
Verdant, not barren, mean
O help us in our weakness, see
We all dependent on you be
You our guide e'er you be
Throughout eternity

Wise Waiting

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Psalm 37 v.34-40

Wait on the LORD, and ever keep His way
He shall exalt you, bring you light of day

Exalt you to inherit the land, see
Wicked shall be cut off, shall no more be

Though I did wicked see once in great power
Spreading themselves like green bay tree each hour

Yet did they pass away, and they were not
Found, though I sought them, gone was all their lot

Mark those perfect, those whole, mature, upright
Their end is peace, they shall live in God's sight

But sinners shall be cut off, not abide
But God with the righteous He shall reside

The salvation of the righteous it is
Of the LORD, He their strength, they do know this

Their strength in the time of trouble for sure
The LORD shall help, deliver them e'ermore

Shall deliver them from the wicked, see
And save them, for their trust in Him it be

Heavenly Help

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Help me, Lord, to understand me
That I see what our Father sees
And do help me make the changes
That improves and rearranges

Do Lord, take my inventory
Help me truly know my story
It be my own biography
Of all the things that make up me

Help me Lord here to get better
And stay dry in life's rough weather
And please don't let me strong rage storm
Nor to rain down in any form

Help me Lord here to put you first
So come, quench my terrific thirst
And help me assist the others
That they truly be my brothers

And help me Lord not to stumble
Or be less than honest, humble
And help me daily to walk on
While leaning on you, keep me strong

Thousands Tribute

Tune: Cranbrook

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Also known as 'On Ilkley Moor Bah 'tat!'

Lines are repeated as shown

O with a thousand poems sing

Every one them bring

To Him, Lord of Lords, King of Kings (x2)

Ascend on worship's wings (x3)

Millions of angels round your throne

They all your Lordship own

Giving you glory, praise and power (x2)

You rule o'er all each hour (x3)

There shall be countless praise e'ermore

And all from shore to shore

At Rapture they shall bend the knee (x2)

And confess Jesus, see (x3)

Shall confess Him as Lord always

Even to endless days

High triumph raise and victory (x2)

Eternal glories be (x3)

Make voice of His praise to be heard

Proclaim His living word

'Til every soul salvation knows (x2)

And in His image grows (x3)

What can we give, our tribute small

To Him the Lord of all

He Almighty and infinite (x2)

Source of perpetual ight (x3)

Relationship Roots - Good News Series - 1

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Genesis 1 v.26 - 2 v.25

All the Lord made, it very good
Not His intent man should
Live in state sinful, separate
From Him, His purpose great

Original perfection there
Did Adam and Eve share
In garden of Eden's beauty
Living whole, pure, and free

One thing there was, they to avoid
So friendship not destroyed
They not to eat of tree where known
Good and evil were shown

That tree amid garden, not hid
Free will man gave, God did
Made in image, likeness of God
Formed from the ground, dust's clod

But sin came in, of tree they ate
Had not tasted it yet
Now here be sin, here be man's fall
Yet good news, God saves all

Fearful Fall - Good News Series - 2

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

Genesis Chapter 3

Serpent in Eden's garden
Came subtilly to men
See tree of good and evil
Take, eat, will fare you well

So spake he to Eve, she ate
Though had not tasted yet
Of that tree, but she, Adam
Did to deceit succumb

The Lord God He had spoken
Had showed them even then
That they may freely eat all
Save that one tree, their fall

For their temptations being
The fruit looked a good thing
Attractive, pleasant to eyes
They did not it despise

And too to make one wise it
Was, pride did not resist
Though having free choice, they ill
Did theirs, not God's good will

Yet promise of redemption
For souls of every one
Here made at this early stage
Of life, in history's page

Prosperous Plans - Good News Series - 3

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Genesis Chapters 12, 15, 17 parts

Word to Abram, it was sure told
Leave your country, people, household
Go to a land, the Lord will show
You, as you journey you shall know

I will bless you, the Lord He said
Here in His word, promises read
The Lord would make Abram's name great
Blessings would be family trait

Covenant the Lord with Him made
Fear not, trust me, be unafraid
Your name not Abram now, but be
Abraham, father of nations, see

In his children, his seed, shall all
Nations of earth be blessed, for call
Of the Lord did Abraham hear
Obeyed God's voice with lowly fear

In hope believing while there none
Children, not even be one son
But he God's promises believed
He, Sarah, family received

Law of Love - Good News Series - 4

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Deuteronomy Chapter 6 part

Lord grant us awe, heavenly fear
We sense that you are near
And to trust your laws, believing
They good, true be, each thing

For they do be your love's commands
Help us meet their demands
To love you, Lord God, with our all
Give strength that we meet that call

And too love of neighbour, whoe'er
We may in life here share
Loving our neighbour as our self
Shall benefit soul's health

Loving one another as one
As Christ for us has done
As He has loved us, so to love
Spirit help us, holy dove

So all laws they be summarised
There none greater besides
But to love, always love, it be
Now and eternally

Paradise Party

Tune & Hymn: Ode To Joy

There is a party I cannot
Attend yet, 'tis not my lot
There a parade is, streets of gold
Joys and wonders true, untold
My mother she is the grand guest
While on earth she did her best
The angels her heavenly hosts are
Excelling earth's good by far

Yes, there bright lights, part favour
Beautiful cake, sweet savours
Cake decorated, silver, rose
Feast fit for a King, each knows
He shall be there, Him we praise, sing
One voice in unison ring
Yet my mother's special day 'tis
Wings shining, plays harp with bliss

There they need no special learning
Inspired, their hearts e'er burning
For the blind now see, the deaf hear
Sights and sounds perfect appear
Though in earthly life, if poor we
Through blindness and illness be
Yet my mother's spirit ne'er broke
Nothing could it quench or choke

She made journey some time ago
Happy memories I know
A soul fighting, she did finish
O'ercame and gained victory all

So play your stringed harp vibrantly!
Enjoy your great feast for free!
Flutter your wings, beauteous, golden!
You fair among women, men

And see through your emerald eyes!
Your spirit soars, never dies
Walk safely those streets of gold bright!
Now you have perpetual sight
And finally, when this earth here
Through its troubled path I steer
I myself shall take up harp too
We shall both make music new

We shall make music together
In Rapture, parted never
Making sweetest sounds that no ear
Here on earth can know or hear
The spiritual tunes that only
Can be played by saved souls free
Seeing, singing, met in heaven
Endless glories await then

Salvation Surety - Good News Series - 5

Tune: Wetherby or Billing

(tunes to 'Lord, I have made thy word my choice')

Romans 3 v.9-20

There none righteous, not one there be
None we find naturally
Who do seek God, who His way know
But all only sin show

His grace does come, we need confess
Our sins, then He shall bless
In repenting, forgiveness
Find in Him, mercies see

'Tis through Christ, He does make the way
Our ransom price does pay
Trusting in Him, He does atone
For us, and He alone

His death for me, was in my place
For all of every race
Help me recall, to love you more
For your love to me sure

Deeds of the law will not us earn
Our path to heaven, turn
We must to Christ, His salvation
For each, every nation

Gifts of Grace - Good News Series - 6

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Romans 3 v.21-31

Thank you Lord, righteousness
Gift you give, you us bless
Accepted in your sight
Through Christ we are made right
No mortal man could this achieve
We come to you, in you believe

Christ, propitiation
Made for all, each nation
For each one who avails
Salvation never fails
For Christ atonement makes for all
Come to Him, respond to His call

Justified by God's grace
Put right before His face
By Christ's blood, we redeemed
Though all lost it had seemed
But God His plan through ages long
Now comes to pass, we joy in song

For thus will ever be
Salvation through Christ, see
He who died, rose again
That children, women, men
May all this good news know and hear
And turn to Him in lowly fear

Light my life, my mind, heart

To know, recall, each part
Of all Christ's works, His ways
Dawn on us saving days
That through us you seek, save the lost
For us you paid our ransom cost

Transformation Transition - Good News Series - 7

Tune: Blaenwern

('Love divine, all loves excelling')

2 Corinthians 3 v.7-18

Lord, you our sanctification
Transforming us to your Son
By your Spirit in us dwelling
Life of God in us living
Restoring us to His image
Through ups, down, hills, vale and ridge
In our journeying on daily
Grant us grace still, we do pray

Though Old Covenant was glorious
Your blessings excel for us
For New Covenant we partake
You us fit for it do make
Treasure of your Spirit bidding
In our hearts we to you sing
Comes to occupy weak vessels
Yet strengthens us in our souls

Give us patience, perseverance
Shall not happen at once, hence
By your Spirit's working in us
We are changed, and we confess
That our part is so to work out
What you work in us, no doubt
Here high call of your plan, purpose
In such as me, such as us

Now the Lord, He that Spirit is
Where the Spirit is, is this

Liberty, freedom, openness
His desire is us to bless
We all here with open faces
Behold in glass His graces
Glass as an imperfect mirror
Gives shadowed image, a blur

But we are changed, and more clearly
In us His image we see
Beholding His glory in glass
We are changed, it shall surpass
All humans greatest fine splendours
So praise to Him all renders
From glory to glory transformed
By the Spirit of the Lord

Resurrection Rejoicings - Good News Series - 8

Tune: St George's, Windsor
('Come, ye thankful people, come')
1 Corinthians Chapter 15 part

Resurrection hope we share
By God's grace, it true and fair
For since by man, by Adam
Death to all humans did come
But by Jesus, a man too
Came the resurrection new
All in Him shall all be made
Alive, His life price has paid

Christ died for our sins, He paid
The price, atonement He made
And was buried, rose again
On the third day was viewed then
All in accord with Scriptures
Not in fantasy ventures
But in truth, historically
Full human, full divine He

So not vain our faith, our hope
Not in darkness do we grope
For light of life, He has shone
Sins be forgiven and gone
Holding to Christ through our life
In joys, sorrows, calm, and strife
Raised with Him we sure shall be
And shall Him eternal see

Gathered in souls harvest we
Shall know liberty and see

Christ has made for us a way
Unto everlasting day
It shall come to pass, saying
Where grave's victory, where death's sting?
Death swallowed up, victory
From sin's sting, curse, we made free

Heaven On Earth - Good News Series - 9

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Revelation Chapter 21 v.1-7

See, new Jerusalem descends
Glories, joys, without ends
New heaven and new earth appear
God's presence ever here

'Tis the holy city, no sin
Can ever dwell therein
Like bride adorned for husband she
Shines forth radiantly

People of God, His family
Our Father He shall be
With us for always, our God he
His face at last we see

Though here in vale of tears we yearn
That soon come His return
Then former things shall pass away
In light of lasting day

For then no more crying or pain
Nor sorrow known again
Nor death, nor mourning, all be gone
Remaining there be none

The Lord upon His throne proclaims
Now all things new He names
True, faithful, His words He does speak
To humble, lowly, meek

Praise Psalmody

Tune: Wolvercote

('O Jesus, I have promised')

Psalm 98

Sing to the LORD a new song
Make praises all life long
He marvellous things has done
Has saved us through His Son
His right hand, His holy arm
Has kept us free from harm
And has gained Him victory
His power displayed we see

The LORD His salvation made known
Has openly it shown
His righteousness by heathen seen
Not hidden, small, or mean
He has remembered truth, mercy
To house of Israel, see
Ends of the earth His salvation
Have seen, e'en each nation

Make joyful noise to Him, praise
All the earth His name raise
Make loud noise, sing, praise, rejoice
You have made Him your choice
Sing to Him with harp and psalm
He shall bring peace and calm
With trumpets, sound of cornet
He faithful, praise Him yet

He is the LORD, King of all
Will hear who on Him call

Let the sea roar, all therein
Its fulness, now begin
Some song of praise, floods join too
To clap their hands anew
Hills, all nature joyful be
He Lord eternally

Praise Him, the Lord comes to judge
The earth, all wrong must budge
With righteousness shall judge, so
The world His just ways know
The people with equity
He shall judge, bold and free
Have mercy Lord, little we
But you Lord Almighty

Return, Rebuild, Restore

Tune: Hyrfrydol

('Alleluia, sing to Jesus')

Haggai Chapters 1 & 2 parts

Come, rebuild my Temple again
But do too consider then
How your lives, your priorities
Each to their own self foresees
And does leave Temple in ruins
Here be their greed, and their sins
But in turning, put the Lord first
So shall He then meet your thirst

For the word 'tis, 'I am with you'
Says the Lord, my presence true
Shall help, guide you, and empower
Give you strength for each fine hour
To rebuild my dwelling, Temple
That people there on me call
Glory of latter house be more
Greater than the house* before
(*i.e. the first Temple)

The Lord He will shake all nations
All the world's daughters and sons
Then the desire of all shall come
Salvation for everyone
Temple shall be filled with glory
When Christ, Son of God, we see
Worthy of all honour and praise
Joyful songs we shall Him raise

They obeyed, were stirred to action

Haggai, prophet, gave each one
Message from the Lord to restore
To encourage them for sure
And too Zerubbabel, gov'nor
The message he did assure
With Joshua then the high priest
All included, greatest, least

Shielded Safety

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on, in majesty')

Psalm 91 v.1-9

They who do dwell in secret place
Of the most High, of any race
Shall abide under His shadow
And His great protection shall know

I will say of the LORD that He
Is my refuge, my fortress be
He my God, in Him I will trust
Though I small, mean, and as mere dust

Surely He shall us deliver
And on us His blessings confer
From snare and trap and pestilence
He shall deliver, Him we sense

With His feathers He shall cover
And keep us by His mighty power
We shall come, trust under His wings
Safe in Him, songs each one Him brings

His truth shall be our shield for sure
He shall defend us evermore
We shall not fear, not day or night
He looks on us, we in His sight

Whate'er to be, what time of day
Or if be dark, we still shall say
That pestilence, destruction shall
Not harm us, we His mercies tell

A thousand may fall at our side
Or e'en ten thousand, a great tide
But it shall not come to us night
For we for refuge to Him fly

Only we shall behold and see
How outcome of wicked shall be
For God He shall them recompence
Though we secure in Him from hence

Andrew's Aspirings - Twelve Disciples Series - 1

Tune: Dundee (Ravenscroft)

('O God of Bethel')

John 1 v.35-42

Andrew did first his brother find
And in his mercy kind
Told him, Peter, that they had found
Messiah, joys abound

And so to Jesus he him brought
For Andrew Him had sought
Asked Him, 'Where is it you abide?'
Where your presence reside?

Messiah He, Anointed One
Jesus, the Father's Son
Promised from old, through prophecy
In person they did see

So grant us grace others to bring
To you our Lord and King
That they too shall salvation know
And in your footsteps go

Christ, the Anointed, a title
Did the Scriptures them all
Fulfil. one chosen by God true
Came to save even you

Peter's Progress - Twelve Disciples Series - 2

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Mark 1 v.16-20 and Mark 8 v.27-38

Peter has four names!

1. Simeon = wavering
2. Simeon = Hebrew of Simon
3. Peter = rock
4. Cephas = Aramaic for rock

'Twas by the Sea of Galilee
Simon and Andrew Christ did see
Casting a net into the sea
Called them fishers of men to be

When Jesus spoke of suffering
Retort, rebuke, Peter did bring
Saying, "Not so Lord, this shall not
Happen, suffering not your lot"

Yet he had said, "You are the Christ"
To Jesus, and this it sufficed
But wanting not his Lord to go
Way of the cross, nor of it know

But behind these words, Satan tempts
To avoid the cross, have relents
Not give up life for salvation
Of all people of each nation

Lord, give us grace, this we do pray
To take up here our cross daily
To go your way, give strength, that we

Follow you, your servant-life see

Matthew Missioner - Twelve Disciples Series - 3

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Matthew 9 v.9-13

Levi = Jewish name for Matthew

Matthew, tax-collector, despised
Jesus one day him espied
Gave call simple, "Come, follow me"
Be all God wants you to be

So he left his occupation
Though an ill-favoured station
Was it, though his fellows joined for
Sinners celebration sure

There indignant Pharisees they
Asked His disciples, did say
"Why your Master eat with such ones
Who are sinners, as lost sons?"

But Jesus to them did reply
They that be whole, by and by
Need not a physician, for they
Are self-righteous, whole, they say

'Tis the sick who do realise
Need of Christ, faith does arise
Spiritual healing they need
Physician's orders they heed

Pharisees were to go and learn
God will have mercy, discern

They need to see, not sacrifice
Outward show will not suffice

But 'tis mercy needed, and so
Relationship they will know
From their inward hearts, in Christ grow
And His nature they shall show

Temple Time

Tune: Unde Et Memores

('And now, O Father, mindful of the love')

Luke 2 v.22-38

The 'Nunc Dimittis' is verses 29-32

Mary, Joseph, at the first Candlemas
With Jesus who then forty days age was
They went to Temple, purification
After childbirth to those, Jewish nation
For the law, 'Every first-born male shall be
Called holy to the Lord', they obeyed free

And sacrifice they made, as said the Law
Two turtle-doves or two pigeons if poor
Then great revealings sure and prophecies
For aged Simeon the Christ-child sees
'Twas revealed to him that he not see death
Before he had seen the Lord's Christ, was saith

Simeon by the Spirit came into
The Temple, met Jesus' parents anew
Took Christ-child in his arms, and did God bless
The 'Nunc Dimittis' words he did confess
For he had see Christ, true God's promises
he saw the Saviour of the world no less

His words were, Lord now let your servant here
Depart in peace, for I with lowly fear
Have seen your salvation, your holy one
Your child Jesus, your only pure true Son
You have prepared Him before every face
Of peoples of all nations, every race

He a light be to lighten the Gentiles
Light of salvation that never defiles
And He the glory of your people be
Your people Israel, they Him do see
Then marvellings at words so great and fine
Yet also He shall be to all a sign

A sign which shall be spoken against, for
The thoughts of many hearts be revealed sure
In their response when they Christ contemplate
Realising their unrepentant state
As like a sword that would pierce Mary's heart
It is, yet all may be saved every part

And too Anna, elderly prophetess
Was of a great, eighty-four, did bless
The people who came to the Temple there
She spoke of redemption that all may share
Faithful soul, from Temple did ne'er depart
Served God with fastings, prayers, e'en all her heart

James' Judgement - Twelve Disciples Series - 4

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Luke 9 v.51-56

James and John, they sons of thunder
Nicknamed by Jesus were
When passing through Samaria
Asked that they there well fare

But Samaritans they did not
Receive them, for their lot
Was that they Jerusalem went
For that was their intent

So shall we call down fire, they said
James, John, in their hatred
As did Elijah, days of old
Commanded that fire bold

But they were rebuked, Jesus turned
To them, of Him they learned
They knew not their spirit's manner
For wrong thoughts then did stir

For was explained, the Son of Man
Did not impose a ban
On any, came not to destroy
But to bring life and joy

He came to save men's lives, did He
And showed humility
Love to friends, even enemies
That all salvation see

Philip's Perusals - Twelve Disciples Series - 5

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on, in majesty')

John 6 v.1 - 13

Philip did learn to trust Christ more
In desert near Bethsaida sure
At feeding of five thousand plus
A natural commotion and fuss

Jesus asked Philip, 'Whence shall we
By bread for these, how shall it be?'
Yet He said this to test him out
He knew what he would do, no doubt

Philip replied, natural answer
Two hundred pennyworth bread, sir
Shall not be enough, not suffice
For all, it be enormous price

No, not over six months wages
Would feed the crowd of all ages
Though Andrew offered a boy's lunch
But it be scarce menial brunch

Jesus took the five loaves, two fish
Making an appetising dish
Gave thanks to God, distributed
To disciples, they by Him led

Led to share out among the crowd
All had more than enough endowed
For twelve baskets wrer there gathered
Of food fragments, and faith was stirred

Stirred in Philip, all present
Jesus' miracles, no relent
By God's power impossible
Situations be fulfilled all

Grant us Lord, your power to see
Not rely on humanity
But grow in faith and confidence
Trusting your bounteous providence

John's Journeyings - Twelve Disciples Series - 6

Tune: Sussex

(slower tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

John 20 v.20-28

James and John, desired highest place
Counted selves worthy of grace
Let us sit, Lord, at your left, right
We shall be a glorious sight

'Can you drink my cup?' 'tis suffering
Jesus asked, did question bring
Yes they said, 'tis enough, we shall
Gain this high place, shall prevail

But I cannot promise to you
This high place, though shall ensue
That you shall drink of my cup, though
In accord with Father so

For Jesus said, only Father
Knows these places, and rather
You should not seek greatness world's way
But be humble, watch and pray

For to gain true greatness, need be
That you give in service, see
And minister, loving, caring
Lowliness shall honour bring

For the Lord, even He came sure
To minister to us, for
To give His life as a ransom
For many, so [God's] kingdom come

Thomas' Trust - Twelve Disciples Series - 7

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, they people bless')

John 20 v.19-29

Jesus risen, in room appeared
To disciples, they feared
But peace He gave, shalom, wholeness
With His presence did bless

Thomas not there then at that time
When they saw Christ sublime
He wanting proof and evidence
To trust what he could sense

Then Jesus did appear again
There were eleven men
Said to Thomas, 'Touch me and see
For I not a ghost be'

See my hands wounded and my side
When I was pierced, I died
But rose again, see for yourself
Will be to your soul's health

Be not doubting, nor be faithless
Stay not in fear, distress
But be believing, it is I
Risen, no more to die

'My Lord and my God', Thomas said
Christ risen from the dead
He did reply, me you have seen
I in person have been

Yet blessed they that have seen Christ not
Happy now is their lot
They trust in Him, His salvation
Open to each nation

Kingdom Come

Tune: Webb

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Daniel 5 v.31-32

Babylon's time came, downfall
For one the Lord did call
Cyrus the Great, the Persian
He was the chosen one
To lead his army forward
Each heart to battle stirred
At God's command, He Sovereign
Through Him the victory won

It be impenetrable?
It be impregnable?
Great city full of evil
Thought it would go on still
For ever and for ever
And thinking so never
That they would be o'ercome there
But disaster their share

Consider fortifyings
Of this city, these things
Walled part was sixty mile round
With pride it did redound
One hundred [and] fifty feet high
How could one there draw nigh?
And eighty-seven feet thick
With solid stone and brick

See there upon the wall high
Four chariots go by

They four could fit abreast there
Space did not lack, impair
And round the wall a moat see
Thirty feet wide it be
Fresh water from Euphrates
Gave drink to the thirsty

But Persian army, they staid
Another canal made
To diver water, and so
A way in they did know
So there by God strong guided
A defeat they did bring
To each Babylonian
God Sovereign, He alone

For they too fed and sated
Supplies ne'er abated
Twenty years food was in store
They could not ask for more
Though so great, not long forbears
[Only] Around seventy years
Their days of power ended
They too much offended

Bartholomew's Beliefs - Twelve Disciples Series - 8

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

John 1 v.43-51

Nathanael, he was thought to be
By many Bartholomew, he
Apostle of Christ, 'neath fig tree
Jesus found him, and him did see

Spiritual discernment shown
Seeds of wisdom were in him sown
When Jesus did to him appear
He gave respect in godly fear

For he did call Jesus, Rabbi
Knew that his master, He was nigh
And too said, Son of God are you
And King of Israel, ever true

Jesus foresaw him under tree
In a state meditatively
That was enough to convince him
He came to faith, not fancy whim

Lord, help us as Bartholomew
To believe, and our faith renew
Growing in grace, knowledge, live sure
All riches of your treasure-store

Judas' Jypoardy - Twelve Disciples Series - 9

Tune; Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Matthew Chapters 26 & 27 parts

Judas Iscariot betrayed
The Lord, on Him his heart not stayed
But thirty pieces of silver
Blood-money price to him they were

Yet Jesus says the Son of Man
Himself that Son, for none else can
Fulfil all that of Him is writ
It shall be all as God wills fit

But woe to Judas, he the one
Traitorously denied the Son
Good were it for him if he had
Not been born, in human flesh clad

So with a kiss he did betray
His Master, he did turn away
Under cloke of friendship and love
He grieved the Spirit, holy dove

It be too dark, he did repent
And back to priests and elders went
Returned money and then did say
Innocent blood I did betray

But they not caring, said, So what?
Sort it out yourself, that your lot
Was too much, and then tragically
Judas commits suicide, see

Lord help us see where any traits
In us open enemy's gates
May we follow on firm and true
Devoted, loyal, e'er to you

Faithful Followers - Twelve Disciples Series - 10

Tune: Old 100th

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Luke 18 v.28-30

Three apostles, they were so named
Among the others, Jesus trained
Them in His group, they took a part
Followed Him true with loyal heart

James the son of Alphaeus, he
Sometimes called **James the less**, here see
Simon the Zealot, placed his zeal
In Jesus, he His love did feel

And **Judas Thaddeus**, question
Asked of Jesus, the Father's Son
'How is it you will yourself show
To us, but the world, it not know?'

So going on, apostles they
Continued in the narrow way
Rewards eternal, the promise
For them God's kingdom they not miss

Psalmody Peregrinations

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

'Alleluia!' after each line.

Psalm 1 v.2

Blessed are they who delight in law (Alleluia!)

Of the Lord, it their joy sure

And in that law meditate

Do they day and night, their state

Psalm 2 v.11

Serve the Lord with fear, rejoice

Knowing you made Him your choice

Tremble too, with lowly fear

His great name honour, revere

Psalm 3 v.3

Your Lord, are a shield for me

My glory, my Saviour be

And the lifter of my head

I not stay downcast nor dread

Psalm 3 v.8

Salvation belongs to the Lord

All is true, His living word

Your blessing is upon all

Your people, who on you call

Psalm 4 v.6

There be many who do say

Is there any good today?

Lord, lift up your countenance

Upon us, days be bright thence

Psalm 5 v.8

Lead me in your righteousness
Keep me, in your way me bless
Because of enemies pace
Make your way straight [be]'fore my face

Psalm 8 v.1

O Lord our Lord, excellent
Is your name, it resplendent
In all the earth it known yet
Your glory above heavens set

Psalm 8 v.2

Out of mouth of babes, sucklings
You have ordained strength, praise rings
Because of your enemies
At sound of praises each flees

Psalm 9 v.1

I will praise you with whole heart
Employ and use every part
Will show forth your works, marvels
Trusting you, none ever falls

Psalm 9 v.16

The Lord is known by judgement
Which He carries out, has sent
The wicked snared by own hands
Their evil works, shifting sands

Psalm 5 v.11

Let all those that trust in yo
Rejoice, sing praises anew
Shout for joy, you them defend
Let them love you to the end

Psalm 5 v.12

For you Lord, the righteous bless

They serve you in humbleness

With favour you will surround

Them as with a shield renowned (Alleluia!)

Light of Life

Tune: Forest Green

('O little town of Bethlehem')

John 1 v.1-14 parts

In the beginning was the Word
This message we have heard
The Word was with God, and was God
Upon this earth He trod
The same was in the beginning
With God, and there nothing
Was made without Him, Christ the Lord
He e'er that living Word

In Him is life, this life the light
Enlightens all men bright
Shines in the darkness, and not be
That darkness o'ercomes, see
For Christ has come, a light for all
Upon Him all may call
The light of life does on us dawn
Redemption's happy morn

He in the world. it knew Him not
Did not believe, forgot
But as many who Him received
They have on Him believed
And to such He does power give
To be His sons [and daughters], they live
Not born of old humanity
But born of God they be

The Word was made flesh, and did dwell
Among us, we know well

His glory they beheld, glory
As of the Father, see
Glory as of the only one
Begotten, He the Son
He full of grace and truth, He came
Jesus Christ be His name

Bliss for the Bride - Valentines

Tune: Blaenwern

('Love divine, all loves excelling')

Song of Solomon 5 v.8 - 6 v.3

The bride, she then there did charge them
Daughters* of Jerusalem (*Bridesmaids?)
That if they found her beloved
Unto him these words be said
That I am lovesick, and wanting
You to see, I am yearning
What, say daughters, is your beloved
More than others, your betrothed?

I shall tell of him unto you
My beloved is white, he true
And ruddy, chief midst ten thousand
He shall protect me, defend
His head is as the most fine gold
None comparable be told
His hair bushy, black as raven
Wavy is his hairstyle done

His eyes as eyes of doves they be
By rivers of waters, see
Washed with milk, they be fitly set
They focusing clearly yet
His cheeks be as bed of spices
All allures me, entices
As sweet flowers, banks of herbs they
Scented are along the way

His lips like lilies, dropping sweet
Myrrh, he lovely, head to feet

His hands as gold rings, they are set
In beauty I ne'er forget
His body as bright ivory
Overlaid with sapphires be
His legs as pillars of marble
Set on fine gold bases all

His countenance as Lebanon
He my love, my only one
Excellent as the tall cedars
On the mountains, my heart stirs
His mouth is most sweet, yes he is
Altogether lovely, this
Is my belovéd and my friend
We shall love unto the end

Where has your belovéd gone? do
Say, so we may seek with you
Said the daughters, that their intent
To find him with bride they went
He is gone down to his garden
To beds of spices, feeds then
His flock, and to gather lilies
I am his, he is mine, bliss

Glories for the Groom - Valentines

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Song of Solomon 2 v.8 - 17

The Groom/King speaks in stanzas 1 - 5.

The Bride speaks in stanza 6-7.

Song of Solomon, King visits the bride
He comes to her home, there she does reside
Her beloved spake, and he did say unto her
Rise up, my love, my fair one, does your heart stir?

Rise up, come away, for winter is past
Suns shines now bright warm, and not overcast
For rain is over and gone, flowers appear
And so blossoms my love, your presence is dear

The time of the singing of birds is come
Though in former days they mourned and grieved some
The voice of the turtledove, it be heard sure
In our land, it sings of our love whole and pure

The trees they do sprout, their fruit they give out
Vines with tender grapes give good smell, no doubt
Arise my love, my fair one, and come away
We shall share our love unto e'erlasting day

You are my dove, bride, hid as in rock's cleft
Let me see your face, leave me not bereft
Let me your voice hear now, for it be so sweet
Your appearance lovely, from head to your feet

[Bride]

Catch the little foxes that spoil the vine
They have tender grapes that taste true, divine
My beloved the King is mine, and I his be
He feeds the flock among the fine lilies see

[Bride]

Until the day break, and shadows do flee
My beloved the King be as roe to me
Or as a young hart, or stag, swift-footed run
Upon mounts high, I desire no other one

Wedding Wonderful - Valentines

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

Psalm 45 v.13-17

Here royal wedding, king's daughter
The groom does love her, and sought her
To be his bride, his wife for e'er
Come to the feast and in it share

She be all glorious within
Her clothes woven with gold therein
She shall be brought unto the groom
Celebrating, for all there [is] room

She shall wear robes, colours many
Raiment of needlework it be
The women her companions
Bridesmaids they be, they fine fair ones

With gladness and rejoicing they
Come to the bride, and for her pray
They shall enter the king's palace
Wondrous, beauteous sign is this

Instead of your fathers shall be
Children, a generation, see
Them you may make to be princes
In all the earth, with full graces

I will make you name sure to be
Not forgotten, recalled, holy
Remembered through all time, all fare
So shall the people praise you e'er

Omniscient Observations

Tune: Stowey

('When a knight won his spurs')

Psalm 139 v.14-24 parts

O Lord, you I will praise
And your name I will raise
For it is I be made
In your image arrayed
Fearfully, wonderfully
You have made me, so be
Your good hand creating
Me all, each, everything

Marvellous your works be
My soul knows them, I see
My substance was hid not
When you portioned my lot
But when made in secret
All my parts were set
In your book, they all are
You the great God by far

How precious too, your thoughts
Unto me Lord, good sorts
How great sum of them is
I cannot count, 'tis this
The number of them more
Is than the sand's grains sure
When I wake, still with you
I am, you my God true

Search me, O God, and know
My heart, reveal, me show

If there any wicked
Way in me now be hid
And know my thoughts here, may
They be pure, I do pray
And lead me in your way
Of everlasting day

Wisdom's Workings

Tune: Skye Boat Song

('Spirit of God, unseen as the wind')

Daniel 2 v.20-23

Chorus

To Daniel dreams sure were revealed

Visions not hid, unsealed

He the Lord praised, the great God of heaven

Ruler over all men [mankind]

He did say, Blesséd be the name

Of God, of endless fame

For wisdom and might be His sure

Infinite, evermore - Chorus

He changes the times and seasons

By His own plans, reasons

He removes kings and set up kings

He Lord over all things - Chorus

He gives wisdom unto the wise

Grace, mercy, He supplies

And gives knowledge to them that know

Understanding, 'tis so - Chorus

He reveals deep and secret things

To Him creation sings

He knows what is in the darkness

His thoughts are numberless - Chorus

Daniel gave his God thanks and praise

Did to Him worship raise

He too God of his ancestors

His past brothers, sisters - Chorus

Thanks given for wisdom and might

Changed the darkness to light

Made known to them what they desired

Prayers answered, not debarred - Chorus

Patient Persuals

Tune: Merrial

('Now the day is over')

Psalm 27 v.4 & v.14

One thing have I desired
Of the LORD, heart fired
That I will seek after
To it my will stir

It be that I may dwell
In His house, and tell
And behold His beauty
His glories to see

And to enquire within
He my heart does win
Enquire in His temple
Unto Him I call

Wait on the LORD constant
Trust with no relent
Be of good courage, He
Shall strengthen you, see

Shall strengthen your heart sure
Empowering pure
This the word, 'On Him wait'
He will help not late

Deity Designings

Tune: Leoni

('The God of Abraham praise')

Psalm 104 v.24-31

O Lord, how manifold
Your works, can all be told?
In your wisdom you made them all
And none shall fall
The earth it is here full
Let each one on you call
Above, below, earth, sky and sea
Your wonders be

For here in the great sea
Things numberless there be
Of creatures, they both great and small
you made them all
Therein the ships do go
They the seas pathways know
All wait on you for food daily
You our needs see

What you do give, they do
Gather daily anew
You open your hand, providing
And good you bring
But if you hide your face
Uneven be our pace
For then we troubled are, cannot
Say glad our lot

When you do take our breath
'Tis our life's end, our death

And so to dust humans return
Humbly we learn
When you your Spirit send
To us you condescend
We are then created, renewed
With life endued

The glory of the Lord
Shall endure e'er, His word
Shall never die, but endless be
Eternally
The Lord in His works shall
Rejoice, and all tongues tell
Of Him, the Creator of all
Sends blessings full

Philadelphia Prosperities

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Revelation 2 v.7-13

Message to Philadelphia

Ears to listen, they did stir

Message from the one holy, true

He has key of David too

He opens, no man shuts, no

He shuts, no man opens, so

I know your works, behold I set

An open door '[be]fore you yet

And no man can shut it here for

I see your little strength sure

You my word have kept, no blame

Have not denied my great name

Behold, I will make them who be

Of Satan's synagogue, see

Who say they are Jews, but are not

This even will be their lot

They shall come and worship you

Knowing I have loved you true

Because you have kept the word here

To be patient, persevere

I also will keep you, guard you

From hour of trial too

From temptation, comes anon

On the world to try each one

Behold, I come quickly, hold fast

That which you have, make it last
So that no one does take your crown
I will bring you fame, renown
They that overcome I will
Make pillar in Temple still

And they shall no more then go out
But remain firm with no doubt
And I will upon them too write
The name of my God, fine sight
And name of my God's city
Heaven's Jerusalem it be

And I hall write on them, inscribe
My new name among their tribe
They shall be rewarded, valued
In the ir God shall be renewed
So let them that have an ear
Hear the Spirit and draw near

Wholly Holy

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 101

Of mercy, judgement, I will sing
Unto you, Lord, I praise you bring
I will behave myself wisely
When will you come to me, me see?

I will walk with a perfect heart
Blameless I shall be on my part
I set before me no evil
Thing, nor wicked, nor of ill-will

I hate the work of those that turn
Aside from you, from you not learn
Their works they shall not to me cleave
I shall from them depart and leave

Perverse my heart it shall not be
Nor I know wicked company
Those who slander I will destroy
All that offends with evil ploy

My eyes shall look on the faithful
Of the land, those who on you call
They shall dwell with me, and shall serve
Me, those who do from good not swerve

They that work deceit, they shall not
Dwell with me, for false is their lot
Nor they that tell lies tarry here
Only those who show godly fear

I will early with wicked deal
Liars and cheats and those who steal
That I may cut off the wicked
Doers from the land, they not hid

Compassionate Charis (grace)

Tune: Uplifted Eyes

('I lift my eyes to the quiet hills')

Mark 1 v.32-42

Many healings did Jesus do
To make many whole, new
Healing the sick, demons outcast
His power shown shall e'er last

Doing His Father's will, He prayed
Obeyed, courage, unafraid
From town to town, salvation shared
In love showing that God cared

A leper came to Him, unclean
For he Jesus sure had seen
Beseeching humbly, if you will
Lord, make me clean, free from ill

Jesus moved then with compassion
Touched him, and said to that one
I will, be you clean, and made well
His love, power, each one tell

O Lord, you reach needy, you do
Help us so to follow you
Your compassion inspiring true
Us all to glorify you

A world of need, tampered by greed
You know what each one does need
Help for our body, spirit, soul
He comes, restores, and makes whole

Flame Of Faith

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Help me, O Lord, to take
Today sure for your sake
Commit the future to your hands
You Lord over all lands

Whate'er will be, will be
Help me your way to see
To grow in grace, knowledge of you
You only good and true

You see my heart beset
At times with worry, fret
Regret at yesterday's troubles
Or anxious at what calls

What may call tomorrow
Whether or not it show
I cannot your hand force, but you
Provide for me, shall do

For me, for us, for all
We can pray, on you call
Though trials, toils, be large or small
Trusting you, we not fall

Distractions may abound
And there you are not found
Failing you, I may turn from Him
Your Son, my love grows dim

Yet grant me grace and power
Forgive, renew, endower
Me by your Spirit, so I go
On, in your image grow

Wny downcast, heavy heart?
Look to your Lord and see
Days shall be bright again, load light
Illumined be your sight

Communion Commitment

Tune: Coelites Plaudant = From heaven praise
('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

You Lord do come to us, your blessed sacrament
Come to bless, strengthen us, that be your intent
Angelic help you send unto penitent
In love you Son you sent

Here be fine feast, fine fare, in it all may share
Heavenly glories, with which none can compare
Your life given, so that sinners may live
And praises you e'er give

High do our spirits rise, in this Communion
By your grace man with God does have union
Reaching our deepest needs, we now unashamed
Kneel before you unblamed

For by your blood shed, we may be forgiven
So here on earth a foretaste of your heaven
Symbols of bread and wine, your body, your blood
A sparking cleansing flood

No other could the way to God make open
But Jesus, Son of the Father, He made then
A way by Himself that gives us sure access
To our God, we confess

Forgive where we, dull, dreary, or apathy
Causes our love to cool, with dim light we see
Your offering, sacrifice, us fresh inspire
With your love's holy fire

Priest, Judge, King Prophecy

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum or Grenoble

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Psalm 110

The LORD {God}] He said unto my Lord {Jesus}
Will be according to His word
Sit you at my right hand until
I carry out my purpose still

Until I make your enemies
Your footstool, each your power sees
The LORD {God} shall send rod of your strength
Out of Zion, rule you at length

Your {Jesus'} people shall be willing when
Day of your power is shown then
In the beauties of holiness
As new days mornings you shall bless

You {Jesus} have the dew of your youth true
The LORD {God} has sworn , and will renew
Will not repent, nor promise change
Nor you from His wise plans estrange

The promise this, you are a priest
For ever, shall save great to least
After Melchizedek's* order
The LORD {God} shall grace on you confer

The Lord {Jesus} at your right hand shall break
Kings in pieces, and their goods take
In day of His wrath it shall be
Victory o'er His foes we shall see

He {Jesus} shall judge among the heathen
There be many dead bodies then
And too rulers break in pieces
For their evil which ne'er ceases

He {Jesus} shall drink of brook in the way
So find refreshment every day
And be revived, lift up His head
Priest, King, Judge {all Jesus}, He would rise from dead

* Melchizedek - An Old Testament Priest.

Guiding Grace

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Repeat lines as as shown.

Psalm 23 v.1

The LORD is my shepherd, and so

I shall no want, lack know (x2)

For me He shall provide daily

Enough for you and me (x3)

Psalm 23 v.6

Surely His goodness and mercy

Shall always follow me (x2)

All the days of my life, I will

Dwell in His house safe still (x3)

Psalm 24 v.7

Lift up your heads, you doors, you gates

The King of glory waits (x2)

To come into His city fine

There be each pleasant line (x3)

Psalm 25 v.5

Lead me in your truth Lord, your way

Show unto me each day (x2)

Teach me, Lord of my salvation

You Lord of each nation (x3)

Psalm 25 v.10

All the paths of the Lord mercy be

And truth to them who see (x2)

Such as His covenant do keep

They be His faithful sheep (x3)

Psalm 26 v.2

Examine me, O Lord, me prove
From sin, evil, reprove
Try my reins, conscience, and my heart
Purify every part (x3)

Psalm 27 v.1

The Lord is my light, salvation
So shall I fear no one (x2)
He the strength of my life He be
Whom shall I fear here, see? (x3)

Psalm 27 v.8

When you said, O Lord, seek my face
Then with my heart with grace (x2)
I replied, your face Lord I seek
Revealed to humble, meek (x3)

Psalm 27 v.14

Wait on the Lord, good courage take
A firm endeavour make (x2)
And He your heart shall strengthen sure
Will help you evermore (x3)

Peace Placements

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Come, rest now, troubled heart
Where worries, frets, each part
Distracted, frustrated
By God's Spirit be led

Tomorrow's cares they be
Not here yet, look and see
But tend to each days load
Your heart be Christ's abode

What may or may not be
Trouble or trouble-free
Trust in your Lord, He speaks
To humble, lowly, meek

Whate'er your heaviness
He shall come relieve, bless
Going on in each day
And night, watch here and pray

Help us to seek your will
Your grace is given still
You guard from evil, ill
Throughout life's vales and hills

Forgive where we fuss, fret
And be not consoled yet
Come Spirit, dove, reside
Within us, e'er abide

Faithful Fellowship

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

1 John Chapter 1 part

This the message, it be heard
It is true, the living word
That God is light, in Him be
No darkness at all, now see

If we say fellowship we
Have with Him, yet our life be
Walking, living in darkness
We lie, He shall not us bless

But if in the light we walk
Live for Him and of Him talk
Living in the light as He
This the mark, the standard be

Such have fellowship with each
Christ's love does to each one reach
And His blood cleanses from sin
Makes us pure and whole within

If we say we have no sin
We deceive ourselves, no kin
Have we with the truth, we lie
His presence not to us nigh

If we do our sins confess
He is faithful, just, will bless
Will forgive our sins no less
Cleanse us from unrighteousness

If we say we have not sinned
Hope of blessing does rescind
God we make a liar too
His word not in us anew

Escape From Enemies

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 44 v.1-8

O God, we with our ears heard
Our fathers told the word
What works you did in times old
They them to us retold
How you did drive out heathen
Planted your people then
How you afflicted enemies
How cast out, each one flees

For our fathers possessed not
The land by human lot
Nor did their own sword or arm
Save them, keep them from harm
You showed them your arm, right hand
So they obtained the land
Showed light of your countenance
Your favour, your presence

You are my King, O God, sure
Command deliverance for
Jacob, your people Israel
So they your mercies tell
Through you will we all push down
Our enemies, each town
Through your name we will trample
Them down, tread on them all

For I will not trust my bow
My weapons, man's strength-show

Neither shall my sword save me
In the Lord my trust be
But you, Lord, from our enemies
Have saved us, our soul sees
In God we do boast all day long
Praise your name in our song

Returning Restoration

Tune: Lydia

(one tune to: 'Jesus the name high over all')

Jeremiah 29 v.10-14

The last line of each verse is repeated.

After seventy years captivity
In Babylon here see
The LORD will visit them, release
His own people, bring peace

They would return to their own land
Be led by His good hand
For He says, I know the thoughts I
Have to you, not passed by

They be thoughts of peace, not evil
I [have] good plans for you still
And give you an expected end
My blessings shall I send

Then shall you call upon me, go
Pray unto me, and me shall know
And I will hearken unto you
Grant you promises true

And you shall seek me, and find me
When your search for me be
With all your heart, and so I will
Be revealed to you still

And I will your captivity turn
You shall know of me, learn
I will gather you and bring you

Back to homeland anew

Prayer of the Passion

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Based partly on Mark 14 v.32-42

Lord, you did pray, garden Gethsemane
Knowing all things are possible they be
To God your Father, and there made your plea
And lived obediently

Saying, Abba, Father, you can do all
For what I here now ask, and on you call
Take this cup of suffering hence from me
But yet what your will be

Nevertheless not what I will, but what
You will Father, that still shall be my lot
To gain the salvation of your people
Each one you do them call

Though lonesome in this prayer, this agony
For your disciples were asleep, we see
Your word to them was that they watch and pray
And constant with you stay

For in their sleepiness they would b prone
To temptations, and to leave Christ alone
For the spirit is willing, flesh is weak
Does not you fervent seek

Three times you prayed, and to disciples came
And found them there sleeping, each time the same
They did not your request fulfil, no power
To watch and pray one hour

Yet you still loved them, and the hour did go
Sleep on now, take your rest, you did say so
To them, but now your hour had come, and they
Went with you on your way

The way unto Jerusalem it be
Where you would give your life for sinners free
Though sinners there betrayed you, Judas' kiss
A false pretence of bliss

All in the Father's will, He gave His Son
That He bring salvation to every one
He lived and died and rose again, now sure
He lives for evermore

Trusting In Troubled Times

Tune: Langran (St Agnes)

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Psalm 142

I cried unto the Lord here with my voice
Turned to Him and I did make Him my choice
Unto Him did I make supplication
He who hears people of every nation

My complaint before Him I thus poured out
Not labouring there in my own strength stout
But showing before Him my trouble, so
He all my situation He does know

When my spirit was overwhelmed in me
Then you knew my path, you did look and see
Where I walked my enemies secretly
Laid a snare, trap for me treacherously

I looked and behold, but there was then none
Who would care for me, help me, no, not one
No care for my soul, and I thus bereft
I cried to you Lord, you have not me left

I said to you Lord, you my refuge sure
My portion in the land of living, for
Unto my cry you will come, will attend
And answer me, me you will sure defend

For I am in need, very low am brought
Save me from my enemies, you I sought
For my enemies are stronger than I
Bring my soul from prison, I shall not die

The righteous shall then compass me about
And we shall raise again the joyful shout
For you have dealt with me bountifully
Of you kindness, your goodness, graciously

Spring Is Springing!

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Amidst the dark and glooms
A single flower blooms
Then more do follow, Spring's advent
God has His seasons sent

Ground hard, fallow, shall bear
In due time with God's care
Shall bear again, too with man's toil
Fresh sproutings from the soil

Colour of grace is green
The grass it can be seen
And trees their leaves produce again
Though some be evergreen

You Lord give life to all
You hear who on you call
You Lord of heaven and earth for e'er
With us your blessings share

If we abide in you
Your words bide in us true
So shall your promise you fulfil
We shall bear good fruit still

Hope springs as buds do flower
Your Holy Spirit shower
Upon us, fill us with your power
To love, serve you each hour

Away, the dark of night
Nor here in sin delight
Cultivated garden your heart
Glorifies God, each part

Through rain, cold, sun, wind, snow
We can still your plans know
You true the perfect husbandman
Who lifts the fruitful ban

Restoration Reckonings

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Joel 3 v.14-21

Multitudes they be in
Valley of decision
The day of the LORD, it be near
He shall to them appear
Within that valley low
His judgements true shall know
And sun and moon shall darkened be
Stars withdraw shining, see

The LORD also shall roar
From Zion, Him implore
For mercy, His voice shall be heard
In Jerusalem stirred
He, and heavens, earth shake
He His people shall take
Shall be their hope, their refuge strong
Their harbour all life long

So shall they know that He
The LORD their God shall be
Dwells in Zion, the holy mount
Of all blessings the fount
Then shal His city be
Jerusalem, holy
No strangers shall pass through the land
He keeps it by His hand

Mountains and hills shall flow
With new wine and milk, so

Too shall rivers of Judah flow
Prosperity shall grow
There a fountain shall be
Shall water the valley
But enemies shall desolate
Be, that their end, their state

But Judah it shall dwell
Safe for ever and tell
Of God's residing with them all
They trust Him and not fall
Jerusalem, city
Capital town it be
They shall dwell secure evermore
Cleansed by the LORD, made pure

Spirit Satiation

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Spirit, come fill my heart
My life, every part
Here we need your filling
You our lives we bring
To grow more in your love
Spirit, holy dove
And in more grace, knowledge
Come, help, encourage

Forgive where we suppress
Or Spirit repress
Grieve [Him] through ways of anger
Quench [Him] through fear, danger
Grant us courage, boldness
With wisdom, strength, bless
Spirit who remains sure
In us evermore

Holy Spirit, Person
One of three in one
Person of the Godhead
By you we are led
Show forth in our lives free
Dove, fire, water be
Oil and wind too symbols
Of your Spirit all

Changed more to your image
This you envisage
Image of your Son sure

Loving, holy, pure
Day by day give grace so
We more like you grow
Less of self each day see
More of your life be

Help us true to witness
And to others bless
Evangelising here
Salvation to share
For gospel to all is
Open, thus true bliss
Empower, enable
So we stand, not fall

Trusting Theme

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 20

The Lord hear you, for He
Open to your prayers be
Name of God of Israel
Defend you, you fare well
Send you help from his sanctuary
Strengthen you out of Zion, see

May He remember too
Your offerings anew
Accept your sacrifice
Burnt for Him, will suffice
May He grant you your heart's desire
Fulfil your counsel, purpose far

We in you salvation
Will rejoice, your nation
And in your name we will
Set up our banners still
Name of our God, He strong and high
Fulfil our petitions, He nigh

Now the Lord saves I know
His anointed does show
His Messiah, He still
Shall show Him His good will
[Shall] Hear Him from His heaven holy
With saving strength bring victory

He will by His right hand

Save out of every land
Those that in Him do trust
Though we mere soil and dust
Some trust in chariots, horses
But we His name we will confess

His name we remember
Blessings on us confer[red]
Others brought down, they fall
But we rise, and stand tall
We upright are, Lord save us, let
The king hear us when we call yet

Knowing His Love

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Adapted from w c's poem 'His Love' with permission

His love, do not fear His love here
When it comes to you, does draw near
Know it is a gift, saves, renews
For He does love you, did you choose

Know that His love it you up builds
Is part of your soul, graces wields
Is given to us to complete
Us, and to make us whole, replete

Know when you are in love, His care
It is your Father who is there
And know He knows you better than
Than anyone, anywhere can

And know that in His hands the hearts
Broken, are often healed, all parts
And that His love it does restore
No man can steal it evermore

Be thankful for the days, the Lord
You have Him in your life, assured
And know that love does every day
Keep us well alive in His way

Burden Bearer

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Psalm 55 v.16-22

I will call upon the LORD
I will hear Him, His word
And the LORD God shall save me
Whatever time it be
Evening, morning, and noonday
I cry aloud, i pray
And he shall hear my voice sure
Shall help m evermore

He has delivered my soul
In peace from the battle
That was against me, for there
Were many with me fair
God shall hear, and enemies
He shall afflict, He frees
Me from their troubles, for He
Abides from of old, see

Because they have cnages none
They fear not God, each one
Putsf forth their hands against those
Who way of peace have chose
And they do break covenant
From laws they do dissent
Words of their mouth are smoother
Than butter, but evil stirs

Their words were softer than oil
Yet they were drawn swords, foil

But godly, cast your burden
Upon the LORD, find then
That He will e'er sustain you
Shall help you and renew
Shall never suffer righteous
To be moved, but shall bless

Praise Proclaimings

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 150

Praise you the LORD, here let all no rejoice
He has here you called, and made you His choice
Praise God in His sanctuary, 'tis His abode
All power of enemy he has o'er rode

Praise Him in the firmament of His power
Earth, sea, and sky, each day and every hour
All things that be above, all things here below
He the great Creator, an all He does know

Praise Him for all his great, mighty acts strogn
Praise His excellent greatness all day long
Praise Him all you instruments fine, tunefully
In harmonious strains, sweetly, joyfully

Loud trumpets sound forth, raise victory shout
Sweet psalteries, cornets, and harps play out
The story of His great salvation true, sure
His love to mankind shown here for evermore

Praise Him too with timbrels and in the dance
Church, mighty army, in triumph advance
Praise Him with stringed instruments, fine melody
And with organs, majestic, powerful, free

Loud cymbals awaken us, praise Him too
E'en high sounding cymbals, extol Him new
Yes, let everything, everywhere - has it breath?
Have you breath? Then praise Him lifelong unto death

'Til all earthly praises join heaven's throng
Resplendent in infinite worship, song
I shall with that chorus my voice tune to sing
And bring Him true homage, my eternal King

Prayer Petitions - Colossians Series - 1

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, Kindly Light')

Colossians 1 v.9-14

O Spirit lead me, each time that I pray
What shall I say?
Bless this or that, or him or her, it be
Prayer generally
But to focus, specific things to pray
Teach us, O Lord, what to pray every day

Praying as Paul, desiring people all
Shall hear God's call
That they be filled with knowledge of His will
Rest in truth still
In all wisdom and in all spiritual
Understanding, they safe, and shall not fall

That they may live worthy of the Lord, see
And pleasing be
Unto Him, and in each good work fruitful
Praise Him in all
And increasing in the knowledge of God
Following sure the path His Son has trod

Strengthened with all might, be according to
His power anew
His glorious power, working in each one
His will be done
Strengthened to all patience, longsuffering
With joyfulness, these shall His Spirit bring

Giving thanks to the Father who has made

A way, price paid
Paid by His Son, and so we now made meet
Unto His feet
To come, partakers of inheritance
Of saints in light, by God's grace this our stance

He has delivered us from darkness' power
We every hour
No have been translated into kingdom
Of His Son, done
'Tis the work, for His dear Son us redeemed
Forgiveness through His life-blood to us deemed

Progressing With His Presence

Tune: Ratisbon

('God of mercy, God of grace')

Sing a song, extempore
Flowing from the Spirit free
Takes songs old, new, to worship
Praise the Lord in deed and lip
Here one church, one body we
Christ as Head o'er all we see

Lighten us along the road
You before us it have trode
Help us, grant us grace, patience
Always to you will true sense
And with strength to persevere
May we do your good will here

You our burdens them have borne
At the cross your heart there torn
Healing you did bring for all
Unto all who on you call
Your Spirit, the Comforter
Help us attuned to Him stir

Help us live by your power
Facing needs of every hour
Not give up, nor doubt nor fear
But knowing your presence here
You will as good Shepherd keep
With your love your precious sheep

Search our hearts today, each day
Help us here to watch and pray

Our stay shall not ever be
Earth-bound, but eternally
By your grace with you shall rise
On that last day to the skies

Breathe your inspirings into
Your people, refresh, renew
So having that hope in view
We shall focus e'er on you
'Til on saved ones glorious morn
The e'erlasting Rapture dawn

Supreme Saviour - Colossians Series - 2

Tune: St Peter (Reinagle)

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Colossians 1 v.15-23 part

Christ He the head, He over all
Come to Him, on Him call
He lives, He reigns, He rules supreme
Howe'er outward things seem

He makes peace through blood of His cross
Suffered, redeemed our loss
Whether things in heaven, earth be
He reconciles all, see

Your mind did cause you from Christ go
Alienated, so
And enemies of Him you were
You did not to Him stir

Yet even though this was your state
Christ reconciled you, great
Was His working, His plan for you
His mercies not a few

For through His life given for you
You are a creature new
Made holy in His sight, made pure
His Spirit in you sure

And unblameable you are made
For Christ the price He paid
And unproveable you be
From accusations free

In Christ you are, continue in
The faith, not partake sin
Be grounded, settled, the gospel
Hope believe still, all tell

Thanks, praises to Christ be outpoured
He e'er our Saviour, Lord
He saves, redeems, heals, reconciles
Worship Him often whiles

Comforting Communings

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

Isaiah 43 v.18-21 & v.25

Remember not the former things
The Lord He new things brings
Consider not the things of old
Now be things new and bold

The Lord He shall a new thing do
It shall spring forth to you
He makes a way in wilderness
Rivers in desert [does] bless

For there a way in barren land
Where contained rock and sand
And rivers they shall quench your thirst
Fresh springs shall now outburst

The Lord gives drink to His chosen
His people here, each one
Water of life in refreshing
Each one does to Him sing

This people for Himself he formed
He loved them, to them warmed
They shall show forth His praise always
Worship Him all their days

He the Lord does for His own sake
Blot out our sins, does make
Us His people, forgives, our lot
Sins He remembers not

The Godly And Ungodly

Tune: Song 1

('Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round')

Psalm 1

Places in life, walking, standing, sitting
Who shall be blessed, have lives so befitting?
They that walk not in counsel ungodly
Nor that stand in way of sinners, not be
Nor sit in the seat of the proud, scornful
But avoid these states, steer clear of them all

They who are blessed, they delight in the law
Of the LORD, and by it they set great store
In His law do they focus, meditate
Day and night of things that be true and great
Yes, spending time always in His pursuits
And so shall be like a tree with deep roots

Like a tree planted by the rivers pure
Which shall then bring forth fruit in season sure
Their leaves also shall not wither or fade
Whatsoever they do shall prosper, fine grade
The ungodly not so, but in their day
Are like the chaff which the wind drives away

Therefore ungodly in [the] judgement [shall] not stand
Nor sinners in the congregation's land
For the LORD knows the way of righteous, see
But way of ungodly perished shall be
Continue in His way, follow His word
And love and serve Him, He our living Lord

Easter Entheates* (*Inspirings)

Tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

Chorus

From death to life, dawns resurrection morn

We His sons [and daughters], to eternal life new-born

Jesus, you whose head was thorn-scorned for me

Take my head today and do think through me - Chorus

You whose arms the cross-load did bare for me

Take my arms today and embrace through me - Chorus

You whose hands were outstretched, nail-scarred for me

Take my hands today and do serve through me - Chorus

You whose legs on cross-weight did stand for me

Take my legs today and do walk through me - Chorus

You whose feet were injured, nail-torn for me

Take my feet, and guide in you way through me - Chorus

You whose body, cut, bruised, and bled for me

Take my body today and do live through me - Chorus

You whose heart was spear-pained, spear-pierced for me

Take my heart today, and do love through me - Chorus

Your life laid down, given up all for me

Take my life, and fill with your Spirit free - Chorus

Ascending With Alleluias

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfruen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 121 v.1-2

I will lift my eyes to the hills

This my comfort, my heart it stills

Alleluia, Alleluia!

For from there my help it does come

The Lord will help me all, not some

He the faithful, He the great one

Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!

Psalm 122 v.6-7

Pray for peace of Jerusalem

The Lord will help and protect them

Alleluia, Alleluia!

For they shall prosper that love you

Peace be within your walls now true

Your palaces prosper anew

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 123 v.2

Behold, as the eyes of servants

Look to masters, so penitent

Alleluia, Alleluia!

And as eyes of a maiden low

Look to her mistress, her ways know

So may the Lord mercy us show

Alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia!

Psalm 124 v.7

Our soul is escaped as a bird

And others true of us have heard

Alleluia, Alleluia!
That we are delivered, the snare
Is broken, we no longer there
But in the LORD's freedom we share
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 124 v.1-3
If the LORD, if He had not been
On our side, then we had not seen
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Our deliverance, for men would
have swallowed us up if they could
We o'erwhelmed would be by a flood
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 125 v.1-2
They that trust in the LORD shall be
As mount Zion which abides, see
It cannot be removed for e'er
And it shall be shaken not there
For the LORD sure does for them care
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 126 v.1
When the LORD our captivity
Turned again, we were released, free
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Then we were liek those that do dream
For our state unreal it did seem
Yet the LORD us did mercies deem
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 126 v.2
Then was our mouth filled with singing
Grateful thanks to Him did we bring
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Then said they among the heathen
The LORD has done great things for men
When He came to their help again
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 127 v.1

Except the LORD does the house build
Human efforts they vain shall yield
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Except the LORD keep the city
The watchman's guard it vain shall be
But the LORD builds constructively
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 127 v.3-5

Children, they be a heritage
Of the LORD, through each earthly age
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And fruit of womb is His reward
Children they be as arrows stored
Happy families from the LORD
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 130 v.7

Let Israel here hope in the LORD
And trust in Him and in His word
Alleluia, Alleluia!
For with Him there is mercy, grace
He shall shine upon us His face
Plenteous redemption, each race
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 131 v.2

Surely I have myself behaved
As a weaned child, though not self saved
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For my salvation is in Him
Not of my own will or my whim
Without Him it be hopeless, grim
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 132 v.13

For the LORD Zion He has chose
And each one therein He full knows
Alleluia, Alleluia!
He has for His habitation
Desired it out of each nation
His choice He made, that be the one
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 133 v.1-3

Behold, how good and how pleasant
Is unity, 'tis God's intent
Alleluia, Alleluia!
For brethren so to dwell it is
Like anointing ointment, 'tis bliss
And as dew, blessing, gracious kiss
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 134 v.1-3

So come bless the LORD day or night
You in the Temple, in His sight
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Lift up hands in the holy place
Night, morn, and noon, now every race
Ascend to Him, hearts full of grace
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Growth In Grace - Colossians Series - 3

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Colossians 1 v.25 - 2 v.5 part

Lord, help us to grow perfect
In your image, though not yet
Have we attained, but we go
On more to your presence know

That perfection, completeness
Maturity, holiness
Growing spiritually we
Sons, daughters of God here be

Warning and admonishing
Wise teaching in everything
Praying fervently, not slack
Labouring that none may lack

Depending on your power
Gifts and graces in us flower
Spreading the gospel, good news
You ordain us, you us choose

Mystery revealed it be
Christ in us, hope of glory
Shared with all who hear His call
Many believe, they not fall

Firm in faith, in readiness
Orderliness, steadfastness
Riches to discover more
Progress in Him, you not poor

Complete In Christ - Colossians Series - 4

Tune and Hymn: All For Jesus

Colossians 2 v.9-23

In Christ does dwell all the fullness
Of God, it be nothing less
He full human, full divine He
Through endless ages shall be

And we are complete in Him, see
He head of all powers be
And o'er all principalities
He rules, from Him evil flees

Christ does take our sinful nature
To His cross, nails it there sure
When He died our old selves died too
Now in Him we are made new

And no accusations can stand
Against us, for by His hand (Spirit)
He has blotted them out, and we
Forgiven by Him, set free

So no extra items needed
Christ has done it all indeed
Lived, suffered, died, and rose again
Saviour of all living men (mankind)

Pride, vanity, and selfishness
Causes us ourselves to bless
And to try salvation to gain
Human efforts useless, vain

Here no special elite knowledge
Nor our bravery, courage
Can obtain our way to heaven
Look to Christ, see Him again

He the sacrifice, offering
Redemption He does us bring
And we complete in Him, all we
Provided by Him, here see

The Old And The New - Colossians Series - 5

Tune: Horbury

('Nearer my God to thee')

Colossians 3 v.1-11 part

Set mind on things above
Set on Christ's love
Not on the things below
No more them know
And set heart on Him so
In Him we more shall grow
Not human pride flower
Live by His power

For our old sinful self
It has no wealth
But with Christ crucified
It with Him died
Then Christ did rise again
Salvation to all men (mankind)
Our life is hid with Christ
In God, sufficed

Sufficed it is when He
Shall appear, see
We then shall true also
Appear, him know
And share in His glory
His image in us be
Growing each day by grace
Seeking His face

Putting off old lifestyle
Things that defile

Putting on life anew
Through Christ we do
We renewed in knowledge
After His fine image
Creation of God sure
Holy, loving, pure

Life In Christ - Colossians Series - 6

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Colossians 3 v.12-17

You are in Christ complete
With blessings you replete
Put on Christ's qualities, they be
Opposed to old self, see

You are God's chosen ones
His true daughters and sons
You are holy, beloved, His grace
Reaches to every race

These qualities they be
Compassion, kindness, see
Humbleness of mind and meekness
Longsuffering no less

Forbear and do forgive
One another, do live
Putting on love, 'tis we confess
The bond of perfectness

Let the peace of God rule
In your hearts over all
Be thankful, praise, sing, worship free
Teach, admonish truly

And whatever you do
And say, let it be true
All done and said in Christ's name here
And give thanks, lowly fear

Walking In The Way

Tune: Fountain

('There is a fountain filled with blood')

Repeat lines as shown.

Praise, praise the Lord for His good grace
Displayed to every race
Follow Him daily, even pace
Until we see His face (x3)
Follow Him daily, even pace
Until we see His face

We forgiven, New Covenant
For God His Son has sent
We can know now relationship
With Him, true fellowship (x3)
We can now know relationship
With Him, true fellowship

His laws within our heart and mind
Written there we them find
For Christ for us He does atone
He saves, and He alone (x3)
For Christ for us He does atone
He saves, and He alone

So onwards through life's joys and woes
The Lord, He all it knows
Following Him, the Life, Truth, Way
Unto eternal day (x3)
Following Him the Life, Truth, Way
Unto eternal day

Spirit empower, we depend

On you, God does you send
To teach, to sanctify, to guide
Within our lives reside (x3)
To teach, to sanctify, to guide
Within our lives reside

Palms Processings

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Chorus

All glory to the Saviour

All praises to the King

On humble colt He rides now

To Him creation sings

He rides on humble donkey

And did in meekness mount

Now we again His worthies

Paschal Mystery recount - Chorus

He rides forth into [Jeru]Salem

The city, name of peace

To bring His great salvation

His honours never cease - Chorus

Tell to daughters of Zion

Prophecy fulfilled thus

Your King on lowly beast comes

Brings salvation to us - Chorus

Crowds gathered by the wayside

To Him they homage give

Palm branches wave before Him

They trust in Him and live - Chorus

Their garments spread before Him

Along the royal way

And this their joyful anthem

'Hosanna' they sing, say - Chorus

So as they their possessions
Along the road did give
Help us service you offer
That we may truly live - Chorus

'Save now, Lord', that their tune sweet
Procession marches on
The Lord will then His life lay
Down for them, Holy One - Chorus

Come process in this victory
O'er sin, death, gloom's dark night
For 'tis all in the Son sure
He is the world's true Light - Chorus

Eternal King now living
Triumphant o'er the grave
Come to our hearts, abide now
And stay, us fully save - Chorus

'Blesséd He be, the one who
Comes in the Lord's name true'
Their shouts, their songs, rejoicing
Praises to Him anew - Chorus

Though later then their pleading
Is 'Crucify' and die
Yet He on cross the Victor
Given the name most high - Chorus

Our suffering Saviour dying
There seen upon the tree
Now we sing to Him and praise
He redeemed you and me - Chorus

Lord of Lords reigning on high
On us favours bestow
That all the world confess you
And all peoples you know - Chorus

For Easter message fades not
Christ died and rose again
Will return for His own soon
Unending glories then - Chorus

Patient Progress

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Look on us Lord, and patience give
Help us unto you live
Your Spirit's power, every hour
We pray you us endower

Provide for us, our daily bread
By you we all are fed
Food for our bodies, spirits, souls
Safe in our Shepherd's fold

Rest, hasty heart, still worried, hear
Know that your Lord is near
'Til season of your troubles past
Shall not for ever last

But here we know our suffering
None to yours comparing
Yet you give strength along the way
For what we face each day

Give grace where we tempted to sin
And evil thoughts begin
Help us your will to know and do
What will glorify you

None left bereft, you Comforter
Your Spirit does us stir
Gives strength and solace, meets our needs
To our Father He pleads

Pleads that we grow in Christ the Son
The risen holy one
Where distractions, fears may abound
Help us hear your voice sound

It shall lead on, your still, small voice
And cause us to rejoice
Again in you, our living Lord
The true, eternal Word

Passover Pausings

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Luke 22 v.1-38 part

Sent forth ahead to prepare a room
Fit for Christ, He the heavenly Groom*
Peter and John sent, and shown the place
Where all would feast by God's good grace

For Christ did say, With earnest desire
With you in this feast I aspire
This Passover before I suffer
And comfort sure on you confer

Take, eat and drink here, of bread and wine
For these be symbols true and fine
Of Christ's blood shed, and body broken
His life given up for all men (mankind)

Let us await, here in fellowship
And to Christ give our true worship
Be those as He said, they continue
With Him in His trials, even you

I shall be there, there shall be my heart
With you, though you would soon depart
To suffer, die, then to rise again
We shall share in your glories then

* Christ as the Groom - the church as His Bride

Gethsemane Graces

Tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

Luke 22 v.39-46

Stay, stay a while and pray
It be dark, not light day
Pray with Jesus, in His hour
Though bitter and sour
Here in Gethsemane's garden
He holds destiny of all men (mankind)

For the spirit it be
Willing to progress free
But flesh it be weak, so
Hindrance our spirits know
Pray one hour with me, He pleads
Here be my time of true great needs

But no, they sleepy were
Did not with Him concur
For disciples did tire
Dim burnt their holy fire
The call was, 'Watch and pray, lest you
Fall into temptation anew'

There in His agony
Christ sweat His blood for me
In garden prayed, so be
Father, if willing, see
This cup of suffering, and take
It from me, another way make

But nevertheless not

My will, but yours my lot
Your will be done, my choice
To e'er obey your voice
Then angels strengthened Him in power
As He went through harrowing hour

Lord, help us your will know
Where easy or hard, so
We trust in you, your way
To be our way each day
Strengthen us too, where faith be small
By your Spirit we prevail all

Passion Progress

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, now wounded')

Luke 23 v.26-46 parts

On way to crucifixion
They laid hold on Simon
Caused him to Jesus' cross bear
On that passion road share
And company lamenting
Their woes they there did bring
Bemoaning and bewailing
No joyful tunes did sing

But Jesus said, You daughters
You are my besoughters
Though weep not for me, but weep
For yourselves, mourning keep
And for you children, for see
The days coming, they be
When they shall say, Blessed barren
The childless among men

Then shall they say to mountains
Fall on us, and in dens
We shall hide ourselves, and hills
Cover us, shield from ills
For if they here are doing
In a green tree such things*
What shall be done in dry times?
Disruptions of life's rhymes

When crucified, Jesus' prayer
Even forgiveness there

For such know not what they do
He forgives me and you
And to the thief penitent
Who was true repentant
Jesus' paradise promised
With Him, eternal bliss

Then fearful noontide darkness
Three hours long, no less
Sun darkened, temple's veil torn
Christ, sins of world has borne
And then He with a loud voice
He commended, His choice
His spirit to Father's hands
Then died to save all lands

* The 'green tree' reference appears in Luke.

It seems terrible as those days were, it was days of a tree with green leaves. Jesus asks what will happen in the 'dry times' when the tree has no leaves - an indication of even worse things to come?

Follow In His Footsteps

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

John 13 v.1-17

When we serve now here our neighbour
We serve you our Lord, master
Whether it be small, great favour
Fragrant as incense savour

For it is of Christ the fragrance
Serving, we His presence sense
He who came to serve, not be served
Gives us all, but none deserved

Girding towel He leaves the table
Of the supper, to humble
Service do to His disciples
We too hear His gracious calls

Calls to wash feet, one another
To whome'er, sister, brother
Simple deeds, yet necessary
Full of love and grace they be

For He would love them to the end
The Father His Son did send
So an example to follow
That others Christ in us know

O why serve me?, I the meanest
Sometimes not better than beast
But no false humility stay
I shall let you have your way

Your way to serve me, then I serve
Grant me courage, strength, and nerve
And at times to be served also
Humbly in your image grow

Farewell, Friend, then comes the parting
Supper ended, departing
From there to your trial and mourning
Then resurrection's dawning

Redemption Riches

Tune: Langran (St Agnes)

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

John 19 v.17-42 parts

Your heart was pierced, your side for me riven
When you on cross your life for me given
Your hands, feet, nailed, though innocent you be
You suffered there for me upon the tree

Yet 'tis good news for us, you took my place
And too for every soul of every race
Sharp thorns in crown adorned your head, for so
That all the world your salvation should know

Not ritual alone, but relationship
We forgiven, come to you to worship
Eternal life you give, your Spirit free
To take up in our hearts residency

For born of Him, your Spirit, we your sons
And daughters, here through Christ, sanctified ones
By grace you our Father, and family
Of believers you us unite to be

Dark, dark the hours, though it was day time
You took upon yourself each sin, each crime
Though by you none committed, no, not one
Redemption's work you finished, by you done

In your love, you obedient to death
Then resurrection, returns vital breath
Laid low in tomb, not there to stay alway
But to rise again, glorious third day

Of interlude 'tween death, resurrection
All hope seemed gone of you, the holy one
But daybreak of third day's morn soon did break
You Victor when tomb's stone moved, earth did quake

Eternal Easter

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!')

'Alleluia!' after every line.

Earthquake! Risen from the tomb
In each heart make for Him room
Stone rolled away, tomb empty
Christ living, for all to see

Easter message unto all
Who will hear His gracious call
Salvation through Christ the Son
He redemption's work has done

Eggs containing chicks do hatch
Chocolate yummys, they do match
They do show forth here life new
Bunnies, fertility too!

Bright bonnets display colours
To season's light each refers
Feast and fun and merriment
True joys the Lord has us sent

Christ, vicarious He be
Our substitutionary
The atonement has He made
For sins of the world has paid

Love and light and life here be
For all folk and ages, He
The Saviour, now Lord on high
Ever nevermore to die

Yet not remote, comes to dwell
By His Spirit, we may tell
In our hearts, new covenant
[The] Father through Christ has Him sent

I shall not here add water!
To your whisky, but concur
To raise undiluted fare
At such great feast, all may share

Bring me sherry, not too much
I shall only swoon if such
Porkie pies and slice of cake
Pot of tea, content I take!

Meaningful Morning

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of Resurrection')

John 20 v.11-18

Mary stood weeping outside
The tomb, and woe, betide
For she wept, her Lord had died
They had laid Him inside
Looking in, two angels she
Did see, but was not He
For He had risen, she saw
Him there in tomb no more

When she turned back, Jesus there
Though she was not aware
It was Him, but gardener
She did suppose He were
'Woman, why you weep?' Jesus said
'Who do you seek?' who dead?
Mary said 'If you know where
He is, please with me share'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary'
That was enough, here see
Mention of her name lovingly
She knew Jesus He be
'Rabboni', 'Teacher', replied
You were the one that died
But now live for evermore
Lord to each utmost shore

'Do not hold me Mary', He said
'For I not ascended

Yet to my Father, He yours too'
To many, not a few
'He my God and your God be'
He brings us victory
Mary went, with others shared
That things thus with her fared

Emmaus Encounter

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.27-32

Two disciples to Emmaus
They went, and then Jesus
Arise, did to them draw near
And did to them appear

But at first they did not Him know
When He to them did show
And drawing near where they would go
The evening did fall so

Abide with us they said, and He
Was thus content to be
And as they ate He bread did take
Among them did it break

He blessed and broke it, to them gave
Then they knew He did save
He Christ, the one rose from the dead
Gives all the living bread

For their eyes then they were opened
As He to them did tend
They knew Him, but then He vanished
Yet moment was not missed

They said there to one another
Agreed, they did concur
That their hearts burned while He there talked
With them and with them walked

For the scriptures He did open
To them, and revealed then
That such did speak of Him, the Lord
He Himself too the Word

Watching And Waiting

Tune: Gelobt Sei Gott - God Be Praised
('Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing')
Luke 24 v.36-49

The Lord appeared to disciples
He knows each one, He each one calls
Though doors shut, they within their walls
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

They did Him touch, knew it was He
One risen from the dead there, see
All as scriptures said it would be
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

All as written in Moses' law
And in prophets and psalms they saw
He fulfilled each detail for sure
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Then He opened their inward sight
Gave them understanding, delight
To see the scriptures with His light
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

He said to them, Thus is written
That Christ should suffer for all men (mankind)
To die, and then to rise again
Alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia

And that repentance, remission
Of sins be unto every one
And preach to all what He has done
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

For they witnesses of these things
That Christ to all salvation brings
When redeemed by Him each soul sings
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The promise of the Spirit He
Would send upon them soon, so be
From the Father, He given free
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

But they to wait there in city
Jerusalem, city it be
For the power to witness, see
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Faith Formations

Tune: Salzburg

('At the Lamb's high feast we sing')

John 20 v.24-31

Jesus, arisen appears
To His disciples endears
Of His presence to them sure
To build faith for evermore
Thomas, he not there at first
Showing, when death's gate was burst
And Jesus had visited
Them, and 'Peace to you' had said

Jesus then to Thomas said
'Tis me, risen from the dead
Reach here your finger, and see
My hands, scars of nails there be
And reach here your hand, and feel
My side, I the Lord do heal
Though my heart was pierced for you
Now I make all things anew

Be not faithless, but believe
E'en if by sight you conceive
That it is me, do not doubt
I sin and death put to rout
Thomas says it is you then
My Lord and my God risen
So he came to faith again
Saw the Saviour of all men

Jesus said, Thomas, because
You have seen me, dead once was

I, but now resurrected
Victorious from the dead
Now you see me you believe
But blessed they, by faith receive
The truth that I live, though they
Have not seen me, I the Way

The Way to the Father sure
Promise of life evermore
Enough John wrote, so that we
Might believe that Jesus be
Christ, Anointed, Promised One
He of God His only Son
And that believing we might
Have life through His name, and light

Breakfasting Believers

Tune: Wurtemberg

(one tune to: Christ the Lord is risen again')

John 21 v.1-14 part

Disciples had gone fishing
They had spent all night wishing
For a catch, then daybreak dawn
Jesus stood on shore that morn
Alleluia!

They did not know it was He
The did not at first sight see
Jesus said, 'Children, ahve you
Any food, any catch new?'
Alleluia!

'No', they said, then did He say
'Cast out net on right side', they
From the boat did make the cast
Then obtained a catch at last
Alleluia!

They dragged the net to the land
And then there by God's good hand
One hundred and fifty three
Fish in intact net there be
Alleluia!

'Come and eat', He to the said
Then they knew, risen from dead
Was their Lord, He with them there
Breakfast meal with them did share
Alleluia!

And He did take bread, it broke
As when at last supper spoke
For He living bread to all
Who believe Him, on Him call
Alleluia!

Shepherd Sureties

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

John 21 v.15-17

Christ did speak to Peter
Did with him confer
Saying, 'Do you love me
Sure and constantly?'

Peter said, 'Yes, Lord you
Know I love, I do'
'Feed my lambs', His reply
He ne'er more to die

'Peter, do you love me?'
Second time said, see
'Yes, Lord, you know I do'
Peter replied too

Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep
Love them and them keep'
Then third time Jesus said
He who rose from dead

'Peter, do you love me?'
Peter he grieved be
Replied, 'Lord you know all
I have heard your call'

'You know that I love you'
Jesus said then, true
'Feed my sheep', you restored
Though denied me, [I your] Lord

Disciples Destinies

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

John 21 v.20-24

Peter saw other disciple
Following Jesus, His call
He had heard too, and at supper
He did with the Lord confer

He did ask, 'Who does betray you?'
As the tension mounting grew
He had lent on Jesus' breast
And too had His name confessed

Peter said, 'What shall this man do?'
When you bid me follow you
Jesus said, If he should stay till
I return, so be God's will'

Then the disciples the rumour
Among them they did concur
That the disciple should not die
They did not doubt or deny

Yet Jesus did not to him say
'You shall not die if my way
You do follow', but He did say
Words to assure on that day

Fro He said, 'If he should stay till
I return, so be God's will'
This disciple 'tis John, he be
Wrote a gospel, here we see

Family And Work Matters - Colossians Series - 7

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Colossians 3 v.18 - 4 v.1)

Wives, submit to your own husbands
As is fit in the Lord, He sends
You help, support, grace from above
Continue here now in His love

Husbands, love your wives, and be not
Bitter against them, for your lot
Would then be poor, relations strained
With burdens hard you would be pained

Children, under your parents wing
Obey in all things, this pleasing
To the Lord, He will see, will bless
Will guide you on to holiness

Employees*, obey employers*
But not to be as men-pleasers
Nor with eye-service only when
They look upon you, see you then

But work in singleness of heart
Fearing the Lord in every part
Whate'er you do, do heartily
To the Lord, e'er in constancy

For of the Lord you shall receive
Reward of inheritance, see
Surpassing worldly gifts, rewards
As you focus the Lord towards

'Tis Him you serve, though where there wrong
It shall not go unpunished long
But soon shall be repaid, for there
God shall treat all men true and fair

Employers*, give true and equal
To your employees*, e'en to all
Knowing too you have a Master
In heaven, celestial Employer

* 'Employees and employers' are '
'masters and servants/slaves' in original text.

Love's Leadings

Tune: Unde Et Memores

('And now, O Father, mindful of the love')

Your love continues, flowing full and free
And reaches in a measure e'en to me
Spirit inspire me with your living breath
Reside in my heart now and unto death
And too that I your love with others here
Love, life, with which there can be no compare

Come fan a spark, a flame, where I burn dim
Igniting a passion for Christ, for Him
Who has for us, for me, for all mankind
His life given freely, but not resigned
For offered willingly, He Shepherd gave
His life upon the cross for all to save

To know, share in your love, though if not felt
Yet still outpoured, it you to us have dealt
Whether warm, good feeling, or barren, dry
Yet still to ourselves this truth we apply
That we are loved, you have your plan, your will
For us, and your grace avails to us still

We can in you grow, more to your image
Image of you the Son, grant faith, courage
Through ups and downs of life, each trial, test
Help us to see you work things for the best
Not only our well-being, our fine fare
But that we in the life of Christ full share

Come, forgive us, where we fall, go astray
Or be distracted, slip along the way

Your intent that we all your will do know
To obey you who have first loved us so
And ever with the blessed hope in view
All who believe gathered for e'er with you

Opportunity Openings - Colossians Series - 8

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Colossians Chapter 4 part

Continue in prayer, watch in the same
With thanksgiving in Jesus' name
Praying for one another, we
Shall share the gospel bold and free

Witnessing to all, words and deeds
Pray gospel message each one heeds
Walk* wisely towards everyone (*=live)
Following steps of Christ the Son

Redeem the time, it do not waste
Yet taking time, not hurry, haste
Speaking always with grace, seasoned
With salt, not human plans reasoned

Pray that each stand perfect, complete
In all the will of God, this meet
Experiencing our blessed state
Fullness in Christ, we not be late

Easter Extempore

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise')

Alleluia! God of heaven
You to us your Son have given
We recall again, Easter-tide
On the cross He suffered, died
But that not the end, for He sure
On third day rose evermore
Thus to live, ne'er to die again
And be Saviour of all men (mankind)

Can we believe, can we trust this?
It shall bring us lasting bliss
And to share, to evangelise
That Christ open inward eyes
Eyes of hearts, give understanding
Knowledge, light, and faith us bring
Simply trusting, loving, showing
Others Christ is Lord and King

Awesome earthquake, resurrection
Women at tomb did find then
Angel sitting in the tomb there
And glad tidings he did bear
For he said, Christ, He is not here
Go to Galilee, not fear
For there you shall see Him risen
Hope, joy, peace unto all men (mankind)

For the sting of death He removed
Victor over it He proved
Bore our sins and our transgressions

We become His daughters, sons
Freed, forgiven, if repentant
Jesus He from God was sent
Alleluia! God of heaven
You to us your Son have sent

Common-Union Considerations

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Fresh invites to Communion, you
Do still issue anew
O call us, draw us, to your side
Spirit in us reside

Forgive where we not always share
In this, your rich store's fare
There one reason or other be
Or distractions may see

For so to come to share bread, wine
It is an honour fine
O see our love for you, though small
At times, yet still you call

Call us to partake, memory
Of your blood, body be
Who did for all die, rose again
The Saviour of all men (mankind)

God our Father, and Christ His Son
We are brothers made one
And sisters in His family
The church of God it be

Strengthened with this food spiritual
It is enough for all
Speaks my acceptance, forgiveness
Jesus shall each one bless

So out into the world we go
Help us share, so men know
Of salvation, and be brought in
Your fold, and cleansed from sin

Our only hope, our only way
Dawns our redemption's day
'Tis Christ we trust, so have we peace
Hope, faith, love, without cease (ceasing)

Judgement And Justice

Tune and Hymn Title: Eternal Light, Eternal Light!

Psalm 58

Do you indeed speak righteousness?
You people, do you bless?
And do you judge in uprightness?
Yet in heart you work wickedness
With violence you oppress

The wicked are estranged from birth
They give not good its worth
But they speak lies, poisonous snakes
Though man seeks to charm them, none makes
Progress for goodness' sakes

They are like lions, their teeth break
O God, for truth each fakes
So that they devour not those
Who your way, the good way, have chose
Which none the evil knows

Let them melt away as a snail*
When they move and leave trail
As waters melt when in a thaw
Turn back their bows and arrows sure
Let them fail evermore

Let them be as birth untimely
Stillborn, no daylight see
Take them away in your whirlwind
And do not your wrath them rescind
For they sorely have sinned

The righteous then shall glad rejoice
And praise you with one voice
When they see displayed your vengeance
Reward shall be for righteous hence
They shall your judgement sense

* In olden days snails were though to melt as they
moved along and left their slimy trail.

Fulfilling Faith - Epistles of Peter Series - 1

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

1 Peter 1 v.7-9

Genuine faith, it be more precious see
Than treasures of gold-store shall to us be
It be of great value, surpassing earth's jewels
And strength to go on in Christ's image it fuels

Though tried as with fire, faith comes through the test
With God's power we glorify Him best
It shall be victorious, honour and praise
And glory give to Jesus, thanks shall we raise

Yet not having seen Christ Jesus our Lord
We have joy unspeakable and His word
Not depending on worldly, outward things, we
Have well-spring of joy and of glory, so be

The end of our faith, the outcome it shall
Be not vain, but salvation we know well
Salvation for our souls, redeemed, we set free
And then see Christ, dwell with Him eternally

Pilgrims Placings - Epistles of Peter Series - 2

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

1 Peter 1 v.21-25

Christian,s their state, is born again
They are stranger among men
For they of the Spirit born are
Sojourners afar

Afar from their heavenly homeland
Yet guided by God's good hand
Born of seed incorruptible
Through God [made] possible

Born of that seed by God's word sure
It lives, abides, evermore
But mankind is temporary
Shall not lasting be

For all the people are like grass
Winds blow over, soon they pass
And their glory as like flowers
Shed in winter's hours

Priestly People - Epistles of Peter Series - 3

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's Anointed')

1 Peter 2 v.5-10

We are a priesthood royal
Christian believers all
A spiritual house we be
With Christ our Head we see
A peculiar people
Purchased by God to be
His own, to serve, to follow
And Him through Christ to know

We are a generation
Chosen from each nation
To show forth all His praises
Each voice a song raises
His virtues shown, His graces
His mercies each traces
We called from darkness unto
His marvellous light true

Once we were not a people
And not noticeable
But now we are the people
Of God, He did us call
One time we did not mercy
Obtain, did not Christ see
But now we have obtained sure
His mercy evermore

So we that house spiritual
A priesthood holy all

Spiritual sacrifices
Offered, each suffices
May they be acceptable
To God, on Him we call
Christ to us a precious stone
We worship Him alone

Suffering Servants - Epistles of Peter Series - 4

Tune and Hymn: Angel Voices

1 Peter 2 v.19-25

For it is truly thankworthy
If one does, surely
For conscience to God does endure
Grief, suffering sure
Though wrongfully suffer they may
They follow their Saviour's way

For what glory is it, if when
You do suffer then
For your faults, and take it patient
As a penitent?
But if when you for well-doing
Suffer, graces it shall bring

For if suffering unjustly
You take patiently
What may come to you, with God shall
Be acceptable
For even to this you were called
But it leaves your faith unspoiled

For Christ also suffered for us
Saved us, we confess
Leaving for us an example
That we follow all
In His steps, he who did no sin
No guile found His mouth within

Who, when He was reviled, did not
Take up vengeful lot

Did not revile back in return
Though words harsh and stern
Were to Him spoken, and when He
Suffered, did not threaten, see

But He committed self unto
God, Father, anew
He that judges righteously, so
Good outcome shall flow
He, Christ, on the tree our sins bore
We forgiven evermore

In His own body He took there
Our penalty's share
Bearing our sins in His body
That we might be free
That we being dead to sins should
Live unto righteousness good

By His stripes, his wounds, we were healed
By His Spirit sealed
As sheep we were going astray
Wandering all day
But are now returned to Shepherd
And Bishop of our souls word

Suffering Sentiments - Epistles of Peter Series - 5

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Ye holy angles bright')

1 Peter 3 v.8-12 and v.18

Be you all of one mind
Be courteous and kind
Have compassion toward
Each other, wide and broad
Love as brothers
And too sisters
Show pity too
To not a few

Not rendering evil
For evil, so not fall
Return not rail for rail (railing)
And let not tempers fail
But do you bless
And true confess
You thereto called
To that, no less

For it be so, you shall
Inherit blessing well
For they that life will love
And be blessed from above
Let them refrain
Their tongue again
From evil word
No guile be heard

Let them evil eschew
Let them do good anew

Let them seek peace, healing
Ensue it, comfort bring
For the Lord's eyes
He all espies
Righteous are seen
None tended mean

The Lord's ears are open
Unto righteous' prayers then
But His face be against
Evil, impenitent
For Christ also
Suffered we know
For sins, that we
Holy may be

The just for the unjust
He suffered, we needs must
Trust Him for salvation
He brings to each nation
So He the Son
The work has done
To God us brings
With thanks each sings

Comforting Consolings

Tune: Hyfrydol

('Alleluia, sing to Jesus')

Isaiah 40 v.1-8 & v.28-31

Comfort, comfort you my people
Says your God, be solaced all
Speak comforts to Jerusalem
None shall accuse or condemn
Cry to her, her warfare finished
Her sins pardoned, accomplished
Is the Lord's judgement upon her
Blessings now He does confer

The voice of one in wilderness
Herald's voice which does confess
'Prepare you the way of the LORD'
Hearken to His living word
Isaiah does here prophesy
Of John the Baptist's voice nigh
'Make straight in desert a highway
For our God', with Him comply

Every valley be exalted
Every mountain, hill, be lowed
Crooked places be you made straight
Rough places be plain not late
And the glory of the LORD shall
Be revealed, all flesh shall tell
Shall all see it together, for
The LORD has spoken it sure

The voice said, 'Cry', and the reply
'What shall I cry?' What espy?

Say, All flesh is grass, shall wither
Come and see, now draw hither
And all flesh's goodness is
As flower of field, see this
'Tis gone, when Spirit's wind blows there
But word of our God stands e'er

The everlasting God, the LORD
He is your strength, your reward
He be Creator of the ends
Of the earth, to all He tends
He faints not, nor is He weary
For He is Almighty, see
That there is no end of searching
Of His wise understanding

Unto the faint He gives power
To weak he does strength endower
Even youths shall be weary, faint
And shall fall, human restraint
But they that wait in the LORD shall
Renew their strength, rise up well
Mount up with wings as of eagles
Run, walk, not tire, not one falls

Shepherding Security

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 78 v.65-72

O hear you people, and call
On God, the Lord of all
Be not disobedient
Salvation He has sent
In old times He awoke as one
Out of sleep, resting done
And like a mighty man that shouts
When he his wine pours out

And He smote His enemies
Put them to reproach, see
Refused of Joseph his tent
Nor Ephraim His intent
But tribe of Judah He did choose
Mount Zion, hear good news
For the Lord did love it, we tell
it is where He did dwell

His sanctuary was therein
Like high palace, no sin
And like the earth which He made
It does continue staid
He chose David, His servant
When midst his sheep he went
From following sheep He did bring
Him to be ruler, king

He fed Jacob*, God's people
Pastored, shepherded all

Fed them by integrity
Of his heart, skilful he
Employed his hands to serve and care
The Lord's way with them share
So day were bright, pure delight
As they kept God in sight

* Jacob - another name for the nation of Israel

Keeping the Fire Going

Nope, I don't mean
Light the fire while the heatwave lasts!
(in UK for now anyway)

But in the Old Testament
They had a fire for the altar
The altar of burnt offerings
The way of animal sacrifices for those days
Until Jesus came in New Testament days
The days we are in now

That fire was never to go out
It was ever to be kept burning
Lord, let that fire keep burning
On the 'mean altar of my heart'
As one hymn says

Though it burn dim at times
Though it be blown by changes, distractions
Or whatever may cause it to diminish
Yet even a spark, an ember....

Fan it back into life
By the life, the power, of your Spirit

Surely a co-operation
We don't sit back while you, Lord, stoke all the fire
But neither do we do it all in our own strength

But also like incense rising
Ascending from the 'sanctuary' of our heart
That incense needing to be lit first
To smoke, to give off fragrance

So spreading, so sharing with others
The light of Christ
'The fire of His love'
As one Collect (formal prayer) says
For you, Lord, quench not a smouldering wick
You will not snuff it out
Nor break a broken reed
You will not snap it off.....

There is preaching too
Preaching, yes, on a Sunday for example
Other days too
But not too be too 'preachy'
In our everyday lives
It may put people off
I mean, we don't adopt a 'pulpit-style' of speaking
In everyday conversations

But neither to compromise our faith
Lord, give us wisdom we pray
And whatever else we need....

Trials And Tests - Epistles of Peter Series - 6

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

1 Peter 4 v.12-16

Beloved, think it not strange
It not be out your range
Concerning the fiery trial
It not despise, revile

For it does come to try you
Your faith strengthen, renew
It not some strange thing happened
Will of God did it send

But rejoice then, inasmuch
You are partakers such
Of Christ's sufferings, that when
His glory revealed, then

Then you may be glad also
And exceeding joy know
If you reproached for Christ's name
In suffering or defame

Then happy are you, for rests
Upon you through the tests
The spirit of glory, he
The spirit of God be

Though men on their part they do
Speak evil then anew
But on your part sure He is
Glorified, true be this

But let none of you suffer
By these, do not incur
Suffering as murderer
No blessings will confer

Nor suffering as a thief
Shall only bring much grief
Nor as does of evil
It shall lead to your fall

Nor as a busybody
Interfering bold, free
In other people's matters
Peace shall be in tatters

Yet if anyone suffer
As Christian, do refer
To God, glorify Him, for
You bear Christ's name e'ermore

Points To Practice - Epistles of Peter Series - 7

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

1 Peter 5 v.5-11

Subject yourselves to each other
To each sister, each brother
And be clothed with humility
God resists the proud, so be

And He gives grace to the humble
Therefore humble yourselves all
Under God's mighty hand, so He
May exalt in due time, see

Casting upon Him all your care
For He cares for you e'erwhere
Be sober and be vigilant
Wary of evil intent

For your adversary, devil
As roaring lion does prowl
Walks about, seeking whom he may
Devour and turn away

Resist him steadfast in the faith
Realising lies he saith
And know that the same afflictions
Are share by all faithful ones

But God, he us called, He all grace
Called us to glory, His face
Shall we see eternally through
Christ Jesus, His mercies new

After you have suffered a while
God make you perfect, no guile
Shall stablish, strengthen, settle you
To Him glory ever due

Growth In Gifts And Graces - Epistles of Peter Series - 8

Tune: Song 1

('Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round')

2 Peter 1 v.3-8

We have been given by God's divine power
All that we need to face each passing hour
All things that pertain unto life they be
And unto godliness through the Lord, see
Through knowledge of Him that has called us to
Glory and virtue, by Him strength renew

Whereby are given unto us so great
And precious promises, that be our state
That by them we might be sure partakers
Of the divine nature, He [on] us confers
With such graces, and we have now escaped
The world's corruption, lust, it thus landscaped

Beside this, give all diligence, and add
To your faith virtue, an to virtue glad
Add knowledge, and to knowledge [add] temperance
To temperance, add quality [of] patience
And to patience, add godliness to bless
To godliness add brotherly kindness

To brotherly kindness add charity
For if these things be in you, abound, see
They make you that you thus shall neither be
Barren, unfruitful, but productively
You shall bear fruit in knowledge of the Lord
He Jesus Christ, He e'er the living Word

Word Witness - Epistles of Peter Series - 9

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, My God, and King')

2 Peter 1 v.19-21

We have a more sure word
Prophecy, can be heard
Whereunto we do well if we
Take heed unto it, see

For it is as a light
That shines, dispelling night
Shines in a dark place till day dawn
Until the wakening morn

When day does dawn, night parts
Then day star in your hearts
Shall arise, light, life, you shall know
The Scriptures the way show

Know this, no prophecy
Be of man's faculty
Not private interpretation
Of man-made salvation

For prophecy of old
Was not by man's will told
Not fables, myths, messages feigned
But through it true life gained

How come then prophecy?
Holy people it be
Who spake, wrote, as the Spirit moved
These have enduring proved

'Prophecy' can mean 'speaking God's message
for the present or the future'.

False Footings - Epistles of Peter Series - 10

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

2 Peter 2 v.19-22

False teachers promise liberty
But they themsleves, they be
The servants of corruption, for
They on wrong path for sure

For of whom one is overcome
This is their state, their sum
That they are bought in bondage to
Their deceivings anew

For their end worse than [their] beginning
One time men did them bring
Knowledge of salvation that they
Might walk in God's true way

But they did turn from righteous way
The night became their day
They turned from the Lord's commandments
Given to repentants

But it is happened to them, know
These true proverbs be so
Dogs again turned to their vomit
Washed pigs [return] to muddy pit

Expectant Eschatology - Epistles of Peter Series - 11

Tune: Unter Herrscher

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

2 Peter 3 v.10-15

But will come the day of the Lord
Shall be as says in His word
As a thief in the night, sudden
Shall come to all women, men
Then things of the old shall vanish
Enemies He shall banish

Then the heavens shall pass away
With great noise, none can allay
And elements melt, fervent heat
Weeds separated from wheat
The earth also and works therein
Shall be burned up, gone be sin

Seeing these things shall be dissolved
What to do, what you resolved?
But to live in holy way still
Godliness, turn from ill-will
Looking for the day of the Lord
It shall come to pass, His word

For too the heavens they shall pass
Be on fire, prophecies tell
Gone shall be the old for ever
Yet our hope none can sever
For according to His promise
There be new things of true bliss

For we look for new heavens, earth

Where all worship, give Him worth
Wherein dwells righteousness true, sure
The Lord is King evermore
So let us be diligent, seek
His kingdom of humble, meek

Live, so that you of Him be found
In peace, and praises resound
Without spot and blameless, holy
Acceptable to Him be
And account His longsuffering
Is salvation, to Him sing

Communion Capturings

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus in thy dear Sacrament')

Respectfully, reverently
And too with joy we be
Your people, who you do here invite
To taste this feat's delight

For here is bread and wine, symbols
We here have heard your calls
In your love you bid us come and share
At your table this fine fare

Strengthen us here to serve you sure
You our Lord evermore
You who lived and died and rose again
And your tomb opened then

You ate and drank, instituted
Your Supper, and you fed
Your disciples, and you feed us here
We meet in godly fear

Your life given up in my place
And for all of each race
We cannot atone, for you alone
Salvation's work do own

Creation Considerations

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud and honour')

Psalm 104 v.16-28

Chorus

O LORD, your works manifold

They cannot all be told

In wisdom have you made all

Earth of your riches full

Trees of the LORD full of sap

O'er all the world's wide map

Great cedars tall of Lebanon

He planted every one - Chorus

There the birds do their nests make

Food to their young do take

As for the stork, the fir tree[s]

Her house, her dwelling be - Chorus

A refuge are the high hills

For the goats, they there still

And rocks refugee for conies

Rock-badger's abode is - Chorus

He appoints moon for seasons

All in His plans, reasons

The sun knows his going down

O'er every country, town - Chorus

He makes darkness, it is night

Beasts of forests alight

They creep forth, and young lion[s]

Seek food from God, each one - Chorus

So daytime dawns, man goes forth
To his work, labour knows
Till evening falls, then day done
Cycle of employed ones - Chorus

Too in the great and vast sea[s]
Things innumerably
Live, they teeming and creeping
Small, great beasts, many things - Chorus

There got the ships and large beasts
Each plays therein, there feasts
These do all upon you wait
You feed them there not late - Chorus

They gather that which you give
You provide, so they live
You open to them you hand
They filled with good, sea, land - Chorus

Righteousness Reality

Tune: Ich Will Dich Lieben

('Thee will I love, my strength, my tower')

Romans 10 v.3-13

Christ is the end of the law for
Righteousness, to who believe sure
On His atoning work, we made
Righteous by Him, the price He paid
Vain our own efforts to be saved
But Christ for us the way has paved

For Moses writes, this be the score
The righteousness that be of law
That who does all the law obey
Perfectly, complete, every day
Such shall live by the law's commands
Yet we cannot meet such demands

But righteousness which is of faith
Speaks on this wise, thus does it saith
'Say not in your heart, who here shall
Ascend to heaven, rising well?'
And say not, 'Who shall depths descend?'
Neither of these bring righteous end

But what does it say, righteousness
Which is of faith, how it us bless?
It says the word is near to you
Even in your mouth, your heart too
That is, the word of faith, it preached
To ends of earth it has us reached

The word is if you shall confess

With mouth the Lord Jesus, no less
And shall in your heart believe true
God raised Him from the dead anew
So you shall be saved, cease from your
Own works to save self evermore

For with the heart man does believe
Unto righteousness, it [the heart] receives
And with the mouth confession is
Made unto salvation, true this
For Scripture say, 'Whoe'er believes
On Him not ashamed, life receives'

For no difference, Jew and Greek
All may come to Him, Him may seek
He the same Lord rich over all
Unto all that upon him call
For whoe'er on name of the Lord
Calls, shall be saved, this be His word

Judgement And Justice

Tune: Picardy

('Let all mortal flesh keep silence')

Psalm 82

God stands in the congregation
Of judges of each nation
He judges, and gods they are called
In matters of justice schooled
God says, How long your judgement be
Unjust, wicked, favoured, see

Defend the poor and fatherless
So I shall come to you bless
Do justice to the afflicted
Needs of the poor be not hid
Deliver them from wicked's hands
Righteousness be in all lands

But judges know not, nor will they
Understand through night or day
They walk on in their darkness deep
Do not laws and judgements keep
All foundations of the earth are
Out of course, unstable far

The Lord has said that as gods you
Are, to bring justice anew
And you children of th most High
His presence unto you nigh
But you shall die like men, pass away
Fall like princes, comes your day

Arise, O God, judge the earth sure

You are Judge for evermore
Here man's temporary abode
We shall reap what we have sowed
But you, O God, shall inherit
All nations by your merit

Note: Judges, magistrates, law officials, etc
were seen as 'gods', although human.

Ascents Acclaimings

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 121 v.1-2

I will lift my eyes to hills

Peace, my heart stills

From whence comes my help, it be

From the LORD, see

He which made heaven and earth

We give Him worth

In our praises, in our songs

Amidst great throngs

Psalm 122 v.6-7

Pray for peace of the city

[Jeru]Salem it be

They shall prosper that love you

And thrive anew

Peace be now within your walls

Palaces, halls

Prosperity there within

All free from sin

Psalm 124 v.7-8

Our soul escaped as a bird

We the LORD heard

Out of snare and out of trap

Bondage did snap

Snare broken and we escaped

Enemies gaped

Our help is in the LORD's name

He of great fame

Psalm 126 v.1-2

When the LORD, captivity
Did for us, see
Turn, then we like them that dream
Unreal did seem
But then we did laugh and sing
Praises Him bring
For even the heathen said
The LORD them led

Psalm 126 v.4

Turn us again, LORD, we pray
Hear us this day
Bring back captives, so they shall
Inhabit well
Their homeland, and be as springs
To you each sings
As springs refresh in the south*
So tells each mouth

Psalm 127 v.4-5

Happy they blessed in the land
Under God's hand
With blessing of family
Plenty here see
Children as arrows they be
Shall consult free
At town gates for judgements true
And justice too

* 'The south' - The Negev is a large desert area in Southern Israel.
The people water the land, as it were, and are as springs.

Praise Perpetual

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Psalm 33 v.1

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous
Lift hearts and hands to bless
For praise is comely, beautiful
To Him, the LORD of all

psalm 33 v.2

Praise the LORD with harp tuned in well
And all His wonders tell
Bring psaltery and instruments
Worship be your intents

Psalm 34 v.3

O magnify the LORD with me
And show how great He be
Let us together Him exalt
He perfect, without fault

Psalm 34 v.5

In Him true find your consoling
To Him your songs now sing
Look to Him and enlightened be
Faces shine radiantly

Psalm 34 v.18

The LORD nigh those fo broken heart
He will come, heal each part
And save such as do be contrite
In spirit, and seek [Him] right

Psalm 36 v.7

How excellent O God, it be
Your lovingkindness, see
Therefore children of men do trust
Under your wings, though [we are] dust

Psalm 36 v.10

O continue lovingkindness
To they that know you, bless
And to those in heart upright
Be righteousness and light

Refuge Reassurance

Tune & Hymn: Praise Him! Praise Him!

Jesus our blessed Redeemer'

Psalm 46

God our refuge
Our strength and help in the deluge
A help present
His help shall not relent
So we not fear
Though the earth may be removed here
Though mountains cast
In seas while troubles last

Though waters roar
God shall help us out of His store
Though mountains shake
Enemies He shall break
A river be
The streams shall make city glad ss
God's city pure
His holy dwelling sure

God is among
The midst of her, praise to Him sing
She unmoved be
God helps her early, free
The heathen raged
Against the Lord were their plans staged
His voice sounded
Then the earth it melted

The LORD of hosts
Is with us, in Him we make boasts

Come and behold
His works on earth be told
Desolations
He brings now among the nations
Makes wars to cease
Brings in His reign of peace

He breaks the bow
And weapons of war that men know
Be still here, be
And know I am God, see
I exalted
Will be among heathen, they led
To me confess
I Lord of earth, no less

Seeking Soul

Tune: East Acklam

('For the fruits of His creation')

Psalm 61 v.1-2

Hear my prayer, O God, to me tend

And me defend

From ends of earth I cry to you

Come, me renew

When my heart is overwhelmed I

Will seek you and unto you cry

Lead me to the rock sure that be

Higher than me

Psalm 61 v.3-4

For you have been shelter for me

Here I do see

And strong tower from enemy

Safe I now be

I will abide in your dwelling

In your tabernacle now sing

Trust in the covert of your wings

Still my soul sings

Psalm 62 v.5-6

My soul wait upon God only

For He shall be

My hope and my expectation

The best, true one

He only my rock, salvation

And avails to every nation

He my defence, I not be moved

His help here proved

Psalm 63 v.1

O God, you my God are, I will
Seek you here still
My soul thirsts for you, my flesh longs
For you, my songs
Shall be of you, I pray you bring
To dry, thirsty land, refreshing
Give eater where parched and dusty
Send showers free

Psalm 63 v.7-8

Because you have been my help sure
I trust you more
And therefore in your wing's shadow
Safety I know
So I will rejoice, and my soul
Follows hard after you, the goal
Your right hand upholds me, you do
Constant renew

Unity And Peace

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 133 (v.1-3); Psalm 131 (v.4-8)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
Yes, good and pleasant, it is found in this
That brethren together in unity
Dwell, and in the Lord's love, goodness they be

It is like to the precious ointment flow
Poured upon the head, and running down so
To the beard of Aaron [the High Priest], then flowing free
Reaching to edges of his garments, see

It is like the dew of Hermon anew
And as the dew on mounts of Zion too
For there the Lord commanded blessing sure
Which is even life now and evermore

Lord, my heart, it is not haughty or high
Nor my eyes lofty, they do not despy (despise)
In great matters I have not exercised
And in things too high I have not applied

Peace now, my soul, and meditate a while
Retain no thoughts evil, so not defile
Your communion sweet here with the One
Who has saved you, freed by His loving Son

I wait, stop, behave, quieten myself sure
Behave as child weaned of his mother pure
In humility, meekness, free from strife
Trusting Christ who for me gave up His life

My soul, all in it, mind, emotions, will
Thoughts, and all else in it, active, yet still
Content to abide in His presence sweet
To kneel and adore Him, fall at His feet

Yes, my soul, even as a weaned child is
Childlike simplicity, He mine, I His
Hope in the LORD, now from henceforth trust too
Hope e'en for ever, e will you renew

Persisting Petitions

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 5

To my words, LORD, give ear I pray
My meditation today
Consider, hearken ot my cry
My King and God, I draw nigh
My voice shall you hear, the morning
Sound hear, grace on me dawning

For you delight no in evil
It shall never with you dwell
The foolish stand not in your sight
Lord of righteousness and light
You shall destroy those that speak ill
Those that lie and cheat and steal

But as for me, I will approach
Unto you house, it will broach
In multitude of your mercy
This I have, my comfort be
I will worship in your temple
With godly fear to you call

Lead me Lord, in your righteousness
look on me, and do me bless
Keep me because of enemy
They trouble me, they me see
Make your way straight before my face
So I go on in your grace

For the wicked be unfaithful

In their mouths no truth at all
Destroy them, O God, let them fall
By their man-made counsels all
Cast them out, for their sins they be
Rebelling against you, see

But let those that do trust in you
Rejoice, shout for joy anew
Because you them protect, defend
And to them your blessings send
Let them love you, rejoice in you
Compassed with favour's shield true

Blessings Bounties

Tune: Morning Star

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Psalm 113

Praise you the LORD, worship with Hallelujah
Praise His great name, He JEHOVAH, He JAH*
Raise you worship to Him, all you His servants
Prayer and praise ascend like fragrant incense

Blesséd be the name, the name of the LORD sure
From this time forth, and be for evermore
In all times of day, from sun rise to dusk fall
He worthy to be praised by one and all

The LORD, high above all the nations is He
His glory above the heavens is, see
Who is like unto the LORD our God, we cry
He dwells on high, exalted, yet us nigh

He humbles Himself the things to here behold
The things that are in heaven, He involved
With them, and the things that too in the earth are
He views all from low to highest afar

The LORD, the poor He raises out of the dust
Out of their downcast, oppression, and rust
The needy He lifts up out of the dunghill
Out of their misery, cares for them still

He does this so that He may with them then set
With the princes of His people and yet
Has good things for them, to prosper fruitfully
Barren woman He makes mother to be

Keeper of a house, she shall joyfully know
Blessings of children, she shall fare well so
Praise you the LORD, worship with Hallelujah
Praise His great name, He JEHOVAH, He JAH*

* Jehovah is God's 'name, shortened to 'Jah' or 'YHWH' (Yahweh).
Many people never spoke it, considering it too holy to speak it, and
writing it as G_d.

'Hallelujah' or 'Alleluia' = Hallel and Jah = Praise the Lord.

Ascension Acclamations

Tune: Llanfair

("Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia!")

Acts 1 v.4-11

John did baptise with water - Alleluia!
But Jesus did say for sure - Alleluia!
His disciples, they would be - Alleluia!
Baptised with the Spirit, see - Alleluia!

It be not many days hence - Alleluia!
Christ shall pray the Father thence - Alleluia!
Who shall send the Spirit to - Alleluia!
Empower for service true - 1alleluia!

It was not for them to know - Alleluia!
When Christ would kingdoms renew - Alleluia!
Earthly kingdoms, Israel - Alleluia!
Times only Father can tell - Alleluia!

But they would receive power - Alleluia!
To meet needs of every hour - Alleluia!
When the Holy Spirit is - Alleluia!
Come upon them, sure is this - Alleluia!

And they and we too shall be - Alleluia!
Witnesses to Christ, here see - Alleluia!
In Jerusalem, Judea - Alleluia!
To all places far and near - Alleluia!

And too in Samaria - Alleluia!
To ends of earth's area - Alleluia!
Ripples spread, the message grows - Alleluia!
Until earth's utmost end knows - Alleluia!

While they looked He ascended - Alleluia!
Mighty Victor o'er the dead - Alleluia!
And a cloud did Him receive - Alleluia!
The hope of all who believe - Alleluia!

Then two men in white appeared - Alleluia!
Said, 'Though Chris to you endeared - Alleluia!
Promise of the Spirit, why - Alleluia!
Stand you gazing at the sky?' - Alleluia!

Gazing up into the height - Alleluia!
Where Jesus did take His flight - Alleluia!
He shall so return, same way - Alleluia!
As you saw Him go this day - Alleluia!

Guarding Graces

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 141

Make haste, LORD, I cry unto you
Hear my voice, I call unto
You to help me, let my prayer be
As incense before you, see
And lifting up of hands suffice
As the evening sacrifice

Before my mouth, LORD, a watch set
Keep the door of my lips yet
To evil let me not incline
Keep my heart in your way free
I shall not with evil men go
Nor their ways or doings know

Let [the] righteous smite me, it be kind
Their reproving I shall find
As an excellent oil, it shall
Not break my head, but fare well
For yet when they in their trouble
I pray for them, on you call

We [are] in distress, our bones scattered
At grave's mouth as unmattered
We as fields ploughed, tossed and turned be
But my eyes are to you, see
O God the LORD, trust I un you
O come to my help anew

Leave not my soul destitute here

Keep me from the snares, traps near
That the evil workers have laid
For me, they proud, unafraid
Let them trapped in their own nets be
While I do escape safely

Cheerful Chorus

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Psalm 46 v.1-2

God is our strength and refuge
All true, no subterfuge
A very present help He
In times of trouble be
Therefore we will not fear for
He will come, help us sure
Though earth, mountains be removed
His aid to us still proved

Psalm 47 v.1-2

Clap your hands, all you people
Shout to Him, on Him call
With voice of triumph pealing
Now let your praises ring
For the LORD He is most high
To Him for refuge fly
He terrible, awesome be
Great King o'er all earth, see

Psalm 47 v.6-7

Sing praises to God, praises
Each one a song raises
Sing unto Him our King He
King of all the earth be
Sing praise with understanding
To Him your worship bring
Lowly, humbly and thankful
To Him the Lord of all

Psalm 48 v.14

This God our God for ever
Leaves us, forsakes, never
And He will be our guide too
Through pastures old and new
Our guide He even to death
When we draw final breath
And then still eternally
His presence with us be

Psalm 49 v.1-3

God calls to all the people
Come, hear now, one and all
All peoples of the world sure
Low, high, and rich, and poor
Word of wisdom He shall speak
To those humble and meek
I on Him shall meditate
Shall understand things great

Peace, Perfect Peace

Tune: Divine Mysteries

('Sweet Sacrament Divine')

Peace here for a Sunday
Peace here for a Monday
Peace any day of week
'Tis God's peace that we seek
The best peace is His peace, bar none
We access it through Christ His Son
Transcends all earthly forms
Of peace, 'tis His shalom

Seek His peace, find His peace
'Twill in your life release
Receive His peace, it will
Lift troubled souls from ill
And troubled spirits it shall calm
Protect from trouble, fear, and harm
Blessing from Him it be
Perfect peace constantly

It shall to your depths reach
Security to each
Healing, unlocks within
Peace with God, freed from sin
Through Jesus' blood shed on the tree
Forgiveness there for you and me
Find peace true, eternal
Through Christ, now hear His call

God who ne'er strives, ne'er fazed
He worthy to be praised
He Creator and King

We Him our worship bring
And He is Ruler over all
Our times in His hand, we not fall
His hand is strong and sure
All-powerful e'ermore

Superior Saviour - Hebrews Series: 1

Tune: Marching to Zion

('Come ye that love the Lord')

Hebrews 1 v.1-6

Repeat lines as shown.

God, who at sundry times
Spake through life's pages, rhymes
In the past by His prophets true (x2)
Now speaks by Christ anew (x2)

Him, He has called His Son
An appointing has done
He is made the heir of all things (x2)
By Him creation [He] brings (x2)

He being the brightness
Of God's glory no less
And He is the image express (x2)
Of God's person no less (x2)

He upholds all things by
Word of His power nigh
When He had Himself our sins purged (x2)
Mercy and grace had merged (x2)

For then He did sit down
Received the Victor's crown
At right hand of the Majesty (x2)
On high, His place e'er be (x2)

Much better than angels
His inheritance tells
He has obtained more excellent (x2)

Name, He from Father sent (x2)

To which angel did He

Say, Come and my Son be

Today I have begotten you (x2)

You be my Son anew? (x2)

When God did bring into

his Son, begotten true

He said, Let all the angels here (x2)

Worship Him, Him do fear (x2)

Incarnation Identifying - Hebrews Series: 2

Tune: Church Triumphant

('The Lord is King, lift up thy voice')

Hebrews 2 v.9 & v.14-18

Children of God, they flesh and blood
So Jesus too partook, He would
Share in the same, [He] divine, human
Came from heaven, the Father's Son

He now crowned with honour, glory
For He did by grace of God, see
Taste death, for every one too free
All from our sin's captivity

So partaking of flesh and blood
He through death He did do great good
That He might destroy him who had
The power of death, made man sad

That is the devil, he who held
That power, by Christ now is felled
And so He delivers them who
Through fear of death were bounden true

For truly He took not nature
Of angels on Him, but for sure
Took on Him seed of Abraham
Nature of every human man

And so He had to be like made
To us, for He our price has paid
He took our sins, He merciful
And faithful high priest unto all

This in things pertaining to God
When He upon this earth He trod
He made reconciliation
For the sins of all, each nation

For in that he Himself suffered
Being tempted, now has offered
His help to us, His succour, aid
When we tempted, be on Him staid

Hearing Heart - Hebrews Series: 3

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Hebrews 3 v.5-15

Moses truly was faithful
In his house, heard God's call
A witness unto those things
New Covenant would bring
But Christ in His house faithful
His own house, we here tell
We are His house, His people
He Saviour of us all

We His house if we hold fast
Continue to the last
Hold confidence, rejoicing
Of the hope He does bring
So as the Spirit does say
If you will hear today
His voice, harden not your heart
From His words not depart

For in the provocation
Israel's rebellion
They hardened their hearts, tempted
The Lord God who them led
They Him did tempt and did prove
Tested Him, they did move
Through wilderness forty years
Yet not with hearing ears

So the Lord with them was grieved
Though times He them reprieved

Yet said that generation
Erring in heart nation
Were they, and had not His ways
Known, though through many days
He led them, but then did sware
They would be in ill-fare

For they into the Lord's rest
Would not enter, unblest
So they were, and take heed we
Not like unto them be
That there not be in any
An evil heart here see
Of unbelief, which departs
From the living God parts

But do exhort each other
Each sister, each brother
While it still be called 'Today'
Follow on in God's way
Lest any shall be hardened
Struggle to be pardoned
Through deceitfulness of sin
Be humble, pure within

For we are made partakers
Of Christ, He grace confers
If we the beginning hold
Of our confidence told
Steadfast unto the end, so
Today His voice shall know
With hearts open, responsive
Our worship Him we give

Plenipotentiary Priest - Hebrews Series: 4

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Hebrews 4 v.10-16

Let us be diligent
To enter, penitent
God's rest, cease from our own labours
And strivings of the hours
To salvation attain
Our efforts cannot gain
But trusting Christ, salvation He
Brings to each person, see

For word of God living
Is, help to us does bring
Is powerful, and sharper than
Any sword made by man
It pierces to divide
Where soul, spirit reside
And parts the joints, marrow within
To cleanse the deepest sin

It discerns every part
Of thoughts, intents of heart
Neither is there any creature
From Him can hidden be
All open to His sight
No darkness, but all light
All is laid before Him, 'tis true
With whom we have to do

Seeing then we have sure
Great high priest evermore

Passed into the heavens, the Son
Jesus, God's Son, the one
Let us therefore hold fast
Profession to the last
For He, high priest, he with us shares
In all man's needs and cares

For He not a high priest
That cares not in the least
But is touched with all the feeling
Of our weakness, each thing
Where we infirm, no power
He help on us does shower
He knows, He shares, does sympathise
Through Him pur spirits rise

For He was in all points
Tempted, Spirit anoints
Him to o'ercome and not to sin
Not be defiled within
So let us come boldly
Unto throne of grace free
Confident to obtain mercy
And find grace when need be

Dayspring Dawnings

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 30

I will. O LORD, extol you high
For you have heard me, my cry
You have lifted me up, I see
My foes not rejoice o'er me

O LORD my God, I cried to you
You all my heart and mind know
You have healed me, brought up my soul
From grave and have made me whole

Sing unto the LORD, saints of His
Give thanks to Him in joy, bliss
Remember His holiness pure
His graces, mercies e'er sure

His anger endures a moment
In His favour life He sent
Weeping may endure for a night
But joy comes with the daylight

He has turned for me my mourning
Into a dancing morning
He has put off my sackcloth, and
Girded me with garments glad

To the end that my glory, [my] tongue
May tell of Him, raises sung
My soul be not silent, but raise
Worship to Him all my days

Spirit Sensitivity

Tune: Wolvercote

('O Jesus I have promised')

O Lord, come search my heart today
Pray find it in your way
Sure you have come, you dwell within
And cleanse my soul from sin
My heart by grace 'tis your abode
May good seed there be sowed
Whether thirty or sixty-fold
or hundred-fold be told

Anoint, inspire, refresh by grace
By faith we see your face
Though humanly no one can bear
Fullness of glory there
For 'tis your presence holy, true
You do our lives renew
O light a spark, brighten the glow
As more of you we know

And like a river of pure stream
Sparkling with your light's beam
To have assurance constantly
That there your dwelling be
By your Spirit within us here
Promoting godly fear
Made acceptable in your sight
Empowered by your might

Strong in the Lord and in His strength
Not trust[ing] ourselves no length
But depending on Him our Head

Christ risen from the dead
He worthy of all praise and worth
We sing with joy and mirth
And gospel message to proclaim
We have, we share Christ's name

Pentecost Proclamations

Tune: Vruechten

('The joyful Eastertide')

Acts 2 v.16-21

Peter at Pentecost

Explains of the Holy Ghost

He said the prophecy

Has been fulfilled, completely

Chorus

Here is the Spirit sure

He will stay now evermore

He shall us empower

To meet needs of each hour

Each hour, each hour

Each ho-o-o-our!

The prophecy of Joel

God by His Spirit makes us whole

Does make, for His promise

Comes to pass, we it not miss - Chorus

This is that which Joel spoke

All believers may partake

For God says, In last days

I shall pour out my Spirit always - Chorus

Upon all flesh He pours

His Spirit, all worships, adores

On sons, daughters, young, old

And too on servants, maidens, behold - Chorus

Prophesyings, visions

Believers equipped for missions
And dreams, revealings known
Interpreted by Him alone - Chorus

And wonders in heaven
And signs in earth to all men (mankind)
Blood, fire, vapour of smoke
Man (mankind) to need of salvation woke - Chorus

Sun to darkness be turned
Moon to blood shall be discerned
Before [the] day of Lord come
Great day all see, not just some - Chorus

And it shall come to pass
That men (and women) of each colour, race, class
Who on the Lord shall call
On His name shall be saved all - Chorus

Promised Paraclete At Pentecost

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Acts 2 v.1-13

Comes the day, Pentecost arrives
Comes to change and transform lives
There in one place and in one mind
The Spirit they there did find
Outpouring, the Holy Spirit
To lives in agreement knit

Suddenly a sound from heaven
God's Spirit, the promise given
Sound of rushing mighty strong wind
No earth's power could rescind
Filled all the house where they gathered
They the experience shared

Appearance of cloven tongues there
Like as of fire, godly fear
And it did sit there on each one
All were filled with Him, bar none
They began to speak, other tongues
Spirit gave breath to voice, lungs

Devout Jews from every nation
Had gathered there, elation
For their feast of Pentecost due
First-fruits of the harvest new
Now the first-fruits of the Spirit
Each heart empowered and lit

They were confused, for they did hear

Their own languages spoken near
By those who the Spirit received
They had waited, they believed
Now anointed, full of power
Spoke God's wonders in that hour

Freedom Flowings

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

Come to us, holy dove
Spirit of truth and love
Forgive where we have offended, pained you sore
Light fresh spark in our heart
Enlighten every part
Enliven us where our love for you be poor

Help us, give strength and grace
Unto all, every race
To follow on, leave self, follow on your way
May the path brighter be
As more of you we see
Endeavouring on constant to final day

It all consummated
Each soul for e'er sated
When Rapture comes, your return, for your people
And in these last day here
The end draws ever near
Lead us to share the gospel, all hear your call

Spirit, who dwells within
Purifies, forgives sin
By your love you choose to souls here inhabit
So having your mind we
Of earthly use can be
To bring others to you and be with you knit

Releasing potential
Of ministeries all

That you have deigned, appointed for each one here
More in your image grow
Each in the river's flow
Of living waters of your Spirit free, clear

Priestly Path: Hebrews Series - 5

Tune: St George's, Windsor
('Come, ye thankful people, come')
Hebrews 5 v.5-9

Christ did not self glorify
To become high priest, but by
God His Father was He made
Such a priest, our price He paid
For God said to Him, "You are
My Son greater one by far
Today I have begotten
You, my own, my only Son"

As also is written too
You, a priest for ever you
After the order here sure
Of Melchizedek* e'ermore
You in days of flesh on earth
When you came of humble birth
Offered up prayers, called unto
Your Father, He helped anew

Offered supplications, prayers
Unto your Father who hears
With strong crying and with tears
Were heard for your godly fears
Cried unto God, he able
To save from death, possible
Yet you did your Father's will
Died for us to save us still

Though He were a Son, yet [He] learned
Obedience, for God [He] yearned

Learned it through His sufferings
As He did endure those things
And so being made perfect
Became author, no defect
Of eternal salvation
To all that obey Him, [His] sons [and daughters]

* Melchizedek - a Priest and King in Old Testament times,
mentioned often in Hebrews, pre-figuring Christ.

Growth In Grace: Hebrews Series - 6

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Hebrews 5 v.13-14

For everyone that uses milk
Is not of mature ilk
But in the word of righteousness (the Scriptures)
They are babes, they confess

But solid food belongs to those
Who of full age, they chose
By reason of use and practice
Great treasures not to miss

They have their senses exercised
To discern unsurmised
Both good and evil, so the way
They prosper in each day

Forth In Faith: Hebrews Series - 7

Tune: Halton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Hebrews 6 v.12-20

Be not slothful, but do follow
Those whose lives, witness, you know
As like them, through faith and patience
Inherit promises hence

For when God He did make promise
To Abraham, we see this
Because none greater to swear by
He swore by Himself, no lie

Saying, Surely blessing I will
Bless you, multiply you still
And so after he had patient
Endured, [he] obtained promise sent

For men truly swear by greater (than themselves)
To make things clear now, later
And an oath for confirmation
Ends disputes, consternation

So God, willing more abundant
His promise not redundant
But He shows the heirs His promise
He determined, He does this

Makes His promise immutable
Confirms by an oath to all
So by swearing and by an oath
Unchangeable He [is] in both

Thu we have strong consolation
Believers of each nation
Who have fled for refuge to lay
On the hope set '[be]fore us ay (alway)

This hope we have as an anchor
Of the soul, steadfast and sure
And which enters into the veil
Where our high priest does prevail

Even Jesus, He our high priest
Saves from greatest unto least
Priest of Melchizedek's order
Lives eternal, faith our spur

Eternal Empathy: Hebrews Series - 8

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Hebrews 7 v.23-28

Now Christ, because He continues e'er
Has a priesthood that changes ne'er
So He is able to save us sure
Who died, now lives for evermore

Able to save to the uttermost
Those that come to Him from each coast
Seeing He ever lives, intercedes
For them, His offering He pleads

For such a high priest us befitted
Who is holy, harmless, suited
To help us, He undefiled, true this
Separate from sinners too is*

And He is made higher than heavens
Who needs not daily, not happens
As Old Covenant high priest did wake (each day)
Continual sacrifice to make

To take away sins that were their own
And the people's penitence shown
For Christ did once give self for our sins
New Covenant it then begins

For the law does make of men high priests
To serve at sacrifices, feasts
Yet they weak, not continue for e'er
But now Christ with us life does share

The word of the oath, made since the law
Makes Christ to be our high priest sure
A priest of Melchizedek's order
Consecrated for evermore

* Christ is separate from us in a way, with us all
being 'sinners', in the sense of being separate from sin.

The New Covenant: Hebrews Series - 9

Tune: Abbots Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

Hebrews 8 v.7-12

If the Old Covenant had been
Faultless, no need would be seen
For a New Covenant, for sure
The Old would abide e'ermore
But finding fault there, the Lord said
I will make new one instead
New Covenant with house [of] Israel
And with house [of] Judah, forth tell

It not be according to Old
Covenant to fathers told
That He made with them when He took
Them by the hand, not forsook
And did out of Egypt them lead
In the wilderness did feed
But they continued not [in] His ways
Though He provided all days

They did not His Covenant keep
Yet they be His people, sheep
So He did not them much regard
They of Him grew weary, tired
Then this be the Covenant that He
Would make with His people, see
Make one New, former days be gone
Make one New, through Christ His Son

The Lord He would put His laws in
Our minds, change bias to sin

And He would write them in our hearts
That none here from Him departs
And He would to us a God be
We would be His people free
And they shall not on man depend
To know the Lord, He would tend

Would tend to us, His Spirit send
To teach us all things, no end
So all would know Him, from the least
To greatest, north, south, west, east
For He would be here merciful
To our unrighteousness all
And our sins and iniquities
Remember no more, us frees

Covenant of Christ: Hebrews Series - 10

Tune: Laus Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Hebrews 9 v.12-14

Not by the blood of goats and calves
But by His own blood Christ saves
Entered once into holy place
To save all of every race

He has now for us sure obtained
Eternal redemption claimed
For if blood of bulls and of goats
Cleanses, what then Christ promotes?

Old Covenant animals slain
Outward cleansing they (the people) did gain
But how much more shall Christ's blood shed
Bring inward cleansing, 'tis said

He through the eternal Spirit
Offered Himself as was writ
Without spot to God, so cleansing
Conscience from dead works, each thing

Cleansed from things of man-made doing
Which cannot salvation bring
Cleansed to serve the living God true
We in Christ made creatures new

We benefit, New Covenant
God to us His Son has sent
He does forgive the penitent
Their state of heart repentant

Sufficient Sacrifice: Hebrews Series - 11

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, forever full')

Hebrews 9 v.22-28

Almost all things are by the law
Cleansed by blood, 'tis for sure
And without blood-shedding is none
Forgiveness, not for one

For Christ in the New Covenant
The Father has Him sent
As our high priest, in heaven appears
To presence of God nears

Not that He offers as in Old [Covenant]
Sacrifices retold
Repeated yearly by high priest
At each Atonement feast

For is so He must have suffered
Often, and self offered
But now in end times has appeared
That sin be dealt with, cleared

And as it is so appointed
To men once to die, heed
But after this the judgement day
To render each their way

So Christ was once offered to bear
The sins of many there
Upon the cross, His sacrifice
Offering did suffice

Unto them that do for Him wait
He shall appear not late
Returns, now having dealt with sin
Brings full salvation in

Persevering Profession: Hebrews Series - 12

Tune: Salzburg

('At the Lamb's high feast we sing')

Hebrews 10 v.19-25

Having we then boldness to
Enter holiest place through
The blood of Jesus, price paid
For us He His life down laid
We can come with confidence
By new, living way made hence
For us, through His flesh, the veil
He for us does still prevail

And He be our great high priest
To the greatest and the least
Over house of God He is
He our Saviour, we see this
So let us draw near having
A true heart, to Him it bring
Have full assurance of faith
For it shall be as He saith

And our heart let be sprinkled
From evil conscience, we called
And our bodies washed with pure
Water, which cleanses e'ermore
Let us hold fast profession
Of our faith, waver to none
Trusting in Jesus the Son
He our Saviour, holy one

For the Lord He faithful be
He who has promised us, see

And let us consider how
To stir up each other now
Unto love, and also do
Good works here through Christ anew
Not forsaking our meeting
Exhort, His Day is coming

Providential Protection

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the LORD shall be
As mount Zion, it great and free
Which cannot be removed away
But abides firm ever alway

As the mountains are round about
So the LORD is without a doubt
Is round about his people there
E'er His eternal life they share

Rod of the wicked shall not rest
Upon the lot of righteous, lest
The righteous shall put forth their hand
To iniquity, evil bands

Do good, O LORD, unto those good
Who in you trust, surely they would
Do good to those upright in heart
Who follow you, take better part

As for such as do turn aside
Their crooked ways they cannot hide
The LORD shall lead them they shall be
With workers of iniquity

But peace shall be on Israel
And all His glories they shall tell
He shall protect them day and night
They shall be precious in His sight

Warning Against Waywardness: Hebrews Series - 13

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Hebrews 10 v.26-30

In godly fear take heed that we
Do not fall to sin wilfully
After we have received knowledge
Of the truth, that a privilege

For if we so sin there remains
No more cleansing for our sins stains
No other sacrifice can be
But Jesus' life on the cross, see

There then be fearful looking for
His judgement, indignation sure
Which shall devour adversary
Punishment, torment it shall be

They that despised Moses' law true
Were put to death, it did ensue
No mercy, two, three witnesses
Did the sinners ways there confess

Of how much worse the punishment
Shall they be worthy, who have lent
Themselves to thus tread underfoot
The Son of God, their faith uproot

And have counted the blood He shed
Of covenant, that flowed out red
Wherewith we are thus sanctified
They count it unholy, denied

And if we have to the Spirit
Done despite, then our fate is writ
For vengeance is the Lord's, He will
Judge us, and repay us with ill

But if we turn to Him, repent
Maintaining a state, penitent
He will us love, forgive, restore
keep us in His way holy, pure

Faith Focus: Hebrews Series - 14

Tune: St Cuthbert

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Hebrews Chapter 11 part

Now faith is the substance of the things
Hoped for, realisation rings
Within is, and faith [is] the evidence
Of things not seen, not shown to sense

Through faith we understand that the worlds
Wee framed by the word of God, yes
So that things which are seen were not made
From visible things, not thus arrayed

Many died in faith, not having received
Promises for which they believed
But they did see them afar off graced
And assured of them they them embraced

They too confessed that they were pilgrims
On the earth, light of faith not dims
Here not their country, here earth-bounden
Their faith looked to country of heaven

Without faith it be not possible
To please God, for who on Him call
Must believe that He is God, and He
Rewards diligent seekers, see

Faith Fullness: Hebrews Series - 15

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Hebrews 11 v.32-40

They who in faith in days gone by
Here let their wondrous deeds be told
Grant Lord we their faith follow thus
In our daily walk us enfold

Through faith they did subdue kingdoms
Wrought righteousness, did good to all
Obtained promises, stopped the mouths
Of lions, their raging did stall

They quenched the violence of fire
Escaped the edge of the sword drawn
Out of weakness they were made strong
Waxed valiant in battle borne

They turned to flight the enemies
Of the armies, gained victory
Women received their dead to life
In God all their faith was, now see

And other had trial of cruel
Mockings and scourgings, yes even
Bonds of imprisonment, some stoned
Some sawn asunder, tempted then

Some slain with sword, some wandering
In sheepskins, goatskins, destitute
Afflicted, tormented were such
The Lord God by faith their pursuit

The world was not worthy of them
They wandered in deserts, mounts, dens
Cave of the earth, remote places
Woodlands and glades and leafy fens

These all had obtained good report
Through faith, yet did not he promise
Obtain, for God some better thing
Had for us, that we should not miss

'Tis that they, those of faith of old
Should not without us perfect be
But we too included, our faith
That with us they made complete, see

Endurance Example: Hebrews Series - 16

Tyne: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Hebrews 12 v.1-4

We are encompassed about
With a great cloud, sure, no doubt
Of witnesses, believers
Grace on us the Lord confers

Let us lay aside each weight
And sin which does strength abate
Sin which does so easily
Besets, ensnares us, we see

And let us run with patience
The race set before us hence
Go on with perseverance
Jesus' presence in us snse

Looking to Him, the author
Of our faith, and finisher
Who for joy before Him set
Before Him endured cross yet

Despised the shame, now set down
At God's right hand, wears the crown
Consider Him that endured
Hostility, life outpoured

By sinners contradicted
Remember, be not wearied
Nor faint in mind, discouraged
He e'er living, has you bid

For you have not yet so led
Resisted unto bloodshed
Striving against sin, but Christ
Gave self, perfect sacrifice

Constructive Chastening: Hebrews Series - 17

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Hebrews 12 v.5 - 11

And have you here forgotten
The word, the exhortation?
Which speaks to you as children
Hear my child, you are my son
Despise not the chastening
Of the Lord in anything

Nor faint when you are rebuked
Of Him, nor be discouraged
For whom he loves he chastens
And too each son He scourges
If you chastening endure
God deals with you as sons sure

For what son there be, who he
His father chastens not, see
But if you are not chastised
Your true sonship is denied
For all partakers are we
Of this, so God deigns it be

For our fathers, who human
Corrected us, e'en each one
And we gave them reverence
So shall we not as from hence
To the Father of spirits
Be subject as it befits?

Our fathers for a few days

Chastened us as seemed their ways
Right to do, for their pleasure
Yet God as to His measure
Chastens us, to for us bless
That we share His holiness

Now no chastening does seem
Joyous, we do not it deem
At the present seems grievous
Nevertheless it yields us
Afterwards the peaceful fruit
Of righteousness follows suit

Crowning Conclusion: Hebrews Series - 18

Tune: Bryn Calfaria

('Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour')

Hebrews Chapter 13 parts

Jesus Christ the same for always
Yesterday, today, all days
And for ever He shall be so
Confident, we can Him know
He our high priest, new Covenant
He made, from the Father sent

Jesus, that He might sanctify
Us, did His own blood apply
And suffered outside the city
Let us go too, with Him be
Share His reproach, for this world not
our eternal dwelling lot

Now the God of peace that did bring
Again from the dead, we sing
Our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd
Of the sheep, we have Him heard
His blood been shed for penitent
The e'erlasting Covenant

He make you perfect and complete
In every good work replete
To do His will, working in you
Things well-pleasing here anew
Through Jesus Christ, we in Him share
To whom be glory for e'er

Plenteous Praises

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 145 v.8

The LORD is gracious, full of compassion
He will not forget, no not even one
He is slow to anger and of great mercy
Now His gracious blessings we here each do see

Psalm 145 v.13

Your kingdom it be of everlasting
Our worship to you we gratefully bring
And your dominion it for ever endures
Through all generations praise unto you soars

Psalm 146 v.5

O happy they be, that people, their state
Whose help is the LORD God, He aids not late
And their hope is in Him unto countless days
They seek Him, continual discover His ways

Psalm 147 v.5

Great is our LORD, He be of great power
Displaying His might, glory, every hour
His understanding it sure be infinite
His judgements shown truly, they holy and right

Psalm 148 v.13

Let all praise the LORD, His name excellent
His Son for our salvation He has sent
His glory is above the heaven and earth
We honour and praise Him and give Him His worth

Psalm 149 v.3

Praise Him in the dance, expressions here shown
For great is the LORD, His presence here known
And take up too instruments, music, and song
Your heart's desire to praise Him all day, night long

Psalm 150 v.6

Praise Him with song and employ every art
None need be left out, take up now your part
Each creature qualifies, if they have breath, yes
They may join in praising the Lord, and Him bless

Shield Safety

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 3

LORD, they are increased that trouble
Me, look, they rise against me
Many be there that do say sure
No help for him in god more

But you, O LORD, are a shield strong
For me, you my praise, my song
My glory, you lift up my head
Though they have me oppresséd

I cried to the LORD with my voice
I shall still in Him rejoice
He heard me from His holy hill
And shall keep me from all ill

I laid me down and I did sleep
He my LORD, He does me keep
I awoke, for He sustained me
He e'er my protector be

I shall not fear of ten thousands
Though they compass me ,their bands
Arise, O LORD, my God, save me
You have smitten enemies

Salvation belongs to the LORD
He is e'er the living Word
His blessing is on His people
He does help them, one and all

Comforter Communications

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

John 16 v.7-15

Jesus said, Nevertheless
I tell you the truth, though will bless
I do need to go away
But Comforter will come one day
The Holy Spirit shall come soon
You shall know Him, to Him attune

If I go away, I will
Send Him to you, keep promise still
When He comes he will reprove
The world, and will them to move move
Will show of sin and righteousness
And of judgement and holiness

Will show them of sin for they
Believe not on me, go own way
Will show of righteousness, for
I go to my Father, no more
Shall you see me, for I shall go
Ascending to Him, shall be so

Will show of judgement, for he
The prince of the world (Satan), judged he be
He into all truth will guide
Spirit of truth in hearts reside
For He shall not of Himself speak
But my word speak to lowly, meek

For whatever He shall hear

Of me, He shall speak, so be here
And He will things to come show
Glorifies the Son, we will know
All that is the Father's, the Son
Has, the Spirit shows us each one

Hopeful Help

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 40 v.1-2

I did patiently wait
Here for the LORD, great
Was His help unto me
He looked, did me see
And He did hear my cry
To me He did draw night
Brought me from horror pit
Upon rock I sit

Psalm 40 v.5

Many, O LORD God, they be
Your wonders I see
The works which you have done
They be fine, each one
Your thoughts that are toward
Us, we cannot, our LORD
Count them, if we did try
We cannot descry (describe them all)

Psalm 41 v.10-11

Show, LORD, to me mercy
Raise me, and me free
From my troubles, so be
I quench enemy
Which taunt me, seek my ill
And wish plans to fulfil
They shall not o'ercome me
For you my LORD be

Psalm 42 v.5

Why you cast down, my soul?
The LORD makes you whole
Why disquieted within?
Hope in God herein
For you shall yet Him praise
He shall help you, upraise
His countenance on you
Be shown you anew

Psalm 43 v.3

Send out your truth and light
Dispelling the night
Let them lead me unto
Your holy hill view
And to your dwelling place
Where we your merits trace
Tabernacles of grace
For all of each race

Barnabas Blessings

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Acts 11 v.19-30

To Syrian Antioch gospel spread
They boldly went, the Holy Spirit led
Them there to preach sure, Christ He was their Head
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Many believed, they did to the Lord turn
And their hearts did with holy passions burn
News of this Jerusalem church did learn
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And so they sent Barnabas for to go
Unto Antioch, he saw it was so
Encouraged them that the Lord more they know
Alleluia, Alleluia!

He exhorted that with purpose of heart
They would cleave to the Lord in every part
Continuing on, having made fine start
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For he a good man, full of the Spirit
Life full of help-gifts, with Christ's glory lit
And full of faith, making lives for Christ fit
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And hospitality seen, offering
With Paul to Judea he did it bring
Relief fund for famine, that was the thing
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prayer Progress

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Lord, help me not to strive to try
On feelings full[y] rely
But trust in faith, where I not see
Your hand there visibly

Where nothing seems to change or grow
Help me, O Lord, to know
You still are working, your plans good
Shall work out as you would

Give strength to persevere and wait
Your time shall not be late
Whate'er our state be, or those who
We pray for, you know true

Prosper our lives, send refreshing
From prisons releasing
You who full know humanity
Your Son our Saviour be

A world in need, people as sheep
A vale of mourn and weep
Yet too joys, hope, and confidence
When we your presence sense

In all I meet each day, Lord bless
You love none more, nor less
But all your creatures you have made
In wisdom all arrayed

Pondering His Presence

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

Redemption's dawn, salvation's happy morn

The curtain torn

In Temple, holy place

God shielded from our face

For there He did reside

[In] Holy of Holies bide

But now open, access to God, come free

Through Christ come we [in]

For He the way has opened for us now

And this be how

His life upon the cross

He gave to redeem loss

That sins forgiven be

Cleansed, washed, eternally

Our only hope, come to God through His Son

The holy one

How can I stand before the Lord God, He

Perfect e'er be

Without a trace of night

His being full of light

His nature love and grace

And His mercies we trace

But Christ His Son, our judgement He did take

Does us saints make

No fine elite, but we who sanctified

in Christ confide

Depend on Him alway

Our rock, our strength, our stay
Eternal life He gave
To us, came to us save
And so redeemed, we join His family
He our Lord be

Refreshing Rest

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 85 part

The last line of each verse is repeated.

Rest awhile, if troubled, my heart
God rules, reigns, every part
Rest awhile in God, heart open
With His still small voice He spoken
His love is His token (x2)

He has spoken, and He will speak
Revealed to humble, meek
Not to the haughty nor the proud
Nor to those here proclaiming loud
His love to us [is] avowed (x2)

I will hear what the Lord will speak
And His face will I seek
For He will to us speak His peace
And from all our fears us release
His love to us not cease (x2)

But let people not turn again
To foolish things, time when
They strayed in vanity and pride
And did the good things then deride
yet His love at our side (x2)

Peace, perfect peace, it be God's peace
His presence, His increase
His comfort, His strength and solace
Meditate on His dwelling place

His love in hearts, each race (x2)

Justification Joys : Galatians Series:1

Tune: Slane

('Be thou my vision')

Galatians 2 v.16-21

Know this, that mankind is not justified
By the works of the law, not in them confide
To bring about salvation, cannot be done
'Tis only through Christ, He the Father's own Son

So even we have believed in Him true
That we might be justified, and so be you
By faith in Christ and not by works of the law
So is our salvation secured evermore

For by the works of the law shall flesh none
Be justified, no sinners, not even one
But if while we seek by Christ our state to be
Justified, though sinners, how is it here, see?

Is therefore Christ the minister to sin?
God forbid, for it is from our sin within
For if I do build again what I destroyed
I make myself a transgressor thus employed

For I through the law am to the law dead
That I might live unto God, he be my Head
I am crucified with Christ, and yet I live
But 'tis Christ lives in me, an did His life give

The life I now live in the flesh I live
By faith in the Son of God, He does em give
His life to me, for He loved me, and He gave
Himself for me and for all sinners to save

I do not then the grace of God frustrate
Do not cancel it out nor abbreviate
For if righteousness comes by the law, here, see
Then Christ died in vain and it was needlessly

Curse-Carrier - Galatians Series: 2

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Galatians 3 v.10-16

Those who do follow law
Who seeks by works to assure
Themselves of salvation
Whoe'er from any nation
They are under the curse
Their situation worse
For listen, and this hear
Draw near in lowly fear

For so it is written
Cursed each one that does therein
Not continue to do
All things of the law, e'en you
But this we surely fail
To do, 'tis mankind's tale
But none is justified
By law, 'tis not denied

In God's sight it shall be
We justified by faith, see
And so we then shall live
By the faith He does us give
But the law it is not
Of faith, not of that lot
But law says, All obey
And find your life that way

Christ has us redeemed sure
From curse of the law e'ermore

Became for us a curse
In human life did immerse
Himself, and did fulfil
Prophecy, that from ill
We should be delivered
His grace on us conferred

For cursed is every one
That hangs on a tree (cross), bar none
To Abraham and seed (descendant)
Were promises made, now heed
Christ is that seed, so we
Blessed are through Him, we see
Promise of the Spirit
Given through faith each whit

Faith Freedom - Galatians Series: 3

Tune: Solothurn

('Now let us from this table rise')

Galatians 3 v.23-29

Before faith came, we were kept sure
And guarded all under the law
Closed unto the faith, were confined
Until the days that God assigned

The days in which faith be revealed
'Til then the law to us appealed
Was our schoolmaster to us bring
To faith in Christ our Lord and King

So that we might be justified
By faith, not by our works be tried
But now that faith is come, we are
no longer under schoolmaster

For we are all the children, us
Of God by faith in Christ Jesus
For as many as baptised be
Have put on Christ, that their state, see

There is neither Jew nor Greek here
There neither slave nor free appear
There is neither male or female
For we all one in Christ, our tale

And if we be Christ's, then so we
Are Abraham's seed (descendants), true it be
And heirs as God to us promised
We His blessings shall not have missed

Promise Principle - Galatians Series:4

Tune: Ye Banks And Braes

('We cannot measure how you heal')

Galatians 4 v.22-31

Two sons had Abraham the man
One by bond-maid, one by free woman
He who born of the bond woman
Ishmael the name of Hagar's son
He born of the flesh naturally
As all human births so do be
But the one born of free woman
Isaac the name of Sarah's son

Isaac, he was born by promise
God's plan, purpose, working in this
These things they be allegory
Symbolic, two covenants, see
For Hagar she be mount Sinai
In Arabia does it lie
Which corresponds to bondage, see
Earthly Jerusalem, not free

But Sarah, she symbolic be
Of Jerusalem above, free
Which is the mother of us all
Who in the Lord do trust and call
For it is written, Rejoice you
Barren that bears, for not a few
Children shall you have, but many
More than they that have husbands, see

Now we as Isaac was, we be
The children of the promise, free

But as it was in days of old
So the same pattern is retold
That they who by the flesh were born
They do still persecute and scorn
Those that are born of the Spirit
Who with God's family are knit

Yet what does Scripture say to do
When they oppose, persecute you?
Cast out bond woman and her son
They have a share in promise none
Shall not be heirs with free woman
Of the promise, nor with her son
And we of New Covenant be
The children of the mother free

Flesh And The Spirit - Galatians Series:5

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Galatians 5 v.16-26

Walk (live) in the Spirit, and then shall
Lust of the flesh not prevail
For flesh against the Spirit lusts
In us, we made of mere dust
And th Spirit against the flesh
Lusts, 'tis a contrary mesh
So that you cannot do what you
Would do, though you try anew

But if you of the Spirit led
He rules your life, He your Head
Then you are not under the law
But are under grace for sure
Now the works of the flesh they be
Manifest, and they are, see
Fornication and uncleanness
Hatred and licentiousness

Too adultery, sorcery
Variance, idolatry
Emulations, strifes, seditions
Wrath, strife, and too dissensions
Heresies, envyings, murders
Drunkenness, revellings, stirs
And such like, but they inherit
Not kingdom of God, not fit

But the fruit of the Spirit be
Good and true in each whit, see

Love, joy, peace, and longsuffering
Gentleness, goodness, we sing
Faithfulness, meekness, temperance
Lives self-controlled through Christ hence
And kindness, compassion, and car
Christ's fragrance spread everywhere

And they that are Christ's have for sure
Crucified their flesh, made pure
Their lives through Him, flesh affections
Put to death with lusts, passions
If we do in the Spirit live
Let us ourselves to Him give
And in the Spirit walk each day
Not in old sinful flesh way

Fruitful With Faithful - Galatians Series:6

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Galatians 6 v.6-10

Let them that are taught in the word
Share with others what they heard
Be not deceived, God is not mocked
None remains hidden, unlocked

For whatsoever one does sow
That shall they reap, let them know
Sow to the flesh, reap corruption
Sow to Spirit, [reap] life, each one

Let us not be weary to do
Works and actions good anew
For in due season we shall reap
Fainting not, He will us keep

As we have opportunity
Let this here our bearing be
To do good to all, though mainly
Sharing with faith's household free (the church)

Fruitful Followers

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

John 15 v.7-11

If you abide in me, Christ said
And by His words you be led
If His words do in us abide
Promises to us confide[d]

Promise that we shall ask what we
Will, and it shall be done, see
Herein His Father [is] glorified
Your prayers shall not be denied

'Tis not for our glory or pride
We ask, but as we reside
In Christ the vine, the branches we
So shall productive fruit be

Christ's desire that we bear much fruit
Nor our wants, nor what us suits
But bearing fruit we disciples
Of Christ shall be, He us calls

As the Father, He Christ has loved
So Christ has loved us, beloved
Continue in my love, He says
And learn daily of His ways

If we do His commandments keep
We be obedient sheep
And shall true in His love abide
His Spirit in us reside

Even as Christ the commandments
Of His Father kept, true sense
So He abides in Father's love
Strengthened by the Spirit, dove

These things He spoke, that His joy may
Remain in us for alway
And that our own joy may be full
Even each one He does call

Deliverance Days

Tune: Saffron Walden

(one tune to: 'Just As I Am')

Psalm 34 v.17-22

The righteous cry, the Lord them hears
Delivers them, and knows their fears
Their godly fears of Him, they do
Trust Him, worship Him true

Delivers them from their troubles
Each turns to Him, and on Him calls
He nigh to those of broken heart
Will heal them, every part

And He too is near such as be
Of a contrite spirit, here see
Afflictions of righteous many
Be, but the Lord faithful He

He frees, delivers them from all
Their afflictions, He does not stall
Keeps them all safe from harm, danger
No evil they incur

But evil shall the wicked slay
Soon shall come their true judgement day
And they that do the righteous hate
Desolate be their fate

The Lord the soul of His servants
Does redeem, lowly, penitent
None that trust in Him e'er shall be
Desolate, they blessed free

At The Gates Of Glory

Tune: Day Star

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Psalm 24

The earth it e'er be the LORD's
Created all by His words
And all the fullness it be
His and all the world too, see
All that there do dwell therein
Of each country, kith and kin

For He has true it founded
Upon the seas, there He did
Upon the floods established
All was made as he had wished
Who shall ascend to His hill?
Who stand in holy place still?

They that have clean hands, pure heart
Following Him in every part
They that have not uplifted
Soul to secret sin, nor hid
Vanity, or deceit none
But serve Him, the righteous one

They shall receive the blessing
From the LORD, praise to Him bring
And from their God salvation
Those of each people, nation
These are they that seek His face
This the generation, race

Lift up your heads, O you gates

And you lasting doors, your states
Be now open and your king
Of glory, LORD o'er eac hthing
Shall come in, he strong, mighty
In battle, LORD of hosts He

Trusting Times

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 143 v.8

Cause me, Lord, your lovingkindness
To hear each morning, do me bless
For in you I trust, do cause me
To know what my way should be

Psalm 143 v.10

Teach me, O Lord, to do your will
Abiding in you, you in me still
You my God are, your spirit good
In your right way no falsehood

Psalm 144 v.2

He my goodness and my fortress
My high tower He, I confess
My deliverer and shield sure
Who I shall trust evermore

Psalm 145 v.3

Great the Lord, greatly to be praised
And that songs to Him be e'er raised
His greatness is unsearchable
It cannot be found out all

Psalm 145 v.15

The eyes of all upon Him wait
He will help them, shall not be late
For you give food in due season
Provide enough for each one

Heavenly Holistic Help

Tune: Finlandia

('We rest on thee, our shield and our defender')

Psalms 42 & 43

As the hart pants for the fresh water brooks
So pants my soul, and to you O God looks
For it needs your sating and your refreshment
Your quenching and your sure encouragement
My soul thirsts for Him, the living God true
When shall I appear before God anew?

Why cast down within me, heavy, my soul?
Look to the Lord, He will restore, make whole
Why disquieted within with trouble, care
Your God will help with His countenance fair
He will look upon you and see your state
You will recall again he wondrous, great

He will command lovingkindness each day
In the night His song be with me alway
My prayer be unto Him, God of my life
I shall find freedom from confusion, strife
Has God forgotten me, my rock is He
No, enemies shall not e'er oppress me

O send out your light and your fine truth free
Show me your way, to holy hill lead me
To your tabernacles, your dwelling place
Where by faith I shall gaze upon your face
Then again I will joy exceedingly
In music and song, for you gracious be

Persevering Protection

Tune: Staff Of Faith

('My faith it is an oaken staff')

Psalm 140

Deliver me, LORD, from evil
I unto you do call
Preserve me from the violent man
Help as only you can
In heart they mischief imagine
Not content until it be done
They for war together gathered
Sharpened their tongue, their word[s]

Keep me, LORD, from the wicked's hands
I shall not join their bands
They seek my steps to overthrow
To persecute me so
Snares, cords, traps they set by wayside
They come near place where I reside
I said to the LORD, that He be
My God, look e'en on me

O LORD hear th voice of my prayer
Perform your justice fair
O GOD the Lord, you the strength be
Of my salvation free
You have covered my head in day
Of battle, sheltered me, your way
I seek, lead me on and grant not
Desires of wicked's lot

Further them not, lest they exalt
Themselves, and [the] godly halt

Let their own mischief on them fall
That their plans fail and stall
Let burning coals be on them cast*
So their devices shall not last
And thrown into deep pits so they
Be gone, vanish away

Let not an evil speaker be
Established in earth, see
Evil shall hunt the violent man
Overthrown be his plan
I know the LORD cause will maintain
of afflicted, poor, they shall gain
Justice, the righteous your name praise
Dwell with you all their days

* Burning coals can be seen as punishment, though also as symbolising
turning away from sins in repenting and penitence.

Rapturous Return

Adapted with permission
from poem 'Trumpets Blast' by Frogspoetry.

Tune: Battle Hymn

('Mine eyes have seen the glory')

O the trumpets will blast when the time it shall sure be at hand
For the Lord to come, return, and then will take back all His land
He will fight for our home, but the Devil he will still refuse
The ground to yield or lose

Chorus

He shall return, O be ready
Waiting hearts be sure and steady
Firm in hope and faith for soon we
By grace His face shall see

But all that is holy shall be returned, it so be destined
That the evil one shall lose, and all his powers must rescind
The trumpets then they will blast out at the return of the Lord
According to His word - Chorus

So be ready to praise Him and then to receive your reward
Kneel down, sing loud as you can, and give fine praises to your Lord
To welcome and to worship Him, He be the blessed Son of Man
Compare no other can - Chorus

He came to earth, and lived and died, it was for sake of the bride
Now He lives again for ever, with Him we shall e'er reside
In our home in heaven, trumpets sound, announcing day-star bright
Rapture, eternal light! - Chorus

Flowing In Faith

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

A song of praise to sing
Unto my Lord and King
Spirit, flow free from me
May worship worthy be
Of Him who died and rose again
He the Lord, Saviour for all men

A tune for all seasons
Praise Him, whate'er reasons
Through night, day, dark, and light
It pleasing in His sight
He is glorified with no pride
And within our hearts does reside

The flow a a river
May meet with lock and weir
Yet current still goes on
Life be in Christ the Son
He Lord of heaven and earth for e'er
In His providings do we share

Come to me, where I dull
Or heavy in my soul
Lighten the way ahead
You give us daily bread
Spirit, flow to eternity
'Til day of Rapture sure shall be

Water of life, sparkling
And mankind's thirst quenching

Assisted by your grace
We each thing here do face
Matters difficult or easy
Come to us, our Comforter be

Creative Caretakers

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

O Lord, see here, my thankful heart
But forgive any part
Where I unthankful, selfish be
Thinking only of me

Your works shown in your creation
Displayed to each nation
In sky and sea and earth they found
And too be underground

Fro there [is] no place you do not see
All open to you be
And we your creatures, care-takers
In this each human shares

Grant us grace to serve you truly
Needy in the world see
People and plants and animals
You came to save all souls

Forgive where proud or boastful we
Do not your good hand see
But lowly servants, true our state
Serving you the Lord great

Yet sinners saved and loved and blessed
May share your holiness
Your sons and daughters you us make

Us for you self you take

So not to live in vanity

Or unprofitably

But each word and deed done through you

Has real value anew

Humble-Hearted

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 131

LORD, my heart not haughty
Nor my eyes lofty be
Neither do I exercise me
In things that too high be

Surely I have behaved
Humble, my soul not craved
Great things too wonderful to know
But simple things and low

I myself have quieted
You with your peace me led
As a child weaned of its mother
I am a meek brother (/sister)

So let Israel hope here
In the LORD, He be near
Hope from henceforth and evermore
In Him, your comfort sure

Refreshing Remedy

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Lead us Lord, through every season
Through all life's rhyme and reason
See our hearts, our state, our being
Your graces still to us bring
Weak and weary, lost without you
But in you we made anew

Heal our land where arid and parched
And where troubles overarched
Pour the dew, rain of your blessing
Sate thirst of each thing
Yet too sun for light, warmth, and heat
We worship here at your feet

Green grass dries, green, colour of grace
Look still on us, Lord, your face
Turn not from us, come to our aid
You our ransom price have paid
Giving grace to persevere on
For before us you have gone

Trod this earth, human life sharing
The divine too did you bring
Not aloof, distant, uncaring
But understanding each thing
Guide us, by your Spirit showing
More of Christ, our Lord and King

Where we dry, dusty, enliven
With your presence us e'en then

Cool balm, healing, sensitively
You to each Comforter be
So on through each night and day we
Share your love, life constantly

Desirous Dwelling

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

Psalm 132 v.13-18

For the LORD, mount Zion chosen has He
Desired it His habitation be
This is His rest, it be for ever here
He has desired it, here will dwell clear

He her provision will bless abundant
Satisfies her poor, bread to them sent
And will her priests with true salvation clothe
A glorious dress, a righteous robe

He will give to them, and them beautify
They be covered, spirits to Him fly
And her saints aloud for joy they shall shout
From holy city praises ring out

There He will make horn* of David bud sure
Strength, salvation, luculent** e'ermore
He a lamp for His anointed ordained
To give light, in His plan He arranged

His enemies with shame He shall clothe low
But upon Him His crown flourish, so
His victory, His triumph, be seen sure
In His dwelling, e'er it He secures

* horn - symbol of strength and power

** luculent - 1.clearly expressed. 2.brightly shining

Comfort in Isaiah (2): Israel's Deliverance

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Isaiah 40 v.9-11

Zion, you that do bring good things
To all the nations brings
Jerusalem the capital
Has blessings unto all

Get you up into the mount high
Proclaim your Lord is nigh
Lift up your voice with strength and say
'Behold your God today!'

Speak to Judah, it your country
The Lord GOD there shall be
Will come with strong hand, and His arm
Shall rule, keep you from harm

His reward it be with Him sure
His work does go before
Him, and He shall feed His flock here
As a Shepherd appear

He shall with His arm lambs gather
Shall His comfort assure
Shall carry them, and gently lead
Those with young, and all feed

Comfort in Isaiah (3): God's Character

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched...')

Isaiah 40 v.12-17

Who has the waters now measured?

Who made them, who them stirred?

To create such, it was the Lord

All things made by His word

The waters, all of every land

Are contained in His hand

And who has the heaven measured?

With their hand, be assured

Be assured that the Lord is he

Who makes the things to be

And who has measured dust of earth?

E'en us, gave us our worth

Who weighed the mountains out in scales?

He whose strength never fails

And weighed out hills in a balance

His greatness true we sense

Who has directed His Spirit?

And who His way has lit?

Who being His counsellor taught

Him, and Him wisdom brought?

Behold, the nations are as drop

In a bucket, so stop

We to account the Lord's greatness

And His strong name confess

The nations counted as dust small
When weighed in balance all
Behold, the Lord takes up each isle
Very small they compile

They are before Him as nothing
All nations, who can bring
A worthy offering, and say
We worship well today?

The nations less than nothing be
Though He regards each, see
They are vanity and worthless
Yet He does each address

River Renewing

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord they word abideth')

Passing by a river
Shines sun's golden sliver
Wildlife living peacefully
Nature with God one be

Ducks, swans, insects abide
By riverside reside
Haven calm, unspoilt see
From defilement all free

Help us Lord, creation
To tend, every nation
For it be your world, we live
In it by grace you give

In eternal city
There River of Life be
Pleasures perfect, purified
Shall to none be denied

Comfort In Isaiah (4): God's Greatness

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Isaiah 41 v.10-18

Fear you not, for I am with you
I your Lord God, always true
Be not dismayed, I will help you
And will strengthen you anew
Yes, I will uphold you surely
By my righteous hand it be

Behold, all they that were incensed
Against you, an hostile sensed
They shall be ashamed, confounded
E'en what they against you said
They that strive with you shall perish
You my people I cherish

You shall seek them, but find them not
Enemies gone, that their lot
They that war against you shall be
As nothing, I shall act, see
For I the LORD God your hand hold
My gracious help shall be told

Though Israel be as a worm small
The LORD shall come, help them all
For He their redeemer, he be
Holy One of Israel, see
Your enemies shall be as chaff
At their mockings you shall laugh

When the poor and needy do seek

Water, it to humble, meek
Shall quench their thirst, and will them hear
And I shall guide them and steer
Unto rivers I will open
In the heights, with fountains then

Founts in valleys, wilderness pools
Water springs in dry lands, calls
The LORD, proclaims there they shall be
He shall work such wonders, He
Comforting them, He the LORD great
Not abandoned to mere fate

Comfort in Isaiah(5): God's Servant

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Isaiah 42 v.1-6

Behold, my servant here
My Son shall now appear
My chosen one, my soul
Delights in Him, He whole
And I have put upon Him sure
My spirit now and evermore

He shall judgement bring forth
To Gentiles south and north
And east and west, for He
Shall not cry out, nor be
One that shouts out, nor His voice raise
Along His mission all His days

A bruised reed he shall not
Break off, that not their lot
Nor shall smoking flax quench
Not stuff out, be no stench
He shall bring forth the judgement true
And shall His people all renew

He shall not fail nor be
Discouraged, shall set, see
Set judgement in the earth
Giving justice its worth
And all the coastlands, they shall wait
For His law, it shall not be late

God the great LORD He made

Heavens and earth, they staid
Created them, all things
Breath unto all He brings
Gives life, spirit to they who dwell
In His world, they His glories tell

The LORD calls His servant
His Son whom He has sent
The LORD His hand will hold
He will gather His fold
The Son He is a covenant
To Jews and Gentiles who repent

Comfort in Isaiah (6): Israel's Restoration Part 1

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Isaiah 43 v.1 - 7 parts

The LORD formed and created
His help not abated
Unto His people, for He
Says 'Fear not' to them, see
For I have you redeemed
Called you by name, have led
You in my way, you are mine
Shall have blessings divine

When through the waters you pass
You need not cry 'Alas'
For i will be there with you
Through the rivers, 'tis true
They shall not you overflow
My presence you shall know
And when you walk through the fire
It shall not be dread, dire

For you shall not be burned there
But shall protected fare
Nor shall any flame scorch you
I keep you from them too
For I am the LORD your God
With you the path have trod
The Holy One of Israel
Of me each tongue shall tell

Fear not, for I am with you
And will you sure renew

Will restore, bring you from east
And from west, greatest, least
And from the north and south too
My sons and daughters you
Each one called by my name sure
Fro my glory e'ermore

Comfort in Isaiah(8): Israel's Restoration Part 3

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Isaiah 44 v.1 -6

Hear now you, my people
I formed you, you I call
You be my chosen ones
My daughters and my sons
Fear not, for I will help you sure
You shall be mine for evermore

Water I will outpour
Each land, from shore to shore
To quench you that do thirst
Floods on dry ground outburst
Yes, on your seed too, and on you
I pour out my spirit anew

And I shall bless your kin
Blessings shall be therein
They shall as grass spring up
Shall feed with me and sup
As willows by the water course
They shall grow, this I do endorse

One shall say, I the LORD's
Am, true as be His words
They shall be Israel
Restored by Him, shall tell
That He is their redeemer strong
he the first and last all along

Prayer For His Presence

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord, hear my prayer')

Adapted with permission from an MPS poet

Lord, watch over me
As good Shepherd, see
Your sheep, each one keep free
Come now, light my heart
A flame, every part
Your gifts, graces impart

So may your warmth seep
Into my life deep
Exuberantly leap
Throughout my body
Let love stem, flow, be
Richly, eternally

Love not sole for self
But too others wealth
And their life and good health
[I] Place my hand in yours
Your love it assures
You guide me, bring heart's-cures

Through this life you give
Your breath, makes me live
Complete, not leaking sieve
And this I Lord know
Your presence you show
Will not leave me, not go

And when time of call

Comes to me, to all
I know I shall not fall
For my soul is yours
My heart you adores
Take it, my prayer implores

Lordship Laudings

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 94 v.22

The LORD He be our sure defence
Look to Him, and trust in Him hence
Alleluia, Alleluia!
He is our God, He is the rock
Of our refuge, withstands each shock
In life's turmoils, where troubles knock
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 95 v.7

He is our God, we the people
Of His pasture, we on Him call
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And the sheep of His hand we are
He seeks out those who go afar
All He shall welcome, none debar
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 96 v.2

Sing to the LORD, and bless His name
His mercies shall remain the same
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Show forth His salvation each day
He keeps His sheep within His way
For He good Shepherd, let all say
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 96 v.9

Worship the LORD in holiness
And His great name do e'er confess

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Come, all the earth, before Him fear
Know His presence is always near
To those who love Him He is dear
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 97 v.1
The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice
You people, make Him now your choice
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Let all the many isles be glad
And be comforted, be not sad
He with righteous judgement is clad
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 98 v.4
Make joyful noise unto the LORD
Praise Him fervently, and His word
Alleluia, Alleluia!
All the earth make a loud noise, praise
Rejoice, and sing praise, His name raise
He is worthy through all our days
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 98 v.2
The LORD His salvation made known
Openly to heathen has shown
Alleluia, Alleluia!
His righteousness to all revealed
All His works perfect, true, and skilled
In His love He to all appealed
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 99 v.2
The LORD reigns, let people tremble
Come worship Him, before Him fall

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Between the cherubims seated
Is He, and has death defeated
Let the earth respond, be movéd
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Comfort in Isaiah (9): God's use of Cyrus

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Isaiah 45 v.1-5

The LORD said unto Cyrus, see
Ruler of Medo-Persia he
Appointed by the LORD to be
Releaser from captivity

Release of Jews from Babylon
He be the LORD's true chosen one
That they may return, be restored
It comes to pass as the LORD's word

The LORD will go before him when
He guides him, crooked places then
Shall be made straight, gates of brass they
Shall be all broken in that day

And bars of iron shall be shattered
Cyrus the LORD's call he had heard
He working His plans out always
Bringing renewed comforting days

Comfort in Isaiah (10): Lord of life

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Isaiah 45 v.22-25

Look to me, and be saved
My Son the way has paved
Look, all ends of the earth
In Him find your true worth
For I am God, there none else be
Who can be compared unto me?

I have by myself sworn
True through each time, each morn
From my mouth has the word
Gone, all the world has heard
Righteousness I speak, and it shall
Not return to me, but do well

This be the word I say
Sure as night follows day
That to me every knee
Bowed unto me shall be
And every tongue confess my name
Their worship unto me shall frame

Surely they shall then say
We trust the LORD alway
In Him have righteousness
And strength, He shall us bless
Unto the LORD shall come all men
He be proclaimed as Sovereign then

All they that are incensed

Against the LORD, intensed
They shall be there ashamed
None of the righteous blamed
In the LORD shall all Israel's seed (descendants)
Be justified, glory indeed

Nature Notes

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Come rest a while, refreshing take
So be strengthened for your Lord's sake
To serve Him well, alert and bold
Praying that our love not grow cold

Through ease and toil, through sun and rain
Through storms and calm, through joy and pain
He faithful be, does our hearts see
Desiring fruit plenteously

Fruit for His glory, words and deeds
These the fruition from the seeds
And from our state, as branches we
Abide in Him, the true Vine He

So nature shows the life cycle
Humanity is shared by all
Though we small, poor, to His compare
Yet we by grace His life can share

All things in Him, in His order
They do obey His will for sure
But where not, He will with judgement
Judge justly if they not repent

O Lord of life, all things in you
Find their perfect fulfilment true
Help us trust, love, grow day by day
Seek others too to know your way

Fruitful Flourishing

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Psalm 107 v.31-38

O that people would the LORD praise
And to Him sweet anthems raise
Praise Him for His goodness, kindness
His wondrous works they do us bless

Let all the congregation sing
And to Him true worship bring
He turns rivers to wilderness
Watered land to barrenness

Fruitful land He does make to cease
For wicked there be no peace
But wilderness turns to waters
To refresh His sons, daughters

Dry ground He turns to water springs
Quenching of thirst He then brings
And there He makes hungry to dwell
By Him fed, they do fare well

It be a place habitable
And a land profitable
There they shall sow fields, plant vineyards
The LORD then He keeps and guards

So they do yield fruits, and increase
His blessings He does release
They multiply greatly, for He
Provides for them, does oversee

Seasons Sought

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

O parchéd land, arid and dry
For rain showers you cry
And how are human hearts today?
[Are] They thirsty for God's way?

Send rain and showers to refresh
And grace and mercy mesh
So to our lives refreshment bring
Renewing us, we sing

O barren views and greenness fades
As if in locust raids
Where they did eat all in their sight
Bringing a scorching blight

Though sunny days, sun's golden haze
Freedom, where nature plays
God of all seasons, time, and space
Come save us, every race

Your cooling balm to heal and cure
Your presence to assure
Help us to care, [for] your creation
Spread o'er every nation

Communion Compliance

Tune: Divine Mysteries
(*'Sweet Sacrament divine'*)

Since you Lord, do us call
May we come, one and all
To your Communion feast
You bid greatest and least
And there to find the bread of life
To calm our trouble, ease our strife
And too wine here outpoured
We remember you, Lord

At your instituting
Sacrament you di bring
To eat and drink of you
It true is life anew
Eating, drinking, spiritually
This for bodies, souls, spirits be
A partaking, sharing
In these gifts you us bring

Though righteous judgement shown
By grace your mercies known
Forgiveness for each one
Possible through the Son
You the one who your life laid down
Experienced for us God's frown
Our sins taken away
Upon your cross-death day

Here riches bright and fine
When we to you align
And meditate a while

Where none can harm, defile
Welcomed each time by your good grace
By faith we do behold your face
Your Eucharistic* love
Shed on us holy dove (the Holy Spirit)

* Eucharist - another name for Holy Communion;
meaning thanksgiving, gratitude, appreciation

Pleasant Pastures

Tune: St Gregory

(one tune to 'With glorious clouds encompassed round')

Psalm 16 v.5-11 part

The LORD is my portion, and He
My inheritance be
My lot He does uphold, and gives
His help to me, He lives

The lines are fallen unto me
In pleasant places, see
Yes, I have goodly heritage
He gives confidence, courage

I have set the LORD here before
Me, He my focus sure
He at my right hand, and I shall
Not be moved, but fare well

Therefore my heart is glad, and my
Glory, my tongue hereby
Rejoices, and my flesh also
Shall rest in hope, I know

For you will not leave here my soul
In hell, but will make whole
Nor will allow your Holy One
To see corruption done

You will the path of life show me
In your presence there be
Fullness of joy, and pleasures e'er
At your right hand are there

Worship Wonderings

Tune & Hymn(?): 'At your call'

A song to sing
And our praise bring
Unto you Christ, you our Lord and our King
Warm each heart well
May each tongue tell
Of your love, and how your graces prevail

You have saved me
Come, set us free
To be the people you want us to be
In glad service
Your way not miss
That all may find your true way, peace and bliss

You with us e'er
Forsake us ne'er
And we as your sons, daughters, we do share
Your salvation
For each nation
Abiding in you, pure adoration

Life eternal
You give to all
And forgiveness unto who hear your call
Sheep in your fold
Numbers untold
O grant we witness to you clear and bold

Destiny Descriptions

Tune: Ellers

('Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise')

Lord, calm our hearts where fretful, troubled be
Help us look to you and by faith you see
Going along each step along life's road
With you, knowing you before us have trode

What at a corner turning may be so
Help us to show and in your image grow
What your appointments, plans and purposes
To do your will, that be fulfilment, bliss

Guard us along, through dangers, and where dark
Help us to listen, and still to you hark
Trusting your guiding light through good and ill
Your faithfulness you shall show to us still

Through each day's labours and necessities
Your Spirit in us strengthens us and frees
Us from worries, anxieties and care
For we know you to us your peace declare

An onward journey, gospel too to share
That others too a heavenly home may fare
All through your saving presence, loving, true
Then to spend all eternity with you

Healing Hour

Tune: Webb

('Stand up, stand up, for Jesus')

Acts 3 v.1-9

Peter, John, to Temple went
For prayer was their intent
They saw a certain man there
Who others they did bare
Him then to Temple daily
For he lame from birth, see
Laid him at gate Beautiful
To ask alms of them all

He asked Peter and John alms
They had none in their palms
They on him their eyes fastened
Said, Look on us, attend
And so he gave to them heed
Expecting alms indeed
To of them receive something
What they to hand could bring

Peter said, Silver and gold
I have none, here be told
But such as I have, I give
You, look here now and live
For in the name of Jesus
Christ of Nazareth, yes
Rise up and walk this day, so
Shall you your healing know

Peter took him by the hand
He received strength, did stand

Leaped up, and stood, and walked tall
Was visible to all
And he entered then into
The Temple with them new
Walking, leaping, and praising
To God they all did sing

Praise Perusals

Tune: Cranbrook

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongue to sing')

(aka 'On Ilkley Moor bah tat')

Optional extra words at end of first line of each verse.

Repeat relevant lines as shown.

Psalm 74 v.12

For God He is my Kong of old {King of old}

Let His wonders be told

He is working His salvation (x2)

In midst of each nation (x3)

Psalm 75 v.10

Strength of the wicked will the Lord {will the Lord}

Cut off, so be His word

But strength of righteous he exalts (x2)

Perfect and without faults (x3)

Psalm 76 v.2

In [Jeru]Salem His tabernacle {tab'nacle}

On Him all peoples call

His dwelling place is in Zion (x2)

He the Lamb and Lion (x3)

Psalm 77 v.14

You are the God who does wonders {does wonders}

With this our heart concurs

You your strength have declared among (x2)

The people, praise be sung (x3)

Psalm 73 v.26

My flesh and heart fail me, but {me, but you}

Lord God my strength, help be

He e'er is the strength of my heart (x2)

My portion, He my part (x3)

Psalm 78 v.4

We shall not hide His praises, no {praises, no}

But generations show

The Lord, His strength, His works wondrous (x2)

His salvation to us (x3)

Psalm 77 v.20

You led your people like a flock {like a flock}

You theirs and our firm rock

So guide us e'er, your sheep we be (x2)

Now and eternally (x3)

Believers Boldness

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Acts 4 v.23-31

The disciples unto prayer went
With one accord, no relent
Lifted up their voice together
Prayed with holy endeavour

Said, You, Lord are God, you have made
Heaven, earth, sea, all arrayed
Who by your servant David sure
Prophesied of days in store

David said, Why did heathen rage
The Lords work try to assuage?
Why did they vain things imagine?
Oppositions did begin

For the kings of the earth did stand
And rulers of all the land
Stood, gathered there against the Lord
But could not withstand His Word

His Word is the Lord's Christ, Jesus
Bringing salvation to us
Though they gathered, it was truly
To do what you said would be

For nothing escapes your knowing
You ever know everything
Now, Lord, behold those who threaten
Us, grant to us we be men

Men and women, boys and girls too
Grant us boldness, us renew
We your servants ask all boldness
To speak your full words no less

And stretch forth your hand to heal here
Your signs and wonders appear
They done by your child, your Son sure
Who obeyed you evermore

When they had prayed, the place did shake
Where they were, the Lord did make
Them bold in His name, fresh power
Of His Spirit for each hour

So they went forth, re-empowered
The Spirit on them was showered
All were filled and spake with boldness
The word of God, and did bless

Deacons Dynamism

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

Acts Chapter 6 parts

Seven men of honest report
By early church were sought
To be deacons, food distribute
Grounded in God their root

They full of the Holy Spirit
Their lives illumined, lit
And full of wisdom, so to serve
Not from the truth to swerve

And one was Stephen, a man full
Of faith, he powerful
Full of the Holy Spirit too
Did wonders not a few

Yes, full of faith and power he
Did God's work, all did see
Life of God from him radiates
And needy souls he sates

His opposers were not able
To withstand him at all
Could not the wisdom nor spirit
Resist, nor words one whit

When at his trial they did see
A sight resplendently
Saw his face as an angel there
He did the gospel share

Luminous Light

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Acts 7 v.50-60

Stephen did history rehearse
Of Israel, they did their worse
In the end they did crucify
The Lord of life, on cross did die

His summary, you stiff-necked ones
Stubborn towards God's only Son
Uncircumcised in heart and ears
Impenitent, for sins no tears

Always the Spirit resisting
Following their fathers, each thing
For Christ the Just One sure did they
Betrayed, murdered, for blood they bayed

Then cut to heart in fury, rage
They heard no more, but at that stage
Did cast him out and stoned to death
Yet he forgave to his last breath

He looked up to heaven and saw
God's glory, and Christ evermore
Standing on God's right hand above
He enveloped there in His love

He cried out as he was stoned, prayed
That sin not to their charge be layed
Holy martyr then fell asleep
Then wakes where none do mourn nor weep

Mission Of Mercy

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Acts 8 v.26-38

Philip [was] called one day to witness
An Ethiopian [to] bless
A treasurer, he returning
Home, worship did the Lord bring
At Jerusalem, His Temple
Was there, His dwelling for all
To see, and Him give songs and praise
And there to learn of His ways

The Spirit said to Philip, Go
Approach the chariot so
Of this treasurer, and he said
Understand you what you read?
He replied, How can I except
One explain to me, adept?
Then Philip on the journey rode
With him to his own abode

The treasurer did read Scriptures
Asking to what it allures
*'He led as a sheep to slaughter
And like a lamb did concur
Being dumb before its shearer'*
He wished the message clearer
*'For lamb was dumb, did not open
Its mouth when it was shorn then'*

And in His humiliation
The lamb for every nation

The Lamb of God, Jesus the Son
Bears the sins of every one
His judgement was taken away
Who shall declare, who shall say
To declare His generation?
He gave His life up, work done

Then Philip did ot Him explain
And made the teaching true, plain
Began at the same Scripture there
Preached Jesus, did with him share
Then at a water was baptised
His faith not hidden, disguised
But said, 'I believe that Jesus
Christ is the Son of God, yes'

Travelling On Trusting

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 32 v.7-11

You are my hiding place, you shall
Preserve me, keep me well
Save from troubles, from them me free
Songs of deliverance [shall] be

The LORD will instruct you, will show
Will teach the way to go
He will guide us with His sure eye
To Him for refuge fly

Be not as horse or mule, for they
Not understand the way
Their mouths must be held, bits, bridles
To be as them brings falls

Many sorrows shall be unto
The wicked, not a few
But they that in the LORD do trust
They are helped, though they dust

For mercy shall compass them round
Then heard the joyful sound
Of those that are glad in Him sure
Upright in heart e'ermore

They be the righteous, Him they praise
To Him loud songs do raise
They shout for joy, content and free
God's presence with them be

Remember Righteousness

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 74 v.12-23 parts

The Lord God, He my King of old
Let all His wonders be told
He works salvation in the earth
Let us give Him His true worth
The day is yours, night yours also
Each one's ordainings you know

You have set all of earth's borders
Have made summers and winters
And too springs and autumns seasons
None without their plans, reasons
Remember, Lord, that enemy
Has reproached you, look and see

The foolish have your name blasphemed
Evil purposes they dreamed
O deliver not my soul up
To their will, their bitter cup
Save my soul, my turtle-dove here
From the wicked, I you fear

Forget not the poor people, they
Trust in you and to you pray
Have respect to your covenant
Unto humble, penitent
For dark places of the earth full
Are of habitations cruel

O let not the oppressed return

Ashamed, they for you do yearn
Let the poor and needy praise you
Arise, God, plead your cause true
Remember how the foolish do
Reproach you daily anew

Forget not voice of enemies
You who all their doings see
The tumult of them that up rise
Reviles and taunts are their cries
But do act God, for your name's sake
The wicked's ways shatter, break

Co-operating Church

Tune: Solothurn

('Now let us from this table rise')

Acts 2 v.42-47

The early church, they continued
Together, were daily renewed
Sharing steadfastly day by day
Following Christ the Life, Truth, Way

Continuing in apostles'
Teaching, hearing the Lord's sure calls
And in fellowship, friendship dear
The presence of the Spirit here

And in breaking of bread and prayers
Sharing joys, sorrows, loves, and cares
Godly fear came on every soul
The Lord did work and make them whole

Many wonders and signs were done
Through the apostles, e'en each one
All that believed were together
Had all things common, all did share

They sold their goods and possessions
Distributed to needy ones
Continued daily, one accord
Aligning to the living word

They daily met in the temple
Broke bread from house to house, they all
Did eat their food with true gladness
in singleness of heart did bless

Praising God and having favour
With all the people who were there
And the Lord to the church added
Daily church as were being saved

Rain Refreshment

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear sacrament')

Come to our hearts, the Spirit's rain
Refresh our lives again
Abide holy dove, your resting place
May be my heart of grace

Of sun-scorched days and golden rays
Where parched, show us your ways
How is the land of our heart's-field?
What fruitfulness will yield?

If in small showers, or deluge strong
Renew us, so our song
Shall ascend to you, our living Lord
We trust your every word

Through weary heat or cooling balm
Your bring your presence calm
Lord of seasons, weather whate'er
Your love with us you share

River of life you do supply
Your presence here close by
And e'en within hearts cleansed from sin
Your praises fresh begin

River Rising

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour lifted')

Singing sweetly, simply
May your grace aid me
Spirit, sing from my heart
Illumine each part

Whether short or long song
I shall join the throng
Of the heavenly chorus
Which shall you true bless

Keep my heart in tune here
To love you more dear
Help me turn where discord
Back to you my Lord

Where hearts may be heavy
Come, enlighten, see
Spirit, Comforter sure
You grant us grace more

Rivers flow from hearts full
Or trickle where dull
Yet you do us revive
Where we feel deprive[d]

Given life eternal
By your mercies all
Give us wisdom, fulfil
In us your good will

Pure Protectings

Tune: St James (Courteville)
('Thou are the way, by thee alone')

Psalm 12

Help, LORD, for the godly ceases
Is as [if] they deceases
Faithful fall from among mankind
None good or true we find

They speak vanity ot each one
To every daughter, son
Flatter with lips and double heart
Deceitful be their part

The LORD shall cut them off, for they
Do not good, [nor] right things say
They have said, With our tongue will we
Prevail, who our lord be?

For the oppressed, the LORD, he will
Arise, come help them still
And will hear sighs of the needy
Will set them in safety

The words of the LORD pure words are
None of them spoil or mar
They are as silver purified
As in a furnace tried

Tried seven times to perfection
There be no blemish, none
You, LORD, shall keep the poor, needy
Safe in you they shall be

You from the wicked them preserve
They trust in you, you serve
Though wicked walk on every side
Where vilest ones reside

Praise Proclaimings 2

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongue to sing')

Psalm 47

Repeat lines as shown.

O clap your hands, you people all
Upon the Lord do call (x2)
Shout unto God, triumphant voice
You have made Him your choice (x3)

For He the LORD, most high, terrible
To the awesome God call (x2)
He is a great King o'er all the earth
Praise Him, give Him His worth (x3)

He shall subdue our enemies
And so each one then sees (x2)
That He is Lord high over all
Trusting, you shall not fall (x3)

He shall choose our inheritance
And there be His presence (x2)
He chooses, gives things excellent
All from His good hand sent (x3)

For He His people loves ,for them cares
Each in His bounties shares (x2)
God is gone up with a strong shout
Let trumpets sound ring out (x3)

Sing praises to God, e'en your praise
With understanding raise (x2)
Your joyful songs unto your King

Let every tongue now sing (x3)

God reigns o'er all the nations, see

He sits on His throne, He (x2)

The holy God for evermore

Come worship and adore (x3)

Prayer Progress

Tune & Hymn: As The Deer

Forgive, heal, where I grow distant
From your Son, the one you sent
Warm my heart again, expressing
Unto you a song I bring

Chorus

You Lord God do our spirits raise
Worship and thanks we bring, and you praise
See our longings, direct our ways
To follow you all our days

Come we pray, meet our deepest yearning
May we trust you in each thing
Renew, refresh, with streams flowing
Ppeace and comfort they us bring - Chorus

Where my love be cool, complacent
Turn me back to penitent
So continuing, serving here
Still having your presence dear - Chorus

Prayer Pleas

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord')

Hear Lord, each prayer, petition made
Before your throne they arrayed
Send help, empower, whate'er need
By your good grace do us lead

You look with compassion on us
See us in your Son Jesus
A world of need, whate'er our state
Strengthen us, your mercies great

So to deal with each day's matters
Leave aside all anxious stirs
Of things tomorrow, future times
Progressing on through life's rhymes

For only you are God, you know
How each thing will work out so
Many things we know, but many
We do not know thoroughly

Work for our good, be great or small
The afflictions that we all
Experience, human life here
Yet not without your love near

Forgive where complacent we be
And fail to help or needs see
Give grace that by your Spirit free
We do what we can humbly

So is your peace retained within
Human hearts, and cleansed from sin
You renew, restore, and redeem
No matter how all does seem

Firm Foundation

Tune: Everton

('Son of God, eternal Saviour')

Psalm 31 parts

In you, O LORD, I put my trust
I who am mere flesh and dust
Let me never be ashamed, for
I do trust you e'er for sure
Deliver me, your righteousness
Shall help me, and shall me bless
Bow your ear to me, hear my prayer
My strong rock, in you I share

For you are a house of defence
To save me, my refuge hence
Yes, you my rock and my fortress
You do lead me, I confess
For your name's sake you do lead, guide
From me you your help not hide
Take me from traps of enemies
You my strength who from them frees

I trusted you LORD in troubles
You have helped me, kept from falls
I said, You are my God always
Even unto endless days
My times are in your hand, help still
Deliver me from all ill
make your face shine on your servant
Save me here, I penitent

Let me not be ashamed, O LORD
For I trust your living word

And have called upon you here, see
Let the wicked ashamed be
But how great is your goodness to
Us, laid up for us anew
For those who do fear you, you show
Your goodness, they know it so

You shall hide them in secret place
They by faith behold your face
Shall defend them from oppression
Father, Spirit, and the Son
Blessed be the LORD, for He showed me
His marvellous kindness, He
Revealed it in a strong city
He my Lord and God e'er be

O love the LORD, all you saints here
Worship Him with praises dear
For He preserves the faithful sure
And does keep them evermore
He too repays the proud doers
Righteous judgements He confers
Be of good courage, the LORD shall
Strengthen your heart and hope well

Noticing The Needy

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Peace do you give, you see our heart's true state
Whoever we be, whether small or great

Mourn for a time, confessing of our sin
Then hear His word, forgiveness here within

O melancholy heart, with the world's woes
Commit all to your Lord, He all it knows

Going on daily, some vulnerable
In society, for them to God call

Realising what riches have we here
Pray grace, mercy to poor, needy appear

Thankful for what we have here day by day
Growing in Christ's image, going His way

So too that all may know your love and care
Help us, Lord, evangelise and you share

O send your beams of light, each needy soul
Bring them to salvation and make them whole

And that their needs, their fare, their daily bread
Be given them, and they by you be led

Mercy Mildness

Tune: Grafenberg

(one tune to 'City of God, how broad and far')

Seeking to find way through with God
See path His Son has trod
Has gone before us, He our way
To light of dawning day

People rejoice, redeemed, restored
Return now to your Lord
Christ our only mediator
He our confidence sure

None other one could pay the price
But His life did suffice
The perfect sacrifice, offering
We Him our praises bring

He graces mild upon us showers
Forgiveness us endowers
His Spirit given dwells within
To keep us free from sin

Propitiation, God speaks kind
To human heart and mind
Come find through Christ my Son life true
Salvation e'en to you

For He seeks not our law-keeping
But our lives to Him bring
Then empowered to meet each need
His Spirit does us lead

Christ in us the hope of glory
E'en to eternity
Find here my heart, my life, I pray
Your humble home alway

Discipleship Daily

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me my God and King')

Luke 8 v.23-26

If any one who will
Be Christ's disciple still
If any will pursue Him true
Let them then this thing do

Let them themselves deny
And so to Christ ally
Take up cross daily, follow Him
Truly, not fancy whim

For whosoever will
Save their life, no appeal
Shall it be, for such their life shall
Lose, that the outcome tell

But whoso for Christ's sake
Shall the sacrifice make
Who loses their life for Him, they
Shall save it at last day

For what advantage be
If one gain whole world, see
But loses self, or cast away
Misses eternal way?

Victory Voices

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Revelation 19 v.1-8 parts

A great voice, great multitude - Alleluia!
That their cry, it strong renewed - Alleluia!
Salvation, glory, honour - Alleluia!
Praise and eternal power - Alleluia!

All praise to the Lord God, He - Alleluia!
Righteous judge o'er all He be - Alleluia!
For He judges evil sure - Alleluia!
Overthrows it evermore - Alleluia!

All around the throne do say - Alleluia!
Now is seen your sovereign sway - Alleluia!
Amen, so be it, their voice - Alleluia!
With refrain they do rejoice - Alleluia!

A voice said, Your God now praise - Alleluia!
All you His servants now raise - Alleluia!
Whether small or great you be - Alleluia!
Resound a victory theme - Alleluia!

Then voice of multitude heard - Alleluia!
As sound of great waters stirred - Alleluia!
And as sound of thunderings - Alleluia!
This he song the each one brings - Alleluia!

For the Lord omnipotent - Alleluia!
Reigns, All-Powerful, no relent - Alleluia!
Let us be glad and rejoice - Alleluia!
All extol Him with one voice - Alleluia!

Give Him honour, for marriage - Alleluia!
Of the Lamb (Christ), Lord of each age
Has come, and the bride, His wife - Alleluia!
Is the church, He gave each life - Alleluia!

Fine linen, both clean and white - Alleluia!
Granted her, a glorious sight - Alleluia!
Fine linen, 'tis righteous deeds - Alleluia!
Of saints, Christ does meet their needs - Alleluia!

Preparation Ponderings

Tune: Langran (St Agnes)

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Come, Lord, help me prepare my heart for you
To worship you, and praise you true anew
Yet not only within church gathering
But to worship you here in everything

Settle our minds, our hearts, our lives on you
You dwell in us by your Spirit, you do
Seek worshippers to worship in spirit
And in truth you reveal, our hearts are lit

So worthy occupation here engaged
Reality, not a performance staged
Help us right place of ritual and rite
To keep, that of you we never lose sight

Here we your creatures, you our Creator
Blessings and graces you on us confer
Inspire us where our love may little be
That it rise to a flame eternally

Having freedom to praise, to worship you
Help us to seek your way, and it pursue
Enabled by your Spirit, here He dwells
In lives redeemed, their testimony tells

O bring refreshment, life, your forgiveness
Giver of what our sins deserve, much less
For mercy mild you show in Christ your Son
Ever our Saviour, e'er the living One

Fan The Flame

Tune: Bemerton or Boundary
(*'Glory be to Jesus'*)

Keep the flame still burning
To your Lord still sing
Bring Him tributes, offerings
Give to Him good things

For you are redeeméd
He your living head
Saved from sin and restored
Unto Him your Lord

He will give fair graces
Enlighten faces
Meditate a while here
Promote godly fear

I will hear His voice for
He shall speak clear, pure
Turning from distractions
We His daughters, sons

Look, a light shall shine now
Lord, help us see how
You are guiding, keeping
Us, your our Lord, King

For there no salvation
Among each nation
Except through Jesus sure
Saviour evermore

Augustine's Anointing

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

Late have I loved you, my Lord
You are e'er the living Word
Beauty old, and ever new
Ancient of Days, always true

Late I loved you, my lament
Believed in your Son you sent
You have called me, called me out
Shattered my deafness no doubt

You blazed forth with light and love
Drew me into your encove (covenant)
My blindness you put to flight
Opened my eyes, gave me sight

You sent forth your fragrance sweet
I adore, fall at your feet
I have drawn my breath, my part
Pant after you as the hart

I have tasted you, and I
Hunger, thirst after you nigh
You have touched me, and I burn
For your peace, and of you learn

Power Proclamations

Tune: St Helen (or Regent Square)

('Lord of Lords, and King eternal')

Psalm 76

God is known in Judah's country
His name great in Israel
In [Jeru]Salem His tabernacle
Dwelling place in Zion all
There breaks He the arrows of bow
Enemies His power know

He breaks too the sword and the shield
In the battle, His foes yield
he more glorious, excellent
Than mountains where our feet went
The stout-hearted are spoiled, have slept
Their sleep, mighty guard not kept

At your rebuke, God, we hear, tell
How at exodus there fell
Chariots and horses drowned were
They your judgement did incur
They dead, set to rise no more for
You displayed your power sure

You, even you, are to be feared
Who unto you has here veered?
Who may stand when you are angry
You caused judgement [to] be heard, see
From heaven, the earth it did hear
And was still, it did you fear

When God did arise to judgement

To save the meek, penitent
Then earth feared you, and too as due
The wrath of main shall praise you
The remainder of wrath you shall
Restrain, your power ne'er fail

Vow, and unto the LORD God pay
Your promises, what you say
Let all that be around Him bring
presents, and unto Him sing
Him that ought to be feared always
He Lord of eternal days

He shall cut off the spirit, He
Shall deal with the princes, see
He is terrible to the kings
Of the earth, tributes each brings
For He is Lord high over all
Yet near all who on Him call

Angels Assisting

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Ye holy angels bright')

Above, celestial realm
There angels at the helm
Spiritual beings, power
They do have every hour
And sent to help mere humans here
To guide in way of godly fear

Lord, send angel to me
Help me to worship free
And to all peoples aid
Do come, make firm and staid
Your army strong, millions be
They do your will and praise you, see

Help us them remember
Your graces they confer
Upon the sons of men/women
Glorifying you then
They minister, do what God wills
Come to our aid, His love instills

Instills in humans hearts
And blessings all imparts
To souls who seek, are saved
For Christ the way has paved
'Til last day dawns, and then for e'er
With angels we the Rapture share

Humble Heart

Tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

To follow Christ's humility
Lord, this my prayer it be
Forgive where pride and arrogance
In me you sense

Help me not judge, but leave to you
For your judgement be true
But human wisdom it may fail
And not prevail

With grace we pray our attitude
Be humble, not harsh, rude
But seeking to show of our Lord
The living Word

So shall His image from us shine
He human and divine
His Spirit dwelling in our hearts
Fills us, all parts

And thus to serve our fellow man
Give us strength, so we can
In serving man, so do we do
Serve you anew

Rewards you give to humble, meek
Those who your face do seek
Yet may we you e'er glorify
And know you nigh

Forgiveness Full

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 130

Out of the depths to you, LORD, I cry
Hear my cry, do not pass me by
O LORD hear my voice and my pleas
My soul for refuge to you flees

If you, LORD, should mark our sins, keep
Record of wrongs, we shall mourn, weep
But with you there is forgiveness
That you we fear in your goodness

My soul waits for Him patiently
In His word I hope constantly
Let Israel hope in the LORD true
With Him they find blessings anew

Mercy, redemption, plenteous
His grace and salvation for us
He all Israel's sins shall redeem
It shall be true, not fantasy, dream

We thank you, LORD, sins you count not
Nor remember them, though were a lot
In your covenant promises sure
You forgive, forget them evermore

If we turn to your throne of grace
You will save us, redeem each race
Forgiveness, redemption you bring
In grateful thanks to you we sing

All Things New

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Redeemer')

Revelation 21 v.1-7

Repeat last line of each verse.

John did see earth and heaven new
There rejoicings not a few
For first heaven and first earth were
Passed away, it did concur
With God's purpose, and no more sea
No more separation, see (x2)

Viewed there be the holy city
Full of light, from sin set free
New Jerusalem, from heav'n came
It imprinted with God's name
Prepared as bride for her husband
Let all earth sing, heavens rend (x2)

Great voice out of heaven sounded
Echoes of it redounded
Behold, tabernacle of God
Is with men, and as He trod
On this earth in His Son Jesus
Now shall dwell and walk with us (x2)

God Himself be with His people
He be their God to them all
He shall wipe all tear from their eyes
He the One who never dies
Here no more death, sorrow, crying
Nor pain, comfort He does bring (x2)

The Lord God who sat on His throne
Says, I shall act, I alone
I make all things new, no behold
Let it be written and told
For these words be true and faithful
He shall bless who hear His call (x2)

He says, It is done, I am, be
Alpha and Omega see
The beginning and the end sure
And I will give evermore
To the thirsty of the fountain
Of water of life again (x2)

Come, freely drink, to quench your thirst
Living fountains here outburst
They that overcome inherit
All things, not lose out one whit
I will be their God, they my sons
And my daughters, every one (x2)

Glories And Graces

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Psalm 8

Out of mouth of babes, infants
And of humble penitents
You have ordained, established
Strength, appointed as you wished

Chorus

Lord, our Lord, how excellent
You to us your Son have sent

This be so that you might still
The enemies plans, ill-will
When I heavens consider
They are works of your hands sure - Chorus

Moon and stars, each planet made
You the heavens have arrayed
So what is man, why mindful
Of him are you, why him call? - Chorus

And the son of man you too
Sent Him unto your world true
Made man have dominion
O'er works of your hands, each one - Chorus

Little lower than angels
You have made man, each tongue tells
Crowned with glory and honour
Praises rise and to you stir - Chorus

All under man's feet is, so
Sheep, oxen, beasts, they do know
Fowls of air, and fish of sea
Know man their care-taker be - Chorus

Hungering And Thirsting

Tune: Tallis' Ordinal

('When all thy mercies, O my God')

Psalm 119 v.145-152

I cried with my whole heart, hear me
O LORD, look on me, see
I will keep all your statutes sure
They my guide evermore

I cried to you, save me, I pray
And I shall keep your way
Your testimonies my delight
And pleasant in my sight

I rose before the dawn of morn
And called for help, forlorn
Was I, but I hoped in your word
And you my prayer have heard

My eyes are awake through the night
Enlightened, my view bright
I meditate in your word sure
It wholly true and pure

Hear my voice, your loving-kindness
Show to me, and me bless
O LORD, revive m according
To your justice, it bring

They draw near that follow mischief
They far from your law, if
It shown to them, they not obey
And care not for your way

You are near LORD, your commands true
Appointed all by you
I have known that testimonies
Of yours with truth agrees

Luminous Light - 2

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly light')

Lord, light our way, where darkness seems to loom
Like heavy gloom
Inspire, anoint us, showers of your grace
Fall on each face
So looking to you we made radiant
You in us, we in you, your Son you sent

Help us today's light seek, to be content
And to relent
From pursuing tomorrow's light, for we
Not yet it see
But in your time you daily bread provide
While comforting us, in our hearts reside

Forgive where we dull, slow to act may be
Come set us free
Give boldness, courage, strength and energy
E'en unto me
That serving you acceptably we will
Know your presence, your Spirit with us still

Knowing no deed or word need be useless
You will it bless
We your witnesses, your evangelists
We know sure this
Sharing the gospel message and our Lord
He the eternal, e'er the living Word

Hopeful Help

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Psalm 142

I cried to the LORD with my voice
Still in Him I rejoice
To Him I made supplication
He LORD of each nation

Before Him I showed my complaint
Troubled, I weary, faint
When overwhelmed was my spirit
Still you my path had lit

In the way where I walked my foes
Laid snares, did me oppose
I looked for Help, no man would know
Me, nor be concerned so

Refuge failed me, bereft my soul
I cried, LORD, make me whole
For you my refuge and portion
God for me you have done

O hear my cry, for I am low
My enemies you know
They stronger than me, my soul bring
From prison, then I sing

Sing to you, praise your name, resound
The righteous me surround
For you shall deal bountifully
With me, your servant be

Commitment To Christ

Tune: Old Hundreth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Here be our determination
As gospel preached to each nation
To know, focus on nought beside
But Jesus Christ, Him crucified

And too His resurrection sure
He now lives, and shall die no more
The last Adam, the second man
Who saves as only He true can

For He does come to meet our need
The bread of heaven, on Him we feed
Water of life He does supply
Gifts that He will to none deny

Salvation in none else is found
So praises now to Christ redound
We are His people, we His sheep
All in His fold He does us keep

Gladness Gloryings

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord teach us how to pray aright')

Psalm 100

To the LORD make a noise joyful
All you lands, with hearts full
With gladness serve Him, come before
Him with singing e'ermore

The LORD he is God, this do know
His blessings He does show
He has made us, our Creator
Did life to us confer

For we did not ourselves make, no
Was all His doing, so
We are His people, and the sheep
Of His pasture, He keeps

With thanks enter into His gates
His goodness ne'er abates
And with praise come into His courts
Many to you [are] His thoughts

Be thankful to Him, His name bless
His providings confess
For He good, mercy e'erlasting
His truth through all years sing

Motivation (1) - External And Internal Perspective

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

2 Corinthians 4 v.16-18

Let us not faint and not lose heart
Nor from the pathway start
Knowing our outward form decay
Inward [is] renewed each day

For compare this, our affliction
Though it escapes no one
'Tis light and 'tis for a moment
Though it be troubles sent

For this does work for us a far
Better thing, none can mar
Work a far more exceeding weight
[Of] Eternal glory great

While looking not at the things seen
That are to senses keen
But looking at things here not seen
That are not small or mean

For the things seen are temporal
They are of this world all
But the things not seen eternal
Are, so we hear God's call

His call, not look on outward things
The things time and tide brings
But to eternal, unseen look
We not by Him forsook

Motivation (2) - The future presence of Christ

Tune: Unter Herrscher

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

2 Corinthian 5 v.1-8

For we know that if this body
Physical should dissolved be
'Tis a tent, for it encloses
Spirit and soul, each one knows
Yet we have from God a building
Our eternal residing

It be a house not made with hands
Nor made up of earthly lands
But a house in heaven eternal
For this we groan, for this call
Desiring to be clothed upon
By that given by God the Son

So being clothed, we shall not be
Disembodies spirits, see
For while in this earthly body
We do groan for liberty
That our mortality might be
Clothed with eternal life free

God has wrought, for He has prepared
Us for this, it shall be shared
With His people, for He also
Gives us His Spirit we know
As down payment, as the earnest
Of our future in Him blest

For we walk by faith, not by sight

Faith shows us His way, His light
So we are confident, willing
To be absent, everything
[Absent] From the body, and present be
With the Lord eternally

"Living by **faith** is living by what you believe is the truth.
Living by **sight** is living by your five senses -
sight, taste, smell, touch, hearing."

Motivation (3) - Future Reward

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

2 Corinthians 5 v.9-10

Labour on, your aim be
To here be pleasing, see
Unto you Lord, acceptable
Things do, and heed His call

For we must all appear
Is made apparent, clear
Before Christ's judgement seat, that we
Shall receive, even me

Shall receive the rewards
Of things we did towards
Christ while we were in physical
Body, just judgement all

Whether they good or bad
The things that we sure had
Done in our life in earth's time span
Each child, woman, and man

Grant we in Christ be found
So praises shall resound
Forgiveness is in Him alone
For us He does atone

Motivation(4) - The love of Christ

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

2 Corinthians 5 v.13-16

The love of Christ does us constrain
We preach Him not for gain
Of self, but that others be saved
For He the way has paved

For 'tis so, that Christ died for all
So were [we] all dead, the call
We hear, to share, evangelise
Open spiritual eyes

And He did die for all that they
Live not for selves each day
But live to Christ who for them died
No Saviour there beside

So now we know no one from view
Of human ways, but new
We view them in Christ as the ones
In God's sight [His] daughters, sons

Motivation(5) - The message of reconciliation

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

2 Corinthians 5 v.17-21

Therefore if any one be in Christ, see
They are a new creation, they made free
From old things, for they have now passed away
All things are become new, redemption day

And all things are of God, a way He made
For all to return to Him, Christ has paid
The price to save us, dying on a tree (cross)
Now resurrected, lives eternally

So we reconciled to God by His Son
For God was in Christ, he the Holy One
Reconciling the world unto Himself
Bringing us treasures of His heavenly wealth

Not imputing to us our trespasses (sins)
And committing unto us, even this
The ministry and word that all should be
Reconciled to God, so in harmony

We are ambassadors for Christ, we plead
That you our words, messages, from us heed
That we then might be made the righteousness
Of God in Him (Christ), He comes each one to bless

Stairway in the sky

Based on poem 'On the Wings of Eagles by w c.

Tune: All for Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come confirm us')

On a stairway there in the sky
Puffy clouds float closely by
And I do see angels too there
Escorting souls up the stairs

St Peter awaits by the gate
Immanuel also waits
To see us when our day has come
E'er we with [Him] our loving one

On eagle's wings we will sure fly
Fore'er with a rainbow high
Thankful now that the rain has gone
And for light that shines upon [us]

And when we think the sun will set
There'll be light that never quits
And in the light there will then be
Our dear friends and families

And so there on the mountain peak
We will live lives blissfully
Having from Christ all that we need
Satisfied eternally

Praise Parade

Tune: Penlan

('In heavenly love abiding')

Psalm 96 v.1-2

O sing to the LORD a song
Make it new, short, or long
Say to the LORD, all the earth
Whate'er nation your birth
Sing to the LORD, bless His name
Declare His glory, fame
Show His salvation each ay
Continue in His way

Psalm 96 v.10

Say among all the nations
To people, all stations
That the LORD reigns for ever
Loses control never
The world it is established
Not all things [are] as man wished
For the LORD He shall judge here
His righteous judgement near

Psalm 97 v.1-2

The LORD reigns, let earth rejoice
And praise Him with one voice
Let all the coastlands be glad
Rejoice, no longer sad
Clouds, darkness, they are around
About Him, there He found
Righteousness, judgement, are sure
His habitation pure

Psalm 98 v.5-6

Make to the LORD joyful noise
Men, women, girls, and boys
All the earth praise Him with loud
Noise, praise to Him avowed
Rejoice, with songs, instruments
The joy of penitents
Forgiven, set free, redeemed
Though without hope we seemed

Psalm 98 v.7-9

Let sea, sky, earth, in fullness
Joy in Him, and Him bless
For He the LORD does come near
Comes to judge the earth here
With righteousness, equity
So shall His judgement be
he fair, just, with no evil
Thus shall each tongue tell all

Mind Meditation

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Help us, Lord, each thought bring captive
Unto you, our Lord and King
If they displeasing to you be
Show us, even me

Offering self to you daily
So too our minds transformed be
Where habitual patterns stuck we [pray]
Give strength, set us free

So to think, have mind renewed to
Ever think Christ-like anew
Meditating, contemplating
And of you we sing

Disturbed, distracted, or fretful
We turn to you, on you call
Daily studying the Scriptures
Show your ways to us

And in listening in prayer times
About matters of life's rhymes
And asking in prayer, so may we
Pray what your will be

Rest a while, think sometimes deeper
Commune with your Lord, and stir
Your best thoughts that by Him inspired
Have been holy fired

Going on each step, securely
Changed to Christ's image we be
His Spirit our thinking He guides
And in us resides

Resplendent Reigning

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Revelation 11 v.15-19

Seventh angel trumpet sounded
Great voices in heaven said
'Kingdoms of the world are become
[The] Kingdoms of our Lord, [and] His Son
His Christ, the Messiah promised'
Event shall by none be missed

'And He shall reign e'en for ever
His mighty reign cease never'
Then twenty four elders round throne
Fall down, worship God alone
Saying, 'We give you thanks, O Lord
God Almighty, living Word'

'You who are, and were, and will be
Have taken your power, see
Your great power, and do reign now'
Though nations may question how
For 'tis of your omnipotence
Man can reason and can sense [this]

The nations were moved to anger
And your time of wrath does stir
Time of the dead, that they be judged
Yet rewards, be encouraged
For your servants, saints, and prophets
Who do love you, no regrets

And reward too unto great, small

They who fear your name, them all
But destruction unto they who
Destroy the earth, despite do
Thus revealed your just judgement
And blessings to penitent

God's temple in heaven opened
Seen then as the skies did rend
There seen in His temple the ark
Of His covenant, and hark
Thunderings, voices, and lightnings
Earthquake, great hail, awesome things

1066 and all that rubbish!

Cooeee - Hi there!

Well, it's not that far away now

The 1066 annual reunion

Remembering the Battle of Hastings

In the UK in 1066

You've not heard of it?

Or you've forgotten it?

Well, it's an annual reunion

Anyone can go on one condition

You have to have been there in person

In 1066

Now there's a few poets who were there

Myself, Goldfinch, Michael Edwards

Maybe more

Were you there?

Check your old diaries to have a look

Did you go there last October?

October 14th is the actual date

I'm going again

And I'm taking my dog with me

A watchdog, ya know

He barks at anyone not marking up their poem as 18+

If it should be marked so

His bark is worse than his bite though

Sometimes he barks too much

But it's to save me swooning at some poems

Woof! Not now Fido!

It's a completely barmy reunion

They act out the battle too

I'm in it
I mucked it up
I said to Harold 'Look up, Sire'
And he did, at that fateful moment
When an arrow flew through the air, and....
The rest is history!

See ya there - maybe!
(Orchi's just eccentric, ya know!)
Hee Hee

Humility Healing

Tune: Anima Christi

('Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast')

Philippians 2 v.1-4

If in Christ there any consolation
Or encouragement unto any one
If any comfort of love, fellowship
As you meet in community, worship

And if there be any bowels, deep feeling
Mercies, affections, every good thing
Share these things together, and then joy be
Known among each one, in Christ-likeness see

So be like-minded, having the same love
Coming from the Spirit, the holy dove
Be of one accord, and of one mind true
A part to contribute there be for you

Let nothing be done in strife, vain-glory
But in lowliness of mind each one be
Let each esteem other better than self
Not only seeking one's own profit and wealth

Look not every one on your own things, you
Look every one on things of others too
Sharing needs, interests of family
Of God, our heavenly Father He e'er be

Committed Comforters

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord, hear my prayer')

O Lord, hear my prayer
I know you are there
When I call, answer me
You meet all my need
Your sheep do you feed
Come and listen, me see

Grant strength for each day
And show us your way
You see hearts, every part
Inspire our minds true
To contemplate you
We not from your paths start

In meditation
Our soul's elation
For we find you are there
Your Spirit, He dwells
Each humble soul tells
That we Christ's image bear

And at end of day
In closing, we pray
Guard us whole (wholly), comfort too
Forgive all our sin
Make us clean within
With your blessings endue

Awaking to light
Lord, dawn on our sight

That we on you focus
To live live pleasing
To you in each thing
By your grace prosper us

Evangelising
Your gospel to bring
To those who not know you
Your life, salvation
The proclamation
And your forgiveness too

Comforting Spirit
The way you have lit
So we be witnesses
Committed to you
Share strength, solace too
So others share in bliss

'Comfort' can mean in the sense of 'strengthen'
as well as 'solace'.

Enemy Eradication

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Psalm 83

Keep not silence, O God, your peace
Hold not, until enemies cease
Be not still, for they make tumult
And too the righteous they insult

They seek your people to destroy
Crafty, evil ways they employ
O God make them as whirling dust
That blows away, they not you trust

May they be ashamed, so may they
Turn to you, seek your name alway
Your name the LORD, great evermore
You rule and reign from shore to shore

Let them be troubled, confounded
And ashamed, for they be misled
Act, so all know your name alone
Is JEHOVAH, e'er on your throne

Worshipping Wholeness

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Psalm 99

The Lord reigns, let people tremble
Where they to Him assemble
He sits between the cherubims
Let each be moved, come with hymns
Unto Him, the Lord who is great
Great in Zion, for Him wait

High above the people is He
Let them praise Him now and see
His great and terrible name sure
It is holy evermore
The Lord, the King, strong, so it be
He loves judgement, equity

In Israel, His people, 'tis facts
With judgement righteous He acts
The Lord our God here Him exalt
At His footstool bow, no fault
In Him, for He is whole, holy
Give Him your worship solely

Moses and Aaron mist His priests
Prepared sacrifices, feasts
And Samuel among them that call
On His name, He answers all
From cloudy pillar He then spake
They kept His words, did partake

Of communion with Him sweet

He spake from the mercy seat*
You O Lord God answered, forgave
Though vengeance you did not waive
But showed it on their inventions
You the Lord the holy one

So exalt Him, worship His name
He who remains e'er the same
Holy, just, with judgement righteous
He does come and tend to us
We changed more into His image
Grant us Lord wisdom, courage

*Mercy-seat - the lid of the Old Covenant ark (box)
where the two tables of stone of the Ten Commandments were placed,
plus a couple of other things put in the ark too.
(Exodus 25 v.21-22)

Godly Graces

Tune: Song 34

('Forth in they name, O Lord, I go')

Psalm 112

Praise you the LORD, blesséd be they
That fear the LORD, e'en for alway
That delight greatly to obey
Follow His commandments each day

Their seed on earth shall be mighty
Upright generation blessed be
Wealth and riches be in homes there
Their righteousness endures for e'er

Unto the upright arises
Light in the darkness they see this
They gracious, full of compassion
And righteous, fair, be every one

Good people show favour and lend
Unto the needy they well tend
They guide affairs with discretion
Justice seen in their dealings done

Surely they shall not be moved e'er
Shaken up shall their state be ne'er
The righteous shall everlasting
Be in remembrance, each good thing

They shall not fear evil tidings
Whate'er each situation brings
Their heart is fixed, steadfast, trusting
In the LORD, safe beneath His wing

Their heart is established, they shall
Not be afraid, and shall do well
Shall see [their] desire on enemies
The LORD from them releases, frees

They have dispersed unto the poor
Their righteousness endures e'ermore
Their strength shall be with honour due
Exalted, they shall it renew

The wicked shall see and be grieved
Their justice they shall have received
Shall melt away, and their desire
Perish, as if burned up by fire

Power Promise

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Ephesians 1 v.19-20

Here now be encouraged
You are blessed, privileged
A child of God, if believing
In Jesus for each thing

Each thing of salvation
Open to each nation
In you the Holy Spirit dwells
And of God's glory tells

He be the same power
That God wrought in that hour
When Christ His Son He raised from dead
He now our living Head

Exceeding great His power
Come seek Him for a shower
Or an outpouring, what your need
He shall meet full indeed

Communing Contemplation

Tune: Margaret

(' O love that wilt not let me go')

I kneel, I sense your silent presence
Be still, and know that I am God hence
Moments meet in time and space here
We may draw unto our Lord near
Reflect in holy fear

A prayer arises from heart, communes
With its Lord, truly it be in tunes
Of harmony, forgiven, set free
For Christ has lived and died for me
Now endless His life be

My heart, mind, being, sanctuary
From it my flow words that do agree
With the Lord, He who reigns eternal
His voice here now, His loving call
May we hear one and all

Guard me, keep me, that there no disrupt[ion]
Shall break communion or corrupt
But from this quiet place I move
Help me in life your goodness prove
Ne'er from your peace remove

Inimitable Invitation

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

Forgive, Lord, where distracted
Where it seems your presence hid
Yet some of our own making
Where we turn from you our King
For your presence ever nigh
Is to those who to you fly

There find love, security
And forgiveness whole and free
All my sins on Jesus laid
He for me the price has paid
When this light on me does dawn
Afresh, I no longer mourn

Loved, accepted, through the Son
Jesus, He the work has done
To make man* acceptable (*mankind)
Unto God, now welcomed all
Though only through Him we may
Find in Him redemption's day

Begone guilt, depression, sin
Christ's blood cleanses souls within
No accusation can stand
The Lord helps us by His hand* (* His Spirit)
It all-powerful and strong
Avails for us all along

So renewed, refreshed, restored
In th image of our Lord

We grow daily by His grace
'Til at last we see His face
In the great consummation
Rapture dawns for each nation

For all who in Him believe
Fullness of life do receive
And be ever with their Lord
He the true and living Word
Come to Him, it not too late
You shall find His mercies great

Gracious Guidance

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 78 parts

Give ear, my people, to my law
Incline your ears, hear me for sure
Alleluia, Alleluia!
I will here speak in parables
Will explain to who on me calls
You shall grow strong in wisdom-schools
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Tell each generation my ways
That they in me prolong their days
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Set their hope in God, not forget
He shall be faithful, even yet
Will guide us, so our hearts be set
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Marvellous things He did there do
Came to their aid, helped them anew
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Divided Red Sea, people passed
Over, each one from first to last
Then o'er enemies did Sea cast
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In daytime He led them with cloud
And at night, fire as guiding shroud
Alleluia, Alleluia!
He clave the rocks in wilderness
Gave them waters from them, did bless

Provided out of His goodness
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He rained manna from heaven down
Gave them to eat, thus His renown
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And caused wind to blow, bringing fowls
Coasting their flight on desert howls
They full, satisfied, each soul tells
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He be their rock, their redeemer
Blessings on them He did confer
Alleluia, Alleluia!
When in Egypt plagues did He send
To render from enemies hand
His people, that they [be]'fore Him stand
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He chose the tribe of Judah sure
Mount Zion He loved evermore
Alleluia, Alleluia!
That [is] His dwelling, sanctuary
Established forever to be
Salvation flowing whole and free
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Family Fruitfulness

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly Light')

Psalm 127

Except the Lord, save* (*except) He does build the house
It matters not
Whether build children, husband, wife or spouse
Shall be poor lot
For unless He the Lord the house does build
They all that build it shall be unfulfilled

For rising early, vanity it is
It is no bliss
For you to sit up late, for also this
Vanity is
To eat the bread of sorrows, by it fed
He his beloved sleep gives them in bed

Behold, children from the Lord, they sure be
Heritage, see
And fruit of womb His reward, His desire
They shall blessed be
To bless, increase, enlarging family
Happy they who many arrows carry

For children are as arrows in their hand
And thy shall stand
Against their enemies there at gate* manned
And claim their land
Yes, if their quiver full of children blest
They shall in the lord rejoice, in Him rest

* gate - the city gate, the place of business transactions,

and a type of court for judgements passed, etc.

Praise - Karar

Tune & Hymn: When the Spirit of the Lord...

Karar - One Hebrew word for 'praise'

2 Samuel v.13-15

When the ark* returned unto (*Old Covenant box)

Jerusalem anew

There was great celebration

To the Lord, elation

Chorus

They danced, *karar*, whirled about

And for them there was no doubt

That the Lord was good, so

Onward procession did go

David danced before the Lord

Believed in all His word

Danced with all his might, carefree

Not caring [if] others see - Chorus

But not with human effort

Was he in praise caught [up]

But dressed in linen robe he

No sweat or stress be - Chorus

Shouting, praise, exaltation

To God, the Holy One

Sounds of trumpets sounding loud

Rejoicing large crowd - Chorus

Prayer of Poor and Needy

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Psalm 70

Make haste God, to help me
Deliver me, see
My troubles I have here
Come to me, draw near
Let them be ashamed sure
That seek my soul poor
And confounded, turned back
While I nothing lack

Let them be confused, they
The ones who do say
Ahh, and so do scorn me
Look on me, me see
Let them be turned back, blame
For reward of shame
Give them, but do save me
From their ways me free

Let all those that seek you
Rejoice now anew
And be glad in you for
They worship, adore
And let such as love you
Keep you still in view
They love your salvation
Shared with each nation

Let them say continual
Your name be it all

Magnified, shown as great
You care for our state
But I poor and needy
Be, come, set me free
Make haste, me deliver
Help me, not defer

God on our side

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 124

If the LORD had not been
On our side, it seen
That the enemy would
Do all that it could
To defeat us, up rise
Our lives as their prize
If the LORD had not been
On our side, it seen

They would have swallowed us
Up, it would be thus
Taken us alive sure
And their wrath outpour
Then the waters would flow
Overwhelm us so
The stream sweep o'er our soul
And take heavy toll

For then the proud waters
Over sons, daughters
Would have us overflowed
Threatened our abode
But blessed be the LORD, who
Has helped us anew
Has not given us to
Them evil us do

They shall not us consume
Nor cause fear or gloom

Our soul is escaped now
Through the LORD, 'tis how
As a bird from the snare
Out of trap does fare
Traps that fowler have laid
Evil deeds repaid

For the snare is broken
We are escaped then
Freedom, light, and victory
Here for all to see
Our help is in the name
Of the LORD, the same
He who made heaven, earth
Praise, give Him His worth

Praise - Halijkah

Tune: Webb

(Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Psalm 68 parts

Halijkah -one Hebrew word for 'praise'

Halijkah, a procession

Marching in succession

A caravan, company

To the Lord their praise be

And when the Lord God went forth

The one of awesome worth

When He did march through desert

Victory was clear set

For then the earth did shake sure

The heavens rain outpoured

At presence of God, and e'en

Mount Sinai was seen

To be moved at such a one

Comparable to none

The Lord their guide, guardian

Of children, women, men

Let God arise, enemies

Be scattered, for He frees

Us from them, and let they who

Hate him flee from Him, do

As smoke driven away, drive

Them away, they not thrive

So let the wicked perish

But [the] righteous Him cherish

Let them be glad and rejoice

The have made Him their choice
Extol Him, He rides upon
The heavens, holy one
His name is JAH, JEHOVAH
The Lord, to Him all stir
To process in His victory
Which every soul shall see

Ascribe unto God strength for
He excellent e'ermore
His strength is in the clouds here
Terrible, awesome fear
Yet He the God of Israel
Does hear who on Him call
Strength, power, gives He to each
Salvation does them reach

Daily Bread

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Enough the Lord He will provide
And none shall be denied
*Jehovah Jireh** be His name
Give Him glory and fame

As manna fell in olden days
Throughout the desert ways
It fell continual, each morn new
Was there for all to view

And before each Sabbath drew nigh
The Lord He did supply
Two days worth, so that they could rest
And worship, His name blest

So now Jesus our bread of life
Fear not, no faint, no strife
His daily providings He sends
Until life's journey ends

* *Jehovah Jireh* = The Lord will provide; or,
The Lord will see to it, will sort it out.

Stepping Stones

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

Gifts and graces, you Lord give
And through you your people live
Fan the flame, the spark within
Spirit, cleanse us from all sin

Here to take each day today
Pray you do reveal your way
And your will to hearts open
We shall progress steady then

Here a walk, not rush or toil
Evil one shall not us foil
But to put faith in action
Or else profitless each one

Your desire that all be saved
Christ your Son the way has paved
Take us, take me, may we serve
You, though we none it deserve

A Gem Of Grace

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

Here communing, times of quiet
Lord, you not from us depart
Our hearts, lives, sanctuary
There your dwelling be

Yet not quiet passivity
But to serve you actively
Your Spirit us empower
For needs of each hour

So to be doing, faith be
Shown truly in action, see
Words alone be not complete
Will not needs full meet

Or in loud praise, exulting
Worship to our Lord and King
What[ever] our rhythm, what[ever] our tone
Honour him alone

Offer your praise uniquely
None like you can ever be
Like you perfectly, for grace
[Has] Multi-coloured face

Baptism Blessings

Tune: All for Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come confirm us')

John 1 v.29-34

John's Gospel Series (1)

John [the Baptist] did see Jesus approaching
To river [Jordan], he baptising
Said, Behold the Lamb of God He
Saviour of all men He be

He does take away the world's sin
Washes, cleanses us within
See all your sins upon Him laid
He for you the price has paid

John saw the Spirit descending
From heaven, grace attending
Like a dove on Jesus bidding
Rests, stays with Him, remaining

God the Father He did John send
To baptise, so lives amend
He said to John, Who you do see
The spirit resting, He be

Be the one who does baptise sure
With the Spirit evermore
So John bare record, this the word
That He [Jesus] is the Son of God.

Temple Tales

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

John 2 v.13-24 parts

John's Gospel Series (2)

The Jews Passover was at hand
They came from every land
Unto Jerusalem, and so
To Temple they did go
Jesus, He went and found therein
Sellers, and did begin
To make a whip of small cords to
Cleanse all the Temple true

For there were sellers of oxen
And sheep and doves there too
With changers of money sitting
There 'neath the Temple wing
Jesus He did drive them all out
For sure without a doubt
His Father's house they there had made
A den of thieves, cash paid

The disciples they remembered
Did among themselves shared
The word of scripture was written
And did come to pass then
That the zeal of his Father's house
Had eaten up Jesus
Then the Jews asked, What sign do you
Do to prove your works new?

Jesus said, Destroy this Temple
And make it cease and fall
And in three days I will it raise
Though you may thus it raze
The Temple that He so did speak
Was of His body weak
When crucified, but rose again
Strong Saviour of all men

Birth Beginnings

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

John 3 v.1-8 part

John's Gospel Series (3)

To start a life, one needs be born
And so a happy day dawns
But as it is so physically
So is true spiritually

For Jesus said, Nicodemus
It is true of all of us
That except we be born again
We cannot see kingdom then

Kingdom of God, one needs enter
Though one has been repent
Must needs be born, born from above
Born of the Spirit, the dove

Meaning [to] be born spiritually
To the new covenant see
Only God can such a thing do
To give each one a heart new

Not enough to be religious
Shall not in itself save us
Nor in a Christian upbringing
We need our live to God bring

And neither ritual, observance
Though this appears a good stance

yet each needs a relationship
With Jesus and true worship

Harvest Hastening

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields')

Come, scatter seeds of goodness
That they may others bless
Thankful for gifts spiritual
And blessings physical
We are Christ's image-bearers
And humble grace-sharers
Help us Lord to be cheerful
Givers, encourage all

Chorus

What you do here unto
The least one, even you
Do it unto the Lord, He said
He gives us daily bread

A world, much need and sorrow
Anxious for tomorrow
For if not enough food, drink
They shall be led to think
Where shall we next meal obtain?
How we provisions gains?
Help us Lord, poor, destitute
Not to deny or mute - Chorus

Harvest enough for all be
If we justly share, see
Forgive our greed, selfishness
For that you will not bless
While poor sit by, injustice
Not of their choice is this

But rich have them exploited
Have not them tended, fed - Chorus

We rich by comparisons
To those of poor nations
Yet we pray you kingdom come
And that your will be done
So equity, and fairness
And then too all confess
Your love, compassion, mercy
And grace and liberty - Chorus

Watered Way

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

John 4 v.13-14

John's Gospel Series (4)

Come to me, for living water
I shall give to you sure
Says Jesus, and who drinks this pure
Water, shall thirst ne'ermore

We drink of water natural
It needed here by all
A human need, we die without
It, here is not a doubt

And who drinks of such water-well
Shall thirst again, they tell
Of their need for further supply
Daily need by and by

But whosoever does drink sure
Of this water here pure
Says Jesus, such shall never thirst
E'en if drought does its worse

For such water that He us gives
We drink, and each one lives
It shall be in us a well full
Whose fountains never stall

For it shall be well of water
Springing up evermore

Into everlasting life, sent
Eternal refreshment

Bethesda Blessings

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

John 5 v.1-14 part

John's Gospel Series (5)

There by the pool of Bethesda
In Jerusalem, water stir
At seasons, and an angel moved
Them, healing for folk it sure proved

For who was first of sick or lame
Or blind, paralysed, whate'er name
If they first stepped then in the pool
They were made whole and restored full

Certain man had infirmity
Thirty eight years long, so it be
When Jesus saw him, that he lay
There, then He did unto Him say

Said, 'Will you be made whole?' be so
Yet the man's years state He did know
The man said, 'Sir, I have no one
To put me in pool', all is done

For another steps in before
Me, then they are healed, it is sure
When angel troubles the waters
Makes it swirl as he then it stirs

Jesus said to him, 'Rise and take
Up your bed, and walk', it no fake

Though opposition, sabbath day
But love, compassion, wins alway

Jesus did later the man find
In the temple, and true and kind
Said, 'Behold you are whole, and so
Sin no more, lest worse things you know'

Creaturely Care-takers

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Help us trust you Lord, all you made
Is all of excellent grade
And still you create and sustain
Your works in truth and unfeign[ed]
You great Creator, Lord of all
Will hear who upon you call
'Jehovah Jireh', you provide
And in humble hearts reside

We give you thanks and praise again
Your provision to all men
And women, children, all that be
Inhabiting earth, sky, sea
Praise from all above, all below
E'en those that do dark paths know
Below the earth, all inclusive
Does you worthy honour give

For you have shown your faithfulness
Given us enough, we bless
you, and pray we may use wisely
What you give u to o'ersee
For gifts and graces, many skills
You give us, tasks we fulfil
By strength which you to each impart
And so display your fine art

Fields ripe for harvest, abundance
Give us wisdom and true sense
To not waste food, nor money, time

As we go on through life's rhyme
You our Creator, Father too
If we believe in you true
And in your Son whom you have sent
We forgiven penitents

And your Spirit who comes to dwell
Within us, let each tongue tell
He renews the face of the ground
Blessings of dew fall around
May our lives too be ground wherein
We washed and cleansed, freed from sin
So produce fruit, a harvest fair
And more of Christ's image bear

Provisions Potentials

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

John 6 v.27-35

John's Gospel Series (6)

Jesus said, Labour not so
Much for the food that you know
Will satisfy appetite
Temporal, yet needed, right
To sustain us every day
in our human life pathway

But that food, it does perish
Though it to stay we may wish
But labour more for that food
Which endures and which is good
Endures to life e'erlasting
Eternal sustenance bring

For He the Son of man shall
Give us this food, we fare well
For He by God has been sealed
He His Father, He revealed
His Son, He the bread of life
Satisfies us, free from strife

They that come to Him shall ne'er
Hunger, in His life shall share
And they that on Him believe
Shall never thirst, founts receive
Of His living water pure
He shall grant to us e'ermore

Harvest Judgement

Tune: St George's, Windsor
('Come, ye thankful people, come')
Revelation Chapter 14 parts

Harvest of the earth shall be
Comes with justice, judgement, see
Angel puts in his sickle
Earth is reaped, the righteous all
Safely then are gathered in
Never more troubled by sin
For the time is ripe that they
Ever with the Lord shall stay

But a contrast, an angel
Puts in his sickle, farewell
Unto the wicked, evil
None can help them, they shall fall
The vine's grapes clusters are reaped
Those in unrighteousness steeped
Cast into God's wine-press fierce
For sorrows their souls shall pierce

Blood of the grapes, there outside
City was seen, woe betide
Flowing to sixteen hundred
Furlongs* there in terror, dread
For 'tis complete destruction
Symbolic of every one
Who does wickedness, and they
Shall not live in harvest day

But upon Mount Sion, see
There all the redeemed be

Their Father's name is written
On their foreheads, they no sin
The sing new song, the Lamb they
Worship Him, Christ, for alway
They the first-fruits, good and pure
At home with the Lord e'ermore

1600 furlongs - a symbolic number:

$4 \times 4 \times 1000 = 1600$

4 - the number of the earth - doubled here.

1000 - 10 the number of power - trebled here,
showing completeness, fullness, entirety.

Refreshments Renewals

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

John 7 v.37-39

John's Gospel Series (7)

At Tabernacles feast
Christ spoke to greatest, least
Saying, If anyone thirst, let
Them come to me, drink yet

For they who do believe
'Tis true, with no deceive
As the scripture says, from their heart
Shall living water start

Out of their hearts shall flow
Rivers of water show
Living water, many rivers
Which He by grace confers

He spake of the Spirit
Though as yet was not fit
For Him to be given, He bides (waits)
Christ not yet glorified

Forgiveness Freedom

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

John 8 v.1-11 part

John's Gospel Series (8)

Woman was in adultery
Caught, brought to Jesus, see
And seeking to trap Him to say
She must be done away

Must needs be stoned, that Moses' law
They said to Jesus sure
But His love, compassion, concern
Did cause Him then to turn

To turn to them, to say, 'He who
Has no sin, cast stone new
He be the first to her condemn'
But things they did change then

For convicted by their conscience
They left and went from thence
Jesus and woman left alone
Here sense His gracious tone

For they had left, her accusers
Forgiveness He confers
On her, says He condemns not, for
She to go, [and] sin no more

Evangelistic Expressions

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

A fire, a light, a flame
Your ever-living name
You Lord of all above
Still reigning in your love
And you too Lord of all below
We know you, you did us first know

Help us to seek in you
Your ways right, good, and true
Not to turn unto self
To find our soul's true wealth
But salvation in you is found
Our hearts rejoice, a joyful sound

Where we distracted be
Help us your way to see
To follow on sure, strong
With your aid all along
Taking each step with you our guide
Who do in lowly hearts reside

There found a great treasure
Your Spirit does assure
Us of your presence true
You do our lives renew
And so to share that rich, full store
That others saved too evermore

Light of our darkness, we
May fail, poor sinners be

But in your forgiveness
You do restore and bless
We your people, your children be
Confident in you, even me

By your grace we shall live
And to you praises give
Share you in word and deed
And meeting human need
Through your strength, your enabling
Other souls we shall to you bring

Captivity Compassions

Tune: Laudate Domino

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 126

When the LORD turned again captivity
Of Zion, His people, then liberty
Then they were like them that do in heart dream
As if their restoration real did not seem

Those dreams, those floatations, ephemeral
Yet having foundations, secure appeal
Then was their mouth filled with much joyful laughter
And their tongue was filled with singing thereafter

Then they said, was heard, among the heathen
The Lord has done great things for them even
They replied, yes it is true, the Lord has done
Great things for us, has brought us back, every one

Has redeemed us, brought us back to our land
Now trusting in Him, we here shall safe stand
These great things they experienced and were glad
His blessings and graces they joyfully had

Turn again our captivity, LORD, turn
As the streams in the south, help us to learn
Of you, who do guide us in all your paths sure
And uphold and strengthen us for evermore

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy, see
Sorrows may show as progress comes to be
Developing seeds come to ripe condition
Then reaping produces joy, more fruition

They that go forth and weep, with precious seed
May not easy, cosy, leisurely be
But they in time shall doubtless come once again
With rejoicing, bringing fruits of labour then

Their sheaves they shall bring at their harvest time
Their hopes be fulfilled, their reapings sublime
So they then restored, returned to native land
By the LORD's redeemings and His guiding hand

Praise - Machowl/Chowl

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

A round dance, 'machowl', it does derive here
From 'chowl'* (*Hebrew), whirling particles appear
As of a sandstorm, vigorous, lively
Take up your places for the dance, see

Psalm 149 v.3

Let them praise His name, praise it in the dance
It will the worship truly enhance
Let them sing praises to Him with timbrel
And with the harp, and instruments all

Jeremiah 31 v.13

The Lord shall restore, then the young and old
Shall praise Him, by all His wonders told
He shall turn their mourning to joy, comfort
Sorrow turned to joy, they have Him sought

Exodus 15 v.20-21

The Lord's deliverance wrought at Red Sea
Then this the people's song it was, see
The horse and rider of the enemy
He has destroyed, thrown into the sea

1 Samuel 18 v.6

Dancing at Saul and David's victories
The Lord from enemies He them frees
Praise and elation, joy, celebration
From everyone, whate'er their station

Psalm 30 v.11

You Lord have turned my mourning to dancing
I my joyful songs unto you bring
You have put off my sackcloth, I not sad
Now, for your help has sure made me glad

Pondering Perusal

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Here I set my focus
Lord, I you confess
All distractions depart
Lord, you know each heart

Guide me by your Spirit
As you do see fit
Help me to attune to
You in me anew

Having precious treasure
In human lives sure
We be as pots of clay
Your glories [we] display

Leaving all our cares, fears
With you in our prayers
So your peace comforting
Us here in each thing

Trusting you will provide
Fro me, I confide
In you, and you reveal
Your will to each still

Forgive where I doubt love
Your Spirit, the dove
Help me not Him quencn, grieve
But His love receive

Praise Perpetually

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

We lift our hearts, voices, to you
Give you our lives, come, them renew
Alleluia, Alleluia
Drawing on resources rich, fine
We praise your name, it be divine
And to you fresh we do align
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O come help, kindle [where] sparks low, dim
To glorify your Son, 'tis Him
Alleluia, Alleluia
Christ Jesus, He our Saviour here
We wait His return to appear
We shall love, praise in holy fear
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Move in each heart, each penitent
Your Spirit working, no relent
Alleluia, Alleluia
To change us more to image true
Of your Son, daily us renew
You give us good things not a few
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Help us, empower, where we weak
Inspire us more your way to seek
Alleluia, Alleluia
You Lord of life, you have a plan
For each one, child, woman, and man
Lifted now is the curse, the ban

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Looking not sole on outward things
Yet whate'er they be, our soul sings
Alleluia, Alleluia
Unto you still our Lord and King
You rule, reign, over everything
Our great thanks unto you we bring
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Procession of praise marches on
Even when earthly days are gone
Alleluia, Alleluia
For eternal life do you give
They who believe in you shall live
Forgiving us as we forgive
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all creation your name praise
And songs of joy to you upraise
Alleluia, Alleluia
Creator, Maker, Father too
You shall one day make all things new
Eternity to spend with you
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Finding Freedom

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

John 8 v.31-36

John's Gospel Series (9)

Jesus said, If you here do
Continue in my word true
Then are you my disciples
You have surely heard my calls

And you shall know the truth here
I shall it to you endear
And the truth shall make you free
Though you servants of sin be

For whoever commits sin
Needs a freeing from within
For such to sin are servants
Yet they can be freed from thence

The servants they abide not
Forever, that not their lot
In a house, but the Son, He
Abides for ever, whole, free

If the Son therefore shall make
You free, for His mercies sake
You shall then be free indeed
He shall e'er you guide and lead

Seeing The Saviour

Tune: Tyrol

('A man there lived in Galilee')

John Chapter 9 parts

John's Gospel Series (10)

A blind man healed with Jesus' word
He sight on Him conferred
Said, go wash in pool, Siloam
After anointing him
With clay thus put upon his eyes
He on the word relies
Goes to the pool, washed off the clay
And he did see that day

Later Jesus did the man find
Spoke to him gentle, kind
Do you believe upon the Son
Of God, life-giving One?
He did reply, Who is He, Lord
For I did hear His word
Who is He, that I might believe
On Him, and Him receive?

Jesus said, You have seen Him here
He does to you endear
And it is He that with you talks
With you in the way walks
And he said, O Lord, O believe
For here be no deceive
And he worshipped the Lord there too
With praises not a few

Jesus said, For judgement I came
For some go on the same
Spiritually blind, do not see
Religiosity
Is all they follow, rule and rite
They in dark, have no sight
But I, light of the world, do give
True sight that all may live

Shepherd Security

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

John Chapter 10 pats

John's Gospel series (11)

Jesus, said He, Truly, truly
The door, gate of sheep-fold be
By Him if any enter in
They shall be saved, forgiven

The thief comes not, except to steal
To destroy, is set to kill
But Jesus has come that His sheep
May have life, He does them keep

And that they have life in fullness
More abundant, he shall bless
Them, for He is the good Shepherd
His voice true His sheep have heard

He good Shepherd, His life does give
That His sheep be saved and live
Hirelings care not for the sheep
They do not rejoice nor weep

For they to flock are indifferent
Only on hire are they sent
But Jesus, Good Shepherd, he cares
And in lives of His sheep He shares

His sheep hear His voice and follow
For thy recognise, do know

His voice, and them life eternal
He gives them, they shall not fail

Shall not fall nor perish, and nor
Shall they be taken e'ermore
Out of His hand, for [His] Father gave
Them to Him, He does them save

For the Father, greater than all
All human plans shall fail, stall
For none can take sheep from His hand
He Lord of His sheep, each land

Revitalising Resplendencies

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

On river walk, God's beauties here displayed
For He it all created and outlayed
Your birds, you swans, and geese here take your ease
You pigeons, ducks, take comfort as you please

And trees in shades of autumn colours view
Brown, red, and orange, and some stay green too
All here at peace, nothing disturb you calm
God your Creator shall keep you from harm

You rivers flow, with shining sheen of sun
Or sprinkled with clear raindrops, every one
We cannot of our human selves create
What you have made Lord, each thing it is great

Whether blue sky or clouds a-floating by
In all seasons of life your presence nigh
Help us to sense your love, your Spirit true
Unite all things that they glorify you

River of life, we drink from such a source
It endless flows, perpetual is its course
Here next to nature stop a while we may
Marvellous each your wonders we do say

And woodlands with variety of trees
All hues of green each leaf unique one sees
Nature reserves where squirrels there do play
Help us to protect and conserve each day

In wisdom Lord, you have cure made each thing
Each creature unto you may glory bring
Environmentalists save planet, yet
Better is to come, help us not forget

For one day new heavens and earth shall be
They shall remain, abide, permanently
And you God, with your people, we shall tell
Eternally you with us come to dwell

A Will And A Way

Tune: St Peter (Reinagle)

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Help us O Lord, reveal your way
And guide us every day
Inspire us, and your purpose show
That we your way shall go

Where stuck or dull, not much progress
Yet you there still to bless
None useless nor ungifted be
Grace granted e'en to me

Your plans, purposes, for each one
Made sure through Christ your Son
Still loved and saved, sheep in His fold
You do each gently hold

Give wisdom, aid, and all we need
To serve you true indeed
Your Spirit, Comforter, abides
In humble hearts resides

So none are left bereft, for you
Come, visit us anew
And e'en stay in souls washed from sin
Your presence pure within

O light a light, kindle a flame
That brings you honour, fame
Stir my sometimes small love for you
For your sake act and do

That all may be to glorify
You, hear my prayer, my cry
Glory of yours ne'er selfish, proud
With perfection endowed

Thus more of you, and less of me
May each person here see
For to you be praise evermore
We worship and adore

Praise - Tehillah

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

'Tehillah'* (*Hebrew), it the singing of hallels
To sing or to laud, how every tongue tells
With music, thanksgiving, songs of the Spirit
To the Lord, our pathway of life He has lit

Psalm 22 v.3; Psalm 33 v.1

The Lord is holy, he that inhabits
The praises of Israel, on Hi throne sits
Rejoice in the Lord, all you righteous for e'er
Fro praise is beautiful, the upright it share

Psalm 34 v.1

I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise
Shall continually be my aim all days
With my mouth I shall bless Him, He always true
He shall come to me and shall my strength renew

Psalm 147 v.1-2

Praise you the lord, for it is good to sing
Praises to our God, we rest 'neath His wing
For it is pleasant, and the Lord does upbuild
The outcasts, and He defends them with His shield

1 Chronicles 16 v.35

Save us, O God of our salvation, you
Gather us together, deliver, do
Rescue us from heathen, that thanks we may give
To your holy name and praise you while we live

Deuteronomy 10 v.21

The Lord is our praise, He acted from old
Your people have e'er recounted, retold
Brought them out of Egypt, they crossed the Red Sea
Your great, terrible, awesome works did they see

Isaiah 61 v.3

Unto those who mourn, He gives them beauty
In place of ashes, they glorious be
Oil of joy for mourning, and garment of praise
To those heavy-hearted, He does them up raise

Living Lazarus

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

John Chapter 11 parts

John's Gospel Series (12)

Jesus did share in mourning sad
Times bitter, were not glad
For Mary and Martha's brother
Name Lazarus it were
He died, but Jesus did say
He the Life, Truth, and Way
This sickness not to death it be
But for God's glory, see

Jesus with Martha met and said
Lazarus from the dead
Shall rise again, now shall it be
Made possible through me
I am the resurrection
And the life, and each one
Who believes in me, though he die
Shall live through me, no lie

And whosoever lives, [and] believes
In me, new life receives
Shall never die eternally
At home with God shall be
Any physical death, transition
From this life to the one
That lasts for ever, though the Son
He over death has won

Wheat Wonders

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

John 12 v.23-27

John's Gospel Series (13)

At the time when came Jesus' hour
His ministry in power
He was to fulfil, did not hide
Son of man glorified

Truly, truly, He said, See all
Except grain of wheat fall
Into the ground and die, it stays
Alone, no fruit displays

But if it die, it does bring forth
Much fruit, it be great worth
So they that love their life shall lose
Their life with no excuse

And they that hate their life, not hold
To it in this world's fold
Such shall keep it unto the life
Eternal, with no strife

If any one serve Christ, then let
Them follow Him e'en yet
And where He is, there too shall be
His servants living free

If any one serve Him, then will
His Father honour still

Though Christ's soul troubled, but for this
Cause he came not to miss

To do His Father's will always
Through all His earthly days
To suffer, die, and rise again
Be Saviour to all men

Abating Anger

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Let anger not abide
Stay not in turmoiled state
Forgive, hold not to grudges, so
Restoring you shall know

Ask forgiveness, the Lord
Shall be true to His word
Shall forgive, help, and strength you give
At peace again, you live

Seek to amend swift, soon
Let not pass many moons
Nor days of strife, unsettling
They only anguish bring

Help us in lesser trials
Whate'er appearance, styles
To wait your time, your wisdom know
You shall reveal it, show

Or where trials long and hard
Where we grow weary, tired
Still trust to you, your love and power
Working through us each hour

Though human failings we
Have, all them you know, see
Yet growing more in Christ your Son
Until earthly days done

Freedom Flight

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Fly free, birds, spread your wings
Fly high over all things
All the sky you have clear
You view all below here
Yes, wing your flight so graciously
The Lord He your Creator be

Swooping and gliding strong
Borne on the winds along
Nothing impair your way
Flying at night or day
So souls released from sins may fly
Through Christ they know they never die

Begone, accusation
And too condemnation
That seek to your wings bind
So you no freedom find
But mourn and coo like doves entrapped
In fears and turmoils all enwrapped

Yet freedom through the One
Jesus the Father's Son
Washed by His blood, we free
He died even for me
And rose again that all may live
Eternal life He does us give

Wing your passage soul, be
Released from your cage, see

Free in Christ to be you
He does make all things new
Ascend on high, not earth bound stay
Christ here for you, He is the Way

We could not ourselves free
But Christ redemptively
Came to our help and aid
Our sins price He has paid
That we full in His image grow
And more of His power may know

Eucharist Envelopings

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty')

Eucharist = Thanksgiving, Communion

We give you thanks that we may share
Lord, in this your fine fare
Your invite to Communion
Is open to each one
Here be forgiveness, restoring
Our worship we you bring
Bread and wine symbols true shown here
Of your great presence near

Inspire us as we here do feast
From greatest unto least
Realising a mystical
Union binds us all
Whate'er our background, race, or age
Throughout each history page
You stay the same, Saviour of all
Will hear who on you call

O sweet delights, O heavenly tastes
For all, all types and states
Here may we come in humbleness
And you praise still and bless
Partaking of these elements
With wisdom, godly sense
Your work of redemption is done
You Christ, the Father's Son

Anointed One, makes atonement
You from the Father sent

Reconciling God unto man
And man to God, you can
Only do this, there none other
Human sister, brother
That can achieve salvation, for
You are Saviour e'ermore

Stay not in state pitiful, lost
For Christ has paid the cost
For you to be forgiven, healed
And to the Father sealed
They who do know you, help them to
Share your gospel anew
Evangelising, witnessing
Other souls to you bring

Servant Scenes

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

John 13 v.1-17 parts

John's Gospel Series (14)

Help us, O Lord, we pray
To seek sure every day
Not only to be served, but serve
Nor from your service swerve

Give us grace to wash feet
Serving deeds, humble, meet* (*apt, suitable)
Following your example, you
Loving service did do

Your disciples feet there
Did wash, supper did share
With them, enough that feet were clean
Not grievous tasks nor mean

So then if you our Lord
And Master say the word
That you our feet have washed, have served
'Tis more than we deserved

You say that we should too
Wash others feet anew
Thus servants as their Lord shall be
This satisfactory

Happy if we do such
In serving, loving much

If we know and then do these things
Life, joy, and peace it brings

Disciples Discerning

Tune: St James Air

('How lovely is your dwelling place')

John 13 v.31-35

John's Gospel Series (15)

A while before His departure
Jesus, He did assure
His disciples, His mission to
All His Father's will do

They could not with Him go just then
But remained among men
A time later they would Him see
Risen Lord He would be

A new commandment did He give
Showed them the way to live
'Tis that we love one another
Whate'er sister, brother

To love as Jesus has us loved
We among His beloved
So that we love each other here
As He has loved us dear

By this shall all people, they shall
Know, and proclaim and tell
That we are Jesus' disciples
Love's hallmark each recalls

Thus people shall see believers
Givers and receivers

Speaking and living out Christ's love
Through His Spirit the dove

Comforting Confidence

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

John 14 v.22-27

John's Gospel Series (16)

Judas said, not Iscariot
Lord, how is this our lot
That you will to us disciples
Show yourself, [but] world not knows?

Jesus said, If any love me
He [or she] will keep my words, see
And my Father will love him too
Shall come to Him anew

The Father and the Son shall come
To him, and make their home
With him, for he that my words keep
Are those among my sheep

And they are not my words of me
But Father's words they be
And when Jesus departs, will send
The Spirit to them tend

Comforter, Holy Spirit
Shall He send, He shall knit
Their hearts as one, and He shall teach
Us all things, each one reach

And He shall too bring all the things
To us, His voice true rings

Bring all to our remembrance
Whate'er Jesus said thence

Peace He leaves with us, eternal
Peace He gives us, free, full
Not as the world gives does he give
Hearts can untroubled live

Hassled By Humans

Tune: Trentham

('Breathe on me, breath of God')

O agitated heart
Calm again be your part
Though you must midst all humans live
And offer take-and-give* (*i.e. give-and-take)

When upset, offended
Graces seem from you hid
Remember Christ's example too
He suffered more than you

Though human attitude
May be anger renewed
Where made to feel worthless or small
Yet still on your Lord call

And offer forgiveness
Not hold to bitterness
Though be assertive, state your case
And grievance squarely face

Take courage, for respect
Basic, you should expect
And show it too to all you meet
In friendliness them greet

Make peace where'er you can
With each child, woman, man
But if that peace be rejected
It turns back to your stead*
(*i.e. turns back to you instead)

'Tis how it is in life
Sometimes burdens and strife
Some folk we cannot please always
Through human life and days

Christ knows, He shared in this
In human nastiness
Yet friend of sinners, loves us all
Saves those who on Him call

Fruitful Fellowship

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

John 15 v.1-11 parts

John's Gospel Series (17)

Christ, He be the true vine
We can with Him align
For we are the branches if we
Do abide in Him, see

The Father the gardener
Is, tends to the vine sure
Casts off branches that no fruit bare
Fruitful branches does pare

Does pare and prune that they
Bear much fruit in array
But ever in Christ abiding
Through Him do everything

If we His commands do
We shall bear fruit anew
For we shall in His love abide
Still in the vine reside

So shall Christ's joy remain
In us, with no sins stain
And our joy shall in Him be full
Our lives through Christ fruitful

Fruit From Friends

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

John 15 v.12-17

John's Gospel Series (18)

Love one another, this my commandment
Jesus said, He from the Father sent
Love one another as I have loved you
This [is] how people my disciples know

Greater love has no man than this, that he
Lay down his life here for his friends, see
And we are Jesus' friends, if we do
Whatever He commands, even you

Not known as servants, for such do not know
What their lord does, not know it all, no
But Jesus has called us friends, has us shown
All things from the Father, made them known

We have not chosen Him, but He us chose
Ordained us, that through us good fruit grows
And that the fruit should remain, productive
Serving Him and others, so we live

That whatsoever in prayer we shall ask
Of the Father, be great or small task
What we ask in Jesus' name, so be
The Father shall give it to us, see

Rejoicing Reassurances

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 84 v.1-2

How amiable be
Your dwellings, Lord, we see
Your tabernacles here
How lovely they appear
My soul longs, e'en for your courts faints
There your abode with no sin's taints

Psalm 84 v.1-2

My heart and flesh cry out
You are the Lord, no doubt
I cry, I call to you
You me strengthen, renew
O LORD of hosts, of endless power
You reign unto eternal hours

Psalm 84 v.11

You LORD, a sun and shield
Are, may we to you yield
You will give grace, glory
And no good thing there be
Withholden from them that live right
And do that pleasing in your sight

Psalm 85 v.7-8

Lord, show us your mercy
Then we comforted be
Grant us your salvation
Unto every nation
I will hear what the LORD will speak

He will speak peace to humble, meek

Psalm 85 v.11-12

Truth from the earth shall spring

The land with praises ring

Righteousness shall look down

From heaven to every town

Yes, the LORD good things shall us give

Our land shall increase, we shall live

Psalm 86 v.3-4

Be merciful to me

O Lord, I cry daily

Unto you, make me glad

Rejoicing, and not sad

For to you Lord I lift my soul

Come to me, I pray, make me whole

Psalm 86 v.9-10

All nations whom you made

Shall come and be arrayed

Before you, and worship

Serve you in deed and lip

O Lord, you they shall glorify

And shall know your great presence nigh

Paraclete Promises

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

John 16 v.7-11

John's Gospel Series (19)

Jesus promised the Comforter
The Holy Spirit, He for sure
Would come, the Helper, Paraclete
And Advocate that we may greet

He takes up His residency
In hearts that to Him open be
He dwells within, His truth will guide
Glorifies Jesus, none beside

His ministry, to reprove
To convict, convince, to us move
Our part to play, share the gospel
Glad tidings of the Saviour tell

The Spirit will reprove of sin
Will search every heart deep within
The sin be unbelief, because
People believe not, with no pause

No pause to stop to then believe
And Christ as their Saviour receive
And too, Spirit of righteousness
Does reprove, in Christ's place no less

For Christ has to the Father gone
His only one, beloved Son

And too the Spirit does reprove
Of judgement, world set in a groove

A groove, seeing that the world's prince
Satan, seems to have victory since
The world began, but he judged is
Jesus brings His kingdom of bliss

Nature Notes

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Here upon a misty dawn
Then a sunny, peaceful morn
Nature stirs, God's creation
Large and small of each nation
Grant us grace to honour you
Only God and only true

Meadow pastures, river banks
For your beauties we give thanks
Rest a while to meditate
Your providings not be late
Here your seasons each displayed
With variety arrayed

Gliding upon waters clear
Gracefully birds do appear
Swans and geese and ducks abound
Peace and harmony around
Light of life, in our hearts shine
Lead us in your ways divine

Musings, marvellings, here calm
You do keep all free from harm
Fresh delights in wanderings
Here by rivers, our soul sings
Walking on at even pace
Help us your footsteps to trace

Not deserted, not bereft
You your Spirit have us left

Living in those humble, meek
Who your righteousness do seek
And who seek your kingdom first
And for you do hunger, thirst

'Til an endless finale
New heavens and earth shall be
Creatures sure shall inhabit
land which with your presence lit
Shall continue evermore
All worship you and adore

A Song Of Saints

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

For All Saints Day (All Hallows Day, or Hallowmas) - Nov.1st.

Counted among the saints, Lord such your grace
Here your lovingkindness, mercies we trace
Following you, our steps with even pace
Alleluia, Alleluia!

The ransomed host, they all by you redeemed
When all despair and destitute it seemed
Then your love shone on us, so bright it beamed
Alleluia, Alleluia!

We could not save ourselves, you did us aid
Christ your Son, the price for our sins He paid
We may now approach you, bold, unafraid
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Give strength and help, that we serve you all days
Your Spirit, guide and teach us in your ways
And all our doubts, distractions, He allays
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O victory song, proclaiming loud and long
Joining in praise with all the heavenly throng
We Christ-bought people, to Him we belong
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Begone all darkness, Eve of All Hallows (Halloween)
Christ the Light of the world, to all He shows
And evil, darkness too His triumph knows
Alleluia, Alleluia!

By grace we are saved through faith, it so be
All may partake of Christ's offering, see
His perfect sacrifice for you and me
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For how else such a procession so grand
Marches through time, the Saviour's chosen band?
Forward, possessing the spiritual land
Alleluia, Alleluia!

'Til Rapture dawns, eternal shore shines bright
It glorious, resplendent to our sight
There we abide, eternal day, no night
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Inspire us Lord, with this hope fresh, anew
Strengthened to go on, each day follow you
Until for e'er your beauteous face we view
Alleluia, Alleluia!

A Song For Souls

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

For All Souls Day - Nov. 2nd.

You blesséd souls, take your repose
Each of you the Lord knows
'Til waking to eternal dawn
Of resurrection morn

For you were faithful, you believed
Christ as Saviour received
We who now living, believe same
Have trusted in Christ's name

You shall not lose any reward
You the Lord loved, adored
We shall join too, departed [ones] meet
And worship at God's feet

Not dark nor gloom, nor mystified
Though you passed on, have died
But wait to wake to eternal
Day, and to blessings full

We pray not for dead, purgatory
Alien concept be
'Tis enough while they lived, they fared
In Christ's salvation shared

We remember them, penitent
Forgiven, repentant
And each we need to Christ receive
And in Him to believe

No spookiness or ghostliness
They simply did confess
Christ Jesus as their Saviour, King
Did to Him worship bring

They safe from harm, God's keeping power
Defends them every hour
No powers of hell can them o'ertake
God does not them forsake

Then all in earth and heaven shall be
Ever with the Lord see
O bright hope, faith, begone all night
Come, everlasting Light

Majesty And Might

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Psalm 93

The LORD reigns, He is clothed with great majesty
Come worship, come honour, His greatness now see
He has clothed Himself with strength and has girded
Himself, world is not moved, it He established

Your throne LORD, e'erlasting, established of old
Let your great workings, signs, and wonders be told
You are from e'erlasting, not other can be
Comparable to you, the LORD Almighty

The floods have raised their voice, have mounted on high
All creation praises you, earth, sea, and sky
The waves of the sea speak of your power, we
Confess you are great, and your marvels we see

The LORD on high is mightier than the noise
Of many waters, the seas their sound employs
To worship you LORD, for your testimonies
Are very sure, holiness with you agrees.

Light Leadings

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Light of the world come to us, and do shine
In our lives, and your image true refine
You reveal beams of light, 'tis life divine
To know you 'tis fair, fine

For light you give and we see way ahead
You ever with us, risen from the dead
Help us to follow in your steps each day
You the Life, Truth, and Way

Guard us from sin, your presence here within
Our hearts confess you, some new song begin
Lighten those in darkness that they you see
And so they blessed shall be

Help us to turn, not stay in darkness deep
You our Shepherd and each your sheep you keep
Progressing on with you throughout life's rhymes
Knowing your perfect times

'Til Rapture dawns and then eternal light
Shall we behold, glorious to our sight
O grant that more to you be gathered in
That we souls for you win

Your Spirit, we pray, strengthen us today
Your promise to be with us e'er alway
So confident in you, share gospel true
Evangelise anew

Waiting A While

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

John 16 v.16-22

John's Gospel Series (20)

Jesus to the disciples said
He did then look ahead
A little while, and they would see
Him not, so would it be

For He would die , be crucified
Though they be not denied
His presence for long, for He rose
Triumphant o'er His foes

So another little while, then
They would see Him again
For He would to Father ascend
A life now without end

Though for the time they have sorrow
Joy later they would know
Jesus, He would return again
The Saviour of all men

Creation Conservation

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

O swans of peace, will your peace be preserved?
Will man take thought, and your home be preserved?
And too you geese, you ducks, and birds many
Here you abide, tranquil riverside, see

Though man would seek more roads, and here to build
Encroaching on bridleway, tree, and field
O pray a concrete jungle not o'ertake
But green spaces retained for nature's sake

Give guidance, wisdom, that man not consume
Environment, but for creature make room
So life preserved, God's natural beauties seen
And keeping meadows, pleasant pastures green

Grant we may many happy hours enjoy
By riverside, may man it not destroy
Here peace and calm, to God a step nearer
O Lord come to our help and not defer

Priestly Prayer - Part

Tune: Dundee

('God moves in a mysterious way')

John 17 v.1-5

John's Gospel Series (21)

Christ prayed for Himself, and prayed for
His disciples for sure
And too prayed for all believers
We His life-receivers

He prayed, Father, the hour is
Come, I assured of this
Glorify your Son, that your Son
Glorify you, the One

The One, Father, to your Son you
Gave power to Him too
Power over all flesh, that He
The true life-giver be

That He should give life eternal
To all, that none may fall
To all those that the Father gave
To the Son, and them save

And this is life eternal, this
He prays that none may miss
'Tis that they may know you the one
True God and too His Son

His Son, Jesus Christ, who was sent
From the Father, He went

From heaven to earth and glorified
The Father, [Christ] lived and died

Then rose again, His ministry
It perfect, complete be
He prayed, Father, glorify me
With your glory, so be

For it be the glory which He
Had before the world, see
When co-existing, Father, Son
And Spirit, Three in One

Dismissive Denial

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

John 18 v.15-17 & v.24-27

John's Gospel Series (22)

At Jesus' trial, two disciples
One followed Him in palace halls
For He, John, was to high priest known
Leaving Peter outside alone

John asked that Peter be brought in
To palace halls, to come within
And servant girl that kept the door
Said, 'Are you His disciple sure?'

Peter said no, he did deny
With group in palace did ally
Who said to him, 'Are not you too
One of His disciples, it true?'

Peter denied again, here see
It was not me, it could not be
Then one of high priest's servants so
Said, 'You know Jesus, Him you know'

'For did not I see you, was when
In the garden you with Him then?'
Peter again denied, then heard
Cockerel's crow, prophetic bird

For Jesus had said to Peter
A true word did on him confer

That before the cockerel crows he
Would deny Jesus thrice, so be

Salvation Stone

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand O God, has guided')

Psalm 118 v.19-29

Open me gates, [of] righteousness
I will go in them, bless
The LORD, these gates I enter
Will go, and not defer
I will praise the LORD, for He
Has heard me, answered, see
And is sure my salvation
Here joy and elation

The stone which the builders cast
Away, they thought [it] gone, past
Refused it and rejected
Yet is become the head
The head stone of the corner
Though men did count, confer
To view it worthless, but it be
Foundational stone, see

This be the LORD's doing, for
'Tis marvellous, 'tis sure
This is the day the LORD made
In it His ways displayed
We will rejoice in it, be glad
Not be downcast, not sad
Save now, LORD, we do you beseech
Prosperity send each

God is the LORD, He has shown
us light, to us made known

You are our God, we praise you
And will exalt you too
O give thanks to the LORD, He
Is good, and e'er shall be
Merciful, and enduring
All praise Him, worship, sing

Remembrance References

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Annual remembrance, we recall again
All who in wars, all children, women, men
They took courage, though they in fearful straits
Then gave you thanks and praise when war abates

O grant us peace, deep in our hearts within
Christ is that peace, He cleanses us from sin
Makes peace 'tween God and man, too man and man
Bring prevailing peace as only He can

Here be thoughts sentiments, expressed in love
Come Holy Spirit, heal us, holy dove
From darkness, fear, the ravages of war
Bring in your kingdom's peace from shore to shore

For evil, conflict ne'er has final word
For you e'er remain, the Almighty Lord
Both generally and specifically
You work, though we finite, we not all see

Hearts sadnesses you know, Man of Sorrows
Holding to bitterness, it only grows
But forgive we pray, renew and restore
With you we desire that war be no more

Tracing The Times (Remembrance)

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

A hundred years ago came peace
When First World War did cease
We remember with thanks and praise
They who served in those days

And too throughout all wars, conflicts
Our gratitude is this
Their courage, strength, that you them gave
For to human lives save

Those too afflicted, injured, killed
In turmoiled battlefield
Their life they employed in the fight
To bring justice and right

Yet above all, did Christ your Son
Give His life, holy one
No greater love than to down lay
His life for friends, [He] did say

Here days and years, centuries past
Man's fleeting life not last
But you are Lord everlasting
Eternal life you bring

Thousand years is to you as [one] day
Endures, then goes its way
And too one day [is] as thousand years
So to ou it appears

For you, Lord God, are outside time
But we live in life's rhyme
Give grace, forgive, Spirit impart
Your love to every heart

Spiritual Warfare

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Ephesians 6 v.10-18

Be strong in the lord, and the power
Of His might, needed every hour
The whole armour of God put on
Then the devil's schemes you will none
Be overcome by, but will stand
Possess all the spiritual land

For our battle is spiritual
Against the wicked powers all
Of rulers, darkness, realms evil
That may be hidden disguised well
So withstanding with armour on
And still stand when all victory won

Have belt of truth upon your loins
Against the devil's lies, purloins* (*stealing)
Have on breastplate of righteousness
We made righteous in Christ, no less
Have feet shod with shoes, readiness
To share the gospel, others bless

Take shield of faith, wherewith you shall
Quench fiery darts of wicked well
Take helmet of salvation sure
Assured you are saved evermore
Take sword of Spirit, God's word 'tis
Each word true, perfect, certain this

And too weapon of prayer always

Use and employ through all your days
All kinds of prayer in the Spirit
Pray, in communion with Him knit
Watch and pray, persevere, proclaim
Message of gospel in Christ's name

Truth Tellings

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

John 18 v.34-38

John's Gospel Series (23)

Pilate called Jesus at His trial
Speak to me, speak a little while
Are you the King of the Jews, yes?
Will you now unto me confess?

Jesus said, My kingdom, it is
Not of this world, see here, see this
If my kingdom of this world ere
My servants would fight, their hearts stir

Would fight so that I would not be
Delivered to the Jews, this see
But now my kingdom it be not
Worldly, but a heavenly lot

Pilate then said, Are you a king?
Jesus said, You says so, does ring
True, for to this end I was born
Upon that incarnation morn

To this end and for this cause I
Came into the world, not deny
That I should bear witness unto
The truth, and the Father's will do

Everyone that of the truth is
Hears my voice, and does not it miss

Pilate said, What is truth? and he
[Was] Assured Jesus innocent be

Passion Prophecies

Tune: The Green Hill

('There is a green hill far away')

John Chapter 20 parts

John's Gospel Series (24)

Jesus, led to be crucified
For us He lived and died
And rose again, the Father's will
He did perfectly still

It all according to scripture
Each event passed for sure
Not unknowingly, no surprise
It all with the word [of scripture] ties

They parted His garments between
Them, and His coat was seen
To be one piece, they did not tear
But for clothes lots did share

He thirsted, received vinegar
Though taste of it was sour
Cried, 'It is finished', all was done
Redemption through the Son

A bone of Him was not broken
He was an offering then
Complete and perfect sacrifice
For us it does suffice

Heart pierced with spear, and so it be
They shall look on Him, see

Look on Him who they pierced, foretold
By prophets of days old

Joseph and Nicodemus there
Did take a part, did share
In preparing His body soon
To lay in garden tomb

Resurrection Revelings

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

John Chapter 20 parts

John's Gospel Series (25)

The last line of each verse is repeated.

At Jesus' resurrection

He sure the risen one

He showed to Mary, she did know

Though weeping, then filled with joy so

In Him her faith did grow (x2)

To the disciples He appeared

Though they were scared and feared

'Peace be unto you', He did say

He ever still the Life, Truth, Way

Unto eternal day (x2)

Then to Thomas He did show

While still on earth below

His hands, His feet, His side thus seen

Whence once unto death He had been

Now flourish hearts, lives, green* (x2)

For blessed are they that have not seen

Him, on Him they trust, lean

Not seen Him, yet have believed sure

And they Him worship and adore

For ever, evermore (x2)

* Green is seen as a colour symbolising grace.

Restoring Redeemer

Tune: Quem Pastores Laudevere

('Jesus, good above all other')

John 21 v.15-17

John's Gospel Series (26)

Jesus said to Peter three times

'Do you love me', through all life's rhymes

Peter said, Lord, yes I love you

This be my affection true

'Feed my sheep, my lambs', the reply

Jesus said, do not them deny

Though I twice ask *agapeo*

Third time I ask *phileo*

For Peter there each time did say

I *phileo* you Lord, each day

Both expressions of love, but they

Differ in each others way

Agapeo, it be to choose

Strong devotion never to lose

To love, to commit, it fully

Shows love sacrificially

Phileo, it be love between

Friends and relatives, though still keen

Love, yet based on relationships

Filial, but none worships

And in *phileo* there sure be

Emotional attachments see

But Jesus from Peter accepts

Phileo love, no regrets

'Feed my sheep, my lambs', Jesus says

Tend and care for them through the days

And when to heaven I ascend

The Spirit I all you send

Eternal Home

Tune: St Helen

('Lord of Lords and King eternal')

Revelation 22 v.1-5

Here seen pure river of water
'Tis water of life for sure
Clear as crystal, it proceeding
Out of the throne, let all sing
The throne of God and of the Lamb
Nothing can its free flow dam

In middle of holy city
And on sides of river be
Tree of life, twelve fruits it bears there
Fruit each month for all to share
Leaves of tree for nation's healing
Fullness, wholeness they do bring

There be no more curse, but the throne
Of God there, His reign is known
And throne of the Lamb there too is
His servants serve Him, true bliss
They shall see His face, rejoicing
He Lord over everything

And His name writ on their foreheads
They be in eternal steads* (*dwellings)
And no night there, nor no candle
The Lord God gives them light all
Neither need of light for sun for
They reign with God, Light e'ermore

So inspire us, our true homeland

It so be, promises grand
Lift us from all earth-bound longing
Lord, may you e'er be our song
'Til we come by your good grace to
Ever live and be with you

In Troublous Turnings

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Help us, O Lord, still you to trust
Though we mere men (mankind), mere dust
Yet creatures to Creator call
You Father of us all

See heavy hearts, give praise garment*
It whole, entire, not rent
Out of the depths we cry to you
Come to us, heal, renew

Away the lies - 'prayer ne'er answered'
Though our efforts we stirred
Away despair - 'prayer meaningless'
You not worthy to bless'

That is our poor state without you
O Lord, loving and true
E'en if answers may be delayed
Help us trust unafraid

For the truth is you welcome, bid
Us, e'en your presence hid
May be at times, yet there you be
Guiding us constantly

Blackness of night, faith has dim light
Lord aid us, and make bright
Our path in loving, serving you
For sure us first you knew

Bring healing, freedom, peace we pray
Whate'er we need each day
Your hold on us strong, and your love
Come comfort, holy dove (the Holy Spirit)

* Part of a Bible verse says: 'I will give you a garment of praise for (instead of)
a spirit of heaviness (depression, despair, etc)'.

An Autumn Dance (adapted)

Adapted with permission
from a poem of same title by Lamb067

Tune: Lux Benigna
('Lead, kindly Light')

Took upon, forced, a blustery Autumn dance
I saw by chance
Partnered in routine, sun's rays shimmering
Enchancements bring
Nature's pallet, abundant with shades all
Summer heat fades, we painted into Fall

Voives of the trees flirt to a scatter
Leaves lay flatter
On ground, but sporadic movement there be
And rustling free
Chitter chatter their sound, they to us come
With hopeful hearts through days, then guide us home

With disappointment we sweep them away
Their colours fray
Now comes a slow end unto Autumn's days
It goes its ways
As curtain falls and carpet coverings
All soft, deep leaves, Winter waits in the wings

So now the trees stand tall and bare and quiet
As if lost heart
Their voices not sound yet, till Spring's advent
They be patient
Though now howl of the Winter's ghose we'll hear
Promise of Spring again shall re-appear

Obedience Outcomes

Tune: Penuel

('Come, O Thou Traveller Unknown')

Psalm 81 part

Sing aloud to God, He our strength
He does provide for us at length
Make joyful noise unto His name
He God of Jacob, e'er the same
Take a psalm, and bring too hither
Pleasant harp, psaltery, lute, zither

Blow up the trumpet in new moon
And in feast days too at high noon
In solemn feast days praise Him give
He God always, does ever live
This for Israel was a statute
And a law, praise Him, pipe and lute

The people in their trouble called
He came to their help, it not stalled
But they would not hear, not obey
They chose to go their selfish way
O that my people me had heard
So they would prosper by my word

If they had heard, walked in my ways
I should have subdued in their days
Their enemies, they would turn back
Midst my people would be no lack
haters of the Lord, they would have turned
Against them the Lord's judgement burned

Then His people's time should have endured

His presence with them be assured
He should have fed them with fine wheat
And they should worship at His feet
With food He should have satisfied
Them, yes for them He would provide

Awesome Approach

Tune: Leoni

('The God of Abraham praise')

Lord, you are God of old
Your wonders still be told
In spirit and truth we worship
In deed and lip
For e'er in you secure
You our Father e'ermore
We your people, you did us call
E'en one and all

You reign majestically
O'er your creation, we
See your appointed orders here
In lowly fear
Mankind and all below
You each creature know
For you have made each one and we
Your goodness see

Accepted through your Son
He the atoning one
Let songs be sung and praise be done
Excluding none
You, Lord God Almighty
Your face we cannot see
Yet Christ your Son your glory shows
With your life flows

There unapproachable
At Sinai we stall
Forbidden to come near you, for

You holy, pure
But now your Son has made
A way, the price has paid
For us to come, to be forgiven
And enter heaven

You ever awesome, strong
We join the heavenly throng
To worship you in every form
Through calm and storm
Unnumbered hosts proclaim
Your everlasting name
And through eternal Rapture's days
We shall you praise

Praise - Ta-kah

Tune and Hymn: Ode To Joy

Psalm 47 v.1-2

Ta-kah, to strike, to smite the hands
To clap to the Lord, all lands
All you people, shout to God, raise
Him a song of joyful praise
With the voice of triumph proclaim
Him the Lord, and His great name
Ever endures, he is most high
Yet by grace we may draw nigh

Praise and joy and celebration
Let it flow from each nation
That the glory got of the Lord
He the true and living Word
Employ all instruments, voices
Each one in Him rejoices
Lord of heaven, earth, and sea, sky
We to you for refuge fly

Extempore, or set formal
Ways by which we on you call
You do hear, attend our needs sure
You we worship and adore
Praising here on earth, and angels
joining in song, each tongue tells
You are worthy of all we give
You Lord who do ever live

Trust And Abide

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Psalm 125

They who do in the LORD trust
Though they be as mere dust
They shall be as mount Zion
The Lamb and the Lion
'Tis the LORD, He will keep them
Each one they be His sheep
That mount cannot be removed
'Tis certain and is proved

For it abides for ever
And insecure never
For as the mountains are round
Jerusalem, so found
Is the LORD, he round about
His people there, no doubt
From henceforth nad for ever
Nought from Him can sever

For the rule of the wicked
Shall not rest on the head
Of God's people, their land be
Allotted by Him, see
They righteous and protected
Not into evil led
Wicked not touch the righteous
The LORD He shall them bless

Do good, LORD, to those that be
Good, LORD look e'en to me

And do good to the upright
They pleasing in your sight
Their hearts settled on you true
But such as evil do
The LORD shall lead them away
Though peace for Israel's days

Meandering Moments

Tune: Lauda Anima

('Praise, my soul, the King of heaven')

Come to God, if mournful, sad be
He does every heart full see
With His people, He does direct
By His Spirit, no need fret
Going on in His way daily
Help us still to watch and pray

Holding to the sure foundation
Christ, Saviour of each nation
Gospel message to proclaim sure
Reaching to each coast and shore
Hope arising in hearts made free
Forgiven, with liberty

Living Lord, through all the ages
To all peoples, all stages
Of your grace and mercy, save us
You give us life, we confess
Trusting in your love, so may we
In you find our destiny

Daily Diligence

Tune: Finlandia

('We rest on thee, our shield and our defender')

Turning to you, progressing on life's way
You Lord our Saviour here from day to day
Through all life's journey you will be our guide
Your Spirit in our hearts He does reside
So on through thick and thin, your purposes show
To us, that we more in your image grow

If heavy heart or mind, grant us your light
Clear away the darkness so that our sight
Is set on you, focused here and aligned
Finding your help, your mercies true and kind
Going forth, sharing, to evangelise
Reaching forth unto you, Christ our high prize

Attuned to you, may outward things not spoil
Communion with you, nor distracts* foil (* distractions)
Us, as we press on steadily ahead
Following you, and by your Spirit led
What be your will, your plan for us today?
Teach us to know it, joyfully obey

Spirit of God, rise up within our hearts
And daily fill us here in all our parts
Expressing praise, worship, and thanksgiving
Melodious voices unto you sing
Great God of all, we saved through Christ you Son
For each of us full salvation has won

Praise - Alaz

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

A perusal of worship, praise
Let us here songs now raise
To glorify our Lord and King
Songs we our Saviour bring

'Alaz', to exult, to rejoice
To praise Him with one voice
To jump for joy, and celebrate
Our Lord, He ever great

Psalm 149 v.6

Let the high praises of God be
In mouths of they who, see
In their hand too a two-edged sword
'Tis the word of the Lord

Psalm 96 v.11

Let heavens rejoice, earth be glad
And be no longer sad
Let sea roar, and all there within
And all that have scales, fins

Advent Arising

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Isaiah 9 v.6-7

The Advent hope is sure, a song
Raise, for the Lord will not be long
Will come to bring salvation's day
And sin and evil put away

Chorus

Emmanuel, He be God with us
His grace and mercy shown to us

For unto us a child is born
Unto us the Dayspring does dawn
Unto us a son is given
Jesus, God's Son, who comes from heaven - Chorus

The government shall be upon
His shoulders, He the reigning one
His name shall be called Wonderful
Counsellor, The Mighty God all - Chorus

The Everlasting Father, He
And too The prince of Peace He be
Of the increase of His governing
And of peace there no end, we sing - Chorus

It shall be upon throne of David
His kingdom ordered, not be hid
And it established with judgement
And with justice with no relent - Chorus

From henceforth e'en for ever, see
His eternal rule, reign, shall be
The zeal of the LORD God of hosts
Will this perform, unto earth's far coasts - Chorus

Early Expressions

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Psalm 108 v.1-5

O God, my heart on you is fixed
I shall give you praise unmixed
But pure and fervent, worshipping
You who are e'er my Lord and King

Awake psaltery, lute, and lyre
Be inspired with holy fire
Play instruments to His name bless
And rise early to Him confess

I will praise you, LORD, here among
The people, songs to you sung
Praises I give you, let nations
Extol you, whate'er stations

For your mercy, lovingkindness
Is great above the skies, this
We believe, and your truth reaches
To the clouds, no lie breaches

Be exalted, O God, above
The heavens, and still your love
Show us, and let your glory be
O'er all the earth, so we it see

Death Disbanded

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Acts Chapter 2 parts

Peter explained at Pentecost
Coming of the Holy Ghost (the Holy Spirit)
People of Israel, my voice hear
I will show you true and clear
Jesus, being delivered by
God's foreknowledge, He did die

But did rise again the third day
It was God's determined way
By His counsel and His will sure
Christ now lives for evermore
Though you people Him crucified
Now He lives, reigns, none beside

God did raise up His Son, having
Loosed the pains of death, we sing
Through Him destroyed death, the curse o'er
Good news to meek, humble, poor
For 'twas not possible that He
By death should e'er holden be

For King David, prophet of old
Here his words they be retold
He did speak of Christ, that He be
Resurrected sure, here see
Through prophetic Psalm this promise
Came to pass, we not it miss

And so here poured out God's Spirit

Hearts and minds energised, lit
Comes to take up residency
In all who repentant be
Who will accept Christ as Saviour
May we turn, penitent stir

Lord of life, o'er death victorious
Eternal life you bought us
Paying the cost of our sins so
We your forgiveness may know
O bright hope and great salvation
Offered unto each nation

Preparing Proclamaiton

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding')

Isaiah 40 v.1-5

Comfort, comfort you my people
Come and hear now, one and all
The voice of one in wilderness
The Lord him to you shall bless

'Tis John the Baptist, prophecy
This would come to pass, here see
He cries, Prepare you the way now
Christ shall come, I do avow

Prepare the way of the Lord, for
He shall come soon, it is sure
Make straight in the desert a way
Ready for His advent day

Every valley shall be lifted
Exalted, not low, not hid
And every mountain and hill shall
Be made low, all shall be well

The crooked places shall be made
Straight, it shall not be delayed
And the rough places be made plain
It shall not be a work vain

And the glory of the Lord shall
Be revealed, and all will tell
For all flesh shall together view
The Lord making all things new

Through Today's Time

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

If bright our hearts, if bright our ways
Or seeming dark now be our days
Come shine your light, beams burst upon
Your people, children every one

Thankful in times of ease or care
And where be troubles anywhere
Help us be humble, wait your time
For your guidance throughout life's rhyme

Not trusting to feelings alone
But you Lord God by faith be known
That sure foundation, planting roots
From whence we bud, produce good shoots

Earth's temporary joys we hold
Though you have more, a hundredfold
Of heaven's joys, eternal bliss
Salvation in you, we know this

So on through each day, then at night
Grant us sweet sleep now in your sight
And to awake refreshed, renewed
With your fine graces, gifts endued

Come show us.....

Adapted from a modern song

Water you turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like you
None like you

Chorus (original)

Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God you are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power
Our God, our God!

Into the darkness you shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like you
None like you

Chorus (adapted)

Come show us your greatness
Come show us your power
Come show us you're higher than any other
Come show us your healing
Come show us your awesomeness
Our God, our God!

Palace Ponderings

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

You palaces of Zion
The Lamb and the Lion
Resides there ever, He be
Jesus, Son of God, see
And believers are members
Of His city, each shares
His glory, as He desired
With holy passions fired

Here to abide for ever
No dark, no sin, never
For 'tis God's residency
Eternal, perfect be
Though human hands form beauty
Far greater treasures we
Shall by His grace inherit
None shall hinder, forfeit

Walk about Zion(*), and tell
God has made all things well
Surpassing earthly joys though
All made by Him, we know
Light perpetual shines here for
The Dayspring(#) reigns e'ermore
And blessings on His people
The Lord does sure outpour

O lighten our hearts, we wait
To share in royal state
Of Rapture, where all shall be

Perfect forever, see
Guard, guide us, while on earth we
May know your Spirit free
Then things infinite revealed
Not one good thing concealed(@)

(*) From part of Psalm 48
(#) From Luke 1 v.78
(@) From part of Psalm 84

Angel Announcement

Tune: Bristol

(Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes')

Luke 1 v.26-35

The angel Gabriel was sent
From God, with no relent
To a city in Galilee
Named Nazareth it be

Sent to Mary, a virgin she
Betrothed to Joseph be
Gabriel said, All hail, rejoice
God has made you His choice

You highly favoured, for the Lord
'Tis with you, hear His word
Blesséd are you among women
But she was troubled then

For she did consider what this
Did mean, these words of bliss
Gabriel said to her, Fear not
Favourable your lot

For behold, true, you shall conceive
Bring forth a son, believe
And you shall name Him Jesus for
He shall be great e'ermore

He shall be Son of the Highest
This I to you confessed
And the Lord God shall to Him give
The throne, and He shall live

The throne of His father David
Enemies He shall rid
And He shall reign over the house
Of Jacob (Israel), none shall douse

Shall reign for e'er, of His kingdom
There be no end, each one
Shall acknowledge He is the Lord
The holy living word

This shall be so by the Spirit
By His power, each whit
He shall o'ershadow you, then bear
You the Son of God fair

Prophetic Publishing

Tune: Personent Hodie

('Long ago, prophets knew')

Luke 1 v.78-79

I will sing, I will bring
A tribute to my King
He new-born of virgin
Manger-cradle within
Comes to save us from sin

Chorus

Let the earth rejoice
Join the angel's voice
God here, Emmanuel
He with us, let all tell

Born of the Spirit true
He perfect, holy too
Come and see, here He lay
He the Truth, Life, and Way
Bringing eternal day - Chorus

Through the tender mercy
Of our God, here now see
Light has sprung, night is o'er
Let us worship, adore
He shall rule, reign e'ermore - Chorus

God visits us, gives light
Enabling our eye sight
Light to those in darkness
They who sin does oppress
He sent to us to bless - Chorus

Sit no more 'neath death's cloud
Its shadow like a shroud
He will guide our feet sure
In His way peaceful, pure
He shall us raise, restore - Chorus

Willing His Way

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Where we may drift aimlessly
Help us Lord, your way to see
What your plan, purpose sure is
May we true discover this

Chorus

Lord help us that your will be
Our will more and constantly

Shine a light where gloom or dark
Help us Lord your voice to hark
Taking us a step each time
On the daily path, life's rhyme - Chorus

So using by your Spirit
Gifts and graces, you have lit
Our beings with love, light, power
To meet needs of every hour - Chorus

Lord inspire a tune, a word
To our hearts, minds, it be heard
From you for our profit here
And be for our comfort dear - Chorus

Give refreshment, barren lands
Renew by work of your hands
There none useless, uninvolved
You all your sheep do enfold - Chorus

A Ding Dong of a Song!

Tune: Branle de L'officiel

('Ding, dong! Merrily on high')

Ding, dong! raise a joyful song
Let bells peal out all day long
Ding, dong! join the angel hosts
Praise the Lord to earth's far coasts

Chrous

Alle---luia! He the King of glory, see
Alle---luia! Endless glory to Him be

Man no more need stay in sin
But can be cleansed from within
Avail self of Christ's blood pure
Forgiven, set free for sure - Chorus

Sinners can attain such state
Knowing God's wrath not their fate
Jesus, Saviour for each one
The redemption work has done - Chorus

And all nature shares in joy
Renewed delights none destroy
Bright beams of mercy and grace
And love shine forth from His face - Chorus

So all instruments take part
Sing, praise Him with your whole heart
Light and life, human, divine
Jesus, the God-man true, fine - Chorus

Come, you folk of each nation

Whate'er your creed, race, station
In Christ your salvation find
And be to Him full aligned - Chorus

Palms Perusings

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

Matthew 21 v.1-11

When on nearing Jerusalem
Jesus sent two of them
Disciples ahead, there to find
Donkey and foal, unbind

If asked why these those animals
Remove, say, The Lord calls
For them, and for them He has need
For humble task indeed

This was to fulfil prophecy
Of Zechariah, see
To tell daughters of Zion that
King comes, on donkey sat

So donkey and foal to Him brought
They did find them, had sought
Laid cloaks on them, Jesus mounted
Palms the ground carpeted

Crowds went ahead and some behind
Were all then of one mind
Shouting, Hosanna, Save now, Lord
You are the living Word

Hosanna to Son of David
Our enemies you rid
Blessings on Him who comes in name
Of the Lord, worthy fame

Hosanna in the highest, cries
As Christ to city nighs
Jerusalem, the crowd do see
He Christ Son of God be

Rainbow Revelings

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

See bright bow shining in the sky
God's faithfulness shall never die
Alleluia, Alleluia!

You multi-coloured band of light
Appears resplendent to our sight
The Lord will not fail day or night
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

So is His grace, many facets
As each day dawns until sun sets
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And through dark nights He faithful here
His presence unseen, yet e'er near
Trusting in Him still, we not fear
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Sun and rain intermingling
Of the Lord's glories do we sing
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Darkness o'er light can prevail ne'er
For His victory is just, sure, fair
And to Him none can match, compare
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Time past, some saved in Noah's Flood
Today we are saved through Christ' blood
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Rainbow shows Deluge ne'er again
Shall be as it did happen then
New Covenant now to all men (mankind)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Encouraging Exhortations

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

1 Peter 5 v.6-10

Come now, humble yourselves under
God's hand, turn from sin's allure
Mighty is His hand for ever
He will guide, forsake never

He will you in due time exalt
Cleanse from every sin and fault
Cast all your care upon Him, for
He does care for each one sure

Be sober, be vigilant here
Adversary does appear
Devil as a lion roaring
Walks about, troubles ot bring

Seeking who he may devour
Overcome him through God's power
Resist him, stand in the faith firm
He shall prove no more than worm

Know too that the same afflictions
Persecutions, temptations
Are share by your brethren, they be
In the world too constantly

But the God of all grace has called
Us to His glory, not stalled
But to that glory eternal
Through Jesus Christ called us all

After suffering for a while
He will make us, will compile
Perfection, maturity, see
Strengthened, settled, we shall be

To Him be glory, dominion
For ever and ever, none
Like unto Him, He Almighty
Changed into Christ's image we

Daily Devotion

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest Lord is ended')

Forgive me Lord, where I no fruit grow
But only my selfishness show
Give me patience and perseverance
My heart lowly in penitence

Evening falls, another passing day
May I look back on it and say
That something done, said, for your glory
May have value eternally

'Til light shines, where darkness persisting
So joyful outcomes praises bring
Where I dull, dry, or simply resting
In you, in Christ's image growing

For you have for me, for all, your plan
For every child, woman, and man
If troubled conscience, you come to bless
Enabling release, forgiveness

Give sweet sleep and quiet mind, healing
Through night and day, in everything
Help us not be anxious, each day take
Step at a time for your name's sake

Fly Forth!

Tune: Antioch

('Joy to the world')

Go spread your wings, O Christian soul
The Lord shall make you whole
Released you are from sin and fear
Forgiveness through Christ here
The Saviour does appear
The Saviour, Saviour does appear

Here liberty, free to be you
No legalism due
Not bound by laws you cannot keep
Not now for ever weep
By grace you are Christ's sheep
By grace, by grace you are Christ's sheep

Sin's guilty stains be washed away
And start again, new day
And even new life through Christ the Son
He the great work has done
Good news for every one
Good news, good news for every one

Help us O Lord, to sloth off cast
And leave the things of past
Pressing on, more of you to know
Your Spirit Christ does show
We in His image grow
We in, we in His image grow

Break through, revive, Spirit empower
Your people every hour

Where stuck in dullness, ritual
Over-penitential
Where we strain, stagnant, stall
Where we, where we strain, stagnant, stall

Lead us into your paths, we see
That you will always be
The Lord God Almighty
Creative, variety
Come to set our hearts free
Come to, come to set our hearts free

Rewards For The Righteous

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Malachi 4 v.1-3

Behold, the day does come
Unto all, not just some
Day of the Lord it be
Burns as an oven, see
All the proud, all the wicked they
Shall be as stubble, fly away

For the day comes that shall
Burn them up, none shall tell
Of their place, says the LORD
It shall be as my word
Says, and they shall have no branch, root
Their evil deeds gone, not bear shoot(s)

But unto you that do
Fear the LORD's name, 'tis true
Unto you shall arise
Sune of righteousness, eyes
Shall then Him see, and with healing
In His wings wholeness, peace shall bring

You shall go forth and be
Like as calves of stall, free
You shall go forth, and then
Tread down the wicked men
They shall be ashes 'neath your feet
Separating the chaff from wheat

Magnificat Musings

Tune: We Three Kings

('We three kings of Orient are')

Luke 1 v.46-55

The 'Magnificat' - Mary's song of praise

Mary said, My soul magnifies
Exalts the Lord, to Him does rise
And my spirit too has rejoiced
In God my Saviour, voiced

Chorus

O this be the Magnificat
Mary's song of praise, 'tis that
Great joys, she the Christ-child would bear
He the Son of God most fair

For the Lord has regarded sure
Estate of His handmaid, low, poor
For behold, from henceforth shall all
Peoples me e'er blessed call - Chorus

For He that is mighty has done
Great things to me, even His Son
I shall bear by His appointing
Let earth and heaven sing - Chorus

Holy is His name, His mercy
Is on all that fear Him, it be
Ever to each generation
Folk of every nation - Chorus

He has showed strength here with His arm
Scattered those who would do us harm

Those proud in vain imaginings
He sure their downfall brings - Chorus

He has put down mighty from seats
Exalted the lowly, them greets
He has filled hungry with good things
They bring Him offerings - Chorus

Rich He has sent empty away
Has helped Israel now and alway
Israel His servant, His mercy
He has remembered free - Chorus

This His promise He does fulfil
Works it out now in His good will
As He spoke to Abraham*, so
Blessings his children know - Chorus

* Genesis 17 v.7 promise: 'And I the LORD will establish my covenant between you (Abraham) and your descendants after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto you, and to your descendants after you'.

Rejoicing Reign

Tune: Diadem

('All hail the power of Jesus' name')

Repeat the second line of each verse.

The Lord is King, let all rejoice
Proclaim Him with one voice (x2)
He has chosen us, we his choice

Chorus

Give H---im glory!
Glory, glory, glory!
All glory be to Him

We people saved by His good grace
And we His mercies trace (x2)
His salvation for every race - Chorus

Christ He the One, God's only Son
Redemption work has done (x2)
Come, worship Him, excluded none - Chorus

He ever reigns and lives above
The Lord of life and love (x2)
He sends His Spirit, holy dove - Chorus

Help For Homeless

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Christ, homelessness did know
An inn-keeper did show
A stable, manger, at His birth
Yet still there joy and mirth
For He the Saviour born
Upon first Christmas morn
Mary, Joseph, and animals
Looked out from pens and stalls

And in His life at times
Were unsettled the rhymes
Not cosy, easy, comforting
Though life He did all bring
Look on your world, Lord, see
Where true homelessness be
And grant your aid, direct, inspire
To meet needs of the hour

Lighten with your light pure
Illuminate us sure
To seek for justice and for right
Each precious in your sight
Rich in their mansions high
And poor, not far, but nigh
How comes to each estate, you know
And their current life so

Helping vulnerable
And poor, may we hear call
To do what we can in your name

Not to accuse or blame
For all life's areas
You know, share in their cares
In your love, basic dignity
To each human there be

Messiah Missive

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Micah 4 v.1-3 and 5 v.2

In the last days it shall be
Mountain of the LORD's house, see
Shall be established atop
The mountains, none shall it stop
Exalted above the hills
His kingdom comes, our hearts stills

Many peoples thence shall flow
To it, many nations know
And say, Come and let us go
To the LORD's mount, He shall show
Us His ways in His house sure
We shall walk in His paths pure

Nation shall not lift a sword
Against nation, the LORD's word
Is this, neither shall they learn
War any more, but shall turn
To the LORD, His reign of peace
Shall begin and never cease

You, Bethlehem, though you be
Little among the tribes, see
Yet from you shall He come forth
To the LORD, He of great worth
He will come, rule Israel
God's eternal plan, all tell

Preparation Promises

Tune: God rest you merry
('God rest you merry, gentlemen')
Luke 1 v.11-17

Zacharias in the Temple
An angel then did call
Unto him, and did so appear
He did angel see, hear
Then he was troubled and afraid
But still the angel stayed

Chorus
Comfort, Fear not, Zacharias
Your prayer is heard
I speak unto you now God's word

Your wife Elisabeth shall bear
A son, joys shall you share
And John (the Baptist) you shall call his name too
Many rejoice with you
For he shall be great in the sight
Of the Lord, in His might - Chorus

He shall not take wine nor drink strong
But be filled all along
With the Holy Spirit even
Before he is born, then
He shall witness, and turn many
To the Lord their God, see - Chorus

He shall go before the Lord sure
In the spirit, power
Of Elijah, prophet of old

Proclaiming true and bold
To turn hearts of fathers (/parents) unto
The children, he shall do - Chorus

And to turn disobedient
To wisdom, penitent
The wisdom of the just, so be
A people ready he
Does make for the Lord all prepared
Their focus unimpaired - Chorus

Gracious Greatness

Tune: St Agnes

('Jesus, the very thought of thee')

Psalm 113

Praise you the LORD, you servant praise

His name, it now up raise

Blesséd be the name of the LORD

Forever, He the Word

From the rising of the bright sun

That reaches everyone

Until going down of the same

Praise be to the LORD's name

The LORD above all nations high

Is, yet His presence nigh

Above the heavens His glory

Is, by faith we it see

Who is the LORD our God like to?

Not many nor a few

Are like to Him, He on high dwells

He great, now each tongue tells

He humbles Himself to behold

All in heaven and earth told!

He raises from the dust the poor

Needy, [on] ash heap no more

He sets such with the princes all

Princes of His people

Makes barren woman children bare

Joyful mother she there

Kingdom Kindlings

Tune & Hymn: 'Unto us a child is born'

Isaiah 11 v.1-4

See the babe of Bethlehem
Of Jesse's rod the stem*
A shoot from Jesse's stock He
In accord, human birth it be
In accord, human birth it be

He a Branch, He shall fruit bear
We in His good graces share
Spirit of the Lord shall rest
Upon Him, He shall be blest
Upon Him, He shall be blest

The Spirit of wisdom sure
And understanding, it pure
Spirit of counsel and might
He approved in the Lord's sight
He approved in the Lord's sight

Spirit of knowledge and fear
Of the Lord, He does have here
He quick of understanding
In fear of the Lord, each thing
In fear of the Lord, each thing

He not judge by sight of eyes
What outward sight it implies
Nor reprove by what He hears
On His own, what first appears
On His own, what first appears

But shall judge with righteousness
Poor and meek He shall bless
Justice, equity shall be
The wicked smitten shall flee
The wicked smitten shall flee

* Verse 1: Christ is humanly descended from Jesse's line
(an Old Testament person).

He is described as a stem, shoot, and Branch of Jesse.

Dayspring Dawning

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

Luke 1 v.76-80

Zacharias spoke of his son
Zacharias spoke of his son
John the Baptist he was the one
John the Baptist he was the one
Said, Child, you shall be the prophet
Of the Highest, God's will is set

For you shall go before the face
For you shall go before the face
Of the Lord, His ways prepare, trace
Of the Lord, His ways prepare, trace
To give knowledge of salvation
To all of each race, each nation

This be so by sins remission
This be so by sins remission
Forgiveness unto every one
Forgiveness unto every one
Through the tender mercy it be
Of our God, He comes to us, see

By Him the Dayspring from on high
By Him the Dayspring from on high
Has visited us, has drawn nigh
Has visited us, has drawn nigh
The Dawn has come, the Messiah
Fair graces does on us confer

He comes to give light, they that sit

He comes to give light, they that sit
In darkness, now their way is lit
In darkness, now their way is lit
And they sitting in death's shadow
Dispelling of their gloom they know

He guides our feet in way of peace
He guides our feet in way of peace
Light of the world shall never cease
Light of the world shall never cease
So John grew strong, and so it be
He did fulfil his ministry

Shepherds Sightings

Tune: Yorkshire

('Christians awake, salute the happy morn')

Luke 2 v.8-20 part

The shepherds said, Let us to Beth'lem go
And see this thing told to us, and then so
We shall for ourselves view what we have heard
Thus be confirmed to us the angel's word
The Lord has made it known to us, so we
Shall leave our sheep a while and go quickly

Then did they find Mary, Joseph, and babe
Jesus Christ, Son of God, who came to save
Lying there in a manger stall, food trough
Of animals, it sufficed, was enough
For He did come in His humility
And from our sins He sure would set us free

When this sight they saw, they told the saying
Which the angel that night to them did bring
"Fear not, for behold, I bring good tidings
Of great joy to you, earth and heaven sings
It shall be unto all the people, for
To you is born a Saviour evermore"

"Born in city of David, Christ the Lord
It shall all be according to His word
And this shall be the sign to you, you shall
Find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and tell
That He is the one, in a manger laid
There you shall find Him to the world displayed"

And all who heard this message did wonder

At what they heard, but Mary did ponder
Them all in her heart, meditatively
Then shepherds returned to sheep joyfully
Praising God for all they had heard and seen
For their journey to Bethlehem had been

Martyrs Musings

Tune: Tempus Adeste Floridum

[Now is the time for flowering]

('Good King Wenceslas looked out')

St Stephen's Day - Dec. 26th

Lord, my times are in your hands
You who rule o'er all lands
Seasons joys we share with friends
And your love has no ends
As Saint Stephen, bold witness
Give us courage, us bless
To proclaim your gospel true
You who make all things new

On through all life's journeyings
Safe underneath your wings
Yet not trouble-free, there be
Tests and trials too, see
Show us what we can hear know
Your plans unto us show
Give us your strength, on we go
Follow you each, 'tis so

Your promise ne'er to us leave
We trust it and believe
Help us turn to you where we
Downcast, heavy may be
What may us in life afflict
Give us grace to persist
Short or long, in joy or pain
Sensing your presence again

Though Stephen's life may seem lost

He for you paid a cost
Suffered martyr's death, but he
Confident in you be
Looking up to heaven he saw
Jesus, and open door
For his murderers [he] did pray
Lord, forgive them, he did say

Now the time for flowers bright
Radiant to our sight
Shine the martyrs, who did give
Message that folk may live
Worthy ones now take your rest
Your reward shall be blest
You who unto death faithful
Inspiration to us all

Living Out Love

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God I love thee, not because')

1 John 3 v.16-18

St John's Day - Dec. 27th

Hereby we do perceive the love
Of God, and holy dove
The Spirit, and the Son Jesus
Their love all unto us

For Jesus did His life down lay
For us, that was the way
He showed His love, and so ought we
Of that calibre be

To lay down our lives, each other
For sister or brother
But if we have this world's goods here
Do we loving appear?

For if we see that one has need
And ignore them indeed
Where if we could help, but do not
A selfish state our lot

For we shall not have compassion
Shown to a needy one
So how then does God's love indwell
Such a person, pray tell?

So let us love, not word only
But love in action be
Loving in deed and truth, thus we

Do imitate Christ, see

Comfortless Confusion

Tune: Sussex

(one tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Matthew 2 v.12-18

Holy Innocents Day - Dec.28th

Wise men the Christ-child they had seen
Full of wonder it had been
For them Him to see, but now they
Must be going on their way

A warning from God in a dream
They had, not all as did seem
For King Herod in false pretence
Would locate the young child thence

But his plans were to Him destroy
He was outwitted, his ploy
Mocked of wise men, in a rage he
Ordered death of children, see

All boys under two years who in
Beth'lem were, or near therein
Were to be killed, bitter mourning
Heard there voice of lamenting

Though was as Jeremiah had said
Parents found their infants dead
Rachel, Israel's mother-figure
Weeping in such great horror

Unsolable, and would not
Be comforted, for their lot
Had been of their dreadful laments

Slain their Holy Innocents

Give us grace to do just, rightly

Where oppression we may see

That good triumph over evil

Your kingdom come, your good will

Blessed Birth

Tune & Hymn: The First Nowell

Luke 2 v.1-7

A bright light shines o'er all the land
Appointed by the Lord's good hand (Spirit)
Come see in Bethlehem, new-born
The Son of God, redemption's morn

Chorus

Spread the gospel news all around
Salvation in Jesus is found

All went to be taxed, registered
In their own town, decree was heard
So Joseph went from Galilee
With Mary, great with child was she - Chorus

They left Nazareth, and journeyed
South unto Bethlehem, they sure did
For Joseph was of David's line
Their travels not all cosy, fine - Chorus

While in Bethlehem, came the time
According to human life's rhymes
That Mary she should her babe bear
And be delivered then and there - Chorus

O humble scene, her firstborn son
She did bring forth, her labour done
And in swaddling clothes Him did wrap
In manger laid, this was their hap - Chorus

A manger, animal food trough

Fro them, had to suffice enough
No room for them within the inn
Their choices there meagre and thin - Chorus

Yet creation the joys do share
Even animals gathered there
In stable sparse, Jesus the Son
Of God, a Light for everyone - Chorus

Angels Acclaimings

Tune: Darwall's 148th

('Ye holy angels bright')

You angels bold and strong
Assist us all days long
You be more powerful
Than human mortals all
You ministers, you flames of fire
Who do God's will, not idle hire

Protect us from all ill
Who do God's biddings still
And praise Him in your place
Assured of His good grace
Come strengthen, help, our daily needs
With good Shepherd, who each tends, feeds

Illuminate minds, hearts
And inspire us, all parts
To travel on while here
'Til Christ He shall appear
To take redeemed ones, they His Bride
With Him for e'er they shall reside

Invisible army
Human eyes might not see
But hosts of angels live
And true worship do give
Unto the Lord, He King of Kings
And Lord of Lords, to Him all sings

Prepared People

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Matthew 3 v.1-12 parts

John the Baptist did come preaching
In Judea's desert did bring
Message of salvation, Repent
Ready for the Lord your intent

Repent, for the kingdom is near
Kingdom of heaven, godly fear
Have, for John he by the prophet
Isaiah was spoken, true yet

For he one crying, wilderness
His location, the Lord would bless
Those who prepare His way, make straight
His path, He comes, shall not be late

John's clothing was of camel's hair
Locusts, wild honey, was his fare
They of Jerusalem, Judea
Went to the Jordan him to hear

And to be baptised of him there
Confessing their sins, they did share
In repenting, then Christ, Day-Star
Would baptise with [the] Spirit and fire

Radiant Revelings

Tune & Hymn: 'The Holly and the Ivy'

Luke 2 v.8-14

A sight radiant, bright
On Beth'lem's holy night
Shepherds in the field their watch did keep
O'er all their flocks of sheep

Chorus

Glory to God on high
He has now come to us nigh
The Christ-child born, redemption's dawn
Rejoice, no longer mourn

The angel of the Lord there
The Lord's glory most fair
Did round about the shepherds shine
The light of life divine - Chorus

They greatly feared and wondered
Their minds enquiring stirred
The angel said to them, Fear not
Joyfulness be your lot - Chorus

Good tidings of great joy sure
To all people e'ermore
For unto you is born this day
Jesus, the Life, Truth, Way - Chorus

Born in city of David
Mystery no longer hid
A Saviour who is Christ the Lord
According to God's word - Chorus

And this shall be a sign to
You, even unto you
You shall find the babe in manger laid
In swaddling clothes arrayed - Chorus

Then suddenly multitude
Of heavenly host viewed
Praising, Glory to God on high
Was their song, was their cry - Chorus

On earth peace, and good will be
Towards men, women, see
And children, old and young, be blest
God's favour on all rests - Chorus

Birth Blessings

Tune & Hymn: 'Angels from the realms of glory'

Matthew 1 v.18-25

Hear the tale of Jesus' birth, this
Is story of joy and bliss
When His mother Mary betrothed
To Joseph, it was behoved

Chorus

Ma--ry, she would bear
Jesus, Christ-child fair
E--mman--uel, God in human life does share

Mary was a virgin, chaste, pure
Joseph acted to be sure
That she be not defamed, disgraced
For the way ahead she faced - Chorus

Then an angel in a dream said
To Joseph, son of David
Fear not, take as your wife Mary
Bears Christ by the Spirit, see - Chorus

And she shall bring forth a son, He
His name it shall JESUS be
Name of Saviour, for His people
He shall save from their sins all - Chorus

This was done, prophecy fulfilled
It was all done as God willed
Prophet Isaiah said, Behold
Good tidings to you be told - Chorus

So Joseph did wake from his dream
Did as the angel did deem
Took Mary to wife, then JESUS
Born Christmas morn, born of us - Chorus

Providing Promise

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to: 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Genesis Chapter 22 part & John 3 v.16

'Jehovah Jireh', 'tis the Lord
It was according to His word
When it did come, Abraham test
To offer up to Him the best

Even his son Isaac to be
A burnt offering to God, see
E'en if we can it scarce believe
This was His word with no deceive

Then when Abraham did obey
The Lord He did restrain and say
Offer your son not, know I know
You do obey me, it be so

And then a ram offered instead
In that place true it sure was said
Jehovah Jireh, the Lord will
Provide and make a way through still

He will see to things, sort them out
And be faithful beyond a doubt
Now we, us of New Covenant
Believe in His Son who He sent

Jesus, the Son of God He be
God does provide for you and me
An offering and sacrifice
Jesus for our sins pays the price

We loved, forgiven, and set free
And given life eternally
Grant faith to trust your provision
You look on us, forget not one

Presence Ponderings

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Slowing a pace, help us see you good grace
As we by faith humbly behold your face

Though cannot be seen, mortal view alone
But only through Christ, who does now atone

I dare not trust to my own righteousness
But sole in Christ, and my poor state confess

Confess my poverty, my sin, leave not
Lord, for without you 'tis unhappy lot

But comforted by your forgiveness, love
And eternal life through your Spirit, [the] dove

Psalm 61 v.4
Here I will bide, in your tabernacle
Will trust in the shelter of your wings all

Psalm 62 v.5
My soul, wait you only upon God true
My expectation, good He shall me do

Psalm 63 v.1
O God, early I seek you, thus I will
I long for you, satisfy my thirst still

Psalm 63 v.6
You I remember through life's nights and days
Meditate on you, give you worthy praise

Majestic Might

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 76 v.1-6

In Judah is God known, He be
King in royal state, now see
His name is great in Israel
Come, let all the peoples tell

In Jerusalem His tent be
Tabernacle, firm, truly
In mount Zion is His dwelling
He Lord over everything

There He broke the weapons of war
Violence and oppression sore
Bow and shield and sword and battle
At His command they cease all

You O LORD are more glorious
Than the mountains, us do bless
The stout-hearted are spoilt, they sleep
They did not pray, nor watch keep

And men of might did not prevail
Their works were of no avail
At your rebuke, God of Israel
You triumphed o'er Egypt all

For they [Egyptians] the Red Sea did not cross
But were plundered, suffered loss
Your people [Israelites] did go through, dry land
You made the sea by your hand (Spirit)

- Judah is Southern Israel
- Jerusalem is in Judah
- Mount Zion is the hill/mount on which Jerusalem is built

Epiphany Expedition

Tune: Epiphany

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Matthew 2 v.5-15

The first verse is repeated at the end (as in original hymn)

You Bethlehem in the land of Judea
Spoken of old by the prophet, the seer [Micah]
Though you be small, from you shall come a Ruler
To rule o'er Israel, He shall not defer

So wise men followed that star brightly shining
It rested o'er house of young infant King
When they the star saw, their joy was exceeding
Precious treasures unto Him did they bring

They did see Jesus, a young child, and offered
Gifts to Him, He be God's true living Word
Mary and Joseph, His parents did wonder
At presents given, gold, frankincense, myrrh

So humbly bowing in sure recognition
Of Jesus, He the One, God's only Son
The Lord warned in a dream that they not return
To King Herod, for his anger did burn

And too from Bethlehem, the Lord directed
That Mary, Joseph, Jesus, go instead
To land of Egypt, for safety they took flight
There to avoid Herod's murderous night

So help us Lord, we to you bring our worship
Find it worthy we pray, in deed and lip
Following you, King of Kings now for ever

Strengthened by you in our firm endeavour

You Bethlehem in th the land of Judea

Spoken of old by the prophet, the seer [Micah]

Though you be small, from you shall come a Ruler

To rule o'er Israel, He shall not defer

Epiphany (Jan 6th) - The revealing of Jesus to the Wise Men,
representing Gentiles, so shown to all people,
as we are either a Jew or a Gentile.

Epiphany Enquirings

Tune: Was Lebet, Was Schwebet

('O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness')

Matthew 2 v.1-8 & v.12

The first verse is repeated at the end (as in original hymn).

Now when Jesus was born
In Bethlehem, joyful morn
In land of Judea
Light did appear
In days of King Herod
Was born there the Son of God
Wise men came from the east
[To] Salvation's feast

They came to Jerusalem
Enquired, is it Bethlehem?
Where Christ-child's birth-place is
Glorious this
Yes, said priests and prophets
And people, with no regrets
There shall you Him true find
Gift unto mankind

For prophecy of old
In Micah's day was foretold
You, Bethlehem, though small
Land of Judah, all
Shall see that from of you
One comes to rule, do Him view
A Governor, Ruler
Hearts to Him stir

He shall rule His people

Israel, Sovereign o'er all
So wise men sent to find
Young child, fair, kind
Herod of pretence said
He worships Christ, humble stead
God warned wise men in dream
All [was] as not seem[ed]

Now when Jesus was born
In Bethlehem, joyful morn
In land of Judea
Light did appear
In days of King Herod
Was born there the Son of God
Wise men came from the east
[To] Salvation's feast

The Echo Of Your Voice

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

When on through life's journey I go
Help me your voice to know
And here in your creation bright
Shine glimpses of eternal light
Revealed unto my sight
Revealed unto my sight

Through woods and vales and pastures green
Peace, calm, nothing between
To disturb this communion
This fellowship with Christ the Son
Saving work He has done
Saving work He has done

Help me to hear, your still small voice
And in your praise rejoice
Through sunlight glades, or dew, or rain
I sense your presence close again
Creator, you e'er reign
Creator, you e'er reign

Carpets of flowers, they your grace
Display, your mercies trace
Guard us from voices harmful, strange
May we hear only your voice range
All that you plan, arrange
All that you plan, arrange

Your voice in hush and quietude
Inviting, never rude

Echoes speak plain, reverberate
Telling of you, that you are great
E'erlasting is your state
E'erlasting is your state

So on through life's passage and rhyme
You with us all the time
You our good Shepherd, we your sheep
You do safe in your fold each keep
Lead through high, low, smooth, steep
Lead through high, low, smooth, steep

Faith Focusing

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Lord, forgive me when I
As if kingdom pass by
Your kingdom and your will
Where righteousness reigns still
Help me these things first for to seek
You revealed unto humble, meek

Where I distracted be
Material things, see
May occupy my mind
No lasting peace I find
But grant me grace, that everyday
Matters trust they work out your way

If tempted on feelings
To rely in all things
Help me to turn to you
Inspire my faith anew
To tend to today while it here
Your presence in it shall appear

And so affected be
By some small things are we
Then our focus is lost
A while on you, the cost
Is that we panic, fret, or fear
And forget that you still are near

With patience help us to
Persevere, by faith view

You, understand your plan
As far as humans can
Answers to prayer you do reveal
Come to us forgive, restore, heal

Powerful Presence

Tune: Cranbrook (aka On Ilkley Moor)

('one tune: O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 68 v.1-8

First line of each verse has optional repeat of last 3 syllables.

Let God arise, let enemies {enemies}

Let them all scattered be

Let them also that hate Him flee

Let them also that hate Him flee

Before His face, so be

Before His face, so be

Before His face, so be

As smoke is driven, drive away {drive away}

His enemies today

And as wax before fire does melt

And as wax before fire does melt

They perish, so 'tis dealt

They perish, so 'tis dealt

They perish, so 'tis dealt

But let the righteous e'er be glad {e'er be glad}

Need be no longer sad

Yes, let them before God rejoice

Yes, let them before god rejoice

Exceedingly, Him voice

Exceedingly, Him voice

Exceedingly, Him voice

Sing praise to God, unto His name {to His name}

Extol Him of great fame

He that upon the heavens rides

He that upon the heavens rides

He JAH (Jehovah) and none besides
He JAH and none besides
He JAH and none besides

He Father of the fatherless {fatherless}
Widows defends, does bless
He God, He is in His holy
He God, He is in His holy
Habitation, now see
Habitation, now see
Habitation, now see

God sets the lonely in a place {in a place}
In families, His grace
Brings out those who with chains are bound
Brings out those who with chains are bound
So joyful praise abounds
So joyful praise abounds
So joyful praise abounds

But rebellious in dry land {in dry land}
Do dwell, heavy God's hand
Is there, but He led His people
Is there, but He led His people
Through great wilderness all
Through great wilderness all
Through great wilderness all

Victory procession, He thus marched {He thus marched}
Through wilderness, though parched
They were there, yet He provided
They were there, yet He provided
Water from rock, them led
Water from rock, them led
Water from rock, them led

The earth shook, the heavens dropped rain {heavens dropped rain}
At sight, God's awful train
Even Sinai, it was moved
Even Sinai, it was moved
At His presence there proved
At His presence there proved
At his presence there proved

Governing God

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Psalm 67

God be merciful to us, bless
Us, for we your good name confess
And cause your face to on us shine
In beams of love and grace divine

So that your ways on earth be known
Your saving health to all be shown
Among all nations, let all praise
Your wondrous name, and fresh songs raise

O let the nations all be glad
In you, sing for joy, not be sad
For you shall govern righteously
All peoples, just, equitably

Yes, let all people, you God, praise
In melodious tones all days
The refrain echo, shall not cease
Your kingdom of love, joy, and peace

So then shall earth yield her increase
God shall bless the land and release
His dews of blessings, all shall be
In awe of Him, His goodness see

Abiding Assurance

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 36 v.7 part

How excellent it be
How precious it to me
Your lovingkindness, O God, so
Your keeping power we know

Therefore do we humbly
Trust you, your mercies see
And put our trust in the shadow
Of your wings here below

For we mere human, you
Do come to us, renew
And by your Spirit in us live
And your good graces live

I seek no other place
Than your ways sure to trace
You shall abide, and leave me not
Else poor shall be my lot

Your loving care to me
Help me trust completely
And too your love to all mankind
May all salvation find

Sacramental Sentiments

Tune: Divine Mysteries
('Sweet Sacrament Divine')

Behold, this Sacrament
Instituted and sent
By Christ, the Father's Son
He gave for every one
His life, that we set free from sin
Fresh praises new may e'er begin
By grace He takes my place
His love, mercies I trace

For there upon the tree
The cross, he died for me
Taking my sin and shame
All accusation, blame
The judgement sure that should be mine
Taken by Him, human, divine
The Lamb of God, Him slain
And through Him life I gain

Yet rose again from dead
Christ, he our living Head
These symbols to prepare
The bread and wine we share
Of His body broken, he gave
His blood outpoured for us to save
Forgiven and restored
Redemption through our Lord

O light our way we pray
When gloomy seems our day
Yet faith, hope, love prevail

Your mercies us not fail
And we may in remembrance
Partake Communion, you sense
Your presence ne'er departs
Your Spirit in our hearts

Joyful Journeying

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

On through the countryside
Many passages hide
Through greenery, or seasons scene
Bare land of Winter seen
Or Spring's new growth once more
God's faithfulness for sure
Or Summer's foliage displayed
Or Autumn's hues arrayed

You, Creator of all
Of all things, great, small, tall
Here pathway runs, with ditch beside
Flora, fauna reside
A ditch on either side
Safe on the path to bide
Walking along 'neath tops of trees
Your wonders each one sees

Discovering tracks long
Deserted from great throng
Though pleasant rambles folk do take
And do enjoyment make
In wisdom, Lord, you do
Make all things and renew
Creation to your glory points
Your land the dew anoints

On down overgrown way
'Tis public way, we may
Enter therein, but years gone by

Make difficult to try
To still follow the route
Attempt it we may moot
But changed since forty years ago
O'erburdened with hedgerow

Nostalgia, reminisce
Of days gone by, but this
Needs be our aim, to onwards go
More of our Lord to know
Whether good days or bad
The past times we have had
Now pressing on with Christ the Son
Until life's journey done

Hope, Help, Healing

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 146 v.5-10

Happy they who hope in the Lord
And have His help, His word
The LORD who made heaven, earth, sea
Created even me

He keeps truth sure for evermore
Wise judgement from His store
He does dispense, helps the oppressed
In Him they may find rest

The LORD gives food to the hungry
Satisfied they shall be
He frees the Prisoners, those bound
Release in Him is found

The LORD opens eyes of the blind
'Tis through His mercies kind
He raises them that are bowed down
Or 'neath an angry frown

He loves the righteous, and preserves
Strangers, though none deserves
His help, yet still the fatherless (and motherless)
And widows (and widowers) does He bless

He turns the way of the wicked
Upside down, they do tread
Paths of confusion, but He reigns
For e'er, and all sustains

Practical Preparation - Mark's Gospel (1)

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Mark 1 v.2-5

It is written, refer
Malachi, Isaiah (Old Testament books)
See therein prophecies there be
They all in God agree

It is written, Behold
Hearken as it is told
I send my messenger before
The face of the Lord sure

John the Baptist is he
He shall prepare way, see
The way of the Lord, John a voice
Come, make the Lord your choice

A voice in wilderness
His message this, no less
'Tis prepare you way of the Lord
He is the living Word

Make His paths straight, ready
Penitent in heart be
Baptism of repentance for
Forgiveness of sins sure

That ministry he did
Sins were confessed, not hid
In River Jordan so prepared
They, in baptisms shared

Kingdom of the King - Mark's Gospel (2)

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Mark 1 v.32-38

An evening, when the sun did set
The world it was still lit
With Jesus, He the world's true light
Brought healing, freedom, joy, and sight
Devils did flee in fright
Devils did flee in fright

At city there in Galilee
All people gathered, see
Jesus many sick folk did heal
Brought in God's kingdom with true weal (well-being)
And He acts today still
And He acts today still

He healed them, diverse diseases
That held them, did them seize
And too many devils cast out
Silencing them there and no doubt
They did not His name shout
They did not His name shout

Then in the morn, very early
He rose up then, here see
Went to a solitary place
For there to seek His Father's face
And in prayer His will trace
And in prayer His will trace

Disciples they did find Him there

And said, Do come and share
For all people do seek for you
He said, Let us go next town too
To bring the tidings new
To bring the tidings new

Tidings of the gospel, good news
Open to all who choose
To believe in Him, for to preach
He came forth, many souls to reach
Salvation unto each
Salvation unto each

Compassionate Cleansing - Mark's Gospel (3a)

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Mark 1 v.40-45

A leper comes to Jesus, he
Beseeches Him, kneels, see
Said, Lord, if you will, you can make
Me clean, my disease take

Jesus moved was with compassion
For this, an outcast one
Put forth His hand and did him touch
Untouchable were such

He said, I will; be clean, and then
At His touch, word, was when
The leprosy immediately
Departed, cleansed was he

Jesus said then to tell no one
Not any daughter, son
But to go his way, the priest show
And offerings bestow

Offering as be in the Law
To show his cleansing sure
As a testimony, witness
That it too others bless

Yet he did tell, did blaze abroad
These doings of the Lord
So much that Jesus could no more
Open way safe ensure

Proclamations To Paralytic - Mark's Gospel (3b)

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Mark 2 v.1-12

A man was borne of four
They could not get near the door
Of house where Jesus be
They lowered man through roof, see
When Jesus saw their faith
To the man then He saith
"Son, your sins forgiven
Be", gracious words said then

Some reasoned in their heart
"How can one take on such part?
To forgive sins, only
Can God do, and solely He"
Yet Jesus then did say
"Why reason you this way
Which is easier to say
Unto the man this day?"

"Your sins forgiven be"
Or, "Rise up, take bed, walk, see"
But so that they might know
Jesus did then to them show
That He the Son of Man
Has power, and He can
Forgive sins, and too said
"Arise man from your bed"

And straightway he arose
His healings he to all shows

Physical, spiritual
For body, spirit, and soul
Walked off, his bed carried
Crowd said, "We never did
See things such on this wise
That here now view our eyes"

Gift Of Grace

Tune: Unde Et Memores

('And now O Father, mindful of the love')

Lord, I come to you, I have none between
Me and you, no other Advocate seen
Except for Jesus Christ, your only Son
He ever lives, the all-atoning one
My great high priest, presenting God to man
And man to God, as only He true can

There but for the grace of God do I go
I lost without you, if I you not know
But you have known me first, and me have loved
And in your mercy me to you encoved* (*New Covenant)
O help me, help us all, evangelise
That all know you, and press to the high prize

Not to forget your Spirit in our hearts
Our central essence, and too fill all parts
Help us to give ourselves in service, so
We and others in you shall surely grow
Your children shall be, sons and daughters fair
In blessings of eternal life may share

And too our minds renewed, and we transformed
More into your image, by your love warmed
Showing, sharing your gospel as we can
Unto each person, each child, woman, man
That they your salvation will sure receive
As on the name of your Son they believe

Your promise not to leave us, nor depart
To be with us to the end, as at start

Help us seek your will and your kingdom first
To meet the needs of man's spiritual thirst
Water of life, bread of life, 'tis yourself
In you shall each find their complete soul's health

Faith For Forgiveness - Mark's Gospel (4)

Tune: Dundee

('God moves in a mysterious way')

Mark 3 v.22-30 parts

The scribes said, Jesus does cast out
By Beelzebub no doubt
The ruler of the demons acts
We are sure these the facts

Yet Jesus says, How can Satan
Cast out devils, e'en one?
For if he rises 'gainst himself
He loses all his wealth

He says, Truly I say to you
All sins, not just a few
Shall be forgiven unto you
And blasphemies be too

But who blasphemes the Holy Ghost
Is in a turmoil most
For such never have forgiveness
But damnation no less

This said because the scribes did say
Jesus did heal that way
By evil mean, they did cancel
Out their forgiveness all

Yet not to fret, for such a state
We need not meet, nor fate
Condemnation is to hard hearts
Which from God's way depart

For they depart to such extent
Do not change, no relent
But call good evil, so justly
Their dreadful state shall be

Seeds, Sowing, Soils - Mark's Gospel (5)

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Mark 4 v.14-20

Jesus explained the parable
Of seeds sown and the soil
The sower sowed the word of God
As o'er the land he trod
Hearken well, did Jesus then say
I your questions allay
Explaining here of how it all
Works out when the seeds fall

Some falls by wayside, and Satan
Straightway comes, snatches then
The seeds away, and gone the word
That in their hearts they heard
For it hard ground, seeds not take root
Nor bear a bud or shoot
So does end in futility
For there no fruit e'er be

Some sown on stony ground, and such
Hear, receive with joy much
The word that is planted within
With good hopes they begin
But they have no root, so endure
For a while it is sure
Though when troubles come they stumble
And causes crop to fall

Some sown among thorns, they hear too
But cares have they not few

And deceits of riches, desires
That are as weeds and briars
For they do choke the word, and so
No lasting fruit they know
Entangled, distracted the be
With things of the world, see

Some sown on good ground, they hear well
Receive it, their lives tell
For they bear fruit, some thirty fold
To the word they do hold
And some produce of sixty fold
Or e'en hundred fold told
Lord, work in my heart, that be found
At least there some good ground

Wholesome Witness - Mark's Gospel (6)

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Mark 5 v.25-34

A woman had issue of blood
It ceased not, was continual flood
Twelve years she had it, and suffered
Though medical help was offered

Yet she was not healed, and had spent
All that she had, with no relent
Was no better, but rather worse
Though she sought to be free of curse

When she had heard of Jesus, she
Knew that He in the crowd would be
And she came and the hem did touch
Of His garment, it availed much

For in her faith she said, If I
May touch His clothes as He goes by
I shall be healed and so made whole
Comfort for body, spirit, soul

For straightaway her fount of blood
Dried up, it was no more a flood
And she felt in her body she
Whole and free from her plague was, see

Jesus did know that touch of faith
Virtue had gone from Him, He saith
Who touched my clothes, the woman did
Confess trembling, she was not hid

Jesus said, Daughter, your faith here
Has caused your wholeness to appear
Go in peace now, and be whole for
You did touch me in faith for sure

Feeding The Flock - Mark's Gospel (7)

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Mark 5 v.32-44

Jesus met crowd, had compassion
His love, heart, went out to each one
For they were as sheep, no shepherd
Now voice of good Shepherd they heard

The day went on, then 'twas evening
The crowd no food did with them bring
But Jesus said, What food, any
Is there, disciples go and see

They found out five loaves, two fishes
But how this meet the crowd's wishes?
For them to all be fed, this small
Amount, how shall it feed them all?

Jesus said for all to sit on grass
Time for provision did not pass
Was not missed, for Jesus did take
The food and blessed it for their sake

Then gave to the disciples there
To distribute to each a share
And they did all eat, had enough
Gathered up all the extra stuff

Was twelve baskets full, the surplus
All there were fed without a fuss
E'en over five thousand, they saw
And ate of the Lord's gracious store

Amazing grace, vast multitude
They did eat, were refreshed, renewed
The Lord's glory they saw, rejoiced
His great workings they told and voiced

Crumbs! - Mark's Gospel (8)

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Mark 7 v.24-30

Jesus did go to Tyre, Sidon
And there met a woman
A Syrian of Phoenicia
She did with Him confer

Lord, my daughter has a demon
A spirit, unclean one
Falling at His feet, she did plead
That He would meet her need

Her desire that He would cast out
The demon with no doubt
Cast it out from her daughter, so
She would her healing know

But Jesus said, Let the children
And too the women, men
The children of God, Jews they be
Let them be first filled, see

For 'tis not good the children's bread
To take, that dogs be fed
As little dogs, as household pets
Cared for with no regrets

True Lord, she said, and I Gentile
Am as a dog, my style
Under the table do I eat
Children's crumbs at their feet

For this saying, Jesus did say
Go home now, make your way
Your faith is shown, your daughter sure
Is healed, demon no more

And so was true, for she did see
Her daughter at home free
Laid on her bed in peace and calm
No demon more to harm

Praise Parading

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 148

Praise the Lord in the heavens above

And yet He near us in His love

Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise Him in the heights, people all

And all His angels on Him call

Trusting Him, safe you shall not fall

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him, all you hosts, serving free

Praise Him sun and moon radiantly

Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise Him, all stars of light, you shine

With His created gleams divine

And with His purposes align

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him you highest heavens, so

And you waters, rain, showers, dew

Alleluia, Alleluia

Let them the LORD's name it upraise

For He commanded in His days

And they created as He says

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He has stablished them for ever

Made decrees which they pass never

Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise the LORD all on earth, dry land

And seas, all formed by His good hand

Creatures made by Him, wondrous band
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him, fire, hail, snow, and vapours
Each one to your Creator stirs
Alleluia, Alleluia
Stormy wind his word fulfilling
From His treasures He does it bring
For He Lord over everything
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him, mountains, hills, fruitful trees
Cedars, meadows, pastures, and leas
Beasts, cattle, creeping things, and birds
For of His greatness you have heard
All made sure by His living word
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him, kings, queens, and all people
Princes, judges, young, old, e'en all
Alleluia, Alleluia
Adults and children, let them praise
Him, and fresh praises e'er upraise
His name excellent through all days
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

His glory is above the earth
And above heaven, give Him worth
Alleluia, Alleluia
He gives strength unto His people
Their strength is their praise, e'er of all
Israel, they do on Him call
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Dusk And Dawn

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Lord, give wisdom to all the nations
Both small and great, of all stations
That they collective, individual
Your kingdom seek, your will fulfil

Midst troubles, struggles, or distractions
Help us live as your daughters, sons
Witnesses in your world, you reign o'er
Your earth and heaven evermore

In faith we trust none e'er surprises
You, though oppression up rises
Against you and your people here placed
Yet still your good hand we have traced

Bring light, salvation, understanding
Guide us and guard us in each thing
To glorify you, that be our aim
And reverence too your great name

'Til final evening of the world come
All human activity done
Then you shall come, gather your people
We with you shall dwell eternal

Give repentance while days do remain
And your forgiveness clear and plain
Empower us to gather harvest
Then safe for e'er in endless rest

Confessed To Be Christ - Mark's Gospel (9)

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Mark 8 v.27-33

Jesus did say, Who do men say
I am, tell me I pray?
Disciples answered, gave reply
As they to Him drew nigh

Some say you are John the Baptist
Some Elijah they wist
You to be, or one of prophets
They you as one enlist

But who do you say that I am?
You see me true, no sham
Peter did say, you the Christ be
I am sure of this, see

Jesus told them to tell no one
That He the promised Son
He who would be rejected, killed
Suffer, then rise, God willed

Peter did say, No, no, Lord this
Shall not be, this way miss
But Jesus rebuked him, for so
Man's way he chose to know

Satan behind his worldly view
To avoid the cross too
Peter thought on the things of men
Distraction's temptings then

Transfiguration Time - Mark's Gospel (10)

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Mark 9 v.1-7

Jesus transfigured on the mount
There revealed His inward fount
His divine glory expounded
He by all men could be read

His raiment did become shining
Exceeding white, that nothing
On earth could give a brighter sight
Than His true and holy light

Peter, James, and John with Him there
In that event they did share
Moses and Elijah there too
Spoke of His decease anew

Peter said, It is good that we
Be here, and let us now, see
make three shelters, do here abide
In these places do reside

Then a voice come out of a cloud
God's presence it did enshroud
This is my beloved Son sure
Hear Him, he brings life e'ermore

Guard our lips Lord, in our speaking
not to say just anything
When of fear we may say something
That will not of profit bring

But speaking your words of life, we
Show of your salvation free
Hearing words of your Son, they be
Words of life eternally

Cantate Cavalcade

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees in Him rise')

Psalm 98 [Cantate Domino]

Sing to the LORD a new song - Alleluia!
Praise Him all day, all night long - Alleluia
For He has marvellous things - Alleluia
Done, and all unto Him sings - Alleluia

His right hand, His holy arm - Alleluia
Keeps His people free from harm - Alleluia
He has gained the victory - Alleluia
Let all nations here now see - Alleluia

He made known His salvation - Alleluia
Let us praise, joy, elation - Alleluia
His righteousness He has shown - Alleluia
Unto all it be made known - Alleluia

He has His truth remembered - Alleluia
And has His mercy conferred - Alleluia
To His people Israel - Alleluia
Salvation to all earth tell - Alleluia

Make to the LORD noise joyful - Alleluia
All the earth, and on Him call - Alleluia
Make loud noise, rejoice, sing praise - Alleluia
Unto Him through endless days - Alleluia

Sing to the LORD with the harp - Alleluia
Make sweet melody, not sharp - Alleluia
Bring words of psalms to worship - Alleluia
Him with humble voice and lip - Alleluia

Sound loud trumpets and cornet - Alleluia
Let His goodness none forget - Alleluia
Make joyful noise, He the King - Alleluia
And Lord of Lords, to Him sing - Alleluia

Creation join in, sea roar - Alleluia
And all there for evermore - Alleluia
The whole world and all therein - Alleluia
Fresh praises do e'er begin - Alleluia

Let the rivers, floods, their hands - Alleluia
Clap and celebrate, all lands - Alleluia
Let the hills together be - Alleluia
With mountains exultant, free - Alleluia

Come before the LORD, for He - Alleluia
Comes to judge earth righteously - Alleluia
All by Him shall be judged fair - Alleluia
All shall in equity share - Alleluia!

Servant Scenes - Mark's Gospel (11)

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Mark 9 v.35-41 parts

If any desire be first
If that their desire, their thirst
The same needs be last of all
If following their Lord's call

And servant of all shall be
Such as desire greatness, see
Whosoe'er receives a child
Receives Jesus, loving, mild

And they too receive the Lord
God the Father, they assured
And none who do miracles
In Christ's name, they have no falls

For such are for Christ, and they
Seek His will, it to obey
Whoever the smallest deed
Does in His name, here take heed

For such shall not lose reward
In the service of their Lord
His true servants they shall be
Follow His humility

Radiant Revealing

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Luke 2 v.25-35

For Candlemas - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, aged 40 days (Feb 2nd)

Simeon of Christ prophesied
His wishes were not denied
Waiting for the consolation
Of Israel and each nation

The Spirit did to him reveal
He should see Christ, was God's will
Before this life he departed
This grace to him imparted

So coming to the Temple, there
He in a blessing did share
Mary, Joseph, and Jesus young
Words spoken, praise to Him sung

For Simeon did Jesus hold
'Nunc Dimittis' was then told
Lord, now let me, your servant, Lord
Depart, your word does accord

For my eyes have your salvation
Seen, Christ for every nation
You, O God, have prepare Him sure
Before all peoples face, pure

A light to lighten the Gentiles
No longer wait, no more whiles

And the glory of your people
Lord, he be to Israel all

Jesus' parents did wonder there
And more Simeon did share
Said to Mary, This child He be
Set to bring man's destiny

Set for the fall and rise again
Of many in Israel, then
He be a sign spoken against
By those who know no repents

This so the thoughts of many hearts
May be revealed, e'en deep parts
And a sword shall too Mary's soul
Pierce, suffering take its toll

Prosperous Praises

Tune: Cranbrook

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing';

aka 'On Ilkley Moor B'ah Tat')

Words in brackets are optional additions.

Psalm 84 v.1

How amiable your dwellings (your dwellings)

Each to you offering brings

Your tabernacles, LORD of hosts

your tabernacles, LORD of hosts

In you we make our boasts

In you we make our boasts

In you we make our boasts

Psalm 84 v.5

Blessed are they whose strength is in you (is in you)

You will them sure renew

And blessed those in whose heart your ways

And blessed those in whose heart your ways

Abide through endless days

Abide through endless days

Abide through endless days

Psalm 84 v.11

The LORD God is a sun and shield (sun and shield)

To Him allegiance yield

He will give grace and glory, so

He will give grace and glory, so

Good things the upright know

Good things the upright know

Good things the upright know

Psalm 85 v.6

Will you not us help and revive (and revive)
That we then in you thrive?
So that your people may rejoice
So that your people may rejoice
Having made you their choice
Having made you their choice
Having made you their choice

Psalm 85 v.10

Mercy and truth now here are met (here are met)
We see His graces yet
For righteousness and peace they kiss
For righteousness and peace they kiss
Your presence it be bliss
Your presence it be bliss
Your presence it be bliss

Psalm 85 v.11

Truth up out of the earth shall spring (earth shall spring)
And praises fresh we sing
Righteousness down from heaven shall look
Righteousness down from heaven shall look
We are helped, not forsook
We are helped, not forsook
We are helped, not forsook

Psalm 86 v.5

You LORD are good, and are ready (are ready)
To forgive, so you be
And plenteous in mercy to
And plenteous in mercy to
All them that call on you
All them that call on you
All them that call on you

Psalm 86 v.9

All nations who you have made, they (have made, they)
Shall worship to you, pray
O Lord to you, and glorify
O Lord to you, and glorify
Your name that ne'er shall die
Your name that ne'er shall die
Your name that ne'er shall die

Riches Restraining - Mark's Gospel (12)

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Mark 10 v.23-27

How hard it is for those, they who
Trust in their riches, yes they do
Hard for them to enter kingdom
Of God and Jesus His Son

'Tis easier for a camel
To go through eye of a needle
Than for rich to enter into
God's kingdom, or to it view

This did cause a consternation
Riches not bring joy, elation
Enquiry made, Who then can be
Saved from among people, see?

Jesus said, With people this is
Impossible, the way they miss
But with God not impossible
All things with Him possible

Bartimaeus' Blessings - Mark's Gospel (13)

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Mark 10 v.46-52

Bartimaeus sat by highway
Begging for some help each day
Then he heard Jesus was passing
By, it in his ears did ring

He cried out, Jesus, have mercy
Son of David, come, help me
Would not be quietened or silenced
Still he cried out, persistence

Jesus stood still, and commanded
Call the blind man here, He said
Then the crowd said, Take good comfort
The Lord calls you, Him you sought

He came to Jesus, who did ask
What will you I do, the task?
Bartimaeus said, Lord, that I
Might receive my sight, my ply (plea)

Jesus said, Go your way, for your
Faith has made you whole for sure
And straightway his sight he received
Then followed Christ, he believed

Promise In Prayers - Mark's Gospel (14)

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Mark 11 v.20-24

Have faith in God, and come in prayer
With Him all your needs share
Jesus says, Whosoe'er shall say
To mountain, Move away

Be removed, cast into the sea
Have faith, so it shall be
And who shall doubt not in their heart
This sure shall be their part

To see things come to pass, large, small
Move fig trees, mountains, all
Who shall believe that what they ask
Shall come to pass, each task

Nothing too great, whate'er we say
So what we desire, pray
And believe we do them receive
Shall be sure, no deceive

The promise is we shall each thing
Shall have, if forgiving
Any that have us offended
For such the words are said

The words that if we do forgive
Through God we shall too live
For He our Father is, and we
Then be forgiven, see

Vineyard Valuing - Mark's Gospel (15)

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Mark 12 v.1-12 parts

Labourers in the vineyard, they
Did work their ways deceitfully
Killing some prophets, and some beat
This how they God's servants did treat

So God, owner of the vineyard
Sent His Son, said they would think hard
And reverence Him, not abuse
Surely this be the thoughts they choose

But no, for they said, This the heir
Is, let us kill Him, so His share
Shall be ours, and so greedily
They forgot the owner, here see

For He would come, and destroy those
Who delighted and evil chose
And would give vineyard to others
To true Christian sisters, brothers

Christ is that Son, the cornerstone
Though He was deserted, alone
For the builders Him rejected
Though He turned out to be the head

The head of the corner, holding
Together firm all the building
And this was of the Lord's doing
Marvellous in our eyes, we sing

Generous Giving - Mark's Gospel (16)

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Mark 12 v.41-44

Jesus by treasury
Sat, there did people see
Saw how they cast their money in
Many rich did begin

Begin to cast in much
They had a lot, was such
That they it gave, and then there came
A poor widow, the same

The same did she, and cast
Two mites in, were here last
Last coins that she had she gave
That farthing did not waive

For 'twas two leptas*, mites (*small copper coins)
The reason she alights
To cast them in to treasury
Makes farthing, kodrantes** (**a Roman coin)

Jesus said, She had more
Cast in than all before
For they cast in from abundance
She cast in all her pence

Even all her living
Not knowing when next thing
Of life's money matters would come
She gave all for [Christ] the Son

Delightful Dwelling

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Psalm 84 parts

How lovely are your dwellings
My soul them pleasant sings
Amiable and friendly
Your tabernacles be
O Lord of hosts, my soul longs
In your courts it belongs
It e'en faints for you, reside
In my heart, pray, abide

Blessed are they whose strength in you
They may daily renew
And in whose heart are your ways
They follow all their days
Who passing through the Valley
Of Weeping*, make it see (*the Valley of Baca)
A well, a spring, and the rain
Does water it again

They go from strength to strength there
And comforts they may share
Each one before God appears
And unto them He nears
O Lord of hosts, hear my prayer
I assured you are there
O God, our shield, look upon
Christ your anointed Son

A day in your courts better
Than a thousand, confer

Between selves, but none found is
Compared to this, its bliss
I rather take humble role
As door-keeper here, soul
It is content, I dwell not
With wicked, poor their lot

The Lord God is a sun, shield
Will us grace, glory yield
No good thing will He withhold
'Tis true, let it be told
To those who live uprightly
O Lord, blessed [they] who trust in you
And they by faith you view

Propitiation Plenitude

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

1 John 2 v.1-2

Here deep comfort, full salvation
To each of every nation
If any one sin, we have sure
An Advocate evermore
With the Father, it be Jesus
His Son, gave His life for us

He the One, the righteous, sinless
Forgiven, He does us bless
He the propitiation* be
For our sins, for even me
Mild, merciful, for us He bears
Our sins, our human state shares

Not now punished nor condemned we
For He has borne our load, see
Turns away God's wrath from us, for
He has borne it, suffered sore
Not for my sins only, but for
The whole world for evermore

We redeemed, His gracious favour
We do meditate, savour
There no other, all-sufficient
Relief for each penitent
Thus rejoicing, grace enfolding
Us, we of His love do sing

Turn us Lord, from pride and striving

Our own salvation to bring
Rooted, grounded in you we hold
To the gospel, good news told
You the Truth, the Life, and the Way
Even to eternal day

* propitiation - to appease a god or person, etc;
to atone - make two to be 'at-one-ment'

Ready For His Return - Mark's Gospel (17)

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father pf heaven, whose love profound')

Mark 13 v.32-37

Watch be the word, and be ready
For day of Jesus' return, see
But of that day and of that hour
It not known within human power

Nor even the angels it know
Nor the Son Himself can it show
God the Father knows, he alone
Meanwhile let Christ-like deeds be sown

Take heed, Jesus says, Watch and pray
For you know not the night or day
Of my return, and not even
I as God's Son, I know not when

For the Son of man (Jesus) is as one
Taking a journey, when has done
When has given authority to
His servants, and each work to do

He too commanded gate-keeper
Of the house to watch, not confer
With distractions, for none does know
On earth when He again will show

'Tis in God the Father's own time
In His perfect reason and rhyme
Our part it is to watch and pray
Whether he return night or day

Or maybe at the morning light
Dawn or dusk, all shall see the sight
Lord help us watch that we sleep not
At your return, that be poor lot

But wakeful, alert, servants true
Continuing to honour you
So then not unexpectedly
Ready for your return shall be

Supper Scenes - Mark's Gospel (18)

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Mark 14 v.22-31

Jesus, Supper instituted
Simple gifts of wine and of bread
Took bread, blessed it, and did give
It to disciples, they ate, live
Bread of life, His body broken
For us here be the sure token

And He took the cup of wine
It would symbolise His blood fine
New testament blood it is
Which is shed for many, true this
Though Jesus no more would drink wine
'Til He drinks in kingdom divine

They did sing a hymn, and then
Went to Mount of Olives, was when
Jesus said, you all shall be
Offended this night, 'tis writ, see
'I will smite he shepherd, and sheep
Shall be scattered, not with Him keep'

But when He has rose again
They shall see in Galilee then
Him, the risen Lord, though they
There said from Him they would not stray
But He knew they would not do so
Though they said with Him they would go

Would go even unto death

Share with Him in gasping last breath
And He knew that Peter would
Deny Him thrice, and that it should
Be before cockerel crow twice
It be too great for them, the price

Love Limitless

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

To love, it be your command
Appointed by your good hand
Lord, come help, forgive, inspire
With your holy fire

Show us how to love, whole heart
Love to you in every part
Your love first to us you shared
By grace unimpaired

Where our love be partial, cold
Yet your love still does us hold
Gospel of your love be told
With your courage bold

And love for one another
Each sister and each brother
Strengthen us where faint we be
To love completely

Employing heart, mind, will, soul
Where distractions bring a lull
Help us return to first love
Spirit, holy dove

And our love expressively
In our praises tunefully
Pray, accept for your glory
We your creatures be

Gifts and graces we do know
Given to us here below
God in heaven, Spirit lives
In our hearts, life gives

Dynamic Deacons

Tune: Unter Herrscher

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Acts Chapter 6 parts

As was Jesus, so was Stephen
Filled full of the Spirit then
When appointed as a deacon
To help the Grecian women
When the daily food was given
He a deacon, one of seven

And indeed, they all sure filled be
By the Spirit for this, see
Necessary tasks to employ
They did it with gladness, joy
Full of wisdom and the Spirit
Serving suitably and fit

Stephen, Philip, and Prochorus
Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas
And Nicolas, this the group be
They did work effectively
And too said of Stephen, he be
A witness radiantly

Full of faith and of the Spirit
He devoted, every whit
Full of power, did wonders great
And miracles, not chance, fate
For he one all full of good grace
As an angel was his face

O what glorious demonstration

Of the Lord to each nation
Such a powerful witness, for
Dynamic, confident, sure
Though receiving a martyr's crown
Has a name of great renown

Come, inspire us, give us passion
As he had for Christ your Son
Light too bright for evil schemings
He truth preached, exposed wrong things
A flame of fire seems extinguished
Now burns in glory instead

Praise - Towdah

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise')

'Towdah' or 'Yadah', to extend
Hands in worship, and attend
To the Lord in adoration
He high over each nation
And used in vows, or acceptance
Thanking God for things we hence
Trust in faith that we shall receive
That for which we do believe

Jeremiah 33 v.11

And to give thanks for things received
That for which we have believed
The voice of joy, voice of gladness
All attuned, the Lord to bless
Voice of bridegroom and of the bride
They sure in the Lord confide
Voice of them that say, Praise the Lord
Of hosts, He the living Word

Jeremiah 33 v.11

Praising Him for He is good, for
His mercy endures e'ermore
Voice of them that bring sacrifice
Of praise, pray it does suffice
For the Lord and for His glory
He will cause to return, see
Those who were captives in strange land
He shall restore by His hand

Psalms 42 v.4

When downcast, I do remember
How I went along to share
With the multitude to the house
Of God, nothing could it douse
There be voice of joy and praises
Each one the Lord upraises
Keeping holy day, worshipping
Our God, He our Lord and King

Psalm 50 v.14 & 23
Offer to God thanksgiving pure
Pay any vows to Him sure
He the most High, and who does so
Offer Him praise, let them know
That they the Lord do glorify
And that to such He is nigh
Those who order their way aright
He shows His salvation, light

Prophesied Preparation

Tune: Picardy

('Let all mortal flesh keep silence')

Revelation Chapter 15

John did see great sign in heaven
Marvellous, angels seven
Having bowls of seven last plagues
They prepared now for this stage
In them the wrath of God if filled
Time comes, His anger not stilled

Then he saw sea of glass mingled
With fire, and then out-singled
Those who had gotten victory
Over the beast, image, see
And over his mark, his name's number* (666)
They not with evil concur

They stood on the sea of glass clear
Having harps of God, now hear
Song they sing, the song of Moses
Servant of God, same one this
And song of the Lamb their melody
Great, marvellous, He e'er be

And His works great, He the Lord be
God Almighty, ever we
Sing, say, Just and true are His ways
Unto everlasting days
He the King of saints, and who shall
Not fear Him, His glories tell?

For He is only holy, all

Nations shall come, on Him call
And shall worship before Him, for
His judgements manifest sure
Then sanctuary in heaven opened
It was as if sky did rend

Seven angels from God's Temple
In heaven come forth, no stall
Having the seven plagues, wearing
Pure white linen and sparkling
Their chest girded bright with golden bands
With bowls of plagues in their hands

Then the Temple it filled with smoke
Glory of God, no revoke
And His power, so none able
To stand, all before Him fall
None could enter Temple, God willed
Till seven plagues were fulfilled

* The 'beast' is thought by some to be an anti-God state,
and the 'image' to be anti-God religion.
The 'number' is 666 - the Anti-Christ, never reaching 7,
the 'number of God', of perfection, wholeness, etc.

Denial Discourse - Mark's Gospel (19)

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
(*'All praise to thee, my God this night'*)

Mark 14 v.66-72

Peter did Christ deny, 'tis true
A maid said, Yes, I do know you
You too were with Jesus, confess
Jesus of Nazareth no less

But he denied, said, I know not
Nor do I understand just what
You say, and then the cockerel crew
He with Jesus had nought to do

Another maid did see him there
And said, You with Jesus did share
But he denied again, I know
Him not, this is the fact, 'tis so

A little later those gathered
There said to Peter, We assured
You are a disciple, for you
Are Galilean, it is true

For your speech, accent, shows you such
But Peter did curse and swear much
Denying Christ, I Him not know
This be my witness, it is so

Then the cockerel did crow again
Peter he did remember when
Jesus said to him, Cockerel twice
Shall crow [be]'fore you deny me thrice

Then he did think upon that word
That he had sure from Jesus heard
And went out and did bitter weep
Shepherd was denied by a sheep

Passion Panorama - Mark's Gospel (20)

Tune: Dundee

('O God of Bethel, by whose hand')

Mark 15 v.33-41 parts

Noon-tide darkness o'er all the land
God's judgement, heavy hand
See there on Jesus our sins laid
On cross He our price paid

Calling at three (p.m.) that afternoon
His sufferings over soon
My God, my God, O why have you
Forsaken me here? true

Jesus did die, Temple curtain
Was torn in two right then
Top to bottom, God's way open
To children, women, men

A centurion who Him heard
This his witness, his word
That truly this man was the Son
Of God, a great work done

And too witnesses standing there
They in that scene did share
Mary Magdalene, and Mary
James, [and] Joses mother, see

And Salome, and more women
Who did minister then
To Him, they faithful followers
Their love for Him bestirs

Resurrection Reminders - Mark's Gospel (21)

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of Resurrection')

Mark 16 v.9-14 part

St Mark here at his gospel's end
Though [it is] thought a page did rend
From that ending, though valid be
The words, testimony
Of Jesus' resurrection, see
Surely it cannot be
That gospel ends, no appearing
Of Him to make hearts sing

'Tis said, He appeared to Mary
Magdalene, He healed, see
healed her of seven devils, they
By His word could not stay
Though the people did not believe
Her word, did not receive
Her witness as true, though she saw
The Lord risen e'ermore

And too on the Emmaus road
To two of them He showed
His risen presence, true, behold
They then the others told
Again though, they di not believe
May think it a deceive
But the Christ did to them appear
They wondered, holy fear

Once without Thomas there, and then
He was with the group when

Jesus appeared, and did upbraid
Them, unbelief was staid
And hardness of heart too they had
When they could soon been glad
If believing testimony
From those who did Christ see

Yet we can share in gospel here
Rejoicing in Christ dear
Our Lord and Saviour, conquered death
Gave up His final breath
But now alive, He ever reigns
Had suffered earthly pains
Now our high priest in heaven above
Still shares with us His love

Gospel Growth - 1 Thessalonians Series (1)

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

1 Thessalonians Chapter 1 parts

The gospel shared, proclaimed in word
Yet not only in word be heard
But with power, and the Spirit
And much assurance, every whit

The gospel be that we should turn
From sin, idols, and our concern
To turn to serve the Lord God sure
He the living, true God e'ermore

And to wait for Jesus His Son
To come from heaven, he the one
Who brings salvation, delivers
Us from wrath to come, grace confers

Continue on with works of faith
And labourers of love till last day
And patience of hope in our Lord
Before God, He the living Word

Giving The Gospel - 1 Thessalonians Series (2)

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

1 Thessalonians 2 v.8-13 part

Share affectionately
The gospel, so it be
Imparted to those who it need
And so on Christ shall feed

With labour and travail
And with grace do not fail
To share the gospel, teach and preach
That each soul it shall reach

Living holy, devout
So then there be no doubt
Of a true witness, and justly
Live, unblameable be

Exhort, comfort, and charge
And reap a harvest large
Of souls, to join Christ's family
That each salvation see

It is not words only
Of men's* fraternity (* mankind's)
But the gospel it is e'er true
The word of God anew

Peace: Alleviating Anxiety

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Philippians 4 v.4-7

Rejoice here in the Lord always
Here throughout all life's days
Let your moderation be known
It to all men (mankind) be shown

For the Lord is at hand, He near
Be not anxious, nor fear
But in everything by prayer
With Him all need do share

Pray with thanksgiving, let requests
Be made known to God, best
Is, and His peace which surpasses
Understanding, shall bless

Shall bless you, and keep hearts and minds
Through Christ Jesus, thus find
His help sometimes beyond us, yet
His love on us is set

Anxiety, thinks o'er and o'er
What solution, what more
Can I do to relieve my care
And so no more it bear

Left to ourselves, we think again
And are concerned of when
We shall leave this, our anxious state
E'en may ourselves berate

God's peace, it not dependent on
Our finding solution
Nor depends on understanding
How He will solve each thing

Faith, Hope, Love - 1 Thessalonians Series (3)

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

1 Thessalonians Chapter 3 parts

Be not moved by each affliction
We are appointed to each one
God works through them redemptively
Help us Lord, your good purpose see

Not give up faith, tribulation
Comes to all of each class, station
Let not the tempter you o'ercome
Nor make you to God's presence numb

God Himself, The Father, and His Son
Our Lord Jesus direct each one
Make you to increase more in love
Empowered by His Spirit, dove

Love each other, abound in this
So God's true way you shall not miss
To the end He may establish
Your hearts in holiness, His wish

Unblameable before God, you
Shall be before the Father, view
The coming of His Son, Jesus
And all His saints, assured to us

Living Out Life - 1 Thessalonians Series (4)

Tune: Deep Harmony

('Sweet is the work, my God, my King')

1 Thessalonians 4 v.9-12

The Lord shall teach you how to love
Taught by His Spirit, holy dove
To abound in love more and more
Till His love reaches every shore

Continue on, study, aspire
To live quiet life, keep the fire
Of devotion burning strong, bright
Enabled by the Spirit's might

And to mind your own business, see
Not that we busybodies be
But to work with own hands, to earn
A living, and God's ways discern

Live honestly to towards those who
Do not have sight of Christ in view
That they may too by faith Him see
Through your true witness clear and free

Daily Devotion - 1 Thessalonians Series (5)

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

1 Thessalonians 5 v.14-24

Warn the unruly, and comfort
Feeble-minded, you ought
To support the weak too, and be
Patient unto all, see

Render not evil for evil
Vengeance, God's province all
But ever follow what is good
To each one, live God-ward

Rejoice evermore, and do pray
unceasing night and day
In every thing give thanks, in this
God's will you shall not miss

Quench not the Spirit, nor despise
Prophesyings, no lies
Prove all things, to all good hold fast
True deeds and words that last

Abstain from every appearance
Of evil as from hence
The God of peace sanctify you
Wholly in Him anew

Your whole spirit, soul, body be
Preserved so, blamelessly
Until the coming of the Lord
In Him be e'er assured

For He is faithful, He calls you
Will work with end in view
To transform you to the image
Of His Son, [that the] privilege

Peace Progress - Chronicles Series (1)

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord teach us how to pray aright')

1 Chronicles 12 v.18

The Spirit said through Amasai
An army captain nigh
We are your people, King David
We shall not keep this hid

We are on your side, Jesse's son (i.e. David)
You the anointed one
Peace, peace to you and unto who
That help you, sure they do

For your God helps you, so you shall
Make progress, prosper well
We shall be loyal, encourage
You, so take bold courage

So David did them welcome there
His people, they did share,
In his victories, gained the land
God worked by His good hand

Commitment And Courage

Tune: Blaenwern

('All Saints Of Wales')

Psalm 31 parts

In you, O LORD, I put my trust
I who am mere human, dust
Let me never be ashamed here
May your righteousness appear
Bow down your ear, help me quickly
Save me and my troubles see
Be my strong rock, my refuge sure
A house, fortress, safe e'ermore

For you name's sake lead me, guide me
Save me from the trap that be
Set for me by my enemies
You are my strength, they shall flee
In to your hand, LORD, I commit
My spirit, for you, each whit
Have redeemed me, come to my aid
LORD God true, in you I staid

I have hated those that regard
Lying vanities, and hard
Be their way, their lifeless idols
No tales of their help are told
But I trust in the LORD, and I
Will rejoice in you here nigh
I will be glad in your mercy
You have come to my help free

My times are in your hand, LORD, so
Comfort, assurance I know

Deliver me from enemies
So that they LORD each you sees
Save me from my persecutors
And strengthen my supporters
Make your face to upon me shine
Lightened with your light divine

O how great it be, your goodness
Which you have, and do us bless
It be laid up for those who fear
You, and who to you draw near
You have wrought it for those who do
Trust and true confide in you
Shown before all people that they
Great is the LORD then may say

O love the LORD, all you His saints
He the LORD who never faints
He preserves the faithful, and He
Fully repays the proud, see
Be of good courage, and he shall
Strengthen your heart, you fare well
All you that hope in the LORD, for
He shall help you evermore

Liberated Land

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Poem Subtitle: Rescued And Retained

Rest, you wildlife, stay in your place
And enjoy your nature's grace
Saved from concrete jungle you be
Retained calm and harmony
Take your leisure, you God's creatures
And display your fine features

Grassland, trees, and quiet haven
Shall be maintained now, as then
In days past, so now for future
You shall be untroubled sure
And your beauties still we do see
Nature, unaffected, free

Meadows, trails, tracks, and footways
Travelling, we God do praise
For He is the great Creator
Creating things wholesome, pure
Land preserved, green spaces lasting
Take a route, thankful songs sing

The earth it be the Lord's and he
Made the fullness of it, see
Seasons, days, and years appointed
His wisdom manifested
Help us Lord your creation tend
You to mankind do it lend

Wholesome Worshipping

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 98 v.4

Make joyful noise unto the LORD
All the earth, true is all His word
Make a loud noise, rejoice, sing praise
To Him your worship ever raise

Psalm 98 v.7

Away with whispers, mutterings
And dreary mopes and mumblings
Let all creation join in too
To praise their Creator anew

Psalm 99 v.1

The LORD reigns, let people tremble
He holy, terrible, awe-ful
He sits between cherubims high
In heaven, yet to us He nigh

Psalm 100 v.2

Serve the LORD with gladness, Him bless
With worship true in humbleness
Come before Him, his presence great
Bring a song, rejoice, and elate

Lordly Laudings

Tune: Leoni

('The God of Abraham praise')

Psalm 68 v.28 & v.32-35

Your God has commanded
You strength, and you has led
Through wilderness, through many days
Now sing His praise
Strengthen O God, what you
Have wrought for us anew
That it firm stand, none take away
But lasts alway

Sing to God, you kingdoms
Of the earth, all pryncedoms
Sing to the Lord, He high above
The God of love
Upon the heavens He rides
There none other besides
The heavens He created and
All earthly land

He does sound out His voice
A mighty voice, rejoice
In Him, for He great evermore
Worship, adore
Ascribe you strength unto
God, and make praises new
His excellency it be high
Yet [He to] Israel nigh

His strength in the clouds be
He terrible, we see

Of awesome power, Almighty
Unbounded, free
He holy e'er remains
And cleanses from sin's stains
Strength, power, He gives His people
They thankful all

Positive Presence - Chronicles Series (2)

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

2 Chronicles 15 v.1-7

The Spirit of God came on
Azariah the son
Of Oded, he prophesied
King Asa did confide (in Azariah)

He said, Hear me, King Asa
And Judah, I assure
The LORD is with you, while you
Be with Him, it is true

And if you unto Him seek
E'en though you mortal, weak
Yet He will be found of you
And will help you anew

But if you do Him forsake
He will not then you take
Now for long time it has been
Israel without God seen

Nor teaching priest, not the law
You have not followed sure
But when in troubles they turned
To the LORD, they [were] concerned

Returning to Him, they sought
Him in their days, through fraught
And He was then of them found
Praises to Him [did] resound

In those times there was no peace
Vexations did not cease
And turmoils were upon all
They tempted were to fall

Nation destroyed of nation
Was no joy, elation
For God did vex them surely
With all adversity

But be strong now, and let not
hands be weak, this your lot
It be that your work shall be
Rewarded by God, see

Salvation Sight - Chronicles Series (3)

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

2 Chronicles 20 v.15-25

Upon Jahaziel, a Levite
Came the Spirit with insight bright
He said, Hearken to me, all of you
King Jehoshaphat, Judah too

The LORD says, Be not afraid, dismayed
Of multitude 'gainst you arrayed
For the battle is not yours, here see
But it is God's, so shall it be

You shall not need to fight at this stage
But set yourselves, stand still, engage
And see the salvation of the LORD
He shall be with you, true His word

And so they went, the King to them said
Believe in the LORD, he has led
You this far, and still will go with you
So shall you be stablished anew

Believe His prophets, and so shall you
Prosper, He will act for you too
To site of battle they went with praise
To the LORD, firm on Him their gaze

Then the LORD He did send ambushes
Against their enemies, seen this
Moab, Ammon, Seir, they did fight
Destroyed each other out of sight

Justice Judgement - Chronicles Series (4)

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

2 Chronicles 24 v.20-22

The Spirit of God came upon
Zechariah, he was the son
Of Jehoiada the priest he
Had words unto the people, see

He said to them, Why you the word
Of the LORD, his commands you heard
You disobeyed, cannot prosper
The LORD has forsaken you sure

Because you have Him forsaken
He has turned, has not you taken
Into his favour, so relent
And from your sins now true repent

But they against him did conspire
And did stone him with stones, it dire
At command of King Joash they
Did him kill, from good turned away

So King Joash remembered not
The kindness done, his pleasant lot
From Jehoiada, the father
of Zechariah, his son sure

But he slew his son, who did say
As he was dying, he did pray
Said, The LORD look on this, repay
The wrong here done to me this day

Light Leading

Tune & Hymn: 'All through The Night'

Shine upon us in our dark night
With your pure light
Things now hidden unto our sight
Make clear and bright
Reveal your ways, help us to learn
Ever trust to you, confide, turn
Your presence there still to us guide
With us reside

If our night seems dark, unyielding
Your daylight bring
Help us still in faith to hold to
Your ways e'er true
Learning, growing, contemplating
Living, working, meditating
Through all scenes of life that we know
On earth below

Fill us with your Spirit, may we
More of you see
Your plan, change us to image sure
Of Christ e'ermore
Lord have mercy, still us uphold
That good things still of you be told
You our guide through life for ever
Leave us never

Restoring Rejoicings

Tune: Richmond

(City of God, how broad and far')

Hosea 14 v.1-8

O Israel, to the LORD return
Of Him and His ways learn
For you have fallen by your sin
Come now, be cleansed within

Take with you words, to the LORD turn
And His ways do discern
Say, Take away all sin, receive
Us, by grace we believe

So will our lips then give you praise
No more as olden days
Shall we trust to Assyria
But to you our hearts stir

In you the orphans find mercy
You will heal us, so be
Heal our backsliding, love freely
No more with us angry

The LORD shall be as dew, blessing
His people to Him sing
They shall blossom as lilies fair
Strong roots as cedars share

Their branches shall spread, their beauty
Shall be as olive tree
Aroma be as Lebanon
Restoring work be done

They shall grow as the corn and vine
Their scent be as new wine
They shall turn from their idols vain
True life in the LORD gain

The LORD is like a fir tree green
And it shall sure be seen
The people's fruit from Him is found
Prosperous, thriving ground

Praise Promenade

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Psalm 144 v.15

Happy is the people's state - Alleluia!

Whose God is the LORD, He great - Alleluia!

They do in Him put their trust - Alleluia!

Though they be mere human, dust - Alleluia!

Psalm 145 v.3

Great the LORD, great to be praised - Alleluia!

And to Him songs be up raised - Alleluia!

His greatness unsearchable - Alleluia!

Yet mortals may on Him call - Alleluia!

Psalm 145 v.15

The eyes of all on Him wait - Alleluia!

He will provide, not be late - Alleluia!

He gives food in due season - Alleluia!

Tending unto every one - Alleluia!

Psalm 145 v.16

The LORD does open His hand - Alleluia!

Satisfies all, every land - Alleluia!

Even the desire of all - Alleluia!

Living things, they on Him call - Alleluia!

Psalm 146 v.10

The LORD shall reign e'en for ever - Alleluia!

He shall abdicate never - Alleluia!

He the God of Israel (Jews) - Alleluia!

And of all Gentiles, we tell - Alleluia!

Psalm 147 v.5

Great the LORD, and of great power - Alleluia!
Diminishes not one hour - Alleluia!
His understanding it be - Alleluia!
Infinite eternally - Alleluia!

Psalm 147 v.6

The LORD lifts up humble, meek - Alleluia!
Those who do Him lowly seek - alleluia!
But wicked unto the ground - Alleluia!
He does cast, there their place found - Alleluia!

Psalm 147 v.11

The LORD, he be please with they - Alleluia!
Who do fear him in their day - Alleluia!
They that hope in His mercy - Alleluia!
Do his loving-kindness see - Alleluia!

Psalm 148 v.5

Let all praise the LORD, for He - Alleluia!
Commanded them all, so be - Alleluia
All created by His word - Alleluia!
His life-giving voice was heard - Alleluia!

Psalm 148 v.13

Let all praise Him, for His name - Alleluia!
Is e'er great, of endless fame - Alleluia!
It be excellent, and he - Alleluia!
Glorious over all be - Alleluia!

Psalm 149 v.4

The LORD He takes pleasure in - Alleluia!
His people, too cleansed from sin - Alleluia!
He will the meek beautify - Alleluia!
With salvation, it be nigh - Alleluia!

Psalm 150 v.6

Let all that has breath Him praise - Alleluia!

Even unto endless days - Alleluia!

There shall be no finale - Alleluia!

Life, eternal life shall be - Alleluia!

Dark To Light

Tune: Halton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Psalm 13

How long, LORD, will you forget me?
For ever? Look on me, see
How long will you from me your face
Hide? I not your mercies trace

How long shall I take counsel in
My soul, with sorrow within
Daily I grieve, O LORD, how long
Shall I be my enemies song?

Consider, O LORD, my God, hear
Me, lighten my eyes, draw near
Lest I do the sleep of death sleep
Come to my help, I your sheep

Lest my enemy shall then say
I have prevailed in this day
Against him, and those that trouble
Me rejoice to see my fall

But I have trusted in you here
And your mercy does appear
My heart shall rejoice so gladly
In your salvation daily

I will sing unto the LORD, for
He has dealt bountiful, sure
With me, I come from dark to light
Precious I be in His sight

Balaam's Oracles - Series(1)

Tune: St Agnes

('Jesus, the very thought of thee')

Numbers 23 v.8-10

Note: Balaam was an Old Testament prophet.

King Balak of Moab (one of Israel's enemies) hired him to curse the people of Israel.

But Balaam spoke prophetic blessings of them instead, in a series of 4 'Oracles'

How shall I curse whom God has not

Cursed, this not be my lot

Nor how shall I defy whom He

Has not defied, here see

From the top of the rocks I view

Israel, I see anew

From the hills I do them behold

Blessings on them are told

The people, they shall dwell alone

Solitary be known

Not reckon selves among nations

But they the holy ones

Who can count them all, e'en a part?

Or quarter count, where start?

Let me die death of the righteous

My last end be like his! (the Israelites)

Majestic Mount

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 48 parts

Note: Mount Zion = the hill or mount on which Jerusalem is built

Great is the LORD, greatly
To be praised is He
In His city, His mount
Source of blessings fount
Mount of His holiness
He shall the righteous bless
They who His name confess
Lord of all, no less

Beautiful situation
'Tis its location
The joy of the whole earth
'Tis of precious worth
Mount Zion on the sides
Of the north it resides
City of the great King
To Him now praise bring

God in her palaces
Is known, is true this
As we have heard, we saw
City of God sure
He is the LORD of hosts
And reigns unto all coasts
He will establish e'er
His Mount Zion fair

We of your loving kindness
Have thought, do us bless
In midst of your temple
We unto you call
According to your name
O God, your praise is same
Unto earth's farthest ends
Righteousness attends

Let Mount Zion rejoice
His people His choice
They of Judah be glad
Stay not mournful, sad
For His judgements righteous
Are here sure among us
Walk about Zion, go
Round about her so

Speak of her towers tall
And majesty all
Mark well her bulwarks there
They strong defence share
Consider palaces
And so tell all of this
To next generation
Of your blessed nation

For this is our God e'er
His presence e'er there
He for eternity
Shall our God still be
And he will be our guide
E'en to death, and reside
With us and leave us not
Happy be our lot

Balaam's Oracles - Series (2)

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Numbers 23 v.19-24

God is not a man, that He
Should lie, far from it be
Him to do so, not repent
Does He, and nor relent
Has He said, and shall He not
Do it? that be His lot
Has He spoken, and shall He
Not make it good? so be

Behold, a command to bless
Have I, I do confess
For God has blessed, and I so
No other words speak, know
He has not beheld, Israel
No iniquity tell [regarding them]
Nor perverseness, for He be
Among them as King, see

God did from Egypt them bring
They came out, praise did ring
They have strength of unicorn (e.g. rhino)
He has His people borne
Surely there no enchantment
Nor divination sent
Against Israel that can stand
They shall possess the land

In these days it shall be said
What God has wrought! He led

His people through wilderness
His intent them to bless
Behold the people they shall
Rise as great lion, swell
And as young lion they be
Enemies their prey, see

Way With Words

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour lifted')

Forgive Lord, too many
Words here, do any
Speak of your life and love
And your Spirit, dove?

We are here, all earthen
You are e'er in heaven
So may our words be few
Harkening to you

Yet by your grace you do
Give us words anew
Words of life, salvation
To all, each station

Help us turn from idle
Words, profitless all
Here a while meditate
Visit us not late

From your Spirit within
From hearts cleansed from sin
Your waters of life flow
We your presence know

Ready now to listen
Women, children, men
Hear your words and obey
They true every day

Communion Companying

Tune: Buinessan

('Morning has broken')

New mercies each morn, they do on us dawn
Strengthen us where we tired, weary, worn
To Communion you do us invite
By your grace we children of the light

Here bread and wine be in your sacrament
Open to repentant, penitent
Hope of forgiveness, life, restoration
'Tween God and man (mankind), all of each nation

You our salvation, we cannot save self
You our righteousness, you our true wealth
Help us by faith receive of your gifts free
Here a remembrance continually

For you say, Take, eat of bread, and wine drink
These be the symbols, these be the link
To recall your death, Jesus, for you gave
Your life for us, for to our souls save

And too arisen, you e'er our high priest
Sharing here we may in this great feast
Partake humbly, then continue serving
You our Lord and King in everything

Soliloquy On Silence

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest Lord is ended')

Romans 3 v.19-20

Whate'er the law says, it says to those
Under the law, so mouths stopped, close
Mankind standing before God silent
No self-defence, but penitent

Our spiritual state, sinners, guilty
If Christ is not our Saviour, see
Nothing I can say in my defence
But solely trust in Christ from hence

I coem to you Lord, hands here empty
Nothing to offer to you, see
With which to save self, but receiving
Christ's righteousness, I believing

Not my good works, they ne'er can atone
For Christ me saves, and He alone
Not my self-righteousness I give you
But in Christ stand before you true

By deeds of law no flesh justified
In God's sight, they shall be denied
For by the law is knowledge of sin
Only God's grace can cleanse within

Worship Wonders

Hymn & Tune: Ode To Joy

Psalm 95 v.1-7

O come let us sing to the LORD
He e'er reigns, the living Word
Let us to Him make joyful noise
Men and women, girls and boys
He the rock of our salvation
Saviour to every nation
Let us come before Him thankful
And give Him our praises all

Employ now your voices in song
He worth praising all day long
Take up psalms and melodies sweet
Bring them, ranging round His feet
For the LORD He is a God great
Clothed He in royal estate
Above all gods He a great King
Ruler over everything

In His hands are the deep places
Of the earth, and all spaces
The strength, the heights of the hills are
His also, those near and far
The sea is His, and He it made
See His creation displayed
Full of wonder, full of glory
This I do view, even me

And His hands did form the dry land
At His word each thing does stand
O come, let us worship, bow down

To Him, He of great renown
Let us kneel before Him, He be
The Lord our maker, here see
He our God and we the people
Of his pasture, His sheep all

Lord Of All Lands

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all people
Shout unto God, call
Upon Him, with the voice
Of triumph rejoice
For the LORD most high He
Awesome ever be
Great King over all earth
Give to Him His worth

He shall people subdue
Under us anew
Put nations 'neath our feet
From His judgement seat
He shall choose for us sure
Inheritance, store
Of blessings excellent
They to us be sent

God is gone up with shout
Victory no doubt
Is His, and trumpet sound
Does here clear redound
Sing praises to God, sing
He King o'er each thing
In heaven or on earth
makes songs, joyful mirth

Sing with understanding
Him your offerings bring

He o'er the heathen reigns
Truly with no feigns
Sits upon His throne, yes
Of His holiness
Let all Him exalt, see
He LORD ever be

Baalam's Oracles - Series (3)

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Numbers 24 v.5-9

How goodly are your tents, Israel
And your tabernacles, we tell
As the valleys are they spread forth
They shall extend east, west, south, north

And as gardens by river's side
And as trees planted they reside
Planted by the LORD they sure be
As aloes* and cedars, see (*a-o-lees)

He shall the water then pour out
Of his* buckets, without a doubt (*i.e Israel)
And his descendants they shall be
In many waters prosperously

And his king shall too higher be
Than was Agag, king of old he
His kingdom shall be exalted
The LORD God led them and them fed

God did bring them from Egypt's land
Delivered them by His strong hand
Israel has strength as unicorn* (*e.g. rhino)
Enemies shall be broken, torn

For Israel is as great lion
Who shall then rouse him, any one?
Blesséd are they that do you bless
Cursed who curses you, we confess

Chosen, Called, Comforted

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

2 Thessalonians 2 v.13-17

Brethren, believers, beloved of the Lord
God has from the beginning, sure His word
Has chosen you to salvation, 'tis through
Sanctification of the Spirit true

And through belief of the truth, whereunto
He called you by the gospel, even you
To the obtaining of the glory bright
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, light to our sight

So brethren, stand fast, hold to true teachings
Which you have been taught, word, epistle brings
Knowledge of the way, guide on the path strait
Where we have entered through the narrow gate*

Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, so be
And God, even our Father, who loved, see
Loved us, an has given us e'erlasting
Consolation, good hope through grace, we sing

May He comfort your hearts, and establish
You in every good work and word and wish
Comforted until Day of Lord appears
Then shall His dawning solace all our tears

* These can be interchangeable.

It can also be - narrow path and strait gate.

Led By The Light

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly light')

Based on a Collect - a Formal Prayer

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, Lord

And by your word

Guide us, for your word it be a lamp sure

And a light pure

Onward each step, trusting where we not know

What lies ahead, but believe good will show

And by your great mercy us do defend

Unto the end

From all perils and dangers of this night

Whate'er would fright

This do we pray, for love of Christ your Son [Amen]

Our good Shepherd and our redeeming one

Opening our hearts to you, you who know

All hearts full[y] so

Seeking to grow in Christ's image each day

And go His way

Empowered by your Spirit, He within

Us, we His temples, He does cleanse from sin

Ever hoping, strengthen our faith in you

To you e'er view

Comfort and heal where we struggle, downcast

It not e'er last

Going on by faith, not by things of sight

'Til dawns the day of everlasting light

Teachable Trust

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord thy word abideth')

Psalm 27 v.11-14

Teach me, O Lord, your way
Lead me from day to day
In plain path, and guard me
Constant from enemy

I had fainted unless
You did turn to me, bless
And if I believed not
To see your hand's good lot

But in land of living
You your goodness giving
Faithful, you will us guide
And daily will provide

Wait on the Lord, and be
Of good courage, for He
Shall your heart strengthen sure
Keep you firm evermore

Nature Notings

Tune: Unser Herrscher

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Psalm 107 v.31-42

O that men would praise the LORD for
His goodness for evermore
And for His wonderful works to
The children of men, e'en you!
Let them exalt Him, raise praise high
He great God, yet always nigh

Congregation of the people
Praise Him, and the elders all
He turns rivers to wilderness
Watersprings to waterless
Fruitful land unto barrenness
For the people's wickedness

Turns wilderness to watered land
All is done by His good hand
Dry ground turned into watersprings
All creation to Him sings
There He made the hungry to dwell
In a city, the fed well

They sow fields, vineyards, which do yield
Fruits of increase, blessings sealed
They multiply greatly, prosper
He watches o'er them for sure
But at times again they are low
Oppression, affliction know

Sorrow too, for the LORD pours out

Contempt upon them no doubt
Causes them to wander lonely
In the wilderness they be
Yet He sets the poor on high, they
Shall know His purpose, His way

They rescued from affliction be
Made into great company
Comforted, not solitary
The righteous see, rejoice free
Iniquity, wrong-doing see
In the LORD's true reign of peace

Creation Crescendo

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Psalm 104 v.27-35

All creation waits on you - Alleluia!
Lord, you do provide anew - Alleluia!
All look to you that you may - Alleluia!
Give them their food for each day - Alleluia!

What you give them they gather - Alleluia!
Of your gifts, loving Father - Alleluia!
You do open sure your hand - Alleluia!
They filled with good, every land - Alleluia!

But if you do hide your face - Alleluia!
They are troubled, withdrawn grace - Alleluia!
When you take away their breath - Alleluia!
They return to dust in death - Alleluia!

You do send forth your Spirit - Alleluia
They are created, each whit - Alleluia!
Face of the earth you renew - Alleluia!
All is dependent on you - Alleluia!

The glory of the Lord shall - Alleluia!
Endure for ever, tongues tell - Alleluia!
The Lord shall prosper, rejoice - Alleluia
In His works, made by His choice - Alleluia!

He looks on the earth, it then - Alleluia!
Trembles, He views it again - Alleluia!
He touches the hills, they smoke - Alleluia!
Though He made the mall bespoke - Alleluia

I will sing to Him as long - Alleluia!
As I live, will be my song - Alleluia!
Will praise while I have being - Alleluia!
Let thanksgiving from earth ring - Alleluia!

My meditation shall be - Alleluia!
Of Him sweet and wholesome, see - Alleluia!
In Him I will be glad for - Alleluia!
He great Creator e'ermore - Alleluia!

Let evil be all consumed - Alleluia!
What is proud, boastful, presumed - Alleluia!
Wicked be no more, but bless - Alleluia!
The Lord always, Him confess - Alleluia!

By Step Or Stumble

Tune: Erie

('What a friend we have in Jesus')

Forgive Lord, where I lose your peace
If troubles ne'er seem to cease
But some be of my own making
And not of you, Lord and King
Burdening ourselves too heavy
That you want us not carry
Help us find our rest in you Lord
Comforted sure by your word

Sometimes when your peace may take wings
We seem o'ercome, earthly things
Necessary though they may be
Crowd our way, we do not ss
The way ahead clearly, but you
Give to us fresh grace anew
So continuing to progress
Into your image no less

Show the way ahead where blocked we
Appear at standstill to be
Whether feeling your love or not
Still we loved by you, our lot
Is pleasant, and your purposes
Worked out in each one, true this
Help us, your Spirit empower
Us to serve you every hour

Each condition, [of] humanity
You do know, and too each state
You who trod this earth before us

Guide us still, keep us, and bless
So persevering, forgiven
By you, and we restored then
Holding to you each night and day
You faithfully show the way

Praise Professions

Tune: Laudes Domini

('When morning gilds the sky')

Psalm 113 v.3

From rising of the sun
To going down, each one
Of the days, praise the Son
For His name be worthy
To be praised each day, see
With hearts humble and free

Psalm 114 v.7

Tremble, you earth, for here
The Lord God does appear
Come now in lowly fear
His presence here is nigh
All may unto Him cry
To Him for refuge fly

Psalm 115 v.11

You that fear the LORD, trust
In Him, though you be dust
Your praise in Him not rust
He is our help and shield
Come to Him, to Him yield
All power He does wield

Psalm 116 v.5-6

Gracious the LORD, righteous
And merciful to us
We trust in Him here thus
He preserves the simple
Helps those who on Him call

Shall save us one and all

Psalm 116 v.7

Return unto your rest

My soul, He has you blessed

This your tongue has confessed

For He has dealt with you

Bountifully, 'tis true

Does care for you anew

Psalm 117 v.1-2

Praise the LORD, nations all

Praise Him, all people call

Upon Him, you not fall

His loving-kindness great

His truth endures e'er, fate

Determines not our state

Peace To Progress

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Based on a Collect - Formal Prayer

Lord, from whom all holy desires proceed
And too all just counsels, they pure indeed
And all good works too come from you, their source
Ordained in your time, course

Grant to your servants here your perfect peace
That it abide in us and sure increase
So we share with the world, whose peace cannot
Compare e'er to our lot

So having your peace, grant our hearts be set
To obey your commandments with no fret
And that we pass our time here in your rest
And quietness, by you blessed

We ask this for love of your only Son
He Jesus Christ, our Lord, the holy one
To whom be glory now and evermore
E'en to earths utmost shore

Profiting People

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

1 Peter 2 v.9-10

You a chosen generation
And a holy nation
A royal priesthood too you be
God's special people, see

That you should show forth the praises
Each in song upraises
The praises of God who has you
Called unto Him anew

He has called you out of darkness
His great name you confess
Brought into His marvellous light
Given spiritual sight

You who in times past, you were not
A people, that your lot
But now you are the people sure
Of God for evermore

You had not obtained mercy, yet
Stay not you in regret
For now you have of His mercy
Obtained, from sins set free

Way To Walk

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 119 v.33-40

Teach me, O LORD, in your way
Throughout each day
Teach me your statutes, I shall
Then sure fare well
Shall keep your commands to end
Of days you send
Give me understanding too
And me renew

So shall I your law e'er keep
I be your sheep
I shall it observe wholly
With my heart free
Make me to go in your way
This I do pray
For therein I do delight
Fixed there my sight

Incline my heart, that it sees
Testimonies
That you give, but not in this
Covetousness
Turn away my eyes that they
See no strange way
Nor vanity, me quicken
In your ways then

Establish your word unto
Your servant, do

'Tis me, for devoted I
Unto you cry
Devoted unto your fear
Reverence here
Turn my reproach, good you are
Holy by far

Thirsty Tones

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 63

O God, you are my God, early
Will I seek you, so be
My soul thirsts for you, my flesh longs
For you, theme of my songs

Longs for you in dry, thirsty land
O guide me with your hand
A land wherein no water is
My soul is dry as this

I long to see your power here
And your glory too, near
To see it as I have seen in
Your sanctuary, no sin

Because your lovingkindness be
Better than life to me
My lips shall praise you and adore
And I bless you e'ermore

I will lift up my hands, them lift
In your name, and each gift
That you have given, I thanks give
You provide, and we live

My soul it shall be satisfied
With what you do provide
My mouth shall praise you joyfully
You ever my God be

Hope Of Help

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name do
It always good and true
And judge me by your strength I pray
Show me mercy alway

Hear my prayer, O God, now give ear
To words of my mouth here
For strangers and oppressors rise
They seek my soul with lies

They have not set God before their
Eyes, not His graces share
But, Behold, God is my helper
And to me does confer

The Lord is with them that uphold
My soul, sustain it bold
Evil reward to enemies
This shall be their lot, see

I will free sacrifice to you
Your name, LORD, praise anew
For it is good, He delivered
Me, and to my help stirred

Brought me out of all my trouble
Kept me, I did not fall
And my eye has seen His desire
On my enemies dire

Curse Made Curseless

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Based on Galatians 3 v.10-14

We are made right, are justified
God, His grace to us not denied
We made righteous through Christ the Son
He redeems, saves us, holy one

I cannot bring an offering
Of my good deeds, no, not one thing
Will it achieve for salvation
Christ only saves, calls each nation

But now in Christ good deeds I do
Empowered by His Spirit new
Cursed every one hung on a tree
Christ on the cross-tree died for me

My sins there taken, there my place
He did take my curse by His grace
The curse to e'er fulfil the law
In each detail, I fail for sure

My punishment on Jesus laid
He that day by Judas betrayed
Salvation now for all is seen
Washed in His blood, I now made clean

Not I alone, but all who will
Trust Him for their redemption still
Redeeming price, His life He paid
When He for us His life down laid

Forgiveness Fullness

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Psalm 51 parts

Have mercy on me, LORD, according to
Your lovingkindness, forgive me anew

According to your mercies multitude
Blot out my sins, come, wash me clean, renewed

For I confess I have sinned against you
And you are righteous when you do me view

I have sinned, here a needy soul, I plead
Come to my help, you my Saviour indeed

Create in me a clean heart, show your ways
Grant me your power to follow all days

Cast me not away, O me not forsake
And from me your Holy Spirit not take

O LORD, open my lips, and my mouth shall
Show forth your praise and your salvation tell

What sacrifices will the Lord God please?
Brokenness, contrition, He accepts these

Reigning Realities

Tune: Monks Gate

(He who would valiant be')

Psalm 98 v.1

Praise the LORD, His mercies tell
He has done all well
Marvellous things and true
Even unto you
His right hand, holy arm
Shall guard us, keep from harm
He has worked, victory
His ever shall be

Psalm 98 v.5-6

With harp sing to the LORD
He the living Word
Make His praise, with psalm sing
To Him worship bring
Take up all instruments
To praise Him sure from hence
Make joyful noise, he King
Let praises loud ring

Psalm 100 v.4-5

Enter in His gates, His courts
Praise Him, the exhorts
Be thankful to Him, bless
Him, the LORD no less
For He is good, and too
His mercy is as dew
E'erlasting His truth sure
Endures for e'ermore

Psalm 96 v.9-10

Worship the LORD in beauty

Of holiness, see

Fear before Him, all earth

And give Him His worth

Say among the heathen

God reigns among all men

He the LORD, high o'er all

On Him humbly call

Praise - Shobach

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Shobach, to shout, make a loud noise
Take a commanding poise
To triumph in our Lord and King
Exultant praises ring

Psalm 63 v.1

O God, you are my God, early
Will I seek you here, see
My soul thirsts for you, my flesh longs
For you, and brings you songs

Psalm 117 v.1

O praise the Lord, all you nations
From high to lowly ones
Praise Him, all you people, for He
The Lord Almighty be

Psalm 35 v.27

Come shout for joy, and be here glad
You righteous, be not sad
And say continually, the Lord
Be magnified, the Word

Psalm 145 v.4

One generation they shall praise
His works, and worship raise
Shall share with next generation
His works, great acts, each one

Isaiah 12 v.6

Cry out and shout, inhabitant
Of Zion, no relent
For great the Holy One He is
Of Israel in your midst

Praise Professions 2

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 45 v.6

Your throne, O God, is for ever
You shall lose your rule, reign never
Alleluia, Alleluia!
The sceptre of your kingdom is
Sceptre of righteousness, 'tis bliss
In your royal state we this this
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Psalm 45 v.13

The king's daughter, all glorious
'Tis the Bride of Christ, even us
Alleluia, Alleluia!
We His church, and he the Bridegroom
let every heart prepare Him room
He Lord arisen from the tomb
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 46 v.1-2

The Lord god our strength, refuge be
A very present help is He
Alleluia, Alleluia!
In times of trouble on Him call
Sincere ones He will help them all
Trusting in Him we shall not fall
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 47 v.7

For God is King of all the earth
Let all praise Him, give Him His worth

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Sing praises with understanding
For He a high and awesome King
Unto Him your true worship bring
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 48 v.1-2
Great the LORD, greatly to be praised
Praises, thanks to Him be upraised
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Mount Zion is His dwelling fair
We assured His residence there
In His Temple, none can compare
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 48 v.14
This God our God for evermore
Our faith secure, confident, sure
Alleluia, Alleluia!
He be our guided e'en unto death
Until we take our final breath
His word true, each word that He saith
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Greatness Glorifying

Tune & Hymn: 'Ah Lord God!'

Jeremiah 32 v.17-19

Ah Lord God! The heavens you have made
By your word they all are sure staid
Ah Lord God! The heavens you have made
And all your creation arrayed

Chorus

Nothing is too difficult for you
Nothing is too difficult for you
Holy God and only true
Your plans and will you e'er pursue
Nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing
Nothing is too difficult for you

All is made as by your great power
It ceases not for one hour
All is made as by your great power
Your blessings on us you shower - Chorus

Great in counsel, mighty in deed
Yet we your sheep, you do us feed
Great in counsel, mighty in deed
Providing for us all we need - Chorus

Gospel Goings

Tune: We're marching to Zion

'Come, we that love the Lord')

God's people, Christian band
March now o'er all the land
Proclaiming news of gospel true
Proclaiming news of gospel true
Open for all to view
Open for all to view

Chorus

Salvation, the glad sound
Evangelise, spread it around
God's kingdom come, His will be done
To reach unto earth every one

The Spirit shall empower
Us unto every hour
Take up your armour, polished bright
Take up your armour, polished bright
Put enemies to flight
Put enemies to flight - Chorus

Through Christ bring light where dark
That folk to gospel hark
So redeemed ones may sing the song
So redeemed ones may sing the song
If His love in praise throng
Of His love in praise throng - Chorus

Forgive, where hearts may fail
Or devotion grow stale
Inspire us once again to serve

inspire us once again to serve
With grace we not deserve
With grace we not deserve - Chorus

Repentance Rejoicings

Tune & Hymn: Amazing Grace

Luke Chapter 15 parts

A lost sheep found, praises redound
Was heard the bleating sound
Shepherd the sheep on shoulder laid
Brought home and undelayed

More joy in heaven over one
Returned, repentance done
More joy than over ninety nine
Who have repented fine

A lost coin* found, room was swept (*drachma)
A tidy household kept
Then found the missing piece again
And was rejoicing then

So joy in presence of angels
When good news it retells
Of one sinner who repents sure
Now found, saved, evermore

A lost person home returning
Had squandered everything
Implored his father's mercy to
Be welcomed home anew

Father received his prodigal
Son, and rejoicing all
Was made, for he was lost, now found
Celebrations abound

And too was dead but now alive
Repentant, he would thrive
Tale of sheep, coins, people, they
Tell of God's grace today

Motivated Movements

Tune: Song 34

('Forth in they name, O Lord I go')

Help us, O Lord, your Spirit sure
Comes to dwell with us evermore
Give fresh inspirings by your grace
That we your Spirit in us trace

Where dull or barren, help us grow
And you, light of the world, to show
Not trust to feelings sole, alone
But to your gracious presence known

Forgive where we do quench or grieve
Your Spirit, or Him not receive
Or where He subdued, doubts or fears
So only a small spark appears

But not in human energy
Not our will-power may it be
Not just our own plans, decidings
Rather do your will in all things

Growing daily in Christ your Son
Into His image, every one
Showing, sharing, his light and love
Filled with His Spirit, holy dove

Palms Procession

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Matthew 21 v.1 - 11 parts

Chorus

Prepare the royal pathway

'Hosanna, Save Lord', say

Seated on humble beast, He

Comes, brings salvation, see

Triumphant this His entry

To Jerusalem be

Yet meek, lowly, and friendly

Serves God acceptably - Chorus

Very great multitude there

Saw donkey, which did bear

The Saviour of the world sure

Atoning One e'ermore - Chorus

Garments and palm branches spread

On the road, they did tread

Going before and after

Jesus, voices did stir - Chorus

Hosanna be to the Son

Of David, He the One

Blessed He that comes in the name

Of the Lord, Christ the same - Chorus

On arrival, the city

Was moved, said, Who this be?

Reply, Jesus the prophet

Of Nazareth, none fret - Chorus

Look, see, do you this King know
And Lord, no battle-bow
He brings, nor war-horse sturdy
But humility free - Chorus

Ride on to your destiny
Though crowds would fickle be
Rejoicing now, but later
They would to hatred stir - Chorus

Yet triumph through suffering
Cross before crown did bring
Help us to faithful follow
And constant your ways go - Chorus

Restored And Returned

Tune: Ye Banks And Braes

('We cannot measure how you heal')

Hosea 2 v.19-23 & 3 v.1-5 parts

The LORD will His people betroth
To Him for ever, not them loathe
Betroth them to Him, so it be
In righteousness and judgement, see
In justice and lovingkindness
And mercies, His intent to bless
And even in faithfulness sure
Married to Him for evermore

And they shall know He is the LORD
Shall be according to His word
And then the LORD shall hear, answer
The heavens, and they too for sure
Shall hear, answer, the earth, reply
And tell that the LORD God is nigh
The earth shall answer, corn and wine
And oil produce, in goodness fine

And they too shall see in Jezreel
Means 'God will sow' in vale and hill
Will sow His people to Himself
They shall benefit of His wealth
He will have mercy on those who
Had been bereft of mercy too
Will say to those [who were] not His people
You are my people, on me call

You are my God, then they shall say
Shall know Him through each night and day

Shall be restored, prosperity
And times of renewal shall be
As Gomer, the unfaithful wife
Of Hosea, trouble and strife
Did she him give, so God's people
Shall return to Him and not fall

Serving Serenity

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 41 v.1 - 4 & v.11

Blessed are they that help the poor
The LORD for sure
Will help them in their trouble
Deliver all
He will preserve them and keep
Alive, His sheep
Such shall be blessed on the earth
And know true worth

The LORD will deliver not
To enemies lot
They who help the poor, give aid
Shall be repaid
Though not for reward they give
But truly live
Desiring the LORD to please
And the day seize

The LORD will strengthen them when
They poorly, then
In their sick-bed, He will see
Restoring be
Will come to them and upraise
Again they praise
Him for His goodness, their health
And their soul's wealth

I said, LORD, be merciful
To my soul all

For I have sinned, but forgive
So shall I live
My enemies shall not reign
Nor scoffs* remain
You favour me, enemies
Win not o'er me

* scoffs - scoffing, mocking, ridiculing

Aromatic Anointing

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

John 12 v.1 - 8

Jesus did come to Bethany
Where Mary, Martha be
And Lazarus whom he had raised
From the dead, God be praised

Then Mary a pound of ointment
Took, and with no relent
Was spikenard of great expense
Yet she continued hence

Mary did Jesus' feet anoint
made there valuable point
And did His feet with her hair dry
She knew her Lord there nigh

The house was with the odour filled
Aroma not concealed
Judas Iscariot's protest
Was this done for the best?

For it could have been sold, and then
Given to poor, sure when
There was an opportunity
O'er ten months wage it be* (*300 pence = 300 denarii)

But He did not for the poor care
Nor did generous share
A thief he be with money box
In charge of key and lock

Jesus said, Do let her alone
For she did this, so known
Was He for day of burial
Anointed by her full

For the poor you do have always
With you through nights and days
And when you will, you good may do
Unto them, even you

But me, Jesus, you have not here
Always, I do appear
For a time ,then I go away
'Til resurrection day

Where'er the gospel shall be preached
To furthest corners reached
What she has done it shall be told
Her witness free and bold

Gethsemane Garden

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Mark 14 v.32-42

Sit you here while I go and pray
Jesus to disciples did say
In garden of Gethsemane
His work to bring redemption free

He sore amazed, in deep distress
His soul troubled He did confess
Exceeding sorrowful was he
Disciples were to a watch be

He prayed that if the hour may
So pass away from Him that day
Said, Abba, Father, all things are
Possible to you, be not far

Be not far from my help, but do
Take away this cup and me view
How it is cup of suffering
And yet it shall salvation bring

Nevertheless not what I will
But I set to obey you still
For if you will, I will it take
And do your will here for love's sake

If cup of suffering not drank
No salvation, to Him no thank
Given, but He man's destiny
Held in His hands that night-watch, see

Though disciples did fall asleep
And did not faithful watching keep
Yet now the hour, betrayal
Christ would go on to die for all

Lord give us grace in temptation
The harder way it not to shun
Jesus did die and rose again
Saviour of children, women, men

Occasions For Oils

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Based on readings for 'Blessing of the Oils' Service

Lord, bless the oils of anointing
That they peace, comfort bring
As channels of your Spirit pure
May they bring healing sure

Oils as symbol of your Spirit
Flow, be outpoured each whit
To meet the depths of human need
Each from their sins be freed

God the Father He did anoint
His Son, and did appoint
Him with the Spirit, He did go
The power of God did show

He did do good and went about
Bringing healing no doubt
To those by the devil oppressed
They were set free and blessed

Work how you will, heal, sanctify
The healing oils apply
'Tis all by your grace, mercy, love
Your Spirit, holy dove

Easter Exaltings

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Christ arisen every day - Alleluia!
He the Life, the Truth, the Way - Alleluia!
Shines our morn of glory bright - Alleluia!
He the everlasting Light - Alleluia!

Death defeated, powers of hell - Alleluia!
He the Victor, we do tell - Alleluia!
Reigns for e'er in majesty - Alleluia!
Son of God, Saviour He be - Alleluia!

EVERY creature join and sing - Alleluia!
Unto Him your tributes bring - Alleluia!
He worthy for evermore - Alleluia!
Reaching to earth's farthest shore - Alleluia!

He shares in our suffering - Alleluia!
Knows and understands each thing - Alleluia!
He full human, full divine - Alleluia!
The cross of His love the sign - Alleluia!

Resurrection hope for man (mankind) - Alleluia!
Each one may know it, we can - Alleluia!
Come to faith, in Him believe - Alleluia!
His forgiveness, life, receive - Alleluia!

Empty tomb, darkness dispelled - Alleluia!
Death though once it Him had held - Alleluia!
Now He lives to die no more - Alleluia!
Brings to us sin's healing cure - Alleluia!

Humility Hymning

Tune: Herongate

('it is a thing most wonderful')

Philippians 2 v.5 - 11

Let this mind be in you because
It also in Christ surely was
Mind of humility, He be
Lowly, though is Son of God, see

He in the form of God being
Here on the earth we Him seeing
He thought it was not robbery
That He equal unto God be

But made Himself of no repute
A plant out of dry ground, a shoot
Took on Himself a servant's form
Made in likeness of men, His norm

Being found in fashion as man
He humbled Himself, we too can
Became obedient to death
Until He drew His final breath

Death on the cross, now God has raised
Him from the dead, let Him be praised
He highly exalted o'er all
The Saviour, we may on Him call

God gave Him the name high above
Every name, and He rules with love
That at the name of Jesus all
Should bow the knee, before Him fall

And that every tongue should confess
Jesus Christ is lord, and Him bless
'Tis that all to God's glory be
He the Father, His acts we see

Portion Pleasantries

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Psalm 16 v.5 -11

The LORD He is my portion sure
My inheritance evermore
You uphold me. LORD, me maintain
Your gracious presence I do gain

The lines are fallen unto me
In pleasant places, look and see
A goodly heritage have I
This be the truth, I not deny

I will bless the LORD, He counsel
Has given me, and I fare well
My reins, conscience, do instruct me
In night seasons when it dark be

I have set the LORD before me
Always, my constant company
He at my right hand, I shall not
Be moved, so be my happy lot

My heart is glad, tongue rejoices
My flesh shall rest in hope, sure this
For you will not, LORD, leave my soul
In hell, but will deliver all

Neither will you your Holy One
Allow to see corruption, Son
Of God is He, and prophecy
Of resurrection here this be

You will show me the path of life
And lead me on it with no strife
In your presence is joy' fullness
Pleasures for evermore, you bless

Praise - Halal

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

'Halal', to be clear, shine
And worship the divine
To boast, to show, to rave it be
And too celebrate, see

To clamour foolishly
But still respectful be
To worship, praise our Lord and King
To Him let each voice sing

Psalm 113 v.1-3
Praise you the LORD, Him praise
You servants a song raise
Praise His name, it be blessed for e'er
That honour you may share

From this time and henceforth
From east, west, south, and north
The LORD's name blessed for evermore
Upon each earthly shore

From rising of the sun
To going down, bar none
From every place His name be praised
To Him thanksgivings raised

Psalm 150 v.1
Praise you the LORD, God He
Is, and none else can be
Praise Him now in His sanctuary

Expressions bold and free

Praise Him, he dwells on high
His power shows in the sky
His mighty firmament it is
'Tis His creation this

Psalm 149 v.3

Let them praise in the dance
It shall His name enhance
Sing praise to Him, employ timbrel
And harp, instruments all

Redemption Reassurance

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

1 Peter 1 v.18-21

You know that you were not redeemed
Corruptible things deemed
As useless to save, silver, gold
They no salvation hold

Nor things of traditions of old
Bring you not to the fold
But you redeemed with precious blood
Of Christ, a cleansing flood

He like a lamb without blemish
Perfect work did finish
He no spot, fault, or defect, He
Complete sacrifice be

He offered Himself, foreordained
Before earth its life gained
He there before it foundation
He Lord of each nation

Now in these times He is revealed
For you, to you appealed
By Christ you do on God believe
And salvation receive

You believe God raised Him from dead
He now your living Head
God gave Him glory, so now see
Your faith, hope, in God be

Prayers In Perils

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

Psalm 57

O God, be merciful to me
Look on my troubles, see
For my soul trusts in you, I shall
Take refuge in you well
In the safe shadow of your wings
My refuge, my soul sings
Here I abide till troubles past
They not for ever last

I will cry to God most high
His presence it be nigh
He performs all things for me
They from His wisdom be
He shall send from heaven to
Save me, good to me do
Rescue me from enemies
They shall not on me seize

He shall send His truth and mercy
Though my soul here it be
Among lions, even fierce
Men, who would sure me pierce
Their spears and arrows appear
As sharp teeth to me here
And their tongues would speak me harm
Yet I in the Lord calm

Be exalted, O God, I pray
Above heavens alway

Let your glory be above
All the earth, show your love
Though enemies prepare net
And pit, I am safe yet
For they have in their traps fell
I through the Lord do well

My heart is fixed, O God, and I
With my heart make reply
To you, I will sing and praise
And wake early my days
Awake my tongue, and psaltery
And harp full tuneful be
I will praise you midst people
And sing midst nations all

For your mercy is great to
The heavens, it is true
And your truth great to the clouds
Your care it us surrounds
Yes, be exalted, God, I pray
Above heavens alway
Let your glory be above
All the earth, show your love

Overcoming Overwhelmings

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Psalm 61

Hear my cry, O Lord God, attend to my prayer
From end of the earth I cry, know you are there
When my heart is o'erwhelmed I still to you turn
O lighten the fire there, holy passions burn

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I
My spirit takes wings and unto you does fly
For you have been a shelter safe, sure for me
And mighty strong tower from the enemy

I will abide in your tabernacle e'er
I will trust in shelter of your wings, leave ne'er
For you, O God, my vows have heard from above
Have given me heritage in your firm love

You will my life prolong, I with joyful song
Shall praise you, your mercy, your truth all along
For they shall preserve me, shall guard me, and keep
Me, so I shall daily praise you midst your sheep

Communion Charis

Charis = gift of grace.

Tune: St Margaret

('O love that wilt not let me go')

In Communion, remembrance
Your gracious presence we here sense
Your body broken and your blood shed
You died, now risen from the dead
You e'er our living Head

Your grace shown here, in your atonement
Yu came from heaven, by Father sent
To do His will, bring salvation
Open to all, every nation
Whate'er race or station

Your life given for me, so I
Confide, put faith in you, ne'er die
Fro you for all mankind atone
'Tis you that saves, and you alone
No other Way is known

Not adding to, nor subtracting
To this, we safe under your wing
God's righteous judgement you did bear
For us, in it we due a share
But you for us did care

Making forgiveness possible
To each who repent, on you call
Our place now in you Christ it be
We accepted by God, we see
Through you propitiously*

* propitiously - appeasing, or making atonement
to a god, spirit, person.

Peace Perpetual

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of they sheep')

Isaiah 26 v.3-4

You will keep in perfect peace
Those whose mind shall never cease
To be stayed on you, sustained
Shall they be, with truth unfeigned

Trust you in the LORD for e'er
He will leave, forsake you ne'er
For in the LORD JEHOVAH
Is everlasting strength sure

His name is JEHOVAH, YAH*
He shines bright, the morning star
He the Rock of Ages be
Now and through eternity

Help me set my focus, LORD
All on you and on your word
So your peace we true shall know
Good things to us you shall show

* YAH - shortened form of 'YAHWEH',
an alternative spelling of 'JEHOVAH',
but not 'Yah' as in 'Yeah!'

Walking In Wisdom

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Based on a Formal Prayer

Grant us, Lord, the courage we need
To change the things indeed
That we can change, and it be known
That good seeds there be sown

Grant us, Lord, your serenity
To accept things that be
That which we cannot change, and peace
Sure in our hearts release

And grant too wisdom, that we know
The difference, and show
What can be changed, and what cannot
Each ordained in its lot

Guard us that we not go ahead
Where we would be misled
Not taking courage, try to change
Things outside of our range

And guard that we not do nothing
Where we could a change bring
Not serene inactivity
Not stale dull apathy

So with your help your will be done
Through us, your kingdom come
Wisdom you will grant if we ask
To deal with life, each task

Providential Plenitude

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Psalm 65 v.5 - 13 parts

By awesome things in righteousness
Will you answer us, Lord, will bless
God of our salvation you be
Confidence of ends of earth, see

And of those who dwell on the sea
Their confidence you too sure be
By His strength [He] sets fast the mountains
Hills and vales, rivers and fountains

Girded with power He is for
He is Almighty evermore
He stills the noise of seas, waves, calms
And brings to people's tumults balms

You tend the earth, and it water
You supply it, it does endure
The river of God flows therein
Pure as crystal, and free from sin

You the year crown with your goodness
Abundance e'en to wilderness
Little hills rejoice, pastures clothed
With flocks from your good hand bestowed

The valleys also covered are
With corn, they do reach broad and far
They shout for joy, they also sing
For gracious provision you bring

Waiting A While

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Romans 8 v.18-23

We can reckon the sufferings
And troubles this life brings
As not worthy to be compared
With glory to be shared
In believers, who in Christ are
Glory greater by far
Shall be reveled, it not concealed
When creation be healed

For creatures they do sure earnest
Wait, expect to be blest
When sons of God are manifest
And time of promised rest
Shall come in God's plans, purposes
We do this true confess
Though subject now to vanity
Creation now it be

Though God He has subjected such
Is in His great hope much
It frustrated and decaying
But God shall sure it bring
From its bondage into freedom
When comes full His kingdom
Of a new heaven and new earth
With sons of God's true worth

But creation, from death and pain
Shall be freed, ne'er again

Shall them know, but God it shall bring
Deliverance, each thing
Into the glorious liberty
Of children of God, see
And we as His sons adopted
Know Him our living head

We one day shall be full redeemed
Whate'er sufferings may seemed
To have hindered or to opposed
Not all as is supposed
For we here long to be set free
God works redemptively
Through sufferings too, the image sure
Of Christ forms in us more

In All Things.....

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

1 Corinthians 10 v.30 - 33

Whate'er you do, what eat or drink
Let this mind you bethink
To do all unto God's glory
So you His children be

Give no offence to anyone
To Gentile daughter, son
Nor to the Jew, nor to the church
Of God, He does us search

Seek to please all people in all
Things, help them stand, not fall
Not seeking to our own profit
But others benefit

For their profit, that many be
Saved, and the Saviour see
By faith, so we evangelise
That all gain Christ, [the] high prize

Prayer Pleas

Tine: Cloisters

('Lord of our life, and God of our salvation')

Psalm 25 v.5

Lead me in your truth, O LORD, and do teach me
You are the God of my salvation, I see
On you I wait all the day, come to help me
You my LORD e'er be

Psalm 25 v.6-7

Remember not my sins nor my transgression
Where I did stray and fall into temptations
But do remember mercies, loving kindness
Turn to me, me bless

Psalm 26 v.2

Examine me, O LORD, and prove me, test me
My mind, heart, conscience, they true set on you be
For your loving kindness is before my sight
And your truth my light

Psalm 26 v.11-12

Redeem me, LORD, and be to me merciful
Guard and protect where surrounded by evil
My soul be, but in you I shall stand firm sure
And bless you e'ermore

Psalm 27 v.4

One thing I have of the LORD desired, I will
Seek after it, that I may dwell, abide still
In the LORD's house all my life, and to behold
His beauty all told

Psalm 27 v.4-5

And I will there enquire within His temple
In times of trouble He shall hide me, I call
Upon Him, He shall help me, on a rock set
Safe here, no regret

Living In The Light

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like mighty river flowing')

1 John 1 v.5-7

This from God it be the message
Needs no fancy form or dressage
'Tis that God is light, in Him be
No darkness at all, here see

Though humans cannot full clear see
His light of actuality
Yet shown through the Son, imparted
To the discerning-hearted

If we say we have fellowship
With Him, and comfort, and friendship
And at same time live in darkness
We lie, and He will not bless

For such are not living truly
Nor do they obey Him duly
But if we live in the light we
Shall by Him blessed sure shall be

If living in the light as He
Lives in the light, this standard see
Then we do have fellowship, meet
With one another, 'tis sweet

And then too the blood of Jesus
Christ, God's Son, it does full cleanse us
From all sin, we living holy
Children in God's light we be

Light And The Spirit

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Ephesians 5 v.13-21

All things are reprov'd, manifest by light
They not hidden, but revealed to our sight
O shine on us Lord, more of your beams bright
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For it is written, Awake you that sleep
And arise from the dead, not slumber, sleep
And Christ shall give you light, you be His sheep
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Live not foolishly, but do live wisely
Taking steps and walking circumspectly
So God's children, sons, daughters, you shall be
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Redeem the time, for the days are evil
Be not unwise, but o know God's good will
And spiritual understanding have still
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Be not drunk with wine, but be filled within
With the Spirit, and with hearts cleansed from sin
Holding on to faith too through thick and thin
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Speak to yourselves in hymns, spiritual songs
Make melody in your hearts all life long
To the Lord, joining with the heavenly throng
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Giving thanks always for all things unto
God and the Father, gratefulness renew
In the Lord Jesus Christ's name, even you
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Submitting yourselves to one another
Humbly unto each sister and brother
In the fear of God fresh grace discover
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Rest Request

Tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

Matthew 11 v.28-30

Come unto me, our Lord did say
All who labour this day
And who are heavy laden, rest
He gives, we blest

Labour and toil of spirit, soul
Or body, take their toll
But rest a while, His peace receive
And true believe

Take my yoke upon you, and learn
Of me, and so discern
My will, my way, my purpose sure
For evermore

For I am meek, gentle. lowly
This my heart to you be
Come to me, you shall find rest to
Your souls anew

For my yoke is easy, come take
And wear it for my sake
And my burden is light, and you
May bear it too

Royalty Reflections

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

The King marches in royal state
His powers they be ever great
He Lord of Lords and King of Kings
Worthy, heaven, earth, to Him sings

For He has gained the victory
O'er sin and death for you and me
Fulfilling all the Father's plan
He e'er the perfect Son of Man

O come, Him your allegiance give
Through sins forgiven you shall live
In Jesus, who did live and die
And rose again, He ever nigh

O endless procession we see
The King of Glory sure it be
The Father, Son, Holy Spirit
Come give them worship as is fit

Omnipotent, all power He
Does have, and evermore shall be
Omniscient, all-knowing oo
Nothing is e'er outside His view

Omnipresent, in all places
By His Spirit, there no traces
Of anywhere that He is not
Yet to us this a happy lot

Refuge Reassurance

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 46 v.1-6 & v.10 parts

God is our refuge, and our strength and song
Be lifted up soul, praise Him all day long
He a very present help in trouble
Will come to the aid of who on Him call

Therefore we fear not, though earth be removed
Yet still His help to us He shall have proved
And though mountains be carried into sea
The LORD will still abide, our refuge be

Though waters roar, and waves troubled therein
And rain does fall, and new storms do begin
There is a river, the streams whereof shall
Make glad city of God, our tongues shall tell

There He abides, it be His holy place
His tabernacles, we His presence trace
He the most High, and in the midst dwelling
City not be moved, He its Lord and King

And God shall help His city, His people
Soon, early, for He attends to their call
Though heathen raged, kingdoms against Him moved
He spoke, the melted, and were all reprov'd

Be still and know, our God our help He be
Know He is God, the great I am, here see
He will be o'er all the earth exalted
He ever reigns, our Lord, our living Head

The Light Of Life

Tune: Newcastle

('Eternal Light! Eternal Light!')

Light Uncreated, shine on me
My inmost part you see
And dare a mortal ask for light?
We who were sinners in your sight
Now know redemption bright

The light of actuality
Man cannot bear to see
It in its full intensity
But glimpses shown by your grace free
Are shown e'en unto me

You whole and holy, pure always
Through everlasting days
Await a while, we meditate
On you Lord, Almighty and great
Knowing each human's state

God, no beginning and no end
Your Son you did Him send
To be our Saviour, take our place
Die, rise again for every race
Your love, mercies we trace

E'er high above, yet to us near
Your grace does here appear
Help us more of your will to know
And so to in Christ's image grow
His words and actions show

So in light unapproachable
You dwell, though do us call
Father revealed in Christ your Son
And with the Holy Spirit one
Comparable to none

Spirit Symbols

Tune: Spiritus Vitae

('O breath of life, come sweeping through us')

Spirit of God, here symbolised sure
As living fount of water pure
Come fill me, flow from depths within me
That witness I to you shall be

O dove of peace, in your gentleness
Stay with me, that I other bless
Compassion, love, and all your graces
Be displayed here in all places

Oil flow freely, bring balm and healing
Comforted souls their praises bring
Touch every life with your anointing
Hearts restored, renewed to you sing

Rain, showers, come to us, satiate
You shall give rain early and late
Water our ground, so we producing
Good fruit to you through everything

Panoramic Praise

Tune: Lyngham

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Repeat relevant lines as shown.

Psalm 145 v.10

All your works, O LORD, shall e'er you praise

And your great name upraise (x2)

And your people, your saints, shall bless

You, your good name confess (x3)

Psalm 146 v.4-5

Happy are they who the LORD trust

Though we be as mere dust (x2)

Who have Him for their hope and help

Have treasure of fine wealth (x3)

Psalm 147 v.1

Praise you the LORD, it pleasant be

To spend the time in this (x2)

Beauty of sinners, they redeemed

Though all was lost it seemed (x3)

Psalm 147 v.5

Great is the LORD, of great power

Decreases not one hour (x2)

His understanding infinite

Omniscient, true Light (x3)

Psalm 147 v.6

The LORD lifts up the meek on high

Comforts sorrows and sighs (x2)

But wicked He casts to the ground

They not midst righteous found (x3)

Psalm 148 v.13

Let all things praise the LORD, for sure

He reigns for evermore (x2)

His glory above heaven and earth

Praise Him, give Him His worth (x3)

Psalm 149 v.4

The LORD takes pleasure in His people

And all on Him may call (x2)

The meek, humble, He beautifies

With salvation, arise! (x3)

Psalm 150 v.6

Praise, praise, let every living thing

Their thanks and worship bring (x2)

Let every thing that has breath praise

Him through eternal days (x3)

Faithful Following

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Based on John 10 v.22-30

Jesus He be the good Shepherd
His sheep they hear, have heard
He knows them, they will Him follow
No stranger's voice they know

His nail-scarred hand showing the way
Lord keep us safe we pray
And as He walks His wounded feet
We see, mercy entreat

His side was pierced, His heart broken
In suffering for all men (mankind)
A Shepherd on a cross, my place
He took, and all, each race

Inspire us Lord, sheep to be bold
We members of your fold
You crucified, then rose again
Grant us fresh grace for when

When we follow you, self deny
And sense that you are nigh
None can take us out from your hand
Nor can your power withstand

Eternal life, life from the dead
You promise us, our Head
Be our Shepherd, our Leader, Guide
Here in our hearts reside

Multitude Myriads

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

Revelation 7 v.9-17

Great multitudes before the throne
They God as Lord do own
Clothed in white robes and palms waving
To Him they ever sing
Loudly proclaim, 'Salvation
To all, to each nation
Comes from our God, he sits upon
The throne, the reigning One'

And Christ the Lamb shares victory
He the Son of God, see
All angels, elders, beasts around
The throne fall down, the sound
'Tis of their worship given
To Him in highest heaven
'Amen, Blessing, wisdom, glory
Honour, thanks, power be'

They praise the Lord Almighty
For e'er and e'er freely
They be those who through troubles came
And worship still His name
Their robes they have washed in the blood
Of Christ, a cleansing flood
It stains not, but make white and pure
Removes sin evermore

Happy they be, God's throne is there
Eternal joys they share

And day and night in His temple
They serve Him, one and all
No more hunger, nor thirst, nor pain
For 'tis where He does reign
Christ the Lamb He shall lead and feed
Them with fine food indeed

Shall lead then unto living founts
Good lands, valleys and mounts
Founts of waters to quench their thirst
Shall sprign forth and outburst
The Lord God ever with them is
Their state contentment, bliss
He shall wipe tears from every eye
With Him they never die

Restored And Renewed

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Hosea 5 v.15 & 6 v.1-3

The LORD will return to His place
Until His people seek His face
And till they do confess their sin
Then He will with them new begin

In their affliction they will seek
The LORD, and be humble and meek
Saying, Come, let us now return
Unto the LORD, and His ways learn

For He has torn, and He will heal
He will consider our true weal* (*well-being)
He has smitten us, He will bind [us up]
Us, His mercies once more we find

After two days He will revive
Us, we know not then of deprive
On the third say He will us raise
We shall live, and to Him give praise

Then we shall know, if we follow
The LORD, pursue Him, His way go
His going forth it is prepared
As a new morning with us shared

He shall come to us as the rain
Showers of blessing be again
Latter and former rain He shall
Give, we His restoring grace tell

The Kingdom To Come

Tune: Day of Rest

('O day of rest and gladness')

Micah 4 v.1-5

In the last days it shall be
The mount of the LORD, see
Mount of His house established
Shall be so, He has wished
Atop the mountains it shall be
And exalted greatly
Above the hills, people they
Shall flow to it freely

Many nations shall come, say
Let us go e'en this day
To the LORD's mount, His house there
his teachings He will share
With us, we will walk in His ways
Through continuous days
For from mount Zion proceeds
His law with no impedes

He shall judge many people
Rebuke strong nations all
They shall beat swords to ploughshares
Be free of anxious cares
Shall beat spears to pruning-hooks* (* or pruning-knives)
No more with hostile looks
Nation against nation not lift
Sword, but peace be their gift

Neither shall they learn to war
Any more, it be sure

They shall sit under their vine
And fig tree, idylls fine
For none shall make them afraid
On the LORD they be stayed
And He shall bring this, His word
Spoken, it has been heard

For all people will walk*, each (*live)
In their gods names, and teach
Of ways, paths, idolatry
That they believe to be
The truth, but as for us we will
Walk in the LORD's name still
The LORD our God for ever
This our firm endeavour

Sincere Seeking

Tune: St Asaph

('Through the night of doubt and sorrow')

Psalm 34 v.1-10

I will bless the LORD at all times
Throughout life's seasons and rhymes
His praise shall continually be
In my mouth here constantly
My soul in the LORD shall make boast
Tell His name from coast to coast
The humble shall hear, and they shall
Be glad, know that all is well

O magnify the LORD with me
Let us exalt His name, see
Join together in melody
Expressing His praises free
I sought the LORD, and He heard me
And delivered me, I be
Free from all my fears, He rescued
Me, and with me grace endued

Looking to Him, faces lightened
Radiant, visage brightened
And not ashamed, but confident
Help unto us He has sent
I a poor man cried, the LORD heard
Saved me, in Him I assured
Brought by Him from all my troubles
He knew my wholehearted calls

The angel of the LORD camps round
Those who fear Him, holy ground

So it be, and He delivers
Graces on us He confers
O taste and see that the LORD is
Good, blessed are they, true is this
They who trust in Him, O Him fear
He will provide, He is near

There no lack to them that Him fear
They shall know His presence dear
They shall not lack any good thing
Unto them He shall so bring
All they need, so we provided
As His hand has us guided
Seek the LORD, seek Him for ever
He shall forsake us never

Gracious Guidance

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

O lord, grant us here your good grace
For whate'er we may face
Matters of body, spirit, soul
Lead us through, make us whole

Help us not to pray all away
But seek in things your way
Trust you will work for good and we
Your guiding hand will see

And too to know your Spirit here
Within our heat appears
Life and Person of God He live
In believers, strength gives

Before us the path you have trod
Eternal Son of God
Turn sufferings constructively
To work redemptively

So that in all things we may grow
And more your image know
Christ formed in us, as we progress
With us your graces bless

A Call In Calamity

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Psalm 61 parts

Hear my cry, O God, hear my prayer
I will trust that you are near
From the end of the earth I call
Unto you, O hear us all
When my heart it overwhelmed is
I safe in you, sure is this

You are the rock higher than I
You my shelter ever nigh
And strong tower from enemy
I shall not defeated be
Here I will abide, your presence
Shall ever lead, guide me hence

I will in your tabernacle
Remain, there I shall not fall
And trust in cover of your wings
Unto you my tongue still sings
For you, O God, have my prayers heard
Tended to my every word

So bless us, people and nation
To all show your salvation
Unto rulers grant truth, mercy
Which may keep them constantly
Thus for your graces we praise you
Hear us, help us, us renew

Sow And Reap

Tune: Dundee

('God moves in a mysterious way')

Hosea 10 v.12

Sow to yourselves in righteousness
The Lord will then you bless
Reap in mercy, lovingkindness
And show too faithfulness

Break up your fallow ground, it be
Untilled, untended, see
For it is time to seek the Lord
He e'er the living Word

Seek Him until He come to you
And then will you renew
He will on you rain righteousness
You His good name confess

And so will you for His glory
Produce then fruitfully
The land of your hearts, lives, prosper
No curse it shall incur

Renewing Remembrance

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Psalm 77 v.5-13

I considered the days of old
The years of yore I told
I recalled my song in th night
And I gained inward sight

I did commune with my own heart
The Lord does search each part
My spirit searched diligently
His ways again to see

Will He cast off for evermore?
His favour gone for sure?
Has He forgot His graciousness?
Will He no longer bless?

Has His mercy ceased completely?
His promise no more be?
This is my state, anguish, but I
Still sense His presence nigh

I will remember Him, His ways
In past, now present days
On His works I will meditate
He will help me not late

His way is in the sanctuary* (*temple)
There true His presence be
He still great God, reigns over all
Shall hear my prayer, my call

Breath Breezes

Tune: St Ethelwald

(one tune to 'Soldiers of Christ, arise')

Lord, breathe your Spirit o'er
Us, fill us, reassure
Us of your presence, keep and guide
Still in our hearts reside

Yet not as stagnant pool
To you for help we call
Make channels for your Spirit's flow
Then refreshing we know

For He water of life
Supplies us, without strife
Streams in the desert, the thirsty
Shall be quenched true, we see

Life-giving holy dove
Full of mercy, grace, love
Abide with us, not fly away
But stay to endless day

Arise within my soul
Come heal and make me whole
Each believer may be indwelt
By Him, He sensed and felt

Help me Him not suppress
For He at hand to bless
To empower, to sanctify
His life it ne'er shall die

Serving Sincerely

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 100

Make to the LORD a noise joyful
Let each one on Him call
All you lands praise Him fervently
Worship penitently

Serve the LORD with gladness, and come
Before His presence, some
Song, melody, fine offering
Unto Him humbly bring

The LORD He is God, this know you
And further it is true
That He has made us, Creator
Not we [made] ourselves for sure

We be the sheep of His pasture
Within His fold secure
Enter His gates with thanksgiving
And in His courts praise sing

Be thankful to Him, His name bless
And His great deeds confess
For He is good, His mercy e'er
Lasts, and His truth fades ne'er

Peace Ponderings

Tune & Hymn: 'Peace, peace, Jesus is here'

[Written at The Pond on The Green]

Peace, peace, here by quiet pool
peace, peace, leaving stress all
Waiting, resting a while
Fresh thoughts of God compile
Here with nature we rest
Come, Lord, us bless

Lead, lead us, calm waters
No harm or danger stirs
Take your time water-fowl
Ducks, birds, and nature tell
Of His providing sure
For evermore

Then when need to move on
Peace not forgot, forgone
For in our hearts you stay
your Spirit bides each day
Guide us along your way
Always, we pray

In creation you [are] seen
Have made all that has been
And all that is, will be
Your glories do we see
With your life you sustain
Us once again

Daily Diligences

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu, lover of my soul')

Help us, Lord, your face to seek
'Tis revealed to humble, meek
Whate'er our situation
And whate'er be our nation
Trusting to your wisdom, we
Many scenes of life do see
Your Son trod this earth before
Knows all human life for sure

Whether [we] seem to prosper more
Than some who have troubles sore
We cannot full understand
Yet 'tis under your good hand
Going on in grace each day
your Spirit shall guide our way
This we pray, and give light so
That we more your will may know

You Light of life, we shall view
Of your treasures old and new
Grow in your love, grace, mercy
Witnesses to you shall be
All 'tis by your appointing
We cannot bring one good thing
Of ourselves, we no merit
But by you for heaven made fit

Help us know your plan for each
We do pray, and you beseech
Not to waste in vanity

Things which profitless shall be
Your kingdom, your will shall last
When all earthly days are past
Choosing to put you first e'er
And your e'erlasting life share

Praise Promoting

Tune: New Song

('With harps and with vials')

Psalm 145 v.1

I will extol you, for
You my God, King sure
And your name I will bless
For ever it confess

Chorus - Psalm 150 v.6

Praise the LORD, all that has breath
All life, unto death
Everything in creation
All folk, each nation

Psalm 145 v.8

The LORD he is gracious
Compassion to us
He shows, and anger slow
And His great mercy so - Chorus

Psalm 146 v.6

The LORD made heaven, e arth
Gave everything birth
The sea and all therein
The world, and all within - Chorus

Psalm 147 v.5

For great the LORD he be
Of great power, see
And His understanding
Is infinite, all sing - Chorus

Warm Welcome

Tune: Laudes Domini

('When morning gilds the skies')

Let us sure watch and pray
And unto the Lord say
Take all our sins away
Lead us sure to repent
Forgive us, penitent
Trusting your Son you sent

So living in the light
Empowered by your might
And pleasing in your sight
Your Spirit, come, us fill
To know, do, your good will
You present with us still

Saved and redeemed we sing
To you our heavenly King
And you our thanks we bring
Help us to grateful be
And all your blessings see
Reaching e'en unto me

Putting faith in your Son
The work he now has done
Salvation for each one
Who will in Him believe
And in Him life receive
The truth with no deceive

Give us melodies new
To offer unto you

And praises, old songs too
Each now their gifts employ
Voices, instruments, joy
In hope none can destroy

Continue your love here
To us, and do appear
With grace and mercy near
A welcome awaits all
Who by faith on you call
They shall stand and not fall

Faith Obeys The Word - James Series(1)

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

James 1 v.19-27 part

Faith, it obeys God's Word
It does what it has heard
Not merely hearing, but doing
Practical in each thing

Let us be swift to hear
Slow path of anger steer
And slow to speak, but listen more
Unto God's word for sure

Lay aside wickedness
The Lord will not it bless
And receive the word engrafted
Meekly in you planted

Show true religion, see
For in these things it be
To care for widows, fatherless
Widowers, motherless

And keep self unspotted
From the world, what is said
And done in its culture, for we
Of God's kingdom we be

Paraclete Promise

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

John 14 v.23-27

Christ said, If one loves me
He* will keep my words, see
And my Father and I will love him, both we
Shall come to him, abide
But the Spirit reside
Within his heart, and friendship with him confide

He that does not love me
Christ says that such they be
They who keep not His words, but act feignedly
The words are not Christ's own
But the Father's words shown
From whom none is hidden, to Him all hearts known

When Jesus would ascend
To Father, He would send
The Comforter, the Spirit, to us attend
Sent [to] us in Jesus' name
The Spirit, He the same
Helper, Paraclete**, of His help we may claim

He shall us all things teach
Deep things of God shall reach
Revealing all we need, showing unto each
Bring to our remembrance
Of our true inward sense
All things that He has said unto us from hence

He does leave with us peace

His peace that ne'er shall cease
Not as the world's peace, but peace with no decrease
Let not hearts troubled be
Nor fear, Christ ascends, see
To the Father, keeps promises faithfully

- ** I have used 'he' in places (lower case 'h'), but it can also be 'she'.
- ** Paraclete - The Holy Spirit as Advocate / Counsellor / Helper.

Ascension Alightings

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Acts 1 v.5-11

John did baptise with water - Alleluia!
Christ said disciples for sure - Alleluia!
Would be baptised in few days - Alleluia!
With the Spirit, praises raise - Alleluia!

Earthly kingdoms they all be - Alleluia!
In God the Father's hands, see - Alleluia!
Under His authority - Alleluia!
When and what He says shall be - Alleluia!

Disciples they would receive - Alleluia!
Power, and all who believe - Alleluia!
When the Holy Spirit comes - Alleluia!
Upon all them, not just some - Alleluia!

They shall be His witnesses - Alleluia!
Share the gospel, people bless - Alleluia!
Even to earth's farthest shore - Alleluia!
Salvation proclaimed e'ermore - Alleluia!

They beheld, Christ was taken - Alleluia!
To heaven, though forsaken - Alleluia!
Were they not, the Spirit's power - Alleluia!
Would come, stay with them each hour - Alleluia!

Cloud receives Him from their sight - Alleluia!
Defies gravity, but right - Alleluia!
For death He has conquered sure - Alleluia!
He e'er lives now, dies no more - Alleluia!

Two men unto them appeared - Alleluia!
In white, unto them they neared - Alleluia!
Said, Why stand you gazing? learn - Alleluia!
In clouds too Christ shall return - Alleluia!

All-Seeing Saviour

Tune: Lobe Den Herren

('Praise to the Lord, the Almighty...')

Psalm 33 v.12 - 22

Blessed is the nation whose
God is the LORD, He did them choose
And blessed are the people
Whom He has chosen, e'en them all
They shall sure be
His inheritance thus, see
Come praise Him now, open and free

The LORD looks from heaven
He beholds all mankind, all men
From the place where He dwells
His habitation through skies veil
He looks upon
Daughters and sons here, each one
Fashions their hearts alike, 'tis done

All our works and our ways
he considers throughout all days
No king saved by a host
On earth, though this may be their boast
And the mighty
Not delivered by strength, see
But by the LORD's help rescued be

Behold, eye of the LORD
Is upon them that fear His word
And who do stand in awe
Of Him, and hop in mercy sure
He will come, save

Deliver, the way will pave
In times of famine them food gave

For He will keep them such
When disasters may befall much
Our soul for the LORD waits
Not left are we to earthly fates
He out help, shield
We Him our allegiance yield
Rejoicing in mercy revealed

Plain Persevering

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Philippians 3 v.12-16

Onwards, so that we may know
More of Christ, in His life grow
Not that we have yet attained
To perfection, not yet gained
But as wise men road pursued
On 'til they the Saviour viewed

Follow on, to apprehend
Lay hold on Christ, grace us send
Lord, to go on in your way
Knowing more of you each day
We lay hold on you, for you
Have laid hold on us, 'tis true

Not yet arrived, but one thing
We do, and still praise and sing
Forgetting what is behind
Not distracted, heart and mind
Reaching to those things before
Growing in Christ holy, pure

Pressing on towards the goal
'Tis the prize for yearning souls
The high calling of God, see
In Christ Jesus His Son be
So maturely moving on
Following where Christ has gone

Where we have reached, God will show

And we more of Christ shall know
We His people, His children
He will guide us even when
We may slip or fall, still He
Our guide sure through life shall be

Profitable Pause

Tune: Wem In Leidenstagen
(*'Glory be to Jesus'*)

Meditate some moments
Here sense God's presence
His Spirit still biding
In hearts residing

Draw of water's fountain
From river within
'Tis the Spirit dwelling
Refreshing each thing

All that is pure, holy
And of goodness be
What of Christ in me be
Lasts eternally

Not world's ways, vanity
They not true Light see
Having not dimension
Of Christ, God's true Son

But for your grace go I
Aimless by and by
No merits of my own
Have I to atone

Yet I trust completely
Christ has saved e'en me
Offer of salvation
To all, each nation

Here An Hilastrion

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Romans 3 v.25

God has set forth for us Jesus
His Son, to be to us
A sacrifice of atonement
Unto the penitent

An offering, propitiation
Given for each nation
Hilastrion, He turns away
God's wrath, our saving day

This day here now of salvation
Christ gave self, he the one
Holy and pure, acceptable
Sinless one midst us all

'Tis through faith in His blood, we may
Believing him, now say
Christ is my righteousness, and I
Find His sure mercies nigh

He will forgive, His death for me
Upon the cross I see
God forbears with me, He patient
Graciously Christ has sent

I worthy of God's judgement sure
But now for evermore
He has my sins on Jesus laid
The eternal price paid

Come now believing, Christ the way
Call on Him now and pray
For none He will e'er turn away
Now is salvation's day

Faith Removes Discrimination - James Series (2)

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

James 2 v.1-13 part

Faith does does discriminate
Between those small and great
But welcomes all and loves all
It has heard its Lord's call

The call to love one's neighbour
If they be rich or poor
Whate'er their state or station
What race or what nation

Love one's neighbour as one's self
Shall be spiritual wealth
Not partial, but conferring
love one each, discerning

Discerning that God's mercy
He has shown to us, see
And so we too show mercy
Unpreferentially

For if we mercy not show
We shall God's judgement know
And mercy triumphs over
Judgement, we not incur

Not incur it, for we speak
And act, humble and meek
As they that shall be judged by
Law of liberty nigh

Willing Way

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

John 6 v.35-40

Jesus said, I the bread of life true be
They that come to me shall ne'er hunger, see
And they that believe on me, shall sure they
Refreshed be every day

They shall ne'er thirst, but e'er be satisfied
All that the Father gives Christ, they confide
In Him, and He will no way cast them out
Of this there be no doubt

For Christ came down from heaven, not to do
His own will, but His Father's will ensue
For the Father did send Christ from above
Unto us in His love

And this is the Father's will, Jesus said
At the last day raise up all from the dead
All that the Father has given unto
Jesus, He saves not few

And this too be the Father's will that each
Who sees the Son, and believes, within reach
Believes on the Son, such may have life too
Life e'erlasting and new

Voluminous Voice

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Psalm 29

Give to the LORD, O ye mighty
Glory and strength His e'er be
Give Him the glory due His name
It a name of endless fame
Worship the LORD in the beauty
Of holiness, humble, free

The voice of the LORD is upon
The waters, glorious, none
Like to Him, His voice does thunder
People hear it, all, each one
His voice powerful, majestic
His storm-clouds they dark and thick

Voice of the LORD breaks the cedars
At His voice the forest stirs
Skips like a calf, like unicorn* (*e.g. rhino or ox)
Full of new life, as new-born
His voice divides the flames of fire* (*e.g. lightning)
Spoke into being each star

Voice of the LORD shakes wilderness
Makes the hinds* give birth, no less (*deer)
Powerful to forests destroy
In His temple all employ
Their voices to praise His glory
Now and to eternity

The LORD sits upon the flood, yes

Sits King for e'er, we confess
The LORD will to His people give
strength and power, they shall live
He will bless His people with peace
His grace to us ne'er shall cease

Pentecost Pourings

Tune: Judas Maccabaeus

('Thine be the glory')

Acts 2 v.1-4 and v.16-21

Chorus

See, Pentecost comes, now the waiting o'er

The Spirit, He poured out on us evermore

For when the day (of Pentecost) came, they were gathered there

In one accord, purpose of mind they did share

Suddenly from heaven, sound of rushing wind

Mighty, powerful, God's promise no rescind - Chorus

It filled all the house, where they were seated

With cloven tongues of fire they were there greeted

It sat on each of them, and they all were filled

With the Spirit, spake tongues, human efforts stilled - Chorus

For the Spirit gave them gift of tongues true

Peter explained, This is that, even for you

Which the prophet Joel he spoke in days of old

Now revealed, God's people, having courage bold - Chorus

For Joel did say, In the last days shall be

The LORD says He will pour out His Spirit, see

Upon all flesh, there be prophecies, visions

Dreams too, for young, old, for daughters and for sons - Chorus

And on His servants the Spirit outpoured

They shall prophesy, and of Him be assured

Wonders in heaven above, and signs below

Blood, fire, vapour of smoke, they shall see and know - Chorus

The sun shall be turned into darkness, so
And the moon into blood, redness it shall show
Before the great and notable day does dawn
Day of the LORD's return, the eternal morn - Chorus

And it shall come to pass by His word true
That whosoever shall call on Him, e'en you
Shall be saved, if you on His great name do call
Salvation, the Spirit, Pentecost for all! - Chorus

Spirit Shine

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Spirit, shine, come fill my heart
My life, from me ne'er depart
Empower me to witness
Evangelise, others bless
He given for mission sure
That all be saved evermore

Help us in the Spirit's flow
His way to go, him to know
Enabling us, not our power
But His power every hour
So alive, proclaim boldly
Of Christ, that Him all may see

Not to quench Him nor Him grieve
Trust to Him fully believe
Not to quench through fear or fret
He will come to our help yet
Not to grieve through anger, rage
But His peace at every stage

Christ' works still on earth be done
Spirit, come, inspire each one
As in days of old, Acts told
Still same calibre and mould
Hope of glory, Christ within
Us, His Spirit guards from sin

Faith Proves Itself By Works - James Series (3)

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

James 2 v.14-26 part

Faith without works, it be dead
Let us not here be misled
If only words, no action
'Tis profitless, nothing done

Abraham his faith did show
Trusted in God here below
His son Isaac was to be
And offering for God, see

But this was not carried out
Though he obeyed with no doubt
God no human sacrifice
Desired, save Christ paid our price

Abraham's faith it was seen
In what he did humbly, keen
Faith it did with his works wrought
And was to perfection brought

Perfect, complete, we do see
Faith and works together be
Lord help us our faith to show
In action, obeying you

Zeal For Zion

Tune: St James' Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

Psalm 87

His foundation in holy mount (Mount Zion)
Is, there flow all His founts
Of blessing, mercy, and of grace
His desired dwelling place

He loves the gates of Zion more
Than all the dwellings sure
Of Israel, for Zion be
His chosen place, here see

Glorious things of you, city
Of God are spoken, we
Make mention too of enemies
Who in peace in city be

People from Egypt, Babylon
Philistia, daughters, sons
And Tyre and Ethiopia
There too we do concur

They settled, born in family
And they of Zion, see
They born there, the highest He shall
Write of them and shall tell

The LORD, the highest, He shall count
All on His holy mount
He shall say that they be born there
An inheritance share

There too be singers and players
On instruments, gifts stir
To praise the LORD, and all His springs
In Zion are, each sings

Faith Controls The Tongue - James Series (4)

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

James 3 v.1-12 part

The tongue we cannot it contain
Full mastery shall not gain
A small spark it then produces
Forest fire no less

It be an unruly evil
With it we do doubly tell
Of God's praises, yet too curses
Of men, we not bless

From same mouth comes blessing, cursing
Both the sweet and bitter thing
Mouths, tongues they do speak what the heart
Has, its inward part

Needing the help of the Spirit
That our tongues with His fire lit
Speak and share of every good thing
God does to us bring

Giving Glory

Tune: Camberwell

('At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 96

O unto the LORD sing
Him your praise bring
Sing to Him, all the earth
And give Him His worth
Sing to Him, bless His name
Name of endless fame
All the earth to Him sing
And your offerings bring

Show forth His salvation
Unto each nation
Declare His glory full
Tell it unto all
And His wonders proclaim
Let us each one name
For the LORD He is great
In royal estate

He greatly to be praised
And songs to Him raised
He be feared o'er gods all
Come and on Him call
For gods of the nations
Are idols, each ones
But the LORD He has made
The heavens, firm, staid

Honour and majesty
Before Him e'er be

Strength and beauty they be
In His sanctuary
Give to the LORD, all you
Peoples of earth do
Give Him strength and glory
To eternity

Give Him the glory due
To His name anew
Bring an offering true
To give to Him, do
O worship Him in this
Beauty, holiness
All the earth do Him fear
And to Him draw near

Say among the people
The LORD reigns o'er all
The world is established
Unmoved, He [is] worshipped
He shall judge righteously
Let all joyfully
Be glad, for he comes to
Judge the world right, true

Heavens rejoice, sea roar
And its praise outpour
Fields be joyful, all there
In rejoicing share
Trees of wood celebrate
All creation state
That the LORD just, fair be
We His mercies see

Tuneful Times

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

What tune within heart, mind
Can I use, what song find?
To praise my God, He Lord of all
Will hear me when I call

Help us here persevere
E'en when trials are severe
Holding to you, give grace we need
Still us your people feed

Renew where dim the light
Come, enliven our sight
To continue, simplicity
To know what your will be

The love within our heart
You placed there from the start
Our love to you, who loved us first
For you we hunger, thirst

Ageless Advocate

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

O Lord, whate'er in life our age
Abide with us, leave us no stage
Your presence may we know ever
Help us, forsake us never

By your Spirit you are dwelling
In believers hearts, tongues telling
Young or old, child, father, mother
Uncle, aunt, sister, brother

Come renew us inward daily
Whate'er our outward state maybe
Life of God, the Spirit's Person
Be seen clearly through each one

Not for our own self-life leading
Will be only to deceiving
Of ourselves, others, and you Lord
But guide with your living word

Help us Him not to resist, though
He as an unseen wind does blow
Lead us to follow in His flow
So more in you we shall grow

Work in each life, your salvation
Come with hope to every nation
Spirit eternal, we here pray
Show us more of Christ each day

Fret Not To Do Evil

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Forgive me, Lord, too heavy load
I take upon myself, forebode
Then lose your peace, not wait your time
Perfectly instilled in life's rhyme

Help me to seek solutions clear
Always trusting that you are near
To help, to guide, to sanctify
Your holy presence to me nigh

Not turmoil, anguish, spread around
But that praises to you resound
Led by your wisdom, what to do
And what to say, imitate you

Guide me one thing to do, not rush
Many things at once, fluster, crush
Shall I be, for not sensibly
Would I live, nor be anxious-free

So witnessing of your peace true
It will inspire, strengthen anew
Then shall more of Christ's image be
Revealed, and all around shall see

Peaceful Providence

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 65 v.1-8

Praise waits for you here, O God in Sion
To you vows be paid, the Lamb and Lion
O you who hear prayer, to you all flesh shall come
And worship before you, excluding not one

Iniquities do prevail against me
You shall purge away our transgressions, see
Blesséd they who you choose an cause to approach
To you, they be in your courts with no reproach

We shall be satisfied with your goodness
E'en of your holy temple, you will bless
By awesome things in righteousness you will sure
Answer us, God of our salvation e'ermore

You the confidence of all of the ends
Of the earth and sea, praise to you ascends
By His strength He sets the mountains, they be high
Girded with power, yet to us He comes nigh

He stills the noise of the seas, brings a calm
The noise of waves cease, He sends them a balm
And tumult of the people He stills, brings peace
They knowing His presence, and it shall not cease

All the earth you fears, to its farthest coast
The mornings, evenings in you make their boast
Each day, night, rejoices, see your provision
You Lord who do reign e'er o'er every nation

Remembrance Recollections

Tune: Bullinger

('I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus')

Meeting with you in Communion
Father, Spirit, Son
This Supper you instituted
By it we fed

For here gifts of your bread and wine
It a feast divine
For it be your body and blood
Cleansing flood

Your body broken for me, see
On the cross, the tree
And your blood shed for me, dying
Of you I sing

And from death to resurrection
You the living Son
All who come to you and believe
Life do receive

And there my forgiveness, I kneel
Before you, I will
By your grace now e'er you follow
More of you know

Help us keep in memory plain
'Til we once again
Gather at your table, us feed
Come meet our need

Faith Produces Wisdom - James Series (5)

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

James 3 v.13-18 part

The wisdom from above is pure
And peaceable for sure
Gentle, and easy to intreat
Grows as productive wheat

'Tis full of mercy and good fruits
And follows good pursuits
It has no partiality
And no hypocrisy

And too the fruit of righteousness
is sown in peace no less
By them who make peace, blessed they be
Their hearts are loving, see

Tis wisdom it comes from above
The Lord does in His love
Grant it to those who ask him, seek
They be the humble, meek

Space For Grace

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour lifted')

Here to fill a small space
Something of your grace
Grant I Lord, do today
Come show me your way

Share something of your love
Of your Spirit, dove
Who resides in hearts blessed
Who have you confessed

What thing great or small may
I do, who for pray?
Or what situations
Among all nations?

Light of life, we see clear
Your presence e'er near
Help us share you daily
Giving lovingly

So when day is ended
You have our hearts read
May at least one thing shown
Through me made you known

Praise Proclaiming

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 68 v.1-6

Let God arise, and see
All His enemies flee
Let them that do Him hate
Scatter early, not late
As smoke driven, drive them away
As wax that melts, soon comes their day

But let righteous be glad
No more oppressed nor sad
Before God they rejoice
Exceedingly, one voice
Sing to God, praises to His name
He JAH, JEHOVAH, endless fame

Extol Him who does ride
On the clouds, none beside
Though he great he does care
And in our lives doe share
He father of the fatherless (and motherless)
Defends the widows (and widowers) in distress

Holy habitation
He dwells in, each nation
Does He see, the lonely
Does set in family
Looses the chains of those who bound
His blessings sure seen all around

Faith Produces Humility - James Series (6)

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

James 4 v.1-12 part

Friendship with the world's ways it be
To make one God's enemy, see
For the two they cannot agree
But follow paths separately

Submit yourselves to God therefore
It will be true repentance sure
Resist the devil, and he will
Flee from you, not trouble you ill

Draw near to God, and He will draw
Near to you, His mercies implore
Cleanse your hands, sinners, what you do
Do for God in service anew

Purify your hearts, you who be
Double-minded, complexity
And be afflicted, mourn, and weep
Where you have been as grievous sheep

Turn from laughter unto mourning
Await a while to resume sing
And turn from joy to heaviness
Such contrite state the Lord will bless

For God gives grace to the humble
They do obey Him, hear His call
But He does the proud ones resist
Who from their sins do not resist

Humble yourself in the Lord's sight
He shall come to you, give you light
Shall lift you up, then joyful praise
You once again to Him shall raise

Tears And Joys

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Psalm 126

When the LORD the captivity
Of Zion, His people, [did] free
We were like those who dream, for He
Did come to redeem us, see

Then was our mouth with laughter filled
His presence us restored, healed
And or tongue was filled with singing
Renewing of joy He did bring

Then heathen said, The LORD has done
Great things unto them, each one
Yes, the LORD has for us great things
Done, each soul joins, to Him sings

And we are glad, O LORD do turn
us again, we of you learn
As stream in the south may we flow
And in your gifts and graces grow

They that sow in tears, they in joy
Shall reap, their labours employ
They who go forth weeping, sowing
Seeds, harvest bring rejoicing

Presiding Presence

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord hear my prayer')

Draw near me, O Lord
I trust in your word
Your sheep your voice have heard
Come soon to my aid
May my faith [be] firm, staid
In you, you all have made

You the Creator
The God and Father
With hope you us assure
That you sent your Son
The work He has done
To full redeem each one

And your Spirit too
Shall strengthen, renew
Help us focus, to view
You by faith each day
Help us go your way
With us your presence stay

You our guide shall be
Look even on me
Give me humility
To follow on sure
A fine treasure-store
You share with us e'ermore

Through all life's stages
And through all ages

All history's pages
You ever are there
With you none compare
Do us good, well us fare

Faith Produces Dependence On God - James Series (7)

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

James 4 v.13-18

Take heed now, you that say
And plan greedily days
That we shall go to such a place
A year, and profits trace

And we shall stay a year
Our own path through life steer
Yet truth is, you know not what be
Even tomorrow, see

For what is your life here
As mist that does appear
A little time, then vanishes
'Tis temporary this

For what you ought to say
If the Lord will, this day
We shall live, and do this, or that
Wherever we be at

But now you do rejoice
In your own selfish choice
In your boastings, such rejoicings
Are evil, trouble brings

If in your plans you know
To do good, but not so
Do you do, then you sin commit
Living as you see fit

Salvation Surety

Tune: Nicaea

('Holy, Holy, Holy')

Holy Lord, how may we
Approach you, for see
We ourselves not worthy though
Our true state you know
Sent your Son to save such
Those who know do love much
Partake of mercy
And forgiveness free

Every knee to you shall
Bow down, we know well
And too every tongue confess
You are Lord no less
Saved by your grace alone
Only you can atone
For our human need
Good Shepherd, us feed

We shall be satisfied
With all you provide
Tend us still, we pray today
Lead us in your way
Light of life, the path sure
You shall show us e'ermore
Kept by your power
Constantly each hour

Until Rapture day dawn
Bright eternal more
Then for ever we shall be

With you completely
Help us to gather in
Your harvest, an no sin
Bide in your presence
Grant true penitence

Praise Perpetuity

Tune: Divine Mysteries
(*'Sweet Sacrament divine'*)

A Communion fine
Inspire, wisdom divine
Fan flame within each heart
To burn there, every part
Unto your glory, servant we
By grace your blessings we do see
All worship now humbly
All worship now humbly

Rise, songs to your Lord praise
And Him some anthem raise
Taking tunes old and too
Learning melodies new
Not silent, let His praise be heard
Expressions of the living Word
Sing sweetly as a bird
Sing sweetly as a bird

For all creation's voice
Joins in, and does rejoice
Each creature makes a sound
To you it does redound
You ever worthy to receive
More than we can think or conceive
True, whole, with no deceive
True, whole, with no deceive

'Til final trumpet sound
Let praises wide abound
Yet then still on it goes

Honour endless bestows
On you great God, you Lord of all
Your love sustains, we shall not fall
Tributes to you ne'er stall
Tributes to you ne'er stall

Truth Be Told

Tune: Wolvercote

('O Jesus I have promised')

You are the Life, the Truth, the Way
And still are so today
Not man-made fables or fancies
But we do trust, agrees
Our heart and mind in your sure word
The Scriptures we have heard
And onward we shall go and still
Let none from us them steal

Spirit of truth, you lead us to
Confess Christ ever true
And bring to mind whate'er He said
By you we still are fed
For they be words, they spiritual
And sure do feed us all
Who accept you as Lord, Saviour
You do confirm us sure

You shall not fail, nor leave us be
To search confusedly
But you will show us your path plain
Or bring to light again
Your truths, where we may be unsure
Yet your word faithful, pure
It shall uphold and firm us keep
Us in your fold, your sheep

Childlike Communings

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 131

LORD, see my heart, it not haughty
An my eyes they not be lofty
I have not made it my concern
To take on things too hard to learn

Nor do I take up things to high
For me to understand, espy
Surely I have behaved myself
As a little child, this my wealth

Like a weaned child e'en is my soul
Trusting you, you will make me whole
Let Israel hope, all God's people
In the LORD e'er and on Him call

Give us wisdom, simplicity
Not burdened in complexity
But simple servants, lovingly
Guide us through all eternity

Faith Endures Awaiting Christ's Return - James Series (8)

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

James 5 v.7-12 part

Be patient till the return
Of the Lord, for His day yearn
As a farmer has patience
Till the needed rain comes hence
To water o'er all the land
Provided by God's good hand

Be patient then, stablish hearts
Waiting throughout all life's parts
For His coming does draw near
Soon He shall to all appear
Judge not one another, for
The Lord be Judge evermore

See the prophets example
They did hear the Lord's sure call
They spoke in His name, and they
Suffered affliction those days
And patiently persevered
The Lord, He they humbly feared

We count them who happy do
Endure patiently, 'tis true
See the patience of Job too
Suffered troubles not a few
And see the outcome, the Lord
He was faithful to His word

He did reveal to Job sure

His mercies tender and pure
And His deep pity it be
Shown him compassionately
In the end he all restored
Praised and glorified his Lord

Greatness Gratitude

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 145 v.1 -11

I will extol you, my God and my King
Bless your name for e'er, and joyfully sing
Each day I will bless you, unto you give praise
Melodious songs and tunes unto you raise

I will praise your name ever and ever
Your power has no end, and it fails never
Great are you LORD, and greatly you to be praised
Your greatness unsearchable, we are amazed

One generation shall to another
Praise your works to each sister and brother
Shall declare your mighty acts, holy and strong
And speak of your acts sure, through day and night long

Will speak of the glorious honour, see
Of your wondrous works, and your majesty
And people shall speak of your doings awesome
And tell of your greatness, to us it has come

They shall abundantly your memory
Utter, and recall your great goodness free
Shall sing of your righteousness, you be gracious
Full of compassion, slow of anger to us

You of great mercy, and good unto all
Your tender mercies o'er us, we not fall
All your works LORD shall praise you, your people bless
You, your glory, kingdom, power shall confess

Favourable Fearing

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 128

Blessed they that the LORD fear
And do hold His name dear
They that walk in His ways, they shall
Trust in Him and fare well

They shall eat of labour
Of their hands, each hour
That they did work, and happy be
They in all good things, see

Your wife as fruitful vine
Shall be, blessings divine
In your house there, and your children
Be as olive plants then

A true happy household
This shall sure be, behold
So shall they be that the LORD fear
And do hold His name dear

The LORD from Zion shall
Bless you, and all shall tell
Of His goodness, and you shall see
Jerusalem's good, free

Yes, your children's children
Next generations then
You shall see, for on Israel
Shall be peace, all be well

Hope To Hold To

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

1 Corinthians 15 v.20-28 parts

But now Christ arisen
Redeems us from our sin
He the first-fruits, first one
To rise, God's only Son
So we share in the hope, and we
Shall too be raised with Christ, so be

At the end time Christ shall
Have achieved all things well
His be the victory
Full clear for all to see
He shall have put down every rule
Shall give to God the kingdom all

Each power, authority
To God must subject be
And Christ must reign till he
Rules all-victoriously
Death it be the last enemy
That by Him true destroyed shall be

When all things subdued be
God shall be completely
All in all, Christ's work done
He the beloved Son
The resurrection hope, we pray
Strengthen us Lord with this each day

Labours Of Love

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

1 John 4 v.16-21

Help us to know and to believe
Your love, and it by faith receive
Holy Spirit come to our aid
Your graces unto us arrayed

God is love, so He be, and who
Does swell in love dwells in God too
And God does dwell in such ones, they
Look unto Him, they watch and pray

Here our love made perfect, so we
Have boldness in judgement day, see
Because as Christ is, so are we
in this world, and with Him agree

There be no fear in love, but how?
Perfect loved does cast out fear now
Because fear has torment and threat
Of punishment, such are not yet

Not yet made perfect in love, though
They more of Christ's great love may know
We love Him, because He first loved
Us, and unto Him He encoved (encovenanted)

If one says they love God, but they
Hate their neighbour, yet though they say
They love God, how then can it be?
If hating neighbour who the ysee

For God is unseen, neighbour seen
God's command that we love not mean
But who loves God to love also
Their neighbour, and so in love grow

Mindful Ministry

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

John 16 v.12 - 15

When He, the Spirit true
Is come, e'en unto you
He will in all truth guide
And in your heart reside
There ne'er to leave, a companion
Inhabits believers, each one

For He shall not of self
Speak, but of the Son's wealth
Which is the Father's [wealth] too
He shall speak unto you
And things to come He will you show
God's plan and will you sure shall know

The Spirit glorifies
The Son, with no denies
He receives of the Son
Once started, once begun
He continues, the truth we gain
Through His ministry clear and plain

Spirit to us reveal
Things of God, comfort, heal
All that the Father's be
Are also the Son's see
And the Spirit takes of the Son
To show us everything, bar none

Lantern Light

Tune: Heinlein

('40 days and 40 nights')

Psalm 119 v.105-112

Your word is a lamp unto
My feet, the way forth I view
And to my path it a light
Will guide me with your insight

I have sworn, and will perform
And will keep through calm and storm
Your righteous judgements though i
Am afflicted, to you cry

Revive me, LORD, according
To your word, and I will sing
Melodies unto you sweet
Bring them humbly to your feet

Accept, LORD, I beseech you
My offerings here anew
From my mouth, I speak and sing
And unto you do them bring

O LORD, teach me your judgements
I do need your wisdom, sense
My life is in danger here
Come to me, to me appear

Yet I not forget your law
It is my rejoicing sure
The wicked traps for me laid
Yet I strayed not, not dismayed

Your testimonies have I
Taken as heritage, nigh
They be to me, and they be
The joy of my heart, true, free

I have too my heart inclined
Unto you, your ways to find
And to perform your statutes
To the end, with no refutes

Laudable Light

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Light shine upon us, scatter all our night
And make our pathway ever clear and bright
Looking to you, Light of the world you are
And glorious Morning Star

Safe shall it be to follow in your way
Help us leave self, follow without delay
In your way, you Christ, who have gone before
We worship and adore

You shall guide us and teach us, we behold
You by faith, and we the sheep of your fold
Good Shepherd, we shall trust, and hear your voice
And so in you rejoice

Comfortless you will not us leave, but send
Your Spirit, He to us your aid will lend
Will teach us truth, the things of God reveal
And humanity heal

We turn to you, we pray where need may be
in your love, mercy, look on us, and see
Answer how best shall be within your will
Do abide with us still

Not seeing me, not self, but only you
May others see Christ in me, ever true
For salvation be sole in Him alone
He does for all atone

Light eternal shall shine, and ne'er shall fade
'Til fine beauties in your kingdom arrayed
We all at last full see, 'tis by your grace
We shall e'er view your face

Sheep Supplications

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of they sheep')

You good Shepherd, we your sheep
Ever in your fold us keep
Where we prone to wander, do
Gently lead us back to you

Or if apart from you we
Distracted, ro tempted be
Do sustain us by your grace
May we still your mercies trace

Sheep, if fearful, take courage
Let no trouble discourage
Here abide in God's good field
You are by His Spirit sealed

If not play, no Spring-like morn
Wait while, then joys shall dawn
Once again by His favour
Love's impulses to Him stir

Leave us not, and your promise
To give your life, even this
You have done, Shepherd for sheep
Of your care for us most deep

So renewed, refreshed, fresh light
Risen Shepherd, to our sight
Grant us, help us your voice hear
Know your gracious presence near

Darkness Dismissed

Tune: Hereford

("O thou who camest from above")

Based on a Collect = Formal Prayer

Lighten our darkness, Lord, beseech
We, still show mercy unto each
Who do you trust, in you confide
You our refuge, and none beside

And by your great mercy defend
Your servants here unto the end
From all perils, dangers of night
Whether unseen or clear to sight

For the love of your Son, we ask
Humbly you to fulfil this task
Your only Son, Jesus our Lord
He Christ, Anointed, living Word

All sorts of darkness turn to light
Shine on us your countenance bright
Going your way of love, truth, peace
Keep us and guard us, never cease

Temple Tenancy

Tune: Austrian Hymn

('Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him')

John 2 v.13-22

Jesus went to Jerusalem
To the Temple, and saw them
Sellers of oxen, doves, and sheep
Money changers seats did keep
Righteous anger, he said, Take these
Things out, do not as you please
Make not my Father's house of prayer
Of merchandise, it unfair

For you turn it to den of thieves
Your sharp practice and deceives
He drove them out, whip of small cords
To cast out their treasures, hordes
Then disciples did remember
How he for Temple did care
For it is His Father's house sure
Zeal he had that it stay pure

And to Jews he said, destroy here
This Temple, it will appear
Again after three days passing
Restored shall be everything
Though earthly Temple forty-six
Years in building, mortar, bricks
Yet He spoke of His own body
The Temple of God it be

For He was raised to life again
Resurrection hope shown then

He had come, lived, died, and risen
Giving hope unto all men (mankind)
We too Lord, your living temples
Though we without bricks and walls
But your Spirit in us dwelling
We unto you worship bring

Loyalty Limited

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Matthew 26 v.30-35

After Supper Jesus did go
To Mount of Olives so
With His disciples, He addressed
Them, this He sure confessed

That they would all be offended
The same night, he then said
For it is written, I will smite
The shepherd, this true, right

And sheep of fold shall be scattered
Abroad, and be disturbed
But after Jesus rose again
Went to Galilee then

Peter did say, Though all men fall
I still shall hear your call
I never will offended be
But stay the whole course, see

Jesus said, Truly ere cockerel
Crows aloud you shall fall
Shall deny me three times I know
Though you profess not so

Peter said, Though I with you die
I will not you deny
Likewise said the disciples all
But Christ knew they would fall

Faith Prays And Praises - James Series(9)

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

James 5 v.13 - 18 part

Take faith to pray in all seasons
Whate'er the need, whate'er reasons
Pray in affliction, and in joy
Sing cheerfully and psalms employ

Pray for the sick, for spiritual
Sickness, or for the physical
Or for the needs of human soul
Minds, wills, emotions, too made whole

Confess your faults to each other
Trusting Christian sister, brother
Pray for each other, so you shall
Be forgiven, and shall do well

The effective, the fervent prayer
Of a righteous man anywhere
It avails much, is powerful
Able to meet human needs all

See Elijah, a righteous man
Yet we like him may pray, we can
[He] Prayed that in judgement rain would cease
Then after that clouds rain release

Persisted on three and half years
Rain on the land it not appears
Then he again did pray, and so
Showers of blessing they did know

Locusts Limited

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Joel 2 v.17-27 parts

When you do return to the LORD
Now hear His living word
He shall say, Fear not land, be glad
No longer now be sad

Be glad, rejoice in Him, O land
For He by His good hand
Will do great things, and so fear not
Pleasant shall be your lot

Be not afraid, you beasts of field
The land will to you yield
Plenteous supply, you shall live
And creation thanks give

For pastures of the wilderness
Do spring, the LORD will bless
Them, and the tree does bear her fruit
Fig tree, vine, follow suit

Be glad then, you the LORD's people
Trusting you shall not fall
Rain He shall give in each season
Love for you the reason

The threshing-floors shall full of wheat
Be, you shall be replete
Too with the vats of oil and wine
Plenty of food, drink fine

The LORD He will to you restore
The barren years, no more
Shall the locusts(1) eat and impair
But there enough to share

And too He will the cankerworm(2)
Remove, His promise firm
And caterpillar(3), palmerworm(4)
Army he did confirm

Did them confirm to sweep across
The land, it suffered loss
But now they gone, you shall eat full
Satisfied, praise Him all

The LORD He shall deal wondrously
His blessings they shall see
They shall Him know, their God for sure
Be unashamed e'ermore

Note: These verses originally written, prophesying after an 'army'
or plague of locusts invaded the land.

(1) swarming locust

(2) crawling locust

(3) consuming locust

(4) chewing locust

Church Community

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Acts 2 v.42-47

The early church continued
Steadfast, and Christ they viewed
With teaching, fellowship, prayers
And in Communion shares
Holy fear came on every soul
They did the Lord extol
Many wonders and signs were done
Through Christ, the risen one

All that believed, they were there
In a church strong and fair
They had all things common, for
They helped needy and poor
They sold of goods, possessions
As God's true daughters, sons
Distributed to people
Hearing the needy call

Continuing on daily
With one accord they be
In temple and homes meeting
They worshipped and did sing
Breaking of bread, Communion
All included, not one
Excluded, and ate food, glad
Single of heart, not sad

They praised God and had favour
With folk, who did savour

His presence there with them sure
Their Lord for evermore
He did add to church daily
Those being saved, they be
Members of the company
The church, Christ's body be

Progressing Possibilities

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Look, Lord upon us, shine your face
Help us discern your grace
And your sure mercies still to trace
Displayed to every race

Whether in joy or pain we be
May we constructively
Look to you, as you look to us
Through your Son, He Jesus

Show us your light where way seems dark
Or dim or gloom or stark
To progress in your way, your plan
For each child, woman, man

You come to us, revive, restore
We of ourselves be poor
But riches true in you are found
Praises to you redound

Guide us, O Lord, where confused we
And unsettled may be
Your life, your love, still do reveal
To follow, do your will

None worthless nor excluded, you
Have plan for each, and do
Work in us, and we here work out
Your plan, not fear nor doubt

Faithful Flock

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
(*'All praise to thee, my God this night'*)

Psalm 95 v.7-11

Today if you will hear God's voice
Come to Him and make Him your choice
Harden not your heart, as day when
Of old, they did provoke Him then

And too in day of temptation
They then did hearken to Him none
In wilderness journeys there they
Did try Him, test Him, in the way

They sought to prove Him, His work see
But did not live in harmony
Forty years long He was sure grieved
With them, for they not true believed

It was a generation such
A people who in heart erred much
And had not the Lord God's way known
An example not to condone

To them the Lord did swear they not
Enter into His rest, their lot
Was to experience His wrath
Their days were consumed as by moth

So help us Lord, to learn, to hear
Your voice, be as your sheep loved dear
Cast us not off, for mercies sake
Good Shepherd, us as your sheep take

Encouraging Exhortation

Tune: Saffron Walden

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 42 & 43 parts

Why cast down, disquieted my soul?
Trust the Lord, He will make you whole
Hope you in Him, for yet I shall
Praise him, all will be well

Praise Him for help of His presence
Attune my will, my mind, my sense
Unto Him, focus, and align
I [am] His, and He is mine

He the health of my life, He be
All my salvation unto me
He my God, shall come to my aid
His Son my debt has paid

So shall I rise, for help He gives
Strength, encouragement, so each lives
To worship, serve, and glorify
The One who hears my cry

Witness To The World

Tune: Solothurn

('Now let us from this table rise')

Communion ended once more
We have partaken of Christ's store
The bread and wine, His body, blood
Nourishing food and cleansing flood

Grant as we have humbly partook
Of your gifts, you not us forsook
So may we faithful to you be
Fill us with your Spirit, e'en me

Not detached from life, but living
In the world for you, God and King
Of our lives be, help us witness
Share you with others and them bless

So being fruitful, productive
To serve, to be served, thus to live
And to your will know, do reveal
Send us out to teach, preach, and heal

And here our source, 'tis you our Lord
Shown to us here, the living Word
Love as the centre of this feast
Open to all, greatest and least

We pray when we return again
To share in these symbols, that then
May we something for your glory
[Have] Done or said for eternity

Glory Gladness

Tune: Glendon

('Sing to God, with joy and gladness')

Psalm 24

The earth is the LORD's, its fullness
All is His, he will it bless
The world is His, and they who do
Dwell therein He will renew

Chorus

Lift up your heads, O you gates, for
The King of glory, he sure
Shall enter the e'erlasting doors
LORD of hosts whom all adores

For He has the world it founded
Upon the seas, river's bed
Who shall ascend His holy hill
Stand there now, who shall it be? - Chorus

They that have clean hands and pure heart
Shall not from the LORD depart
They who have not lifted up soul
To vanity, deceit all - Chorus

They shall receive the LORD's blessing
Righteousness and each good thing
From the God of their salvation
Open unto each nation - Chorus

They are those who do His face seek
They the lowly, humble, meek
They seek the LORD, He strong, mighty

In battle He bold and free - Chorus

Perseveringly Progressing

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Great God of all, come to our help we pray
Give strength and health for matters of each day
By your Spirit within us be our guide
So trusting you, may we in you confide

To show of Christ to each we encounter
Evangelise some way, that their hearts stir
To seek to know, or seek to grow in you
The image of your Son, holy and true

Lead us on, high and low, to journey's end
Always the grace of your Spirit us send
We temples of His dove-like presence sweet
Humbly adoring, we fall at your feet

Your presence ever with us and within
Your Spirit abides, you forgive our sin
Thus your servants, enabled by your power
Follow you on life's path through every hour

Lord you know, see, expressions of all hearts
Nothing hidden from you, you know all parts
Help us to know your will, what shall you please
You who do save us, blessings sure are these

Give to us light where we dark, heavy be
Grant us what we need to your way clear see
Holding to you, for you to us e'er hold
Until in glory all your ways [are] full told

Salvation Security

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Romans 4 v.7-8 and 5 v.1-2

Gathering here of your people
You do call us, one and all
We draw near now, you our Saviour
Let each life, each spirit stir
To worship you, you the Lord
You are 'er the living Word

Grant us vision, show us your way
For each one through every day
Light and love and celebration
All join in from each nation
And to serve you, know your will
Here to sense your presence still

Blessed are they whose sins by you be
Forgiven, redeemed, and free
And their sins are covered over
By Christ the Lamb's Passover
Blessed they whom the Lord will not
Impute sin, happy their lot

It is by faith, we justified
We have peace with God, confide
In Christ's offering on the cross
Suffered to redeem our loss
Through Him the way is accessed
By faith into grace, we blessed

Penitent Prayer

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

Psalm 38 v.16-22 parts

Hear me, Lord, lest enemy
Should gloat and rejoice o'er me
They ready for me to fall
Hoping I will slip or fall

Yet I am in my distress
Ready here to fall no less
I sorrow continually
When will my help, release be?

I will now declare my sin
Come, forgive me, cleanse within
For my sin I be sorry
From my sadness set me free

My enemies they are strong
They trouble me all day long
They with evil good repay
Yet I will follow your way

Lord, forsake me not, I pray
Draw near to me night and day
Make haste to help me, you be
My salvation constantly

Family Focus

Tune: Merrial

('Now the day is over')

Psalm 127

Except the LORD, He build
The house, men do wield
Their labour in vain for
It shall fail for sure

'Tis vain for you to rise
Early, and your eyes
Restrain from sleep, and stay
Awake late in day

For the LORD he gives to
His beloved, e'en you
Sweet sleep, and His peace sure
To abide e'er more

See, children that they be
An heritage free
Of the LORD, a reward
From His grace outpoured

To Know Christ Is To Know God

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

Colossians 1 v.26 - 2 v.10 parts

Hidden truth, the mystery
Hid from ages, but now see
'Tis revealed, to us is shown
In our days it is made known
To believers manifest
In the gospel they are blest

God reveals this mystery
'Tis Christ in us, now we see
By His Spirit residing
Hope of glory, He dwelling
In all who have sure believed
Have as Saviour Him received

In Christ are hid all treasures
Of wisdom, He us assures
And [all treasures of] knowledge, we Him can know
The Spirit Christ does us show
No need of extras man-made
Faith in Christ enough, firm, staid

In Christ dwells all the fullness
Of the Godhead, seen no less
In His person, and we be
Complete in Him, entirely
He the head o'er everything
Lord of all, to Him we sing

Guiding Grace

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Help us Lord still to know your ways
And follow you through all our days
To know your will, what best shall be
And what be most profit here see

What shall be fruitful, productive
That tends to life, helps others live
More in your way, brings you glory
Living for you, expressions free

Where we stuck in old ways, so guide
That we do in new ways confide
So find the path ahead, change may
Enlighten methods dull and grey

Give wisdom which we need always
To heed, listen, good advice pays
And benefits us, worldly-wise
We would not be, it a false guise

You e'er the light, you will direct
Us in your paths with no deflect
Clearly each step ahead us show
So we your purposes shall know

And too through daily life, each page
Whate'er be our spiritual age
We grow in Christ through every thing
Hearts loving, humble to Him sing

Peace With God

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Romans 5 v.1-2

I true believe in Christ the Son
Work of salvation He has done
Upon the cross He died for me
That I from all my sins be free

And so by faith we justified
Who all in Christ believe, confide
And thus have peace with God, 'tis through
Jesus the Son, for me and you

By Jesus too we have access
By faith into God's grace no less
And stand herein, in hope rejoice
To share His glory, we His choice

Come to me, Spirit, where heart be
Selfish, do search, that willingly
I turn from my will unto you
And do what you desire anew

I cannot my good works now bring
To you that they me save, nothing
Shall avail save Christ's death for me
Risen with Him I redeemed be

No punishment, no purgatory
Of self, no use shall it be see
Fro Christ does save, and He alone
My place takes, does for me atone

Creative Considerings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 33 v.1-9

Rejoice in the LORD, praise Him you righteous
For it be beautiful that you Him bless
Praise Him with harp, psaltery, instruments
With understanding His great presence sense

Sing to Him songs old, new, make melody
Expressions worthy of him, bold and free
Play skilfully with loud noise, shouts of joy
All your creative powers here employ

For His word is right, all His works done true
His righteousness and judgments does ensue
The earth is full of his goodness, so be
The LORD Almighty, Creator is He

By His word were the heavens all made sure
All the host of heaven by His breath pure
He gathers waters of the sea, they stand
If they be withheld parched then is the land

Let all the earth fear the LORD, and let all
Who dwell in the world now before Him fall
In worship, praise of Him, standing in awe
His word spoken creates for evermore

Light Of Life

Tune: Penlan

('In heavenly love abiding')

Leave, leave us not, abide still
With us, show us your will
Looking to you we shall live
Salvation you us give
You the vine, we the branches
Without you profitless
Shall be human endeavours
But you strengthen us, bless

Your light to keep, to guide us
Your words true, we confess
And here resides in hearts pure
Your Spirit evermore
Guard us through all life's journey
Help us your paths to see
Give wisdom, grace, all we need
Your sheep you us do feed

Your love still us to inspire
And flame of holy fire
Producing acts of faith here
May your glory appear
In sharing gospel message
Your word, its every page
Written, the hope eternal
For all who on you call

Blessings Benefits

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Jehovah')

Psalm 103 v.1-12 part

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all
That is in me on Him call
Bless His name, holy forever
He will forsake us never
Bless the LORD, O my soul, forget
His benefits to us yet
His benefits to us yet

He who does forgive all your sins
Praise to Him afresh begins
And who heals all your diseases
Works His will as He pleases
Redeems your life from destruction
Praise Him peoples ,every one
Praise Him peoples, every one

He crowns you with loving-kindness
See His intent here to bless
And with tender mercies keeps you
Feeds you, and does you renew
So strengthened, like eagles you fly
Borne on breezes in the sky
Borne on breezes in the sky

The LORD works righteousness, judgement
His help to oppressed is sent
He showed His way to His people
To Moses and Israel all
He merciful, gracious, and slow

To anger, His mercies flow
To anger, his mercies flow

He will not contend for always
Nor keep His anger all days
He has not dealt with us as our
Sins deserve, but by His power
And grace, He them us does forgive
In His presence we may live
In His presence we may live

Help And Hope

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 79 v.9-13 part

Help us. O God, for you be He
God of our salvation we see
And for your glory, deliver
And on us your graces confer

Purge away all our sins, forgive
Christ our atonement, we shall live
For why should our enemies say
Where is their God, where He today?

Let cries of prisoners come to
You, and their hope now still renew
Preserve those whose time is at hand
To depart from this earthly land

So we your people, we your sheep
Of your pasture, you do us keep
We shall give thanks to you for e'er
Your praise to generations share

Totally Trusting

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Psalm 146 v.1-6

Praise, praise the LORD my soul
Wit songs Him true extol
While I live I will the LORD praise
To Him my worship raise

While I still have being
I will to Him true sing
Put not your trust in humankind
Salvation none there find

For he (she) does breathe his (her) last
Then his (her) short life is past
As grass he (she) is, and his (her) glory
As flowers that fade, see

Happy they be for sure
Who the LORD's help e'emale
Have, and the LORD God their help be
Now and eternally

He made heaven, earth, sea
And all that therein be
He the truth for ever does keep
Trust in Him, you His sheep

Rest In Relationship

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 27 v.1

The LORD my light, my salvation

Whom shall I fear midst the nation?

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The LORD the strength of my life be

He will uphold me constantly

Whom shall I fear here, see?

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 27 v.8-9

When you said, O LORD, Seek my face

My heart said, Your face LORD I trace

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I will it seek, hide not from me

Forgive me, and not angry be

So shall I praise you free

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 27 v.14

Wait on the LORD, good courage take

He will help you and not forsake

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Take good courage, for your heart He

Will strengthen, he you presently

Shall aid you faithfully

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 28 v.7

The LORD my strength and shield He be

My heart trusted determinedly

Alleluia, Alleluia!
An I am helped and so rejoice
Will praise Him with my song and voice
'Tis good, for you His choice
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 30 v.5
His anger endures a moment
Then He is gracious, does relent
Alleluia, Alleluia!
In His favour there be life true
Weeping is changed to joy anew
From night to dark, e'en you
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 30 v.11
My mourning you have turned to dance
'Tis of your doing, not mere chance
Alleluia, Alleluia!
You have my sackcloth* put off sure
Guided me with gladness, your store
Of good remains e'ermore
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 30 v.12
So my tongue sings praise unto you
And with songs, melodies anew
Alleluia, Alleluia!
I will sing, not be silent hence
you see my heart and penitence
Close your presence I sense
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

* sackcloth - worn in mourning.

Transforming Times

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Based on Matthew 17 v.1-9 parts

Lord, upon the holy mount
Revealed was your inner light's fount
Brighter than all human light
Shown there to the disciples sight
Peter, James, and John did there share
In a view, glimpse of glory rare

Moses and Elijah too
Did there sure their presence endue
Talking with the Lord, for He
Would a ransom for sinners be
Help us Lord, through hill and valley
To focus, and your glory see

As you were transfigured then
So a hope to inspire all men (mankind)
For you came to change us too
E'er your image in us renew
Though we may wish in mounts to stay
Yet you present with us each day

High and low, through good and ill
What we may face, you are there still
Guide, empower, help us change
By your Spirit, this be the range
Transformed to image of your Son
Whole and perfect, the holy one

Stable Steps

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Joshua Chapters 3 & 4 parts

People nearing to the [River] Jordan*

(*For to enter the Promised Land)

How they get across, each one?

'Tis by the Lord's doing, He would

Part the river, so each could

Could go through river on dry ground

Literal steps of faith found

When priests feet the flooded banks broached

They receded when feet touched

Touched the edge of waters, and then

Passed over dry ground, them en

And the women and the children

They saw God's wonders again

When all safely they were passed o'er

Over on to Israel's shore

When priests feet did the dry ground leave

River-bed it did receive

Received again its water flow

Return to its flood did know

Stones of memorial there set

They saw the Lord's good hand yet

Shall we go, shall we dare venture?

Lord, afresh faith in us stir

On you focus, take a step new

Give us strength your will to do

So by your grace and providing
You to Promised Land us bring
May we there abide, be fruitful
Serve you for your glory all

Whatever The Weather

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Rain fall heavy, light
Or sunshine beam bright
In all seasons here
Unto us appear
Help us witness of you
To great and small true
Go forth, share the gospel
It avails to all

Come, Spirit, revive
Though we not contrive
To copy your ways
In human strength, days
But your life and power
Fill us every hour
Spirit do here abide
In our hearts reside

Rain falls on the just
And too on unjust
Sun shines on the good
And though we think should
Be from wicked withheld
Yet free, uncompelled
It shines on them too, see
So God's mercies be

All life is in you
You great God and true
We cannot dictate

What will be your state
But you bid us ask, pray
Unto you words say
And hear and your sheep, you
Our good Shepherd true

Bread of life, us feed
You all that we need
Water of life flow
To all here below
Sustainer, Creator
Unto our aid stir
Saviour and Redeemer
With you we concur

Simple Symbols

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear Sacrament')

This we do in remembrance
And here your presence sense
You bid us partake of bread and wine
Symbols of life divine

Your gifts of grace you with us share
No riches can compare
These e'er be enough, for us suffice
For our sins paid is [the] price

Help us Lord keep in mind and heart
That we not drift apart
From Communion, but while we
Can, may take of it free

Fro this shall feed our spirit, soul
Bring healing, make us whole
For we feast on you, the living bread
Saviour, risen from the dead

And too drink of your blood outpoured
You who, our King and Lord
Did such Sacrament institute
In you [is] our ground, our root

Looking To Love

Tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

Chorus

Lord, look on us, and our afflictions see
Helped by your sustaining grace we shall be

Lord, look on me, things body, spirit, soul
Whate'er my needs, come heal and make me whole - Chorus

Lord, look on nations, help us know your way
Lead us unto the light of lasting day - Chorus

Forgive where we sin, by Christ's cleansing blood
We set free, redeemed, by that full sparkling flood - Chorus

Help us take up cross daily, self deny
As you went before us, still your presence nigh - Chorus

Seeking to use each hour, and waste none
In learning, growing, [in] image of Christ your Son - Chorus

He who did live, die, and then rose again
Gospel news, salvation, now to all men (mankind) - Chorus

Rejoicing Regalings

Tune: Lyngham

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 100 v.2

All lands, to the LORD, make noise joyful

On His great name do call

On His great name do call

Serve the LORD here with gladness true

Sing praise to Him anew

Sing praise to Him anew

Sing praise, sing praise to Him anew

Psalm 101 v.1

I will sing His mercy, loving-kindness

Look to me, do me bless

Look to me, do me bless

And of His judgements I too sing

Just, right in everything

Just, right in everything

Just, right, just, right, in everything

Psalm 102 v.27-28

You are the same, your years no end

Send us you help, defend

Send us your help, defend

Us from all enemies, so we

Continue constantly

Continue constantly

Continue, continue constantly

Psalm 103 v.1

All that is in me the LORD bless

his good name do confess

His good name do confess
It be holy for evermore
Proclaim from shore to shore
Proclaim from shore to shore
Proclaim, proclaim from shore to shore

Psalm 103 v.2

As far is the west from the east
From greatest unto least
From greatest unto least
So far has He our sins removed
His mercy to us proved
His mercy to us proved
His mercy, His mercy to us proved

Psalm 103 v.20

Bless the LORD, you His angels, [of] Him tell
You do in strength excel
You do in strength excel
His commands you do e'er obey
You hear His voice alway
You hear His voice alway
You hear, you hear His voice alway

Psalm 104 v.24

O LORD, how manifold your works are
Earth, sun, moon, shining star
Earth, sun, moon, shining star
In wisdom you have made them all
They of your riches full
They of your riches full
They of, they of your riches full

Sing-Song Satiation

Tune: Laudes Domini

('When morning gilds the skies')

Psalm 92 v.1-5

It is a good thing to
Give thanks here unto you
To the Lord. here so do
And to sing praises to
Your name, LORD, ever true
Prosperities ensue

You most High, LORD of all
Help those who on you call
Trusting, we shall not fall
Show your loving-kindness
Your good intent to bless
You faithful, we confess

Show each morning and night
Through dark or daylight bright
God's grace dawns on our sight
Play instruments, ten strings
Each to you worship brings
To you creation sings

Take harp and lute and lyre
Inspired with holy fire
The LORD's name do admire
Play harmoniously
Sincere, melodically
Expressing praises free

For you LORD make me glad

Through your works, I not sad
My state not ill or bad
I will triumph, so be
In works of your hands, see
They reach even to me

O LORD, your works be great
Not of mere chance or fate
Nor revealed to us late
And your thoughts very deep
To us, we be your sheep
Good Shepherd, you us keep

True Blessedness

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

Psalm 1 parts

Blessed be they that do walk not
In the ungodly's lot
Nor follow in their wicked ways
But seek the Lord their days
Nor stand in the way of sinners
Heart not to them bestirs
Nor sits in the seat of scornful
But they hear the Lord's call

Enter not path of the wicked
In their way not be led
Go not in the way of evil
It profits none at all
But blessed be they whose delight
Is the Lord's law and light
In His law they meditate
Day, night, early, and late

Ponder His word, and talk to self
So find your soul's true wealth
Such ones are as trees planted
Beside the river-bed
By rivers of water, channels
On good and fertile soils
They shall bring forth their fruit sure
In seasons evermore

Their leaves shall not wither, they
Commune, and watch and pray

Whatsoever they set to do
It shall prosper anew
For the Lord knows the righteous
Their way, by grace [He knows] e'en us
But ungodly's way it shall
Perish and do not well

Rock Of Refuge

Tune: Old 100th

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 62 v.5-8

My soul, wait upon God only
Wait His good time, and you shall see
It shall be well, my hope shall be
In Him, I trust expectantly

He only is my rock, stronghold
And my salvation, in His fold
By His grace I shall there abide
All to Him, heart, mind, life confide

He is my defence, I not be
Moved, shaken, but remain firmly
Trusting in Him, my God for e'er
His promise to forsake me ne'er

He my salvation, my glory
The rock of my strength constantly
My refuge is in Him, secure
Assured I be in Him e'ermore

Trust in Him at all times, people
Pour out hearts to Him, on Him call
He be a refuge, Rock ageless
His thoughts toward us numberless

Worship And Witness

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Psalm 105 v.1-8

O give thanks unto the LORD
Call upon Him, trust His word
Make known His deeds here among
The people, His praise be sung
Sing and speak of His wonders
And grace He on us confers

Glory in His holy name
Name of endless worth and fame
Let the heart of them rejoice
Who the LORD seek, that their choice
unto them He will appear
They shall know His presence dear

Seek the LORD, and His strength too
Seek His face e'ermore, e'en you
Remember works he has done
Marvellous they be each one
His wonders, His judgements sure
They all be holy and pure

Seed (descendants) of Abraham you be
Blessings you inherit, see
For the LORD our God is He
His judgements in the earth free
He to us has remembered
His covenant, be assured

In the word He commanded

Ever living, never dead
To thousand generations
Reaching unto all nations
Jews and Gentiles, peoples all
Come today and on Him call

Worry-free Way - Peace Series (2)

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Matthew 6 v.25-34

Forgive us, Lord, where we worry
And not by faith your good hand see
Help us to trust along each day
That you will provide, show the way

So may we not worry or fret
Tomorrow has not appeared yet
Worry not about food, drink, clothes
You all our every need do know

In anxious care 'tis as if so
There no God to help us below
On earth, or else 'tis that He cares
Not, nor in our needs He not shares

So we feel we must care for self
And prosper too our own soul's health
Forgetting birds, that God does feed
Our heavenly Father we not heed

And too we forget lilies there
One of which it does greater fare
Than Solomon in his glory
Each flower made by God it be

So He will care for us, provide
We can fully in Him confide
Tend to today's matter and when
Tomorrow comes, trust Him still then

Celebrating Communion

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, they people bless')

Lord, as often as we do meet
And gather round your feet
To share in the Communion feast
For all, greatest to least

As often as we meet, you say
Come near, even today
Eat and drink in remembrance
Of me, then go forth hence

Strengthened with your life-giving bread
You are our living Head
Refreshed, cleansed, by the sparkling wine
Symbol of blood divine

These gifts as symbols, emblems, be
They placed here centrally
Sanctified, set apart, they do
Represent you anew

Your words you did speak, spiritual
Saying, Come one and all
To eat of me, to drink of me
So your salvation be

Pardon And Peace

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 32 v.5-8

My sins I did confess to you
Lord, who are holy and true
You did see my penitence here
I did bow in godly fear
And you did forgive, and me aid
The price of my sins you paid

So shall every one who godly
Be, they shall pray to you, see
In a time when you may be found
They shall hear the joyful sound
Of sins forgiven, it announced
By you, to us it pronounced

Surely in floods of great waters
You shall guide us to safe shores
They shall not us drown or o'erwhelm
Sovereign Lord, you at the helm
You my hiding place are, you shall
Preserve me, defend me well

You shall with songs here surround me
Of your deliverance free
You will instruct me and teach me
What your path and way will be
All-seeing, with your eyes you view
Me, and will guide me anew

Progressing Paces

Tune: Gott Ein Vater
(one tune to 'Faithful vigil ended')

If hearts here be heavy
Come, Lord, look and see
Grant us your reviving
So we you shall sing

Cloudy, dull, or dour
If this be our hour
Send us rays of sunshine
Gleams of light divine

Rain to here refresh land
Sent by your good hand
Sustain us in each thing
Life to us does bring

Leave us not, continue
You are the Way true
Show us your plans for each
Of us, and us teach

Whate'er age physical [we may be]
Or age spiritual [we may be]
Help us flee distraction
We your daughters, sons

Salvation for all here
'Til Christ does appear
On earth once again to
All things sure make new

Mercy Missive

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 136

O give thanks to the LORD
He is good, true His word
His mercy endures for ever
His supplies fail never
He God of gods, o'er all
Does hear us when we call
He Lord of lords, and King of kings
Him all creation sings

He alone does great things
Wonders to pass He brings
By wisdom he the heavens made
They all abide firm, staid
He stretched out earth above
The waters in His love
Man's habitation here below
Yet God here may we know

He did make the great lights
They glorious to our sights
He made the sun to rule by day
Ordained in His wise way
And moon and star to rule
By night, they do not stall
But e'er appear, His ordaining
They to Him glory bring

He smote Eygpt's firstborn
His enemies were shorn

He brought His people Israel
Out from there, they not fall
With strong hand, stretched out arm
Divides Red Sea, no harm
For Israel they did pass safe o'er
On dry land to far shore

But Egypt He o'erthrew
Death at Read Sea they knew
He led Israel through wilderness
Smote great kings, they confess
Amorite king Sihon
Bashan's King Og too gone
Israel did their land inherit
As in God's purpose fit

Israel His servant be
The Lord did recall, see
Their lowly state, He them redeemed
On them His face shone, beamed
Rescued from enemies
Gives food to all flesh, pleas
He does hear, God of heaven, just, fair
His mercy endures e'er

Hasten To Help Me

Tune: Belmont

(slower tune to: "There is a fountain filled with blood")

Psalm 69 v.13-18

My prayer, O LORD, si unto you
I troubles not a few
Have, but hear me, accept me here
And to my help draw near

In your great mercies multitude
Let me here be renewed
In the truth of your salvation
Which reaches each nation

Deliver me out of the mire
Let me not sink, it dire
Deliver me from those who hate
Me, leave me not to fate

From the deep waters rescue me
Let water-flood not be
That which o'ercomes me, nor the deep
Swallow, nor my soul keep

Let me not fall into the pit
To consume me each whit
But hear me LORD, loving-kindly
And good you are to me

Have mercy, to me your face turn
Your sheep are your concern
Draw near to my soul, deliver
Quickly your help confer

Prayers, Pleas, Protection

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Psalm 54 v.4

Behold, God is my helper sure
He with me evermore
And with those who uphold my soul
In Him I am helped whole

Psalm 55 v.22

Cast your burden upon the LORD
He is the living Word
He shall sustain, never let be
Righteous to be moved, see

Psalm 56 v.4

In the Lord God I His word praise
And to Him anthems raise
In God I trust, I will not fear
What man may do right here

Psalm 57 v.1

Be merciful, O God, to me
My soul trusts in you, see
In shadow of your wings I hide
Through troubles, there reside

Psalm 57 v.9-10

I shall praise you, Lord, midst peoples
For you hear all my calls
Your mercy great to the heavens
Your fount of grace opens

Prayer Petitions

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 28 part

Unto you, O LORD, will I cry
Be not silent, but draw nigh
Hear voice of my prayers unto you
My hands lifted to you view

Blessed be the LORD, for He has heard
My prayers, even every word
He my strength, my shield, and my heart
Trusts Him, I am helped each part

So my heart does rejoice greatly
With my song praises shall be
Unto Him, our strength, and saving
Strength of Christ, anointed King

Save your people, LORD, and them bless
You are their LORD, they confess
Your inheritance who you feed
Lift them up, come meet their need

Communion Call

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

To you Lord, you bid us come
Open to all, not just some
Here to share Communion feast
Invite to greatest and least

Eating, drinking, remembrance
Your presence here we do sense
Bread and wine, rich gifts, fine fare
By your grace we may them share

For they speak of the price paid
For our sins, your life down laid
You who lived, died, rose again
You the Saviour of all men (mankind)

Other help I none can find
Nor mercies trace as so kind
Strengthened by you, may we go
You Lord unto others show

Thanks and praise here be your due
Yet we wish to worship you
From us accept humble prayer
We your sheep under your care

Seeking Sincerely

Tune: Darwall's 148th

('Ye holy angels bright')

O Lord, come me revive
Where I do stress and strive
Of things of self and greed
Where you I do not heed
In your will peace shall true be found
Contented hearts in praise resound

If some way new to go
Where your Spirit does show
Grant courage, strength, so I
Your way go, not deny
What for me be, my steps direct
You leave us not, we your elect

Refresh where stale or dry
Hear my call and my cry
Through things common each day
Still lead us on we pray
As salt and light we witness here
To all that your presence is near

Always some plan, purpose
Of good you show to us
And growing in your Son
His image, till life done
By grace we produce fruit for you
To be unto your glory true

Faithful Fulfilment

Tune & Hymn: 'Peace, Peace, Jesus is here'

1 Thessalonians 5 v.23-24

The true God of peace here
Sanctify you, He near
Wholly, spirit and soul
And body, Him extol
He preserves you blameless
And so [does] you bless

[He will] Keep you unto return
Of the Lord, to Him turn
While in the days of grace
Until we see His face
God is faithful, does call
Works in you all

So in His faithfulness
He will do it, no less
Confirm you to the end
His grace and power send
Here in His love and care
We now do share

Strength And Courage

Tune: From Strength To Strength

('Soldiers of Christ arise'; 8-line verses)

Joshua Chapter 1 part

Joshua, now be strong
Trust the Lord all along
For it is He that commands you
To be firm, strong, and true
And do bold courage take
Progress in the Lord make
Enemies not before you stand
When you led by God's hand

Turn not to left or right
Keep the Lord in your sight
Take and read the book of the law
It shall be your help sure
I the LORD your God shall
Be with you, guide you well
Wheresoever you go, I stay
With you through night and day

So onward they did go
God's presence they did know
To enter Promised Land for sure
To enemies conquer
Lead us on too, Lord, here
By faith to us appear
Possessing land through Christ your Son
The victorious one

Wind Whispers

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Wind of the Spirit on us blow
Come fill your creatures here below
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Life-giving breath, you all sustain
Spirit of truth and love unfeign[ed]
We give you worship once again
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Zephyr, gentle breeze, we do feel
Humbly before you do we kneel
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Or strong and powerful, e'en gale
Ever fresh, vibrant, never stale
Faithful Spirit, you will ne'er fail
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Help us Lord, we cannot control
Your Spirit, but can Him extol
Alleluia, Alleluia!
For you Lord said that such shall be
Who are born of your Spirit, see
Cannot be contained rigidly
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For the wind does blow where it will
Help us hear your voice, and be still
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And to go in its flow, your way
Daily continue, watch and pray
You are our guide, we not dismay

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Creation your handiwork shows

Each thing your love and grace bestows

Alleluia, Alleluia!

May we conserve, and your earth tend

your presence with us, us defend

That we be faithful to the end

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Providence Protection

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 66 v.5-9

Come, works of the Lord see
He does work awesomely
In dealings with mankind, He be
Sovereign eternally

He turned sea to dry land
Was performed by His hand
They passed o'er safe, in Him rejoiced
His praises thus were voiced

He rules by His power
For ever, e'en each hour
His eyes behold the nations here
Let all folk humbly fear

Bless the Lord, you people
Make His praise heard, and call
Upon Him, our souls He does hold
Secure within His fold

Loving Leadings

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Hosea 11 v.8-12

How shall I give you up, Ephraim?
And Israel, that be your name
How shall I make you as a town
Where my fire and brimstone fell down?

My heart within me it is turned
E'en those against those towns* it burned
My repentings, my sympathy
Is kindled, moved towards you, see

I will not disperse my anger
It I will not on you confer
I will show you love, for I be
The Lord God for eternity

I the Holy One among you
Though you did not follow me true
My people shall return and walk
In ways of the LORD, of Him talk

Yet He shall roar as a lion
Still His abode is Mount Zion
They shall fear, tremble as a bird
At the sound of the LORD's voice heard

The LORD will place them in houses
Thought Ephraim they did not Him bless
They lied and deceived, but Judah
Faithful to God their hearts did stir

* The towns of Sodom and Gomorrah

Victorious Vision

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Revelation 1 v.12-20

John in glorious vision Christ saw
Midst seven candlesticks sure
They the churches where He present
To the lowly, penitent
Christ their Light, their candles burning
Unto Him their praises ring

Jesus, Son of man, in robe fine
He full human, full divine
Girded with a chest band golden
Worship before Him, all men* (*i.e. mankind)
His head and hairs they as wool white
He appears, dispels all night

His eyes as a flame of fire, see
He e'er lives, reigns in glory
His feet like fine brass and burnished
In majesty He furnished
Voice as sound of many waters
Extend to earth's farthest shores

In His right hand there seven stars
All is holy there, none mars* (*spoils)
They the angels of the churches
Held in His hand, true is this
From His mouth a sharp two-edged sword
It be His eternal word

His countenance shining, blazing

As sun in its strength does bring
He the first and last, does e'er live
Once for all His live did give
For our salvation, He was dead
Now lives e'er, our risen Head

He has the keys of hell and death
His Spirit, life-giving breath
He Person of God* residing (*i.e the Holy Spirit)
In believers, they Him bring
Everlasting honours, tributes
His victories none refutes

Trusting Times 2

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 5 v.8

Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness
And guide me here, and bless
Lest I fall unto enemies
Make straight the way my eyes see

Psalm 5 v.12

For you, LORD, the righteous will bless
Your goodness they confess
With favour you will them surround
Praises to you redound

Psalm 6 v.4

Return O LORD, deliver me
My soul help, it set free
O save me for your mercies sake
Then comfort I shall take

Psalm 6 v.9

The LORD my supplication heard
He listened, every word
The LORD He will receive my prayer
And help me with His care

Psalm 7 v.1

O LORD my God in you I trust
I mere human and dust
Save me from those that persecute
Deliver me, them refute

Psalm 8 v.4-5

What is man, that you him visit

And have his pathway lit?

Made little lower than angels

Trusting you LORD, none falls

Peace Proferred

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
('All praise to thee, my God this night')

Luke 10 v.5-10 part

Jesus did send out seventy
In pairs His witnesses to be
Whatever house they entered, there
To seek to share a blessing fair

To say 'Peace be to this house' here
We bring good tidings, need not fear
Save in that fear of reverence
Of the Lord, it fear in that sense

If peaceful ones do there abide
Your peace offered will there reside
But if not, fret not, for it be
Your peace shall return to you, see

Go in Christ's name, teach, preach, and heal
Share kingdom of God, and appeal
For folk to turn to Him and so
His love and goodness they shall know

Banners Blessed

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

March forth, Lord, in your victory
O'er sin and death and enmity
Your light shines bright eternally
Grant us your grace here constantly

Anoint your people, Spirit be
Residing in hearts completely
That we shall by faith persevere
Encounter your rich treasures here

For we cannot ourselves here save
But you Christ, your life for us gave
To save, to heal, to sanctify
Eternal life, we ne'er shall die

You our Father in heaven, we
Your people, your sons, daughters be
We born on earth of human line
And born again to life divine

Christ, hope of glory, e'en within
Human lives, you do cleanse from sin
Forgiveness to all does avail
Who on your kind mercies prevail

The Lord our banner you e'er be
For you do set your people free
You are our Lord, our God and King
Thankful praises to you we sing

Salvation Sure

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

"What a man/woman is before God, that he/she is, and no more"

Robert Murray McCheyne

See here, what I am true before

God, that I am, no more

No rituals, [nor] religiosity

Superior makes me

For sure my true identity

Found complete in Christ be

He be my salvation entire

My light, my bright day-star

A sinner forgiven by grace

By faith I see God's grace

In Christ, His Son, the holy one

Redemption work has done

For laws are made, and ten commands

I meet not their demands

For I, as all, fall short, so be

Of God's perfect glory

Yet staying not in shame or fear

Nor guilt, His presence near

To help, to save, to sanctify

As I to Him draw nigh

Stain of sins washed away, it rust

In Christ's blood , though I dust

He lived, He died, then rose again
The Saviour for all men (mankind)

Victory Vindication

Tune: Webb

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Psalm 74 v.10-23 parts

O God, how long shall it be
Enemies reproach, see?
Shall they blaspheme for ever
Respect your name never?
Why do you withdraw your hand?
Stretch it out, heal our land
Come, act for us your people
We depend on you all

For you God our King of old
Let your wonders be told
For you do work salvation
On earth, to each nation
Divided [Red] Sea by your strength
We passed over at length
Broke open fountain and flood
Your way seen, understood

Remember LORD, enemy
has reproached your name, see
The foolish have blasphemed you
With deceits and lies too
O save our souls, come help free
Your turtle-doves we be
Deliver us from wicked
That we not fear nor dread

Forget not congregation
Poor women, children, men

Let not oppressed be ashamed
They have you confessed, named
Arise, God, plead your own cause
Though enemy abhors
Show your power, victory
Grant us your sure mercy

Hopeful Harvest

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields and scatter')

Psalm 67

God to us be merciful
Come to us, bless us all
Cause your face to on us shine
With beams of life divine
That upon the earth your way
Be known ever, each day
Your saving health, salvation
Be shown to each nation

Chorus

Let all people praise you
O holy God and true
Give thanks and worship to you name
The name of endless fame

O let the nations be glad
Remain no longer sad
For you shall judge the people
Righteously, we shall see
And you shall govern upon
The nations, here each one
Lord, you shall be seen to reign
Evil may not remain - Chorus

Then shall earth her increase yield
From hill, meadow, vale, field
And God, e'en our own God He
Shall bless us, all shall see
All ends of earth shall Him fear

In awe come to Him near
He Ruler be for ever
His reign shall cease never - Chorus

Words Of Worship

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

You, Lord, the true wise one, and Christ be your Son
We need spiritual understanding all
For things of God cannot by mere human lot
Be known, but discovered, by you uncovered

Reveal to us your ways through our earthly days
Your Spirit empower, reside every hour
In hearts meek and lowly, from sins now set free
By your Son's redemption, reaches to each one

Living in your light clear, pursuing things here
Which pleasing to you be, and hearts constantly
In tune with you Lord, keep us, we be your sheep
Good Shepherd ne'er us leave, in you we believe

Though you great, glorious, yet you tend to us
Our needs we to you bring, we worship and sing
Help us your salvation proclaim, each nation
Hear good news, the gospel, go forth, others tell

Search Me, See Me

Tune: Kings Weston

('slower tune' to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 139 v.1-6 & v.23-24

Lord, you have searched, known me
All my life you see
You know when I sit, rise
To you no surprise
You know my thoughts from far
You bright Morning Star
Stay now, be my comfort
This my happy lot

You understand me full
You hear when I call
You surround my pathway
Ever with me stay
All my ways you do know
And all here below
Nothing hid from your sight
Bright e'er shines your light

You know all words I speak
May I humble, meek
Speak of what does please you
With your grace renew
Before I say any
Words, few or many
You Lord know what they be
Omnisciently* (*all-knowingly)

You are behind, before
Me, your presence sure

Is there always, no place
Be hid from your face
You have your hand on me
Now and constantly
Beyond my full knowledge
You to me do pledge

So here my response be
Search me God, and see
Know my heart, and try me
Know my thoughts, whole, free
See if there any way
Wicked here today
Within me, and lead me
To e'erlasting day

Luminous Light - 3

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Show me, O Lord, your way today
Help me to watch and pray
To see you in things visible
Revealed unto us all

Light of life, shine on our path bright
Giving spiritual sight
To progress on, your Spirit stay
Our fears and doubts allay

What be our thoughts, what on our heart?
You Lord know every part
Revive where sale or stagnant we
Times of refreshing be

And forgive where we sin, and hold
Us safe within your fold
Thankful may we be for each thing
Of good you to us bring

Throne Theophany

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Revelation 4 v.7-11

There around God's throne in heaven
Four beasts be, and spirits seven
Full of eyes, they rest not day, night
God unveiled to their sight

Their worship, Holy and holy
E'en thrice holy their song be
To the Lord Almighty reigning
He was, is, e'er will be King

Then twenty-four elders joining
In the worship, they do bring
Worship to Him, before Him fall
He ever the Lord of all

He the one who lives for ever
And e'en for ever, never
Shall He die, nor cease, His Being
Eternal o'er everything

Casting crowns before Him, saying
You are worthy, Lord and King
To receive glory and honour
And power, it be yours sure

For you have created all things
All to you their homage brings
For your pleasure they are and were
Created, none praise defer

Jerusalem Joys

Tune: Lyons

(Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim')

Psalm 132 v.13-18

Praise, praise you the Lord, Zion* is His choice
Jerusalem, city, in Him rejoice
'Tis His habitation, he had it desired
Let praises be to Him, and worship aspired

The Lord says, Here be my dwelling place e'er
My people shall prosper, in it well fare
Here will my resting place be, sure says the Lord
His truth ne'er changes, it shall be as His word

He will bless their provision, give food all
To poor and hungry, they shall on Him call
He will clothe His priests with salvation's robes bright
His saints shall shout for joy, a glorious sight

There will He make the line of [King] David grow
Will establish governance, they shall know
Of His righteous ruling, His lamp shall shine there
His enemies shamed, but His people blessed fair

* Zion - the mount on which Jerusalem is built.

Nature Nurturings

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Psalm 65 v.6-13

By your strength, LORD, you establish
Steadfast the mountains, sure this
And hill and vale and tree and flower
You sustain by rain, shower
And sunlight bright, its golden beam
Shines, your creation does teem
With life abundant, by your hand
All is made, earth, sky, sea, land

The noise of seas you still, bring calm
Protecting us from their harm
Not passing borders you appoint
All ordered, there no disjoint
And tumult of people you quell
Bringing your peace, all be well
Each day and night you make rejoice
You created them, your choice

The earth you visit, and you do
Water, enrich it anew
With the river of God, greatly
Your blessings upon it be
This river be of water full
For it on earth you do call
To revive, refresh, grain does grow
As you provide for it so

Blessed be the rain, shower needed
What we asked you have heeded

At the Rogation* 'asking-tide'
Our prayers you have not denied
The year you crown with your goodness
With your good signs you us bless
You cause the land to prosper thus
Giving harvests unto us

The pastures they be clothed with sheep
And cattle too, you them keep
The valleys covered o'er with grain
They be, as here once again
We pray we your resources use
Wisely, none of them refuse
And share with fellow-man, that we
Good stewards of your grace be

*Rogation-tide - around May each year; the three days before Ascension Day;
traditionally an asking time for the Harvest; from the Latin: 'rogare' - to ask.

Protective Power

Tune: Ach Got Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Psalm 17 v.1-7

Hear the right cause, LORD, and attend
To my cry, and your help send
Give ear to my prayer, it unfeigned
Not by any deceit stained

Let my vindication from you
Come forth, and be present true
Let your eyes behold the upright
No evil stand in your sight

You have proved my heart, visited
Me, searched me, and have tested
In night and day, O look and see
My will, desire to you be

I purpose not to sin freely
But forgive me where I be
Weak, prone to fall, uphold me do
Strengthen me again anew

Hold up in your paths my feet sure
That my footsteps slip ne'ermore
I have upon you called Lord, for
O God help me from grace-store

Show your loving-kindness, O you
Who save by your right hand true
They who trust in you, enemy
By you be downcast, each one

Led By The Light

Tune: Song 34

('Forth in thy name O Lord I go')

Ephesians 5 v.14-18

Awake from sleep, rise from the dead
And follow Christ, your living Head
Raised to new life by grace divine
Seeking to know His will, way fine

Christ shall give to you light, you see
And so then live circumspectly (carefully)
Not be as foolish, but as wise
Do what is pleasing in His eyes

Redeem the time, because the days
Are evil, not a moment stays
On for all time, but here, then gone
Live out your life trusting the Son

So be not unwise, understand
What the Lord's will is, by His hand (Spirit)
He shall reveal, purposefully
We shall be guided graciously

Be not drunk with wine, there excess
But serve the Lord and do Him bless
With His Spirit be filled daily
Obeying Him, true, faithfully

Prosperous Praises

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

Psalm 130 v.5-6

I wait for you, LORD, my soul waits
I trust you not be late
I wait more than the watchers wait
For morning, their estate
Is to keep guard, watch actively
Your willing servants be
Come to our aid, your grace su show
That more of you we know

Psalm 131 v.2-3

Surely I have behaved calmly
And quietened myself, see
As a child weaned of its mother
So my soul none other
Is, so let all Israel hope in
The LORD, praise Him therein
His temple sure for evermore
Him worship and adore

Psalm 132 v.13-15

For the LORD has Zion chosen
For Him it be the one
The place where He desired to dwell
His habitation, tell
That He is in the midst, abides
Here He rests, He decides
His rest for ever, and those there
In His blessings will share

Psalm 133 v.1-3

Behold, how good and how pleasant
It is gift heaven-sent
For brothers and sisters to dwell
In unity, and well
Shall they fare, for 'tis like the oil
On head of high priest all
It flowed down to his garment too
And as refreshing dew

Psalm 134 v.1-3

Behold, bless you the LORD, all due
Temple night-watchers too
Or daytime, serve him faithfully
To him your praises be
Lift up your hands in sanctuary
And bless the LORD, and He
Who made heaven and earth bless you
Out of Zion anew

Revival Request

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

Psalm 85 v.7-13

Show us your mercy, LORD, and salvation
Grant to us all, of every nation
I will hear what the LORD God will now speak
He shall speak peace to humble and meek

But let them not turn unto foolishness
For He will not then prosper nor bless
Surely His salvation is near they who
Fear* Him, and in Him their trust renew

So then glory shall come, dwell in our land
Under the guidance of God's good hand
Mercy and truth shall here together meet
Righteousness and peace each other greet

Truth from the earth shall spring up and be known
Righteousness from heaven shall be shown
The LORD shall give that which is good, and so
Our land shall her increase yield and show

Righteousness before the LORD God shall go
He shall make His footsteps a way, show
Us His way truly, in His right path we
Shall be blessed, and secure we shall be

* Fear - in the sense of awe, respect;
not in sense of dread, terror.

Presenting Praises

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 104 v.33

I will sing to the LORD, Him praise
Unto Him anthems raise
Sing praise while I have my being
He will give each good thing

Psalm 104 v.34

My meditation of Him shall
Be sweet, my soul knows well
In Him shall I rejoice, be glad
Not for ever be sad

Psalm 105 v.5

Remember His works marvellous
He has done among us
His wonders, judgements he has spoke
To us His flock, His folk

Psalm 105 v.4

Lord, with your favour remember
Us, grace on us confer
You bear a kindly heart, intent
Us your salvation [have] sent

Psalm 107 v.2

Let redeemed of the Lord say so
That others too may know
He is the Lord, redeemed we be
Let our enemies flee

Celestial City - New Jerusalem

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Revelation 21 v.4 and v.21-27

The new Jerusalem, city
Each of twelve gates a pearl it be
O praise Him, Alleluia!
The street of city is pure gold
As transparent glass it shines bold
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In that city no Temple be
The Lord and Lamb that Temple, see
O praise Him, Alleluia!
The Lord God Almighty is He
And Jesus Christ is the Lamb, see
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The city had no need of sun
Neither of moon, not even one
O praise Him, Alleluia!
They shine not there, for God's glory
Does lighten it resplendently
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Lamb, Jesus, is city's light
He does illuminate our sight
O praise Him, Alleluia!
The saved nations shall walk therein
But nothing there of evil, sin

O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia!

The gates shall not be shut at all
For there the night does never fall
O praise Him, Alleluia!
Nothing of darkness, lies, or sin
Shall ever enter it within
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

They who written in the Lamb's book
Of life, they have not Him forsook
O praise Him, Alleluia!
They enter in, no more death, pain
Sorrow, crying, ne'er named again
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

They shall bring the glory, honour
Of the nations, and them confer
O praise Him, Alleluia!
In that city of endless days
God with His people there always
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

While Days Dawn

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

While days of grace are here, come see
And do remember me
Said our Lord, when [He] instituted
Supper with wine and bread

Amidst the food and drink arrayed
These simple gifts displayed
Of bread and wine for Communion
Invite to every one

For they be symbols of Christ sure
His body, blood, e'ermore
Given that forgiven we may
Be, turn to Him today

This spiritual meal will sustain
Us here throughout life plain
Help us Lord to look unto you
Hunger and thirst anew

All on same ground, sinners do meet
And worship at Christ's feet
He will us hear, forgive, restore
His mercy we implore

So grace He will grant us today
To go on in His way
His people, we His friends e'en be
Redeemed by His love free

Meditative Missive

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 119 v.97-104

O how I love your law
It my meditation sure
All the day, LORD, for you
Through your commands me renew
Wiser you have made me
Than my enemies, see
Though they e'er with me be
I trust your way plainly

I have understanding
More than my teachers can bring
For your testimonies
Are my meditation, these
Will guide me on your way
And keep me every day
More than the worldly-wise
I have, and none denies

Your precepts do I keep
I in your fold as your sheep
I have my feet refrained
From evil ways them restrained
So I might keep your word
Each treasure I have heard
With your judgements I stay
Uphold me still I pray

For you do teach me well
Of your ways inform, me tell

How sweet your word they be
To taste, sweeter than honey
And I will on them feed
They are a feast indeed
Your precepts true they be
And I hate falsity

Prayer Perseverings

Tune: Abbot's Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

1 Timothy 2 v.1-6

Pray for all, the exhortation
People, folk of each nation
Supplications, prayers of all kinds
From inspired hearts and minds
Intercessions, and thanksgivings
To the Lord each one prayer brings
For kings, queens, all authority
And for the powers that be

So that we may lead such a life
Quiet, peaceable, no strife
In all godliness, honesty
Forgiven, from sins set free
For this good, acceptable
Such shall prosper, shall not fall
For pleasing it is in the sight
Of God our Saviour, true, right

He will have all people be saved
Through Christ He the way has paved
Desiring them to have knowledge
Of the truth and faith, courage
To accept Him, mediator
His name it be Christ for sure
Between God and man the way makes
our place on the cross He takes

He did give Himself a ransom
Avails for all, not just some

To be testified or spoken
To all children, women, men
In due time, we pray His kingdom
Come, and that His will be done
Lord, incline your ears to hear all
That in truth do on you call

Snare Snapped

Tune: Malvern

('Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Psalm 124

If the LORD was not on our side
Men would o'ercome us and deride
For they would soon against us rise
Seeking to claim our lives their prize

They would have swallowed us alive
And sure would too bereave, deprive
When their anger was then kindled
Their wrath not abate nor dwindled

Then the waters they would o'erwhelm
As if a ship with none at helm
The stream would have gone o'er our soul
And oppressions would take their toll

The proud would persecute us, see
But blessed the name of the LORD be
He has not given us as prey
For them to consume, lost [is] their day

They lose their prey, but we, our soul
Is escaped, as a bird, kept whole
For snare is broken, we set free
Not bounded nor entrapped we be

So thanks and praise the LORD we give
He rescues us, through Him we live
Our help is in His name, [of] great worth
He LORD, maker of heaven and earth

Pensive Prosperings

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord hear my prayer')

O Lord, give us light
You eternal, bright
With you there be no night
From darkness us keep
For we be your sheep
Your Shepherd love so deep

You come to us, tend
Defend to to the end
Your Spirit to us send
To guide in your way
To show us each day
Your path, help us, we pray

In meditation
Or joy, elation
We in contemplation
Seek to know you more
And you us assure
Of your rich treasure-store

Yet in troubles here
You through them us steer
Still we may know you near
Help us trust that you
Will us so renew
We give you glory due

Simply Seeking

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

In worship to you, our Lord, King
Our praises do we bring
Loving you who did first us love
Come help us Spirit, dove

We cannot heal, we cannot save
But trust in you who gave
Your Son Jesus to save us all
You hear who on you call

Simply to know, and in you grow
See us penitent so
We shall humbly follow and serve
'Tis all that you deserve

We your creatures, you Creator
Our hearts, mind to you stir
Lead us on your way, us do keep
Good Shepherd, we your sheep

Golden Gathering

Adapted with permission from Angela & Brian's poem:

'Harvest in 19th Century America'

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Heap high the farmer's wintry hoard
It gathered with no discord
High heap the golden corn, for known
No richer gifts Autumn [has] shown
It best to love the hardy gift
To the Lord our praises lift
Gift of golden wheat fields bestowed
Before storms make their inroad

We sowed the seeds o'er hill and plain
In sunny May, now again
It did ripen, and as it grew
Marauding birds away flew
For we the seed from them did guard
Through bright June days it ne'er tired
But leaves did spring up green and fair
Midsummer's soft yellow hair

And now with Autumn's moonlit eves
The Harvest comes, man receives
Of the good produce of the land
All sent to us by God's hand
Ears from stalks are separated
The Lord He us again fed
Bringing the harvest home, we praise
God's provision through all days

Richer than was the fabled gift
Of Apollo, for we sift
With fair hands here the golden grain
Give thanks to God once again
Though Apollo, Greek god showered
And mythical times flowered
Yet truth be, God does create all
Meets needs of who on Him call

Boundless Blessings

For St Michael & All Angels Day
(Michaelmas - Sept 29)

Tune: Ever Faithful
("Let us with a gladsome mind")
Psalm 103 v.19-22

The LORD has prepared His throne
In the heavens, all is His own

Chorus

Bless the LORD, His works Him praise
He rules o'er all, anthems raise

Bless the LORD, you His angels
His wonderful deeds each tells - Chorus

You angels in strength excel
You hear, do, His commands well - Chorus

Bless the LORD, all you His hosts
Servants unto farthest coasts - Chorus

You servants, you ministers
To do His will your heart stirs - Chorus

Enlargement Expectancy

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Enlarge my loving heart
Possess it every part
Lord, for you have made me to love
By your fair Spirit, dove

Spirit, who all does search
Knows all, needs no research
So this heart here, me empower
To serve you every hour

Things of world, earthly life
help me tend without strife
To put you first, then all shall be
Worked out satisfiedly

If 'neath some load of sin
Forgive, cleanse me within
Or oppressed with doubt, worry, fear
Set me free, here appear

Thus salt and light for you
Sharing with others too
Gospel, the good news, salvation
Avails to every one

In Christ's image I grow
And others too may know
Him as their Saviour, lord, and king
And to Him worship bring

Where earth-bound, soul, arise
Ever on to the prize
Christ formed in you, hope of glory
On through eternity

Repentant Returnings

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Revelation 1 v.20 and 2 v.1-7 parts

O Lord, forgive, where we first love have left
Though you have not abandoned us bereft
You Lord hold seven stars in your right hand
They be the angels of churches, each land

And too midst seven candlesticks you walk
They be your churches, you relate and talk
With them, your people, messages you gave
That faithful they be to you, who do save

Works, patience, perseverance you do see
And what our labours unto you they be
Testing out false teachers, for they do lie
And the truth of your gospel they deny

Yet help us Lord, our first love do restore
Give us repentance, may we so be sure
Of your presence, and serve you faithfully
So do establish us eternally

To such the promise that hey then shall eat
Of the tree of life, that shall be their meat* (*food)
It there found in midst of God's paradise
And shall us everlastingly suffice

God's Presence - Peace Series (3)

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 46 parts

God, our refuge and power
Are every hour
You our strength, a very
Present help, we see
Therefore we will not fear
Though earthly troubles near
Though earth e'en if removed
Steadfast you have proved

Though mountains be carried
Into sea, and hid
Drowned in the depths, and so
Waters roar, we know
If they be troubled, and
Mountains shake, cannot stand
Yet in this fear we not
For God is our lot

There is a river, see
The streams shall there be
Peaceful, and shall make glad
God's city, not sad
'Tis His high dwelling place
We there His presence race
He is there in the midst
And this we do wist* (*know)

His city be not moved
His help has ensued

Unto us, it early
Be His help, we see
Be still, and know that I
Am God, this His reply
He will be exalted
Among us, He said

Exalted among heathen
That all shall know then
He is God, He alone
Worship is our tone
For the LORD of hosts, He
Is with us, He e'er be
Our refuge now, always
Unto endless day

Ask, Seek, Knock

Hymn & Tune: 'All For Jesus'

Luke 11 v.9-13

Ask, and it shall be given you
These our Lord's words spoken true
And too seek and you shall sure find
The Lord shall reveal, He kind

Knock, it shall be opened to you
The Lord's graces you shall view
For each one that asks does receive
They that seek do find, believe

To those that knock, door it shall be
Opened, they gain entrance, see
For if askign bread of father
Will he give a stone rather?

Or if asking a fish, will he
Give a serpent harmfully?
Or if asking an egg, will he
Give scorpion fatallly?

So then if we in sinful state
Know how to give gifts good, great
How much more your Father above
In heaven, out of His love

Shall give you good things, ask, seek, knock
He your requests shall not block
The Holy Spirit He shall give
To those who ask, they full live

Signs And Sufferings Shown

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Matthew 27 v.51-56

When Jesus on the cross did die
These signs came by and by
Veil of Temple was rent in two
Like no human could do
Was torn from the top to bottom
And an earthquake awesome
The rocks did split, cleaved asunder
Sights of fear and wonder

And graves were opened, and many
They did arise too, see
After His resurrection they
Arose and went their way
To the holy city (Jerusalem), did show
Themselves, so others know
That faithful saints did live again
For they did appear then

Now at the cross, centurion
Said, Jesus was the Son
Of God truly, for he did see
All that did come to be
The earthquake and all things there done
They feared greatly, the One
Crucified there, our Saviour for
Men, women, children sure

Omnipotent One

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 135 v.1-6

Praise the LORD, praise His name
Give to Him honour, fame
You servants of His by His grace
By faith behold His face

You in the LORD's courts praise
To Him joyful songs raise
Praise the LORD, for it is good sure
And pleasant evermore

He has Israel chosen
To be His people, men
Women and children, His treasure
Melodies to Him stir

Whatsoever the LORD
According to His word
Was pleased to do, above, below
That He did do, we know

Whether heaven, earth, seas
Yes, with what Him agrees
That He does do, He LORD of all
And we may on Him call

Gracious Giving

Tune: St George's, Windsor

('Come ye thankful people, come')

1 Chronicles 29 v.9 - 14

David and people prepared
To build Temple, they all shared
Brought their offerings gladly
David's son Solomon, see
Would lead the building teams, he
All things he would oversee
It be for God's glory great
He it sure would consecrate

David then the people blessed
Blessed be the LORD, he confessed
Said, O LORD, yours the greatness
Power, victory, holiness
Victory and majesty
For all in heaven, earth, be
Yours, for you all created
Us your people you have fed

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom sure
You exalted evermore
As the head above all things
We bring you our offerings
Riches, honour come from you
You reign over all, 'tis true
In your hand is power and might
You will do justice and right

You able to make us great
Do not leave us unto fate

You give strength to all beings
All creation to you sings
Now therefore, O God, we praise
Your glorious name, it raise
Give you thanks, you do provide
In you we do trust, confide

But who am I, and who are
These my people, small by far
Compared to you, Lord of all
Yet we may upon you call
We humbly and willingly
Offer, yet all things we see
Come from you, and of your own
We have given you, this known

Trust At All Times

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 31 v.14-19

I trusted in you sure, O LORD
Believed your living word
I said, You are my God, and I
Trust you as days go by

My times are in your hand, save me
And me deliver, see
From the hand of my enemy
And persecutors flee

Make your face here to shine upon
Your servant, I am one
Who do trust that save me you will
For your mercies sake still

O how great your goodness it be
To those who fear you, see
It you have wrought for them that trust
In you, though we mere dust

Wholesome Words

Tune: Glenfinlais

('Daises are our silver')

Psalm 12 v.6-8

The words of the LORd, pure
They be e'er fro sure
As silver is tried in
The furnace within

Seven times they purified
None more pure beside
Whole an perfect, spotless
Are they, we confess

Your word stands, LORD, you keep
Safe from harm your sheep
Save them from enemies
Each your guidance sees

Wicked show when evil
Rears its head, we tell
But when righteousness shows
Love and peace here grows

Thirsting Tale

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Psalm 63 v.1-5

When in the wilderness
David did still bless
Your great name, Lord, thirsting
Prayers to you [he] did bring

You are my God, early
Will I seek you, see
Longing for you in dry
Land, to me draw nigh

Desiring to see sure
Of your glory more
And your power, as I saw
In your house before

Your loving-kindness be
Better unto me
Than life, so my lips shall
Praise, and soul be well

I lift hands in your name
While I live, the same
Shall I pursue daily
Offer praises free

So my soul satisfied
You have not denied
My requests, me revived
Thirst quenched, not deprived

Presence Promise

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

O Lord, where we at times may faint or fail
Grace will prevail
Help us know you are near
That we trust and not fear
And holding here to you
Through troubles great or few
Let praises sound to bless your name worthy
With hearts firm, free

Whate'er our place in life, help us trust you
And us renew
Give grace in time of need
Good Shepherd do us feed
Keep us in your way sure
And abide evermore
In hearts by your Spirit, come dwell within
Cleanse us from sin

We shall attain, and by your mercies gain
Your love unfeign[ed]
It be showed to us here
Your presence does draw near
So our love to you shown
Who first you us have known
Our Saviour, Lord, continue, leave us not
Thus glad our lot

Praise Series - Zamar

Tune: Tyrol

('A man there lived in Galilee')

Psalm 66 v.2-4

'Zamar', pluck strings of instruments

To praise with good intents

To sing, express, musically

That joyful worship be

Sing forth the honour of God's name

Praise His glorious fame

Say to God, Here how terrible

Awesome, your works them all!

Psalm 66 v.2-4; Isaiah 12 v.5

Through the greatness of your power

Foes submit each hour

To you, and all earth worships you

And sings your name anew

Sing to the Lord, for he has done

Excellent things, each one

And this is known in all the earth

His deeds of true great worth

Psalm 27 v.6

And now my head be uplifted

In honour, I not hid

But rise above my enemies

Though they around me, this

Be my will, I shall offer you

Sacrifice of joy true

Unto the Lord I shall sing praise

And will His name up-raise

Psalm 149 v.3; Psalm 30 v.4

Now dance, timbrel, and harp employ
To praise with holy joy
Sing to the Lord, you are His saints
Forgiven, no sins taints
And give Him thanks, remembering
His holiness, and sing
Of His love, grace, and purity
None like Him can there be

Psalm 21 v.13; Psalm 57 v.8-9

Be exalted, Lord, in your own
Strength, we too it have known
So we will sing and praise your power
And you us it endower
Awake up, my voice, instruments
Praise Him now with good sense
Psaltery, harp, amke noise joyful
I sing midst nations all

Sun And Shield

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Psalm 84 v. 9 - 12 parts

Behold, O God our shield, look on
The face of your anointed Son
He be Christ Jesus, He the One
Bringing to all folk salvation

The LORD God is a sun and shield
Come to Him, your heart, mind, life yield
For He will give grace and glory
And the Light of life to you be

No good thing here will He withhold
From those that trust Him in His fold
Who live righteously, Him obey
Blessed they who trust in Him alway

Round And Round

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Ecclesiastes 1 v.4-10 (Old Testament)

One generation passes, and then
Another one comes, women, men
And children, but earth abides for e'er
All mortals time in it do share

The sun arises and then goes down
It shines on every country, town
Then hastes to the place where it arose
Around, around, each day it goes

The wind does blow to the south, then north
Whirls continually, goes forth
The turns again, follows its circuits
Appointed as its path befits

All the rivers run into the sea
Yet the sea is not full, here see
And from the place where the rivers came
They return to that place, the same

All things are full of labour, and man
Of the whole business no one can
Explain it fully, and eye, and ear
Ne'er content with what they see, hear

What has been, it is that which shall be
What is done shall be done more, see
There be no new thing under the sun
All things have been done, every one

Yet perhaps, anything new there be
On this earth, land, or sky, or sea?
Is all old, all know, all vanity
Without God through all history?

Living Out Love

Tune: St James' Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

1 John 4 v.18-21

In love we find there is no fear
No fear there can appear
For perfect love it fear casts out
'Tis sure, without a doubt

For fear has torment, and they who
Fear, may be even you
Such are not made prefect in love
Come help us, Spirit, dove

We love God for He first loved us
Simply, no feign, no fuss
If one say. "I love God", but he
Hates brother, how can be?

How can it be that God unseen
He (a person) loves, but heart is mean?
To love not brother who he sees
He lies, [his] conduct agrees

And this command from God have we
To love those who we see
Our brothers, sisters, who we know
So we love for God show

Safety for the Slandered

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

Psalm 109 v.26-31

Help me, LORD my God, save me
According to your mercy
That my enemies may know
You have acted for me so
I a sheep in your pasture
With your flock shall e'er endure

Let enemies curse, but you
Bless us, by and by you do
When enemies arise let
Them be ashamed even yet
But let your servants rejoice
You, righteous LORD, are our choice

Let adversaries be clothed
With shame, it on them bestowed
Let them be confused, and know
Their evil deeds shall not grow
But as for me, I will praise
The LORD greatly, His name raise

I will praise Him midst people
Who do call upon Him all
For He shall stand with the poor
To save them from troubles sore
And from those who them oppose
The LORD's help to the poor flows

Saying, Doing, Living

Tune: Sussex

(one tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Colossians 3 v.23 & 4 v.2-6

Continue in prayer, be watching
in the same with thanksgiving
Live wisely among all people
Glorifying God in all

Redeem the time, it now waste not
Make most of appointed lot
Let your speech be always with grace
That others your meekness trace

Speak with grace, and seasoned with salt
Not promoting blame or fault
But be wise, that you may know how
To answer each person now

Whatsoever you do, so do
It heartily, even you
Do it as to the Lord, not [as to] men
What does please Him once again

Help And Hope

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 54

Save me, God, by your name
It e'er remains the same
Judge me by your strength, hear my prayer
I trust you still are there

Give ear to words I say
With my mouth here today
For strangers do against me rise
Oppressors bring me lies

They have not, O God, st
You before their face yet
But, behold God my helper is
I safe, sure true is this

The Lord is with them who
Uphold my soul anew
And enemies He shall reward
With His justice, He Lord

I will praise you freely
O Lord, for it good be
To praise you name, you delivered
Me from who 'gainst me stirred

Favourable Fruition

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Psalm 144 v.11 - 15

Free us, Lord, from enemies
Then the people, each one sees
Your goodness, so may our sons
Grow up as plants, fruitful ones
Daughters be as corner-stones
Of palaces with their thrones

That our barns be full of store
Your provisions evermore
Enough to share with needy
And with poor of land, so be
Sheep producing thousands yields
E'en ten thousands in our fields

That cattle be strong to bear
Farmers tending them with care
No breaking or stealing there
But with your blessing well fare
No complaining or grumbling
Thanks to you for everything

Happy is the people who
Are in such state, you renew
Lord, them with your heavenly grace
They find favour in their place
Yes, happy that people, see
Whose God is the LORD so be (Amen)

Quality Not Quantity

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Luke 21 v.1-4

Our Lord sat by the treasury
In the Temple, did see
How each did give their offering
What money they did bring

He saw the rich men cast in such
Poor cast in not so much
In quantity, but quality
Our Lord each eart did see

He saw a certain poor widow
Casting in two mites so
And He said, Of a truth I say
She has giv'n more today

Given more than all the rich, for
They of abundance sure
Gave what they did, but she so poor
Gave all, could give no more

All her living, a gift so rare
None other did compare
So help us Lord, generous be
And blessed be, as was she

Teaching, Preaching, Healing

Tune: Genesis

('Think of a world without any flowers')

Luke 10 v.1-9

The Lord appointed seventy, each pair
Went in His name the gospel to share
Went on before Him, went to every place
Where He would come and show them His face

Chorus

In teaching, preaching, healing, the gospel shown
God's good deeds, words, and life to men are known

The Lord said, Harvest great, labourers few
Go in my name, teach, preach, heal, and do
Be labourers for me, and pray for more
Workers to share of the gospel-store - Chorus

Go as lambs midst wolves, travelling lightly
Not excess load or baggage there be
Say firstly, Peace be to this house and all
Who live and dwell here within these walls - Chorus

If peace accepted, it will there remain
But if not, no blessing will they gain
Though peace not lost, it shall return to you
Keep sharing of the gospel in view - Chorus

Eat and drink what is there set before you
Teach, preach, and bring my healing too
To the sick, needy, and unto them say
Kingdom of God is near you this day - Chorus

So too your healing, body, spirit, soul
Avails today to make us all whole
Show us your healings, your wonders, us bless
You who do great works, Lord, numberless - Chorus

Penitent Pleas

Tune: Austrian Hymn

('Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him')

Psalm 86 v.1-10

Bow down your ear, LORD, and hear me
For I am poor, needy, see
Preserve my soul, I am holy
'Tis through your grace it so be
O you, my God, save your servant
I before you penitent
Trusting in you, be merciful
To me, LORD, I to you call

Make the soul of your servant glad
Rejoicing in you, not sad
For to you, LORD, I lift my soul
Come to me, heal, make me whole
For you, LORD, are good and ready
To forgive, keep me steady
You plenteous in mercy to
All who call on you anew

Give ear, LORD, to my prayer, do hear
Attend to me here, draw near
In my troubles I will on you
Call, you all my state do view
Among the gods there are none who
Are like you or act like you
For you the LORD reign evermore
Your rule is eternal, sure

All nations whom you have here made
Shall come to you, and arrayed

Before you, they worship shall give
To you who do ever live
And your name they shall glorify
They confess you, not deny
That you are great, and do great things
And wonders, all to you sings

Rapturous Return

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Redeemer/Jehovah')

1 Thessalonians 4 v.15 - 5 v.6 parts

The day of the Lord, His return
We look for it, for it yearn
Turn our hearts Lord to you, while still
We have choice and we have will
Then all dead in Christ shall rise first
All rejoice then, praise outburst
Praise outburst!
All rejoice then, praise outburst

For the Lord Himself shall descend
Fulfil His kingdom, no end
Descend from heaven with a shout
It be His return, no doubt
And with voice of the archangel
And loud trumpet of God's call
Of God's call!
And loud trumpet of God's call

Then we who are alive, remain
On this earth, shall see again
Our loved ones, for we shall be caught
Up with them, all Christ's blood-bought
Meeting with them in the clouds high
Meeting with the Lord e'er nigh
Lord e'er nigh!
Meeting with the Lord e'er nigh

So for ever blessed eternal
Ever with the Lord, and all

Who are in Christ, so great comfort
This our glad portion, our lot
On with patience, perseverance
'Til that day dawns on us hence
On us hence!
'Til that day dawns on us hence

Living now as children of light
Do that pleasing in God's sight
We are not of night or darkness
But are of God's light, no less
Watching, waiting, hoping, praying
Ever joyful, praises ring
Praises ring!
Ever joyful, praises ring

Teach Me, I Trust

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 143 v.7-11

LORD, hear me speedily
Look on my troubles, see
My spirit fails, your face not hide
From me, I none beside

None beside you have I
O help me, come draw night
Cause me to hear you kindness, speak
To me, I lowly, meek

In you I trust, cause me
To know your way daily
My soul I lift to you, save me
From every enemy

I refuge find in you
Teach me, LORD, your will true
Show me how it to do, pleasing
Unto you in each thing

Revive me, LORD, and bring
Me to safety, I sing
Of your righteousness, justice, fair
You do it with me share

Excellence Expression

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Psalm 36 v.4-12

Your mercy, O LORD, it be
In the heavens, it we see
Your faithfulness it does reach
To the clouds, we you beseech
You for your help, graciously
Come to us and help e'en me

Your righteousness is like great
Mountains, and on you we wait
Your judgements are a great deep
ocean, you your people keep
You do preserve man and beast
All from north, south, west, and east

How excellent, how precious
Your loving-kindness to us
O God! Therefore we people
Put our trust in you total
Under shadow of your wings
There each resides, to you sings

Your people abundantly
Satisfied by you shall be
With the fullness that you give
Trusting in you, they shall live
You shall make them drink e'ermore
River of your pleasures pure

For with you is the fountain

Of life, we see light again
For in your light we see light
Revealed clearly to our sight
O continue, loving, kind
To us, your graces we find

And continue righteousness
To the upright, do them bless
We shall follow on humbly
Not with man's proud ways agree
They shall fall and not arise
But your love for us ne'er dies

Inspiring Invocation

Tune: Ode To Joy

('Joyful, joyful we adore thee')

Based on a Collect = Formal Prayer

Words in italics are the words of the Collect,
as close as I can get to them to the original.

O God, from whom all holy desires

All good counsels, you inspire

And all just works from you proceed

Prayers of your people you heed

Give unto your servants that peace

That shall never end or cease

That peace which the world, it cannot

Give unto us, nor allot

Thus may our hearts be to you set

To obey your commands yet

And that we being delivered

From our enemies we feared

So to pass our time here in rest

And quietness, by you blessed

We ask [this] for love of your Son sure

Jesus Christ, who reigns e'ermore.

Peaceful Pursuits

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Forgive me, Lord, I lose your peace
When frustrations and fears increase
Help me to set, focus on you
The source of eternal peace true

Knowing you in life, your purpose
You do show and reveal to us
Whether it be what we would choose
Or what it be, from your best views

Things we would do, but now may not
Be able to do, that our lot
Or things new, different paths to take
To serve you well for your name's sake

Help us your time to wait, so then
It shall be the right time, for when
You so appoint, as in your plan
For every child, woman, and man

Show us way through where dark it seems
Give light from your radiant beams
Thus settled, not cause others stress
For your intent is us to bless

And peace retained, your comfort gained
Where we may have ourselves stressed, pained
But onwards with your grace now still
To seek to know, do your good will

Stepping Stones 2

Tune: Penlan

('In heavenly love abiding')

Lord, for us provide daily
lead us along your way
Whate'er in life does befall
Us, help us trust you all
Come to us, give us your grace
For what we today face
Work it for good, your purpose
Your love still surround us

What trial or temptation
You know them, every one
The things of body, soul, mind
And spirit, that we find
Progressing on life's journey
May you our Saviour be
Accepting your salvation
Open to each nation

Give us too peace, that we grow
In you, your wisdom know
Whether life rough or smooth be
Or comparatively
At ease we be, while others
Suffer, sisters, brothers
Or if our own load heavy
You our strength, help e'er be

Knowing you human nature
Took, with divine stature
With mankind identified

You have not us denied
Man of sorrows and of joys
Yet free from sin's alloys
Your Spirit will us sustain
Blessings in you we gain

Servant Sacrificed

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to 'Jesus where'er thy people meet')

1 Peter 2 v.21-25

Christ suffered for us, example
That we should follow, and recall
His life laid down, and paid the price
For our sins, it does full suffice

He did not sin, neither was guile
Found in His mouth, and no revile
He did not take up in return
Nor threaten with accusings stern

But when He suffered, committed
Himself to God, by Him e'er led
He the One, judges righteously
Justice would be the outcome, see

Christ in His own self bore our sins
That we forgiven, cleansed within
May be by his atoning blood
His offering, a flowing flood

His life given upon the tree
The cross, He died for you and me
And rose again, He strong to save
His work, no less, His life He gave

That we then to sins being dead
Should hold to Him, our living Head
And so live unto righteousness
By His stripes we healed, we confess

For we were as sheep gone astray
But now has come salvation's day
For now we are returned unto
Shepherd, Bishop of our souls true

Benign Blessings

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

Psalm 5 v.11-12

Let those that trust you rejoice
They have made you their choice
Let them shout for joy, you be
Their great defender, see

Let them that do love your name
Rejoice in you, the same
Yesterday, today, ever
You unfaithful never

You Lord the righteous will bless
Your good name they confess
With favour as a shield you
Surround them, them renew

Saints Shining

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

For All Saints Day - Nov. 1st.

Shine bright you saints, by Christ you sanctified
Redeemed by Him, for you he suffered, died
And rose again, to Him be full allied
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Through trials and troubles, serving for His sake
All believers unto Him He does take
A people for His glory He does make
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Assist us by your grace, Spirit impart
Your good gifts to us, fill us every part
To follow you, engaging all our heart
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For your plan to change us to your image
Empower, grant us faith, love, and courage
Blessed be we with a goodly heritage
Alleluia, Alleluia!

By grace we members of our Captain's band
All brought about by His almighty hand
We saved and redeemed out of every land
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Victorious Light, dawn ever on our sight
And chase away all gloominess and night
Your saints, your servants, shining always bright
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Inspire us with your hope, to carry on
And by faithful saints, before us have gone
'Til all shall meet up, all one in your Son
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gone sorrow, pain, all death and mourning o'er
When all gathered on the eternal shore
No evil, we with you for evermore
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Holy Habituations

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Jude 1 v.20-21

You here, the beloved
This earthly path you tread
Build you yourselves upon
Faith in God's one true Son

It a faith most holy
With no defilement see
And pray in the Holy
Spirit, empowered be

Keep yourselves in the love
Of God, He reigns above
And by His Spirit dwells
In our hearts, our tongue tells

Looking for the mercy
Of our Lord, for he be
Our Lord Jesus Christ who
Gives eternal life new

Servant Sureties

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Isaiah 42 v.1-12 parts

Repeat lines as shown

I am the LORD, that is my name

A name of endless fame (x2)

My glory will I not give, share

With those who idols fare (x3)

Behold, former things, they are past

They not for ever last (x2)

New things I do declare, the LORD

They spring forth at my word (x3)

Sing you to the LORD a new song

And joyful praise prolong (x2)

Praise Him to ends of earth and seas

With truth His word agrees (x3)

Let the deserts and too cities

Lift up voice, make their pleas (x2)

All world's inhabitants where'er

You be, make praises there (x3)

Let them His name now glorify

He the LORD, He is nigh (x2)

He has His servant sent, His Son

Redeeming work has done (x3)

A bruised reed He shall break never

Shall not snap it ever (x2)

And smoking flax He shall quench not

But shall revive its lot (x3)

He shall bring judgement and justice

Unto truth, sure is this (x2)

He shall not fail, nor shall He be

Discouraged, constant He (x3)

Mission Ministry

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Spirit of God, eternal flame
And holy is your name
Turn us to you, come hear our prayer
That we your goodness share

Come help, revive, restore, forgive
For 'tis through you we live
A unity, the Father, Son
And Spirit, Three in One

Equip, inspire, th gospel to
Spread with all folk in view
Evangelise the message plain
Resound the true refrain

'Til one day new heavens and earth
By you be brought to birth
You reign through all eternity
Unfettered, wholesome, free

This your plan, purpose in your love
Teach us Spirit, pure dove
Of Christ's love for a lost mankind
In you life all may find

For His death, then rising again
Forgiveness for all men (humankind)
And life eternal, promise sure
We dwell with Him e'ermore

Exalting Encouragement

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 99

The LORD reigns, let people
Tremble, [be]'fore Him fall
He sits [be]'tween cherubim
There be none like Him
And let the earth be moved
His power He has proved
The LORD in Zion great
He of royal state

He high above all people
Let them praise, and call
On His name, it awesome
And holy, here come
To Him, He strong in power
He loves judgement each hour
Equity, righteousness
He does to us bless

The LORD our God exalt
He without a fault
Worship at His footstool we
For He is holy
Moses, Aaron among
His priests, let praise be sung
Samuel midst them who call
On His great name all

They called to Him, He heard
Tended to their word

Spake from cloudy pillar
They did to Him stir
Kept His commands, statutes
And showed forth His good fruits
In lives that did obey
And follow His way

You answered, LORD, your people
Forgave, heard their call
Though you did take vengeance
On evil deeds thence
So the LORD God exalt
He holy, without fault
Here at His holy hill
Seek now His good will

Trusting Truly

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the LORD shall, see
As the strong mount Zion be
Which cannot be moved, but e'er stays
Firm through endless days

As the mountains that do surround
Jerusalem, so around
His people is the LORD for e'er
He does leave them ne'er

For the wicked's works shall not rest
On the righteous who are blessed
Or else they would fall into sin
It would be therein

But the LORD will keep them, and do
Good to those who are good, true
And to those who in their hearts be
Upright sincerely

Those who turn unto crooked ways
And do not His great name praise
He will lead them away, but peace
On Israel ne'er cease

Light Leadings 2

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Lord, light of the world, in you we see light
Come dawn on our sight and scatter the night
All darkness be gone, shine forth as noon-day sun
Rejoice in His glory, worship now each one

We praise your great name, it faithful and true
And you do your people still here renew
Give grace, strength, and all we need to follow you
By faith ever focusing keep you in view

We be your people, guide us through all days
And in mission that others know your ways
Sharing you, we to the world as salt and light
Reveal unto all your salvation's delight

So songs we shall sing, you our Lord and King
May worthy offerings we to you bring
Your promise to be with us, Spirit abide
Fill us here each day and in our hearts reside

All-Powerful Procession

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Psalm 24

Chorus

Be lifted up, entry gates

The King of glory waits

To come into His city

A great procession be

You are the King of glory

The earth, LORD, it all be

Yours, and too all its fullness

With your gifts you it bless - Chorus

The world, and all who dwell in

It, He knows them, each kin

He the Creator of all

His wonders we recall - Chorus

For He made seas and dry land

All fashioned by His hand

And so who shall there ascend

His hill, His matters tend? - Chorus

They that have clean hands, pure heart

They not from Him depart

Have not followed vanity

Nor sworn deceitfully - Chorus

Such shall His blessing receive

They trust Him the believe

Righteousness and salvation

The LORD gives to each one - Chorus

Who is the King of glory?

The LORD of hosts He be

Strong and mighty in battle

He Victor, conquers all - Chorus

Overarching Omnipotence

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Psalm 76

In Judah is God known, His name
Is great, it e'er the same
And too in Israel, [Jeru]Salem be
His tabernacle, see

For in [Mount] Zion is His dwelling*
He be the Lord and King
There He does break weapons of war
They shall learn it no more

You Lord more glorious, excel
You above mountains, tell
We of your greatness and your might
Enemies flee your sight

You, only you, are to be feared
Who have to us appeared
Who may stand before you when you
Are angry, none can do

You caused your judgements to be heard
From heaven, earth it feared
And it was still, when God arose
To save meek from their foes

Surely the wrath of man shall praise
You, and shall worship raise
And the remainder of wrath shall
You restrain fair and well

Here bring your vows and presents to
The LORD, He God to you
He awesome to all here below
And heavenly hosts too know

*Mount Zion - the mount on which Jerusalem is built

Redemption Remembrances

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Has one laid down their life for all mankind?
And rose again, who midst all can we find?
One who has done such noble deed, such task
Who has done all that His Father did ask?

Yes, it be Christ, the Son of God He be
Who for our salvation He did such, see
Hope of forgiveness and life eternal
His gracious promise to who on Him call

We do remember, and Communion
Share, bread and wine, your redemption work done
And too remember all who served country
To maintain liberty, both strong and free

In lives laid down, or little deaths we die
In unselfishness, ways we self-deny
So in losing our life for your sake, Lord
We then our life find, so does say your word

Grant us courage, examples do inspire
To fight sin, evil, desires never tire
Spirit empower, and your kingdom come
Your will be done, and make our hearts your home

Beneficent Bread

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

John 6 v.26-36 parts

Labour not for food physical
So much as spiritual
Food, which endures for ever
in short supply never
It to e'rlasting life endures
From boundless treasure-stores
Christ, Son of man shall give to you
The living bread and true

For God th Father has Christ sealed
In His purpose has willed
That Christ be the bread of heaven
To satisfy us then
He the one came from above
To us here in His love
He gives life to all the world
His plan to all unfurled

He is the bread of life, and who
Do come to Him anew
Shall never hunger, never thirst
They e blessed and not cursed
All who do on Him believe
Forgiveness shall receive
If turning from sins, penitent
Life to the repentant

Come to us Lord, give us this bread
And be our living Head

Help us put you first, the food
You give us, it be good
And so sustained, by grace growing
Thankful for everything
Which you provide, each day fed
By you, the living bread

Gone To Glory - In Memory of J.W.

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Glad soul, leave vale of tears (this world)
The Lord to you appears
Enter your glory-home
To where you now have come
Bright splendours of eternal day
Where all of night has passed away

When here, you played your part
The Spirit in your heart
Faithful, gentle, and pure
Your Lord you did adore
Your Lord and King and Saviour, he
None other than Christ Jesus be

Though us here left behind
Christ's comfort we may find
Our sorrow it not be
As the world's sorrow, see
For one day, e'en soon, all shall meet
Around the King of glory's feet

O hope of all mankind
None else we can e'er find
Who does bring salvation
To all of each nation
Help us Lord by faith, to you turn
And your will and ways to discern

Trusting Times 2

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalm 118 v.4-8

Let them now that do the LORD fear
Say now, for He is near
That His mercy endures for e'er
And in it all may share

I called on the LORD in distress
He answered, did me bless
He set me in a large place sure
Me comforts did restore

The LORD is on my side, I will
Not fear man's plans for ill
That they would seek to do to me
Safe in the LORD I be

The LORD takes my part with those who
Do help me, loyal, true
So I shall see my desire on
They who hate me, each one

It is better to trust the LORD
In Him and in His word
Than in man to put confidence
The LORD will help us hence

Here middle verse of Bible be*
A centrality, see
By faith our trust will thus prove He
Keeps us eternally

*Psalm 118 v.8

Bride And Groom

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

The Lord did come, a Bride He sought
He obtained it, blood-bought
For through His Son He paid the price
Of our sins, all-suffice (all-sufficient)

He is the Groom, we are His Bride
The Church, He does reside
By His Spirit within our hearts
Comes to possess all parts

Help us learn, love, be faithful spouse
We of your church, your house
You our husband, yet Father too
Your people you renew

You would come, care, redeem each one
Who does trust in your Son
For forgiveness and salvation
Eternal life [to] each one

Warm Welcome

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu, lover of my soul')

Why should you love me, O Lord?
Yet you do say by your word
All who come to you, you shall
Them receive, they shall fare well
Putting faith and trust in you
You each, every heart do view
Look upon me, and forgive
By your pardon I do live

Why, what need of all mankind?
We all sure in Christ may find
Pardon for our sins, Christ paid
He for us His life down laid
Help us Lord, not miss your way
We are your witnesses, pray
We for souls to come to you
Find in you their life anew

Onward, focusing here sure
On your mercies evermore
Show us your love, grace, that we
Temples of your Spirit be
To know your will, every one
Your plans for us through your Son
Redeemed by Him, we Him praise
Thankful to Him all our days

Lord Now Let.....

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Luke 2 v.29-32

Nunc Dimittis, Lord, Now dismiss
Your servant, for 'tis bliss
I Simeon, Christ-child have seen
Promise fulfilled has been

Promise of Christ, His salvation
Come unto each nation
So now let me your servant leave
Depart, for I believe

Depart in peace, so according
To your word, you did bring
Lord, to the world your salvation
For humankind, each one

You prepared Him before the face
Of all people, by grace
That all may see Him, He a light
Unto the Gentiles sight

And He the glory He sure be
Of your people, they see
Your people Israel they know
Lord you revealed Christ so

People Plea

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus in thy dear Sacrament')

Psalm 90 v.12-17

Teach us, LORD, to number our days
To follow you always
That we our hearts to wisdom turn
And so of you we learn

Return, LORD, and have compassion
See us all here, each one
How long shall it be, remember
Unto us again stir

O satisfy us early here
May your mercy appear
That we may rejoice and be glad
All our days, not e'er sad

Make us glad we pray, according
To troubles you did bring
And the evils of affliction
Seen by us, each have some

Let your works unto your servants
Bee seen, and they you sense
Show your glory and beauty bright
Of everlasting light

Establish our works firm and sure
They shall last evermore
By your good hand upholding all
Help us trust, we not fall

So here in man's life, mortal, small
Compared to you, o'er all
You do live and reign, yet are nigh
And hear our prayer and cry

Birds Beneficiencies

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

You birds who sit aloft, high
Or church steeple fly by
You rest a while, and e'en you
Are welcome too, 'tis true
For even sparrows find house
In church, with tiny mouse
They shall be in harmony
For God does dwell there, see

You look o'er graveyards, where lay
Saints faithful in their day
And memories and moments
That ne'er do depart hence
O what your musings, your songs?
You join the heavenly throngs
Of angels, and all on earth
To give your Maker worth

'Neath your wings 'tis a building
Church, which from praises ring
Praising the Lord and Saviour
His praise fades not one hour
You humble creatures, sing you
Join your voices anew
With humans to glorify
The One who ne'er shall die

All things do surely Him praise
Throughout their length of days
In wisdom He has made all

And hears who on Him call
Give us grace to conserve, see
Your care-takers we be
Appointed by you to serve
Though nothing we deserve

Saying, Doing, Living

Tune: Sussex

(slower tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Colossians 3 v.23 & 4 v.2-6

Continue in prayer, be watching
In the same with thanksgiving
Live wisely among all people
Glorifying God in all

Redeem the time, it now waste not
Make most of appointed lot
Let your speech be always with grace
That others your meekness trace

Speak with grace, and seasoned with salt
Not promoting blame or fault
But be wise, that you may know how
To answer each person now

Whatsoever you do, so do
It heartily, even you
Do it as to the Lord, not men
What does please Him once again

Bread, Jam, and Knife

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Inspired by a still-life painting by S.W.

Bread of life, you e'er us sustain
Salvation through you we gain
Simplest elements, bread and wine
Show your life human, divine
Your life given that we may live
And unto you praise give

That bread we eat, often daily
Your providings do we see
You give food and drink physical
And in realm spiritual
Jam to spread on bread, sweet, tasty
Appetising it sure be

Sweetness of your love here conveyed
You Christ for our sins have paid
You came at right time, not delayed
Here your graces are displayed
Guard our lives from bitter, sour
And too much salt, every hour

Knife to spread the jam on slices
Of bread, so it suffices
Our hunger, we eat, are fulfilled
Cravings, greediness is stilled
So help us, Lord, satisfaction
To find sure through Christ your Son

Anna of a Thousand Days

Just call me Anna
Related to Anne Boleyn that is
Anna of a Thousand Days!
Posting me 1,000th poem on this site today!

Mind you, I'm her twin sister
With me imaginary barking dog, Fido!
I'm very eccentric too
The dog's very famous, ya know
He barks, reads, and writes
I should be a millionaire by now -
If he was not non-existent!

Ohh, and me whisky-watering too
And moments of nuttiness
How did ya bear with me a thousand days?!
Well, Goldie and I - and you too?
Have been around since before 1066
(Battle of Hastings, England, UK)
We were both in it, ya know!

Poor old Anne, me twin sister
Came to a sorry end
I remember her going to the dress shop with her hubby Henry (VIII)
The assistant said to King Henry:
"We've not got a lot of stock left
What with you keep chopping and changing!" (geddit?)*

Cheers! Here's to another 1,000 days!
With a tippie for us all -
With water added, of course! lol.

Sshh - don't tell anyone

About me non-existent cat too - Tiddles

She is in the clip somewhere!

* I saw a cartoon of Henry VIII and one of his wives in a dress shop in a Caption Competition.
I won the prize of a print, with the caption as above.

Righteous Relationships

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

John 15 v.12-17

Lord, this your commandment it be
That we love one another, see
As you have loved us, love us still
Through all our times of good and ill
Greater love has no one than this
Than lay down their life, no more is

No more is greater than to lay
Down life for friends, 'tis finest day
They can attain to, and we be
Your friends Lord, if obediently
We do whatever you command
Sent unto us by your good hand

You call us not now servants, for
Servants not know what their lord sure
Does do, but you have called us friends
For your grace each to us attends
For all things you from Father heard
you have made known to us, each word

We have not chosen you, but you
Have chosen us, ordained us too
That we should go and bring forth fruit
And that it remain, have good root
With you the vine, we the branches
Productive through you, who u bless

That whatsoever we may ask

Of the Father, small or great task
Ask in your name, Jesus, and He
The Father shall be pleased, agree
To give it us, so you command
Us love one another, [so] we stand

Humility Before Honour

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Luke 14 v.7-11

Choose not highest place when invite
You receive with delight
To wedding or some noble feast
Take then place which is least

For if in pride or selfishness
You think of others less
Than you in your self-importance
Your end shall be low stance

For host shall come and say to you
This other man do view
He more honourable than you
So take low place, please do

Then shame, embarrassment you know
For you set yourself so
In a high place, now you are seen
By all as a 'has-been'!

If taking low place, host shall say
Friend, go higher this day
Then worship, glory, it shall be
Accounted to you, see

For others there shall recognise
Your honesty, no lies
Your humility, exalted
Now you be, at feast fed

Praise, Praise, and more Praise

Tune: Nettleton

('Come thou fount of every blessing')

Psalm 146 v.1-2

Praise the LORD, O my soul, Him praise
Unto Him joyful songs raise
While I live I will praise the LORD
He faithful, true to His word
While I have any being I
Shall myself to Him ally
And still praise Him, He my God sure
Even now and evermore

Psalm 145 v.8-10

The LORD gracious, with compassion
Kindly looks upon each one
Slow to anger, of great mercy
And good unto all is He
All your works, O LORD, shall praise you
Your saints shall bless you anew
Here we find your welcome waiting
Songs of praises to you sing

Psalm 147 v.5-6

Great the LORD is, and He of great
Power, recedes not one hour
His understanding infinite
Dwells in endless realms of light
The LORD sees, does lift up the meek
Those humble, they do Him seek
But wicked He casts to the ground
No blessing for them is found

Psalm 150 parts

Praise the LORD in [His] sanctuary

Praise Him earth and sea and sky

For He has created all things

Will accept the praise each brings

Praise Him each instrument in tune

And with voices day, night, noon

All that has breath, all things living

Hallelujah, to Him sing!

Communion Considerations

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Lord, in whate'er season we
Physically or spiritually
[We] Partake of your bread and wine
They be elements rich and fine
Of your body given for me
And your blood outpoured too I see

Saved by your grace, not our own
Doing, you atone, you alone
Putting faith in Christ your Son
Son of God, saving work has done
Living, died on cross ,rose again
Saviour to all, unto all men (mankind)

I shall trust and here partake
Of this feast you for us here make
Not cast off nor turned away
You do invite all, you the Way
And the Truth and Life you 'er be
Now and through all eternity

Wondrous hope, help us to share
Evangelise your gospel fair
So that all salvation know
And more in your image, Christ, grow
Your love shown here, help us love you
More, strengthen us for service too

Beknown Bridges

Tune: Coelites Plaudant

('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

Lord, if our journey be along river banks
Here contemplate a while, and my give you thanks
For your glories of creation thus displayed
In your beauties arrayed

Locating now a bridge, but gain no entry
For 'tis all boarded up, we may not go, see
On that turning, forbidden that way it be
Not public pathway free

It be a mystical bridge, o'erladen
With tree branches grown, they the bridge o'ershaden
For to set foot there is trespass, penalty
Prosecution shall be

So friends, adhere to Christ, the Life, Truth, and Way
His Way ever leading to eternal day
He the bridge 'tween God and man, the gap has filled
E'en as His Father willed

It shall be life and health, kept from harm, danger
You shall not be lost sheep, nor careless ranger
For Christ, good Shepherd, He leads His people sure
In good paths evermore

Spiritual Stone

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

1 Peter 2 v.4-10 parts

It is written in the scripture
I lay in Sion stone sure
A chief corner stone, it chosen
Precious it be, now, since when
It was laid, and who do believe
Comfort, not shame, shall receive

To you therefore who do believe
Christ is precious, no deceive
But to those who do not obey
They do stumble in the way
For that stone ,that rock to them be
Stone of offence, stumbling, see

But you believers are, as one
A chosen generation
A royal priesthood, a holy
Nation, even so you be
And God's special people, that you
Should show His praises anew

The praises of the LORD, for He
Has called you from darkness, we
Called into His marvellous light
Radiant beams banish night
One time we were not a people
Now we be God's people all

And one time we had not obtained

Mercy, not kindness unfeigned
Btu now have obtained God's mercy
Praise and honour to Him be
Built on Christ, the chief corner stone
Salvation in Him alone

Advent Awareness

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, He comes with clouds descending')

Revelation 1 v.5-8

Jesus Christ, the faithful witness
Ever be and ever is
He first-begotten of the dead
Now lives e'er, our living Head
Ruler over al things
Ruler over all things
Ruler over all things
His eternal peace He brings

Unto Him that loved us and us saved
He the way to God has paved
And has washed us from our sins in
His own blood, cleansed us within
To Him be the glory
To Him be the glory
To Him be the glory
And dominion lastingly

Behold, he comes with the clouds, then
Every eye shall see Him when
He returns to the earth again
To gather out of all men (mankind)
All who Him as Saviour
All whom Him as Saviour
All whom Him as Saviour
Accept, and death be no more

Then shall they who pierced Him wonder
Kindreds shall mourn, and shall stir

For He seen of all now, it be
According to His plans, see
Christ as Lord here reigning
Christ as Lord here reigning
Christ as Lord here reigning
We Him humble tributes bring

He is Alpha and Omega
Beginning and ending sure
The Lord, He who is, and who was
And is to come, lives He does
The Lord God Almighty
The Lord God Almighty
The Lord God Almighty
Endless glory to Him be

Restoration Revealed

Tune: Merton

('Hark! A herald voice is calling')

Luke 8 v.41-42 & v.49-56

Pain and anguish, Jairus approached
Jesus, he was not reproached
Besought Him for his daughter ill
To heal her and his fears still

For his only daughter she lay
Dying, twelve years was her day* (*age)
Lord, come help before it too late
Patiently we for you wait

Later Jesus, He did there meet
Jairus' friends who did him greet
With sad news, his daughter had died
What more now can be applied?

But Jesus to Jairus did say
Fear not, believe, this the way
And your daughter shall be made whole
Though death seems her life has stole

Jesus. Peter, James, and John they
With the girl's parents did pray
At the bedside, Christ said, Weep not
This shall turn to happy lot

In compassion He touched her hand
Said, Maid, arise, broke death's band
And her spirit did come again
She did rise from her bed then

All astonished, wonder and awe
Parents saved from troubles sore
Lord have mercy, inspire us so
To believe, and in faith grow

Portion Promise

Tune: Everton

('Son of God, eternal Saviour')

Psalm 73 v.23-28

You, LORD, with me, I with you be
By your grace continually
You have held my by my right hand
In you I not fall, but stand
You shall guide me with your counsel
It comes from your wisdom all
Then afterwards shall me receive
To your glory, I believe

Whom have I in heaven but you?
Only God and only true
And there none on earth i desire
Besides you, I you admire
My flesh and my ehart do fail me
But God strength of my heart be
He is my portion for ever
Promise to leave me never

For they that are far from Him shall
Perish, and shall not do well
He shall destroy those unfaithful
Whose hearts are set on evil
But it is good for me to draw
Near to God, he will help sure
I have put my trust in the Lord
GOD, and tell His works and words

Advent Approachings

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Matthew 3 v.1-3 and Isaiah 40 v.3-5

John Baptist came, preaching in Judea
Attend your ears, the message hear
Repent you, for the kingdom sure
Of God is near, e'en at the door

Chorus

Repent! Repent! The gospel message hear
The time of Christ's return draws near

For this is He that was spoken
Of the prophet Isaiah, one
Who would cry in the wilderness
Turn unto God, He will you bless - Chorus

Prepare you the way of the Lord
And hasten to hear of His word
Make straight in desert a highway
For soon would come salvation's day - Chorus

A highway for our God, He be
Present in Christ His Son, now see
Every valley shall be upraised
The Lord's name worthy to be praised - Chorus

Every mountain hill, shall be made low
Unto the Lord pure worship flow
Crooked places shall be made straight
Rough places be made smooth not late - Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall
Be revealed and all shall know well
For all humankind they shall see
The Lord has spoken, so it be - Chorus

Provisions Promises

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 41 parts

Blessed they that do help the poor
The LORD will help them sure
Will deliver them in time
Of trouble, their life's rhyme
Shall know His hand, His guiding
They praise to Him shall bring
He will preserve such, and will keep
Alive, His humble sheep

They shall be blessed on the earth
Who give the poor their worth
Where they can tend to needy
And have resources, see
To bring some of God's comfort
They needy souls have sought
Enemies shall not o'er them win
Nor cause their fall in sin

The LORD will help us when we
In need or sickness be
Where such have looked on lowly
To aid, from burdens free
He will bring strength and healing
Restoring, we shall sing
Again of His love, mercies
With this His grace agrees

By this I know you favour
When my enemies stir

They shall not triumph o'er me
For you my Saviour be
Blessed be your name e'erlasting
Lord God of everything
Amen, all heaven and earth say
you reign now and alway

Littleness of Life

Tune: Mannheim

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 39 v.4-7

LORD, I be small, but you are great
And you know all my state
Make me to know measure of days
That I have, an to trust always
Hope in what your word says
Hope in what your word says

My days as a hand-breadth they be
Small as a span, I see
My age is as nothing before
You, who do live for evermore
Faithful and strong and sure
Faithful and strong and sure

Truly each one at best is small
As vain, as vapour all
Living as a shadow, disquiet
They have, and unrest in their heart
Help us, LORD, not depart
Help us, LORD, not depart

Not depart from you, you will hold
Keep your sheep in your fold
Though weak and frail compared to you
You strengthen us, empower, renew
We hope in you, e'er true
We hope in you, e'er true

Your Kingdom Come....

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

Micah 4 v.1-5 & 5 v.2

In last days it shall come to be
The mountain of the LORD, see
Mount of His house shall be made high
Established with no deny

On the top of mountains it shall
Be, and all shall know it well
Exalted above the hills, then
Peoples shall flow to it, men* (*mankind)

Humankind of many nations
Of all backgrounds and stations
Shall say, Come let us up mount go
And we thus the LORD shall know

He will teach us, His house, Temple
'Tis a house of prayer for all
And we will walk in His paths for
From [Mount] Zion shall go His law

And His word from Jerusalem
Shall go forth, and be to them
As their guidance, and the LORD shall
Judge, His enemies shall fall

He shall rebuke nations strong for
He Judge unto every shore
Swords they shall beat into plowshares
To gather good wheat midst tares* (*weeds)

And spears beat into pruning knives
Time of His harvest arrives
Nation shall not lift up sword for
They shall then learn war no more

But they shall sit under their vine
Picture be of bliss divine
And under their fig tree they bide
In the Lord's love, peace, reside

For the LORD of hosts has this said
Though each walk by their god led
But we shall walk in the name sure
Of the LORD our God e'ermore

Bethlehem, though little you be
Yet shall come a Ruler free
From you, the Christ-child who has been
From e'erlasting time foreseen

Preparing Prompts

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a herald voice is sounding')

Malachi 3 v.1-4 & 4 v.5-6

The LORD's messenger he was sent
John Baptist, he cried, Repent
Came to prepare way of LORD sure
To bring His reign evermore

He messenger of covenant
The gospel unto us meant
To show good news of salvation
Unto each, every nation

He John did come, and did refine
As 'second Elijah' fine
Repentance preached, that's God's people
Righteous offering to Him be

So may we turn to you, our hearts
Seek to know you, in all parts
Paths made straight, forgiven, restored
May we follow you, our Lord

Messenger's Mission

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Mark 1 v.2-11

John Baptist, he the messenger
With folk at river did confer
The messenger, he sent before
The Lord, who would appear for sure

In wilderness his cry it be
Prepare you the Lord's way, and see
You make paths straight to walk therein
And be baptised and confess sin

A baptism of repentance
For forgiveness of sins he thence
Preached at River Jordan, and they
Prepared for the Lord in their day

John clothed with camel's hair, and wore
A girdle, leather belt, and store
Of locusts, wild honey he ate
Faithfully the Lord's word did state

Saying, There comes one mightier
Than I after me, so offer
You worship to Him, for I be
Not worthy His shoe to loose, see

I have baptised you with water
Ready for the Lord, your hearts stir
For He shall baptise you, believe
The Holy Spirit then receive

And Jesus from Nazareth came
To John at Jordan, and He same
As those there, John baptised Him too
Spirit as a dove they did view

For He did on Jesus descend
And God's voice heard, it did attend
Saying, You are my beloved Son
In whom I am well pleased, the One

Full Focus

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Do you see Him in a manger there?
In stable He did share
With cattle, lowly in their stalls
Yet He the Lord of all
The Babe of Bethlehem is He
And now good hope have we
For He the Dayspring on our sight
Has dawned and brought us light

Do you see Him walk upon earth?
He of the virgin birth
Mary, she was His mother mild
Jesus Christ He her child
And God His Father ever be
He brought salvation free
Unto all who do to Him turn
And of Him each day learn

Do you see Him upon the cross?
To so redeem our loss
The Lamb of God, for sinners slain
Enduring death and pain
Look kindly on us, Lord, we pray
Take all our sins away
'Tis solely by your blood alone
You do for us atone

Do you see Him risen again?
A Saviour for all men (mankind)
Overcame death, no more to die

Our redemption now nigh
Help us to trust, put confidence
In you and go forth hence
Enabled by your Spirit's power
To serve you every hour

May our full focus ever be
On you Lord, only see
You, and your will an ways to know
your words and deeds to show
Not distracted, nor earth-bound stay
But always watch and pray
We see you by faith now, yet sure
Shall see your face e'ermore

Melodic Memories

Tune: Ash Grove

(Sent forth by God's blessing')

Adapted with permission from poem

'Meltham's Reverent Son' by Alan S. Jeeves

Away in Yorkshire's bounds

Within the Pennine Hills

A piece between the valleys and the rivers

Obscure in Yorkshire's grounds

With ghosts of ancient mills

In every way the ambience delivers

To live there as a child

Amidst the moors and woods

To thrive within a place where nature nurtures

To learn Nurtura's truth

And thankful for her goods

To worship in the many parish churches

To sing beside the choir

With family and friends

To be there and to be stronger than the test

To range within the flock

And then wind back the clock

And envisage how your bygone days were blessed

To win your daily crust

Continues your story

Governed by so many salient factors

Bestow family's trust

Where there craftsman's glory

Applying special skills creating tractors

But die of life was cast

As often is the case

The font of man's employment peeléd its knell
The good days did not last
Disappeared without trace
Hark, the tolling of the futile, closing bell
Though from ashes of past
A reflection remains
To celebrate the rich gemstone in the hills
A time when now, at last
Poignant thought one retains
Everything, all that anamnesis instills

Returning Ruler

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come, thou long-expected Jesus')

Luke 21 v.25-28

At Christ's second coming, return
There be signs that we can learn
Signs in sun, and moon, and stars too
Help us Lord those signs to view

Upon the earth shall be distress
Of nations, turmoil no less
They perplexed, and sea's waves roaring
You shall full your kingdom bring

People's hearts be failing from fear
for looking on those things near
And which are to soon come on earth
Yet of praise you still are worth

The powers of heaven shall be
Shaken, and then all shall see
The Son of Man coming in cloud
With power, glory endowed

When those things begin to happen
Look up, and be joyful then
For your redemption it draws nigh
End of every mournful sigh

Discourse of Diligence

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

Search my heart this day I pray
Lord, and see if any way
Displeasing to you, forgive
And so I shall live

Preparing for your return
Help us live and love and learn
Ever near the day draws near
When you shall appear

Bringing reign of justice true
By your grace make all anew
Peace and mildness, harmony
We shall fully see

Light our way, light of the world
Your will to us be unfurled
You seeking us, we seeking you
That will for to do

Help unto the penitent
You have given, you have sent
Christ your Son us to redeem
Dayspring's saving beam

Meditate a while heart, still
Mind from troubled thoughts and ill
Peace pervade, find your rest full
In the Lord of all

'Til it seen that you sure reign
End of mourning, weeping, pain
Death no more, earth's vale of tears
Final[ly] disappears

Spiritual Stone

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

1 Peter 2 v.4-10 parts

It is written in the Scriptures
I lay in Sion stone sure
A chief corner stone, it chosen
Precious it be now, since when
It was laid, and who do believe
Comfort, not shame, shall receive

To you therefore who do believe
Christ is precious, no deceive
But to those who do not obey
They do stumble in the way
For that stone, that rock to them be
Stone of offence, stumbling, see

But you believers are, as one
A chosen generation
A royal priesthood, a holy
Nation, even so you be
And God's special people, that you
Should show His praises anew

The praises of the Lord, for He
Has called you from darkness, we
Called into His marvellous light
Radiant beams banish night
One time we were not a people
Now we be God's people all

And one time we had not obtained

Mercy, nor kindness un feigned
But now have obtained God's mercy
Praise and honour to Him be
Built on Christ, the chief corner-stone
Salvation in Him alone

Assistance for Advent

Tune: Bristol

('Hark, the glad sound')

Help us, Lord, our ears to attune
For your return be soon
Once came as babe, a manger small
Shall return Lord of all

Where unprepared, give grace in need
That we still on you feed
By faith on you in your hearts, so
Your presence we shall know

Light of the world, dispel our dark
That we to angels hark
As at the time of your birth they
Proclaimed the gospel's day

Glad tidings, peace on earth to all
May we on your name call
You full human and full divine
Born true of David's line

Look On The Lonely

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

In lonely suffering on the tree
The cross, there you did die for me
And too for all mankind to save
For your lost sheep your life you gave

Yet rose again, companion be
And you give us your Spirit free
To heal us, guide us, sanctify
Your presence in us, ever nigh

We weep a while for lonely souls
The poor, needy , your grace [them] extols
Forgive where we in apathy
Fail their distress, troubles to see

Though we may have your peace and rest
You brought us comfort, we are blessed
Saved from our sins, to God restored
Your Father and ours by your word

Guard, keep those at this Christmas-tide
And those needy the year beside
Yu came full human life to share
Lamb of God, sins of all to bear

Birthday Babe

Tune: Irby

('Once in royal David's city')

Matthew 1 v.18-25

Birth of Jesus Christ on this wise
Was, if a seeming surprise
When His mother Mary espoused
To Joseph, to him avowed
A virgin she, child would bear
The Spirit His Father there

Joseph, good man, he was willing
No shame upon her to bring
But to unbetroth secretly
Public scandal for to flee
But then angel of the Lord
Spoke to him, gave him this word

In a dream said, Joseph, fear not
To take Mary, fine your lot
You of David a descendant
I from the Lord to you sent
Take [her] as your wife, undeceived
By the Spirit she conceived

She shall bring forth a son, and name
Him JESUS Christ, He the same
Name of Saviour, for save He shall
His people from their sins, tell
The prophets these things would be
Fulfilled shall be prophecy

Prophecy, A virgin shall be

With child miraculously
And shall bring forth a son, and all
Shall call Him Emmanuel
This means 'God with us', His birth
Humble, lowly upon earth

So Joseph from his sleep did wake
And Mary betrothed did take
As the angel to him had bid
Then her virgin birth unhid
Her first-born son, named JESUS
Saviour born for all of us

Prosperous Prophecy

Tune: Antioch

('Joy to the world')

Luke 1 v.76 - 79

Zacharias, his prophecy
At birth of his son be
He John the Baptist, the prophet
Of the Highest, task fit
Of the Highest, task fit
Of the, of the Highest, task fit

For he shall go before the face
Of the Lord, even pace
To prepare His way, salvation's
Knowledge give all nations
Knowledge give all nations
Knowledge, knowledge give all nations

To show to people how they may
Know unto God the way
'Tis by knowing salvation through
Jesu's works make us new
Jesu's works make us new
Jesu's, Jesu's works make us new

Forgiveness of sins, through mercy
Tender of God it be
Whereby the Dayspring from on high
The Dawn, Messiah nigh
The Dawn, Messiah nigh
The Dawn, The Dawn, Messiah nigh

To give light to them sat in dark

And shadow of death, hark
He shall guide our feet, [in] path of peace
He Lord, His reign ne'er cease
He Lord, His reign ne'er cease
He Lord, He Lord, His reign ne'er cease

Dawning Day

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched')

Isaiah 9 v.2-3 and v.6-7

The people that walked in darkness
Have seen great light, no less
They that dwell in land of shadow
Of death, they light now know

They joy before you [Lord] as the joy
Of harvest, their employ
Is, as they gather good things in
Fresh praises they begin

For unto us a child is born
Upon redemption's morn
Unto us is given a son
Saviour for every one

And the government it shall be
Upon His shoulder, see
His name shall be called Wonderful
And Counsellor of all

And He named The Mighty God, He
E'erlasting Father be
The Prince of Peace, of the increase
Of His rule be no cease

His government and peace no end
From Him none e'er can rend
Descendant of David, His throne
Unrivalled, [He] does atone

For sure He shall rule endlessly
His kingdom ordered be
Established shall be with judgement
Help to the penitent

And justice too, henceforth for e'er
He shall with us fair share
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will
Perform this, fervent still

Salvation Seeking

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 22 v.25-28

My praise shall be of you
Holy Lord God and true
In great congregation
Among every nation
Hear the advent call, Christ's return
Come to Him and His ways discern

The meek shall eat and be
Satisfied fruitfully
They shall praise the LORD who
Seek Him, [their] intent to do
Their heart shall live for evermore
Truusting in His promises sure

All ends of the world shall
Remember wise, and tell
Of Christ, His sacrifice
Offering did suffice
To bring salvation unto all
Who in faith believe, on Him call

They shall to the LORD turn
Of His purposes learn
And shall Him all worship
Showing by deed and lip (spoken words)
That His is the kingdom, he reigns
nations governed as He ordains

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Angelic Announcement

Tune & Carol: The holly and the ivy

Luke 1 v.26-38 parts

The angel Gabriel sent
To Nazareth he went
To house of David, a virgin
He did speak unto then

Chorus

Hail, Mary, high favoured
The Lord to you has sure said
You shall bear the Christ-child, name Jesus
A Saviour unto us

Thus Gabriel did so speak
To Mary, lowly, meek
Blesséd are you among women for
Holy child you bear sure - Chorus

Mary said, How shall this be?
For I a virgin, see
The angel said, The holy Ghost
Shall o'ershadow you most - Chorus

So the holy one which shall
Be born of you, know well
Shall be the Son of God, His name
Jesus Christ, He the same - Chorus

Though Mary, she questioned how
These things should occur now
Gabriel said, With God nought be
Impossible, you shall see - Chorus

Spirit Sparks

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Lord, come and us inspire
Inflame us with your fire
Fill us here with your Spirit pure
He lives for evermore

And guide us in your way
Howe'er we feel today
But taking steps of faith, and so
Your presence true we know

Enlighten with your grace
Each heart, life, every face
That we progress on, serving you
Helped by your power anew

Give strength and all we need
We your sheep, you us feed
Trusting you daily will provide
And in us still reside

Ready For His Return

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west)

1 Thessalonians 5 v.1 -11 parts

Know this that the day of the Lord
According to His word
Shall come as a thief in the night
Prepare, you sons of light

Fro it shall unexpected be
When they say, Peace, safety
Then shall come sudden destruction
On unprepared, each one

Shall be like woman in travail
Whose labour-pains prevail
And they shall not escape, for they
Did not sure watch and pray

But Christians are not in darkness
Nor do deeds profitless
For they be children of the light
No dark obscures their sight

So let us not sleep, nor lazy
Be, but watch here closely
Self-controlled, sober, and doing
Deeds of the light, each thing

Let us, we of th day, put on
Breastplate of faith, love don
And the helmet of salvation
Minds, hearts, on Christ the Son

For we not to wrath appointed
But to salvation's stead
We obtain it through our Lord, he
Jesus Christ ever be

He died for us that we may live
And rose, new life did give
To us, so comfort here we take
Prayers, praises to Him make

Shepherds Scene

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

Luke 2 v.8 - 14

In Judah shepherds did abide
Over their sheep they did preside
In Judah shepherds did abide
Over their sheep they did preside
Keeping watch o'er their flock by night
Sheep ever stay within their sight

And, lo, the angel of the Lord
Came unto them with joyful word
And, lo, the angel of the Lord
Came unto them with joyful word
Glory of the Lord shone around
Them that night, and praises resound

The angel said to them, Fear not
I bring news of happy lot
The angel said to them, Fear not
I bring news of happy lot
Behold, good tidings of great joy
That only sin can mar or cloy

This news be unto all people
To you is born this day, to all
This news be unto all people
To you is born this day, to all
In David's city a Saviour
In Bethlehem, in manger there

His name is Christ the Lord for e'er

His rule and reign it does end ne'er
His name is Christ the Lord for e'er
His rule and reign it does end ne'er
And this to you shall be a sign
You shall find Him wrapped in cloths fine

And suddenly with the angel
A multitude, a host did tell
And suddenly with the angel
A multitude, a host did tell
Praising, Glory to God highest
Peace, good will toward men, they blessed

Radiant Revealing

Tune & Hymn: The First Nowell

Luke 2 v.15 - 20

Shepherds, they saw heavenly vision
Their dark enlightened as shining of the sun
They said, Let us to Bethlehem go
That truth of the angel's words we may know

Chorus

The words fulfilled, they saw the child
Christ born, holy, pure, undefiled

They came with haste, and Mary did see
And Joseph, with new-born babe laid in manger He
When they had seen, they told the message
News of salvation unto all of each age - Chorus

They said, The angel to us did say
To you is born in city of David this day
A Saviour who is named Christ the Lord
Go see Him, for faithful, honest is this word - Chorus

And this shall be a sign unto you
You shall find the babe all wrapped in swaddling clothes new
Laying cattle's food trough, manger
No room in the inn for them there to share - Chorus

And we too saw a heavenly host
A multitude praising God, worshipping Him most
Fervent, singing, Glory in highest
And on earth peace, good will to men, they blessed - Chorus

Benedictus Blessings

Tune: Forest Green

('O little town of Bethlehem')

Luke 1 v.67 - 76

'Benedictus', hear words of worth
Spoke at John Baptist's birth
By Zacharias his father
The Spirit did him stir
To prophesy, to say, Blessed be
[The] Lord God of Israel, see
For He has visited, redeemed
His people, they esteemed

He raised up strength of salvation
True unto each nation
In house of David, His servant
His messenger He sent
As He spake by holy prophets
Since world began, befits
Them to tell of His promises
And of each sure confess

That we from all our enemies
Should be saved, He does please
To save us too from our foes hand
Who hate us in this land
To perform the mercy promised
His choice, He does insist
Mercy promised to ancestors
On us too nw confers

He does remember His holy
Covenant, pure it be

Thus oath He to Abraham swore
And does carry out sure
That He would grant unto us, we
Be delivered, and be
His own, saved from enemies here
Might serve Him without fear

Serve Him in holiness, righteous
Before Him, He shall bless
Us all the days of His life for
His promise kept e'ermore
And John Baptist shall be prophet
Of the Highest, way lit
For mankind to prepare for when
Jesus would soon come then

The rest of this prophecy is in an earlier poem: 'Prosperous Prophecy'

Animals Christmas Acceptance

Tune: Cranham

('In the bleak midwinter')

Come, come you are welcome
Join our humble home
In manger lay within
Christ-child, without sin
Though no spaces at inn
We will take you in
We animals greet you
Saviour true

Pardon our stable, see
Draughty it may be
But in awe and wonder
We unto you stir
What this blessing we share
Of your loving care?
Mary, Joseph, your child
Born, meek, mild

We be your creatures all
Here now in our stall
Christ, He the world's true light
Revealed to our sight
May humans take good care
Of us, with us share
Knowing here you on earth
Had your birth

Sleep, sleep, sweet child, resting
We too worship bring
Here a bale of our hay

Your head on it lay
We look on, wondering
You the Lord and King
Salvation you do bring
Praises ring!

Martyr Meditation

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Acts Chapters 6 and 7 parts

For St Stephen's Day: Dec 26

Stephen, by the Spirit
Filled, holy fire lit
One of the deacon's sort
Of honest report
And of wisdom they full
They heard the Lord's call
Faithfully to Him preach
And to others reach

Full of faith and power
Served God each hour
Did great wonders, and too
Miracles anew
There among the people
They did see it all
So the Lord they praised for
His glory shown sure

When on trial, the folk see
Stephen's face, it be
Blazing as an angel
None could make him fall
Though he said that they turned
From God, his heart burned
To fulfil His Lord's will
E'en through good and ill

Then he faithful martyr

Folk did there confer
To cast him out, and stone
Him, and to condone
That he be killed, yet he
Forgiving, so be
Vision of Christ he saw
Then with Him e'ermore

Lord help us in troubles
What our path befalls
If some called to down lay
Their lives in this day
For your sake, give grace we
Pray here constantly
May we now hear your call
Who for us gave all

Light Of Love

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

1 John 4 v.10 1- 19 parts

For St John's Day: Dec 27

Herein is love, 'tis not that we
Loved God, but He loved, see
Loved us first, and has sent His Son
Redemption work has done

For He the propitiation
For our sins, each nation
Makes peace, the bridge 'tween God and man
Does what no other can

Beloved, if God has loved us so
We ought to, this we know
To love one another, so be
We live obediently

We can know and we can believe
God's love and it receive
God is love, who in love abides
Abides in Him, resides

Resides God in those who do love
By His Spirit, the dove
Our love perfected, that we may
Be bold in judgement day

No fear in love, for love perfect
Casts out fear, no defect
For fear has torment, they that fear

Not perfect in love here

We love God, for He first loved us
Has sent His Son to us
Lord, our love receive, e'en if small
Your love greatest of all

Innocents Incarceration

Tune: Puer Nobis

('Unto us a boy is born')

Matthew 2 v.13-18

For Holy Innocents Day: Dec 28

Murderous, maniacal
Here on earth a hell all
News of a King, Jesus, heard
King Herod, enraged at word
King Herod, enraged at word

Escape, little family
Mary, Joseph, babe be
Jesus Christ, by God they led
To Egypt, path they did tread
To Egypt, path they did tread

Sheath your swords, this bitter curse
In your deeds, they perverse
Killing boys, their age they be
Two and under, horrors see
Two and under, horrors see

So voices heard, great laments
Of parents, no relents
In their mourning, weeping strong
For their children day, night long
For their children day, night long

For they bereaved, no comfort
Can they take from their lot
Rest now, Holy Innocents
Your pain so cruel, so intense

your pain so cruel, so intense

Help us stand not idly by

Love and care none deny

Save children from suffering

Innocently, your peace bring

Innocently, your peace bring

A Carol of Christ

Tune: Adeste Fidelis

('O come all ye faithful')

Christ in a manger laid
To human view displayed
Come see the lowly scene with cattle arrayed
Joseph and Mary
His earthly parents be

Chorus

Behold, the Lord of glory
Behold, the Lord of gloer
behold, the Lord of glory
Come and see

Light of the world shines bright
In a stable, dark night
Dawning, revealed unto our inward sight
Saviour of all, we
Partake of His grace free - Chorus

The Sun of righteousness
Son of God shall us bless
As we trust and believe and Him confess
Born of the Spirit
God His Father, 'tis fit - Chorus

So by faith may we be
Your servants faithfully
Yet too we children in your family
Your sons and daughters
You have saved and sought us - Chorus

Christmas Comfort

Tune: Yorkshire

('Christians awake, salute the happy morn')

Awake to life, come praise, and here now see
The new-born babe laid in a manger, He
Be Jesus Christ, God the Father's only Son
He came to earth, a Saviour for each one
Lowly His birth, yet He the King of Kings
Let all creation rest beneath His wings

He came and lived, full human, full divine
Among us, He the Light of Life did shine
Still shining now, He reigns from heaven above
Rules all nations with justice, mercy, love
He who did live, died, and then rose again
The hope and comfort sure unto all men

The angel Gabriel to Mary told
Good news of God's plan, how it would unfold
For she a virgin fair, it prophesied
Would bear the Christ-child, cannot be denied
God be His Father, by the Spirit's power
Blessings for all, on mankind He does shower

O turn our hearts where we be dull or dim
Ever, only to focus upon Him
Forgive, restore, show to us your ways plain
So we offer praise to you fresh again
Celebrating your birth we do rejoice
W the sheep of your fold, we be your choice

The Light Of Life

Tune: Mendelssohn

('Hark, the herald angels sing')

John 1 v.5 - 18 parts

Here the true Light of the world
Revealed now in flesh, unfurled
He lights each one born human
In the world, each woman, man
He born as us, babe human
Yet too divine, Christ the Son
Born lowly in manger stall
See Him there the Lord of all

Chorus

Light in the darkness does shine
Wins o'er darkness victory fine

he the Word became flesh, we
Trust He dwelt among us, see
In His days they did behold
His glory, and of it told
John Baptist did bear witness
Turn from sins, Christ will you bless
I point you to Him, for He
Be always greater than me - Chorus

For He, pre-existing one
God the Father's Only Son
And of His fullness may we
Receive, and find grace today
Though no one has seen God e'er
Christ He with us does Him share
The Son in [God] the Father's heart

he shows us God, that His part - Chorus

Eventide Then Morning

Tune: Eventide

('Abide with me')

John 14 v.1 - 3 parts

Rest, rest, sweet soul, your pain and suffering o'er
Your husband, he loved you, did you adore
And still that love lives, you shall meet again
Shall know bliss of eternal Rapture then

Sing, sing in heaven, earthly strife all left
Prayers here for comfort for those now bereft
But a star shines, take up your mansion-place
Which Christ has prepared for you by His grace

Dayspring has dawned, 'tis Christ, He the true Light
Dispels the darkness of death and of night
Fly, spread your wings, join in the angels' choir
Now with your Lord, never now you afar

Christ your Lord He has gone the way before
Meet Him with joy on the eternal shore
'Til you both walk by River [of life] endlessly
In love, peace, joy through all eternity

Bethlehem Birth

Tune: Personent Hodie - On this day earth shall ring
(*'Long ago, prophets knew'*)

God above, God of love
Your Spirit, holy dove
Came to earth, virgin birth
By His power would be
All revealed to Mary

Chorus

Let now praises ring
Earth and heaven sing
Dayspring's dawn, happy morn
Christ the Saviour is born

Mary, low, meek and mild
Would bear the pure Christ-child
She obeyed, not delayed
In beauty she arrayed
Of the Lord the handmaid - Chorus

Star of Beth'lem shine bright
Chase away gloom and night
Light of the world revealed
Man's stresses, strivings stilled
When we unto Christ yield - Chorus

God of grace, here the face
Of your Son we do trace
See Him in manger stall
Yet He ruler of all
Welcomes whom on Him call - Chorus

God forgive, we shall ilve
Unto you praises give
You have sent us your Son
He the pure sinless One
Salvation's work has done - Chorus

Ding Dong Dawning!

Tune: Branle de l'Officiel

('Ding, dong! merrily in high')

Here bells make joyful ding-dong
And people sing cheerful song
Fro the Christ-child, He new-born
Now shines our redemption morn

Chorus

A--ll--e--lu--ia! Let earth and heaven rejoice
A--ll--e--lu--ia! Praise the Lord now with one voice

Light and life and health He brings
Not mourn for e'er, but all sings
Of His grace to all mankind
Salvation in Him we find - Chorus

Christ full human, full divine
A son born of David's line
Worship Him in stable there
You may in His blessings share - Chorus

Splendour of God's glory bright
He of the world its true Light
Darkness shall o'ercome it ne'er
Golden beams shine strong and fair - Chorus

Help us share the gospel news
We not first choose, you us choose
To go forth, bear fruit to last
Going forward, leave the past - Chorus

Jumping For Joy

Tune: Es Ist Ein Ross Entsprungen (= A rose is sprung up)

('A great and mighty wonder')

Luke 1 v.39 - 45

Mary to hills of Judah
Went swift, for she did stir
Entered house of her cousin
Showing the good news then

Chorus

Tell of the new babe's births
To come here unto this earth
John Baptist and Jesus

Zacharias* she did meet (*John's father)
And Elisabeth^ greet (^John's mother)
When she did hear Mary's voice
Babe in her womb rejoice - Chorus

Elisabeth, she was filled
With the Spirit, fears stilled
With loud voice she did proclaim
Blessed Mary be your name - Chorus

Blessed you be among women
And fruit of your womb, then
Why be to me this honour
That you on me confer? - Chorus

Fro you, mother of my Lord
According to His word
For soon as your greeting voiced
My babe heard, leaped, rejoiced - Chorus

And blessed are you that believed
Favour you have received
Those things the Lord said to you
He will sure fulfil, do - Chorus

Creation Care-Takers

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 8

O LORD, our Lord, how excellent
Is your name, your grace to us sent
Alleluia, alleluia!
Your name o'er all the earth is high
Worthy of praise from land, sea, sky
You glorious, yet to us nigh
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Out of mouths of babes and infants
You have ordained praise, they you sense
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise as strength to still enemy
All your foes shall defeated be
For you e'er reign eternally
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

You the great Creator of all
Moon, sun, stars, earth's terrestrial ball
Alleluia, alleluia!
So what i man, that you us mind?
You look on us, for you are kind
And we your graces, mercies find
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

You have made man little lower
Than the angels, through you we flower
Alleluia, alleluia!
You crowned him with honour, glory
Set him over all your works free

That we faithful care-takers be
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

To tend to oxen, sheep, cattle
To be over your creatures all
Alleluia, alleluia!
All animals, beasts of the field
Birds of air, fish of sea, you willed
That w good service to you yield
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

So LORD, how excellent your name
Be in all the earth, you the same
Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord God Almighty, who do reign
Fore evermore, and we do gain
Blessings by obedience unfeign[ed]
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Epiphany Enlightening

Tune: Epiphany

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Matthew 2 v.1-12 parts

For Epiphany: January 6.

The first verse is traditionally repeated at the end.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Judea
In days of King Herod, wise men drew near
From the east to Jerusalem they did come
Seeking the Christ-child, His hearth and His home

They said, Where is He that is born King of Jews?
For we His star in the east have seen, news
Of His birth reached us, we have come to worship
Him, and to share in His blessed fellowship

It announced by prophets that His birth would be
In Bethlehem, in land of Judea, see
He to be Governor, Ruler o'er Israel
Shepherd to His people, come to save all

So they departed, the star before them went
Onward their journey, no slack or relent
Till the star rested, stood over the dwelling
Wherein Mary, Joseph, and Saviour King

They humbly worshipped, and gifts there most precious
Presented unto Him, here, Lord from us
Be pleased to receive our offerings to you
Now do our eyes you sure wondrously view

Gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Him presented
All that was told them was true, they were led

Seeing the star they rejoiced exceedingly
With great joy gave homage, bended the knee

When Jesus as born in Bethlehem, Judea
In days of King Herod, wise men drew near
From the east to Jerusalem they did come
Seeking the Christ-child, His hearth and His home

Community Concerns

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Lord, help me trust, go on with you
You do strengthen and me renew
If easy be when comforted
Or hard if seems your presence hid

Give grace in trial, in suffering
Your good plan and your purpose bring
Whether afflicted body, soul
Or spirit, you do make us whole

Forgive where we dull, dreary be
Come to us, from each bondage free
And cleanse from sin, and hear each prayer
As in community we share

Not go alone, independent
For you to us your Son have sent
To join us all in unity
And showing each what your way be

We bear no fruit if unattached
If from the vine we be detached
But if we as branches remain
In Him, much fruit for Him we gain

Church Community

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Ephesians 4 v.11 - 13

Apostles, prophets, these some gifts
And too be evangelists
With pastors and teachers, be for
Equipping of the church sure
For work of the ministry here
Build up each other, we share

Not in aimless mumble ,bumble
But is serving true, humble
Our Lord, and to one another
Every sister, brother
The church the body of Christ sure
Living presence evermore

Gifts and graces, and each resource
All coming from God their source
Until we all one together
Press on in our endeavour
By the Spirit's poer all grow
And more of salvation know

Reaching to unity of faith
Trusting true words that God saith
And unity of the knowledge
Of the Son of God, courage
We take, on to maturity
For to fullness of Christ see

Redeemer Revealed

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Matthew 2 v.1 - 12 parts

To the Gentiles now revealing
The Christ-child, no concealing
Wise men from the east Him adore
Give Him of their treasure store

Gold for a King, he Lord of all
Though born in a manger stall
Highest honours, he is worthy
Great His name shall ever be

Frankincense, prayers to Him offered
Blessings be on us conferred
He shall meet our needs, us attend
His Spirit unto us send

Myrrh foretelling of His passion
He the sinless holy One
He the Saviour of all mankind
Salvation in Him we find

His star seen, the wise men rejoiced
In unity their praise voiced
To Him, King of Kings eternal
Come, worship Him, on Him call

Passion Perceptions

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Gathered there in upper room they met
For to remember, ne'er forget
Sharing of Communion, bread and wine
Meeting with Christ, the Son divine

He at His passion wept, toiled and died
But none could take His part beside
To be our Saviour, to take our place
For all of any age, each race

In His scourging, stripes cut flesh, He bled
Though now arisen, once was dead
By His stripes we are healed, unconcealed
His broken body there revealed

He rich, though for our sakes became poor
That we might share His treasure store
Battered and bruised, spat upon, defiled
He sinless, us has reconciled

For see your sins there upon Him laid
As lamb to slaughter, price He paid
Man of Sorrows, yet now joy lasting
'Tis all fruit of His offering

We know not all, why pains, sufferings be
But may view Christ upon the tree (the cross)
Loving, He saves, gives His life that we
Redeemed eternally may be

An Unhappy New Year to All!

Woof! Fido says - You ole misery
Why you wished an Unhappy New Year to All?
(Gotta allow for a talking dog here - he speaks English)

Well, it's inevitable Fido
Bound to happen
Don't ya know why?

Well, I don't really know, says Fido
(Doing Mavis impression form Corrie there -
No end of his talents).
Did someone have an accident or misfortune?
Did something terrible happen?

Why, yes Fido - something terrible
And no end to it....
Cos I only said
'Im gonna continue to sing!'

Don't ya know -
My New Year Resolution
Is to increase from 2 to 20 songs per day
It'll drive ya all mad
But it can't be helped

What number singing lesson are ya on? asks Fido
(He howls to drown out my singing!)
Oh, lesson number 2569874251 I think

I should give it up as bad job, says Fido
That singing tutor's laughing up his sleeve
He knows ya don't improve
But still wants your dough (money)!

Now a song from Fido to end with:

Woof, Woof!

How much is that doggy in the window?

Woof, Woof!

Ya knows the rest of the song!

Where's the guys in white coats?!

Heehee

Wholesome Waiting

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour lifted')

Psalm 130

Out of depths do I cry
To me, LORD, draw nigh
Hear my voice, let your ears
Listn, quell my fears

If you, LORD, should sins note
Of them make a quote
LORD, who shall stand before
You, 'tis none for sure

But forgiveness there be
We your mercies see
So your name held reverent
By the penitent

My soul for the LORD waits
Not mere chances, fates
Let all hope in the LORD
Faithful is His word

With Him mercy, plenty
Redemption there be
He shall redeem us all
From sins, on Him call

Worship Wholesomeness

Tune: Was Lebet, Was Schwebet

('O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness')

Psalm 96

The first verse is traditionally repeated at the end.

O sing to the Lord a new song, sing all the earth
Praise and adore Him and give Him His worth
Sing to the LORD, bless His name, show His salvation
From day to day, spread it to each nation

Declare His glory among the people and show
His wonders to all that they may sure know
For the LORD is great, and He greatly to be praised
Let all honour Him, His name be upraised

For all gods of the nations are idols, but He
The LORD made the heavens and the earth, see
Honour and majesty are before Him, beauty
And strength they be in His sanctuary

Give to the LORD all peoples, strength and the glory
Due to His name, bring an offering free
O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness
Fear before Him all the earth, His name bless

Say midst the peoples that the LORD reigns for ever
The world established, shall be moved never
And the LORD shall judge righteously, with equity
heavens, earth be glad, he rules faithfully

Creation join in praise, earth, sea, forests, and fields
The LORD comes, everything pleasantness yields
For he shall judge righteously, with truth, justice fair

Of His goodness he shall give us a share

O sing to the Lord a new song, sing all the earth

Praise and adore Him and give Him His worth

Sing to the LORD, bless His name, show His salvation

From day to day, spread it to each nation

Giving Glory

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Let words now still flow forth
Praise Christ, give Him His worth
Take up some theme, your tributes bring
Unto your heavenly King

He will accept great, small
He Lord high over all
Yet to those who call on Him, near
He be, they need not fear

Sing of His love and grace
And His mercies still trace
Bring some gift, gem of choicest store
To Him now it outpour

For Him we glorify
We believe, not deny
That He be our Saviour and Lord
True and faithful His word

Give strength and all we need
Good Shepherd, still us feed
As onward each day we do go
Seeking you more to know

Heard And Helped

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name true
And judge me by your strength, so do
Hear my prayer, O God. and give ear
To words of my mouth, and draw near

For strangers and oppressors they
Seek after my soul day by day
They you, O God, their face before
You they not set, and that be sure

Behold, God is my helper, he
Is the Lord, and is with them, see
That my soul uphold and sustain
I your comfort and peace do gain

He shall save me from enemies
They be cut off, and each one flees
So I will praise your name, LORD, for
It is good, and you me restore

He has delivered me from all
My troubles, I did on Him call
I have seen His desire upon
My enemies, His deeds are done

Sacred Stone

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Psalm 118 v.14-29 parts

The LORD is my strength and my song
My salvation all life long
Voice of rejoicing, salvation
Is heard in dwellings, each one
Of the righteous, the LORD's hand they
Trust to work valiantly

Open me gates of righteousness
I will enter, the LORD bless
Will praise him, for He has heard me
And my salvation sure be
So with praises and rejoicing
We worship you, LORD and King

He the stone which builders refused
Rejected, cast out as used
But is become chief corner stone
Foundation of Christ alone
Upon Him the building founded
He the LORD, our living Head

This be the LORD's doing, wondrous
Marvellous it is to us
We behold it with our eyes clear
So His plans they do appear
This the day which the LORD has made
We worship confident, staid

We will rejoice, in it be glad

needing not stay downcast, sad
We pray, Save, LORD, and us prosper
And unto our help do stir
O give thanks to the LORD, for He
Is good, e'er merciful be

Remembering Requests

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 25 v.5-7

Lead me in your truth, LORD
For sure true b your word
You the God of my salvation
have sent to us your Son

On you, LORD, do I wait
O remember not late
Your tender mercies, loving-kind
May I still you now find

Remember not the sins
Of my youth, nor begins
An account of them, but forgive
And forget, so I live

And too from your mercy
Remember me and see
Me, for your goodness sake I pray
Do prosper me each day

Wondrous Words

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 119 v.17-24

Let your mercies come to me LORD
E'en according to your word
Your salvation residing here
Us trusting in godly fear
So shall I answer those who do
Reproach me, and I you view

Take not your word of truth from me
Deny it not completely
Unto me, for I have hoped here
In your judgements, they are near
So shall I keep you law ever
Continual, with endeavour

And I will at liberty walk
Seek your precepts, of them talk
And of your testimonies sure
I will speak before kings, for
I will not of them be ashamed
I your promises here claimed

I will in your commands delight
They be pleasant to my sight
I them love, and will them follow
So I your good way shall know
I will lift m hands in praise here
Meditate on your words clear

Communion Claims

Tune: Anima Christi

('Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast')

Lord, when we may your holy feast approach
Penitent, you will accept, not reproach
Trusting in you for your forgiveness, life
Eternal, though not gained through earthly strife

But by your grace we may now here partake
Offer you ourselves for your goodness sake
Eating of bread and drinking of wine true
These are the things you chose to symbolise you

It be food and drink for our spirits, souls
And for our bodies, you will make us whole
Cause us to search our hearts and minds before
We come to receive of your rich treasure store

For 'tis our treasure, heavenly gifts shown
Your desire, Lord, they to the world b known
Here is how man to God be reconciled
It be by your offering made undefiled

Your life given that we might live, e'en me
Your taking my place there upon the tree (cross)
Then rose again, your risen life we share
By your mercies to us, just , meek, and fair

Growing In Grace

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Gathering in your name we share
Lord, Communion this rich fare
Which you provide, here we partake
Strengthen us for your own sake

Help us focus, and remember
Hearts, minds afresh to you stir
To seek first your kingdom, your will
Guard us, guide, through good and ill

Spirit fill us, give all we need
With your heavenly food feed
Such as us, and water of life
Quench our thirst and calm our strife

We cannot come, save you invite
Us, you of the world its Light
So sustained, empowered, refreshed
We continue each day blessed

Treasures Told

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Lord, you did choose to reveal
Your Son for our own good weal (well-being)
Though one time to Jews was shown
He was not to Gentiles known
But now world-wide salvation
To all folk of each nation

Gold and frankincense and myrrh
Wise men did on Him confer
Seeing Him Him, though a child
Prophecies had been complied
Spoke of Him as Lord and King
Let all to Him worship bring

Come, so visit His house, for
Wise men did come and adore
Laid their treasures at His feet
Gave Him honour it was meet (apt, suitable)
So to do, for Christ-child He
Saviour of the world would be

Light of the world shining bright
Dispel all of sin and night
Lead us to walk in your way
On to the eternal day
For we know there no darkness
In you, penitents you bless

Peace Not Panic

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Forgive, Lord, where we worry, fret
Have not trust you full yet
That you provide our daily bread
By you all creatures fed

And things of daily life we need
You shall help us indeed
Guide us to see, nor distracted
From you our living Head

Seeds sown do yield thirty, sixty
Or hundred fold may be
Find our heart as good soil, then grown
Fruit of your Spirit shown

Where we may panic, instant care
Seek to apply here, there
Help us wait your time, lead we pray
What to best do or say

And so your peace we not forfeit
By your word our path lit
Retain that peace the world cannot
Give, 'tis not of its lot

Protection Perusal

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, the that love God')

Psalm 64 parts

Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer

I trust you still are there

Preserve my life, protect me still

Help me in your good will

Although I 'pray not all away'

Guide me today, each day

Protect me from harm, body, soul

And spirit, make me whole

What enemies may do or say

Guard me from them, I pray

O come defend me, keep me sure

I your sheep evermore

So to fear you, awesomely true

Reverence you anew

Not fear of enemies terror

For you to my help stir

Others too shall your wise works see

And the righteous shall be

Glad in you, LORD, and trust they shall

In you, your glory tell

Safety And Security

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 34 v.20-22

Our soul waits for the LORD, for He
Our help and shield sure be
His keeping power us sustains
His grace with us remains

Our heart, it shall in Him rejoice
We praise Him with one voice
Because we Him have trusted sure
He faithful evermore

Let your mercy, LORD, be upon
Us, through Christ, He your Son
For we do hope in you, confide
You LORD, and none beside

You ever worthy of all praise
To you our songs we raise
Come inspire, help us glorify
You and know you are nigh

Outcomes Of Obedience

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

1 Timothy 1 v.4-6

Give not heed to fables, endless
Genealogies, they not bless
But only cause disputes, questions
Not concerning God's daughters, sons

But rather seek to edify
In godly ways, there no deny
That this is better so to do
Continuing on the path true

The outcome of the obeying
Of God's commandment in each thing
It be love flowing from pure heart
Thus traced love's origin, its start

And too that love from good conscience
Not only useful common sense
And it too is love from sincere
Faith, which does unfeigned so appear

But if straying from this good way
Not heeding God's word nor obey
Some have turned unto vain jangling*
Idle talk that profits nothing

* jangling - idle talk, gossip, false teaching,
talking rubbish! etc.

Salvation And Service

Tune: Offertorium

('When Jesus came to Jordan')

1 Timothy 1 v.12-17

As Paul, so we thank Jesus
Who has enabled us
Counted us faithful to serve
'Tis more than we deserve
He puts us in ministry
That we His servants be
Before we went other way
But now salvation's day

Some blasphemed, persecuted
Those who by Christ were led
Some insolent, would cause harm
To those who bring Christ's balm
Such did act ignorantly
In unbelief they be
But now Christ's light on them dawns
'Tis their salvation's morns

Grace of our Lord exceeding
Is to each one pleading
Who repents, asks salvation
From each, any nation
Abundant with faith and love
To us, the Holy Dove
The person of the Spirit
He sends us, our way lit

This be a faithful saying
Worthy of accepting

That Christ Jesus came into
The world to make us new
To save sinners, who like Paul
May their words, deeds, recall
They without Christ may have been
Chief of sinners, but seen

Seen now Christ by faith, He King
Who does salvation bring
Immortal, invisible
Only wise God o'er all
To Him be honour, glory
To endless ages be
For He did come to save, see
And has saved even me

True Teaching

Tune: St James Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

1 Timothy 4 v.6 - 10

True teachers do bring reminders
Of the true things, so stirs
The hearts and minds of Christian folk
To bear Christ's easy yoke

Such share Christ, they bring nourishment
As if tasty foods sent
To souls and spirits, edified
They be, faithful words tried

But refuse profanity, vanity
Where old wives fables be
They profit not, cause not to grow
They only gossip know

Exercise self to godliness
This will profit and bless
Exercise for body profits small
Godliness profits all

For of lives it has promises
Of life now, and it says
There be hope for the life to come
We attain heavenly home

This a faithful saying ,worthy
Of all acceptance be
So labouring on, e'en reproach
When we the gospel broach

Broaching, sharing it to all so
The living God they know
And trust Him, Saviour of those who
Believe, and know Him true

Waken To Worship

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Psalm 108 v.1 - 5

O God, my heart is fixed, I will
Sing and give praises to you still
My tongue shall glorify your name
You who do e'er remain the same

Awake, psaltery, lute, and lyre
Make you His praises your desire
And harp and all stringed instruments
Worship the Lord, His presence sense

I will wake early you to praise
May the anthems last all my days
I will praise you midst the people
And invite them to praise you all

For your mercy is great above
The heavens, and I trace your love
Your truth unto the clouds does reach
O grant we it faithfully preach

Be exalted, O God, e'er great
Enthroned in your majestic state
Your glory above al all the earth
Be raised, and each give you your worth

Word Of Life And Light

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord thy word abideth')

Psalm 119 v.105,111 & 112

Your word it a lamp be
To my feet, I clear see
And a light to my part
I your sure guidance hath (have)

Light of life, illuming
Bring to heart, mind, each thing
That we need to follow
You, and each day more know

One step at a time here
Trusting your presence near
Your word my heritage
Give me wisdom, courage

To incline my heart e'er
To obey, so well fare
In your will and your ways
Guide me here through all days

Selfless Steps

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Draw near to God, he will draw near to you
Go not by sight, but by faith His way view
One step at a time, each day seek to grow
More Christ-like and more of His Spirit know

Forgive where we fret, hearts they restless be
Or where forgot your constant company
The things we face, your comfort do you bring
And we to you bring praise our offering

Move us, help us, if stuck in apathy
Or maybe a dull unreality
Show what is best, unselfish may we take
Up our cross daily, live for your name's sake

Not be content with what we want, but seek
What you want Lord, and serve you, humble, meek
Our weaknesses you know, to what we prone
Our temptations you know, and did them own

Yet without sin, not fall into sin once
Your Father's will your food, your sustenance
help us not live by bread alone entire
But live by your every word, so aspire

Trusting Totally

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the LORD shall be
As mount Zion is, see
Which cannot be removed, but stays
Abides eternal days

As the mountains are round about
Jerusalem, no doubt
So the LORD round about He be
His people e'ermore, free

For wickedness, it shall not rest
On the righteous, they blessed
Lest the righteous reach forth to sin
To do evil therein

Do good, LORD, to those that good be
To those whose hearts agree
With your ways, who do upright live
Your favour to such give

As for such who do turn aside
To crooked ways, deride
The LORD, He shall lead them out, they
Shall not share in the days

The days that His peace be upon
His people, e'en each one
Peace of the Father, Spirit, Son
While endless ages run

Witness To Widows

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

1 Timothy 4 v.9-16

Let widows (/widowers) in welfare
Over age sixty share
In the church, for them do provide
Where they no help beside

If been wife of one man
And if be showed it can
That good works done, brought up children
They shall qualify then

If helped strangers and saints
In purity, no taints
If they afflicted have relieved
In good works have believed

But younger widows not
Be received, for their lot
After divorce, quick to marry
Condemned now such be, see

Their faith they have off cast
Their silence does not last
But they idle, wander about
From house to house, no doubt

And they do tattle to
And tell gossip anew
Speaking things which they ought not speak
Not humble, kind, or meek

Young women, stay married
Bear children, faith not slid
Manage the house, no occasion
Give for your reproach, none

Families, do relieve
Assist widows, believe
Show faith in action, so provide
Widows with you reside

Candlemas Celebration

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly light')

Luke 2 v.25-32. For Candlemas (Feb 2) -

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Behold, in Jerusalem, Simeon

A holy one

Just and devout, he was there awaiting

A wondrous thing

The Holy Spirit did to him reveal

A sure promise unto him He would seal

For he should not see death before he saw

The Lord's Christ pure

Babe presented in the Temple that day

Was the Lord's way

His age forty days since His lowly birth

Jesus Christ, He the Lord of heaven and earth

So Simeon took Christ up in His arms

The healing balm

And blessed God, saying, *Lord, now let depart

My servant heart

In peace, according to your word, for my

Eyes have seen your salvation, no deny

Your salvation in Christ you have prepared

With all Him shared

Before the face of all people now shown

He by all known

A light to lighten the Gentiles, thus view

The glory of your people Israel too

* The words from here to the end are called
Simeon's 'Nunc Dimittis' (adapted for the poem).

Faith In Following

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Psalm 27 v.7-14 parts

Hear, O LORD, when I do cry
With my voice, draw to me nigh
Have mercy on me, answer
To my aid, now come and stir
So I shall be helped right sure
You will forsake me ne'ermore

When, LORD, you said, Seek my face
I did progress, even pace
My heart replied, said to you
Your face, LORD, I will seek, view
By faith, so in seeking find
You are loving, good, and kind

Hide not your face far from me
Nor refuse me angrily
I your servant am, and you
My help have been, now anew
Leave me not, nor me forsake
By grace I of you partake

Teach me your way, LORD, and lead
Me in plain path, and me feed
Keep me from my enemies
Have mercy, LORD, as you please
Save me from persecutors
Help me soon, with no defers

I had fainted, unless I

Believed that you still are nigh
And to see your goodness in
Land of living, LORD, within
Wait in faith on the Lord, give
Take courage, strength He shall give

Contentment in Christ

Tune: Ye Banks And Braes

('We cannot measure how you heal')

1 Timothy 6 v.7-12

Into this world we brought nothing
And certain cannot anything
We take out with us when we leave
This world, 'tis true, and no deceive
So having food (and drink), clothing, so let
Us be content, not seek to get
Many riches, for such shall fall
Into temptation, a snare all

And too many foolish, hurtful
Things to the greedy shall befall
Which drown people in destruction
And lead to ruin, perdition
For the love of money it be
The root of all kinds of evil, see
Which some have coveted, and they
Have found sorrows and rued this day

But let us follow righteousness
The qualities the Lord will bless
Godliness, faith, love, and patience
Meekness, such shall be good for us
To pursue, and fight the good fight
Of faith, we soldiers of the light
Lay hold on eternal life here
Until Christ our Saviour appear

Discipling Teacher - 2 Timothy Series (1)

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

2 Timothy 2 v.1-2

Be strong in the grace that is in
Christ Jesus, without sin
Be a discipling teacher sure
Share of Christ's treasure store

What we have heard, that then to teach
To others, witness, preach
To those who are faithful, so they
Too then share of the Way

The Way of salvation it be
To generations, see
Passed on, continually to teach
That it to all folk reach

Message of the gospel proclaim
And Christ as Saviour name
Evangelise, that all will know
And the Lord's glories show

Single-Minded Soldier - 2 Timothy Series (2)

Tune: St Gertrude

('Onward, Christian soldiers')

2 Timothy 2 v.3-5

Chorus

Christians in Christ's army

Formidable be

Strengthened with His power

To serve every hour

Christians, endure hardship

Whether deed or lip* (*words)

Does offend, persecute

Wear full armour suit

[Of] Armour of God, ready

Unto action be

Good soldiers of Jesus be

In His light-army - Chorus

For no one engaging

In a war does bring

Affairs of this life to

Entangle anew

Not caught up in worldly

Things, but kingdom see

The kingdom of God here

Shall soon full appear - Chorus

For we seek to please who

Has chose me and you

To be in His army

Single-minded be

Army of Christ Jesus

He leads, commands us
Through him, on victory side
In His strength abide - Chorus

And if competing we
For the mastery
In things that we pursue
It sure be, is true
That we not crowned, lest we
The lawful way, see
Compete in, short-cuts none
Following Christ the Son - Chorus

Diligent Workman - 2 Timothy Series (3)

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

2 Timothy 2 v.14-19

Be diligent to show yourself
Approved unto God, share His wealth
Be a workman that does not need
To be ashamed, but others feed

Feed them with the word of truth so
The gospel message they shall know
But profane and vain babblings shun
They only be profit to none

Though they will increase more and more
Discern, teach the Lord's word for sure
To oppose the ungodliness
Of false teachings, they not us bless

Such teachings will spread as canker
Which those led astray wi;; prefer
Things such as this they say, aghast
The resurrection it has past

In so saying they overthrow
The faith of some, they now not know
What to believe as true, deceived
For they these falsehoods have received

Yet the foundation of God stands
Sure, having this seal, to all lands:
"The Lord knows them that are His", so
"Let those who know Him Christ's life show"

Cowbell Chimings

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Adapted with permission from 'Alpine Melody'

poem by Alan S. Jeeves

Upon high, an Alpine pasture
Gleams golden with the sun
A herd of cattle grazing there
Enjoy the morning fun
Some chewing and too some mooing
And rolling in the grass
Some to-ing, fro-ing, and dancing
Close by the mountain pass

Higher up there the peaks are snowed
But here it's yellow bright
Sundrops showering on the land
Contrasting with the white
The greenness of the fertile fields
Providing bovine lunch
The goodness there in the grasslands
Sustains the happy bunch

And if you do move amongst them
About this time of day
Your eyes will see the band, full well
Your ears will hear them play
These maestros they of the cowbell
'Tis worn around the neck
Resounding in the gentle breeze
And swaying as they trek

They play their tune, so merrily

A melody to share
An echo sounds in the valley
Invades the yodeled air
So play away on the cowbell
For everyone to hear
Play them here and there, and too then
Do play them far and near

Saved And Secure

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 40 v.1-5

I waited patiently
For the LORD, he heard me
And brought me up from pit
It was horrid, each wit
As in soft clay my feet did sink
But you, LORD, did on me bethink

For you did bring me out
Of the pit, you no doubt
Set my feet on a rock
You tend your sheep, your flock
You did establish my steps sure
I shall trust you for evermore

You have put a new song
In my mouth, all day long
I shall it sing, give praise
To you, our God, thanks raise
Many shall fear and stand in awe
For you my need did not ignore

Blessed they who the LORD make
Their trust, for His name's sake
He will act, help needy
But proud and liars be
Not tended by Him, but humble
He shall hear when they on Him call

Many, LORD God, are there

Your wonders which we share
Many your thoughts they be
Unto us, good and free
We cannot count them all for they
More than can be numbered, we say

Sanctified Vessel - 2 Timothy Series (4)

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

2 Timothy 2 v.20-23

We are as great houses, each see
Vessels of the Spirit are we
Where God does inhabit, may we
So possess His treasures goodly

That found therein be silver, gold
But things of wood, clay, not be told
The silver, gold honourable
Be, so let us rid the dross all

So shall we be unto honour
To our master, so not defer
We to cast out the wood and clay
Sanctified, follow Christ he Way

And so prepared to good works we
Ready at he Lord's call we be
Fleeing youthful lusts, but follow
Christ, and more of His life here show

Pursuing righteousness, faith too
Love, peace, along with all that do
Call on the Lord from a pure heart
WE also serve a useful part

But foolish and unlearned questions
Avoid as God's true daughters, sons
Knowing they strifes do generate
Leading to an unwholesome state

Gentle Servant - 2 Timothy series (5)

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

2 Timothy 2 v.24-26

Servants of the Lord must not strive
Nor from quarrels derive
Satisfaction, as to compete
Against man, but sit at Christ's feet
So be content, replete
So be content, replete

They must be gentle unto all
Apt to teach, hear Christ's call
Patient, and meekly instruct those
Who do against themselves oppose
Whence conflicts have arose
Whence conflicts have arose

If so it be, God may them give
Repentance, they shall live
The truth acknowledge, and yielding
To Christ's salvation in each thing
Gospel message them bring
Gospel message them bring

Ans that they come to their senses
See as through clear lenses
Thus saved from snare of evil one
Who takes captive with mercy none
They redeemed by the Son
They redeemed by the Son

Grace Granted

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Help me trust to your way
Lord, through each night and day
Grant there be time to contemplate
And on you meditate

Your life Lord, do reveal
And cause our hearts be still
Though matters many we attend
From evils us defend

To work and serve and live
For you us all things give
To glorify your holy name
Of power and endless fame

Look on me, poor I be
Without your graces, see
But you have considered me so
Completely you me know

Hear my prayer, do me aid
Redeemer, you have paid
Price of my sins, forgiven I
Am, cannot this deny

Eternal life you give
Through you we have hope, live
Lead us on, the gospel to share
Your love, your mercies fair

Fido a Valentine?

Fido nipping in here.....

Can't stand me master's singing

He will have to wait another day

Before he chirps again!

But I'm here to warn ya

I can't stand too much 'excitement'

And I want no 'ardour'

This Valentine's Day, nor any day

'C'mon now', you may say to me

'You've not lived much.....'

'Get ya coat and get out more'

'You're an old wet blanket'

Yep, could say so - that's me!

Dampening your enthusiasm

For anything on a swoony theme

Ohh, OK, bring me red roses and a tasty bone

But never chocolates - they're fatal to me

I get a card annually, ya know

From a lady dog - Fifi by name

I send her one too!

But I wonder - is it like my master

Married to KP (Katie Price)?

They're always arguing

When she's not gone off for more Botox, that is!

Two men in white coats keep calling round our house

Not for me - for me master and KP!

I'll be a dark horse then

Let me hair down

Just keep marking them poems '18+'

Where they need to be

Or I'll be barking at ya!

Woof! Woof! (heehee)

Any resemblance to living persons and creatures

in this poem is all true, ya know!

Sure Searching

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 139 v.23-24

Search me, God, know my heart
I sure you know each part
Try me, and know my thoughts today
Help me to watch and pray

Is my heart with intent
Set on your Son you sent?
To be our Saviour and our Lord
And speak your living word

See if there be any
Wicked way now in me
And lead me in the way, it be
Your way e'erlastingly

So settled heart an mind
In you, true peace we find
To know and say and do what you
Show us, things old and new

Unity Ululations* (*expressions of joy)

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Psalm 133

Behold, how good and how pleasant
'Tis a gift heaven-sent
For brethren to dwell together
In unity to share

It is like the precious ointment
The oil, with fragrant scent
That poured on Aaron the high priest
At his anointing feast (= festival)

For it poured on his head ran down
On his beard, then his gown
To the foot of his garments flows
Blessings of God he knows

It is as the dew of the mounts
And as refreshing founts
From mount Zion, the Lord's command
Life e'ermore from His hand (= His Spirit)

Communion Charis* (*gift of grace)

Tune: East Acklam

('For the fruits of His creation')

To this feast you do us invite
Good to our sight
May we come lowly, penitent
With no relent
Bread and wine on table displayed
Your rich food and drink here arrayed
We partake of it by your grace
All of each race

May it strengthen us and sustain
Your peace maintain
To continue as your people
We shall not fall
Doing this in remembrance
Of you, here your presence we sense
For you did it first institute
We follow suit

Searching of lives, not rushing in
But cleansed within
Made by you Lord, worthy guests here
In lowly fear
This your body, blood symbolised
To the humble, not aggrandised
Guide us, keep us, e'er in your way
Each, every day

Sharing in this spiritual
Meal unto all
Help us take your gospel message

With love, courage
That we find not by earthly bread
alone, but by your word we fed
Victuals in endless supply
For you are nigh

Parables Perceptions

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Luke 8 v.10-12

Parables Jesus revealéd
To His disciples not hid
Were their meanings, their mysteries
Shown to them, not mere stories

They granted these graces to know
Veiled teachings of kingdom [of God] so
Yet to others hidden, concealed
Were their truths, the outcomes sealed

For some would see, but they not see
Not perceive what meanings be
And would hear, but not understand
The things shown them by God's hand (= His Spirit)

Whether seed of God's word does fall
It shall fall on one and all
Pathway, rocks, or thorns, or good soil
Help us Lord to hear your call

Encouraging Expressions (In praise of MPS)

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Based on Matthew 5 v.14-16

A poem every day?
Or sometimes is the way
To ponder, meditate a while
'Til further thoughts compile

And what may your theme be?
Varied words true and free
What from your heart and mind you share?
A word, thought, song, or prayer?

Let the Spirit you guide
And not now His light hide
Your style unique, none be the same
No other by that name

'Tis your compilation
Each poem, ode, each one
Sharing your gifts, contributing
Poems we say or sing

What genres do we tend?
What positions defend?
What be our desires, let the writs
Be scribed as each befits

So pleasures, joys, and pains
All human life again
Poetically expressed, we be
A fine community

Musings For Music

Tune: Song 1

('Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round')

Forgive, Lord, where distracted we may be
Help us your will and ways so clear to see
Take from us worries, frets, and fears and cares
Give us daily bread in each day's affairs
Lead on with your light, your path illuming
That we follow on joyfully and sing

You who know all hearts, minds, each human life
Our trouble, toil, unrest, and hasty strife
What be a way through such conflicts and woe?
We can you and your son Jesus Christ know
You see our musings, each situation
O Lord of all and over each nation

Turning to prayer, not make molehills mountains
Yet your word says we may move e'en mountains
By faith in you, Lord God, all possible
Spirit assist us as we on you call
Then thanks return, having seen your good hand
And your will more wisely to understand

What be our care, what be our trouble now?
Not all to 'pray away', but to know how
To pray what be as you lead by your grace
To pray in wisdom, your paths more sure trace
The end of all, that you be glorified
Prayers of your children shall not be denied

Humble-Hearted

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Psalm 131

A Psalm, a little one, meekly
I sing, Lord, hear what I pray
My heart is not proud, nor my eyes
Conceited, humble things espies

Nor do I myself exercise
In great matters, but low lies
My heart, things too high I not know
Things too difficult I not show

Surely I have behaved, quieted
Myself as a child, and fed
And weaned as of a mother mild
Thus is my soul, contently styled

Let Israel hope in the LORD sure
His help avails evermore
Hope in Him henceforth and for e'er
With childlike faith, comforts share

Lordship Laudings

Tune: Leoni

('The God of Abraham praise')

Praise, praise the God of grace
Worship before His face
Clad in the robe of righteousness
He does you bless
Christ Jesus, He before
Has gone, Him you adore
Salvation through Him you do know
His glories show

The name high over all
The Lord, come, on Him call
His eyes do see, His ears He lends
And to us tends
We mere mortals below
Yet to us He does show
His love and mercy, each good thing
Let praises ring

He shall from His great throne
E'er rule, and He alone
He Creator of all, does share
With us His care
Help us the gospel take
To others, for your sake
'Til all your fold be gathered in
And pure from sin

Lead us to serve humbly
Your Son always to see
Jesus, who for us His life gave

For us to save
Now risen evermore
In Him our strong hope sure
Of forgiveness, life eternal
We shall not fall

Christ Pre-eminent in Creation

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Colossians 1 v.15-18

Christ, image of the invisible
God, first in rank o'er creatures all
For by Him were all created
Not left to chance or mere fated

All things that are in heaven and earth
Visible, invisible, worth
He gave to all, deeds by God done
He working true through Christ His Son

And too made thrones and dominions
Rulers, authorities, each one
By Him and for Him all were made
His wonders to us here displayed

And He is before all things, see
And by Him all things consist, be
He is the head of the body
The church, in him it grows strong, free

He is the beginning, firstborn
From the dead on first Easter morn
That in all things pre-eminence
He may have, and forever hence

Taking Time

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

What scribblings, what musings?
What song heart sings?
While free time to meditate
Or contemplate
Using time wisely, not waste
Nor use in haste
The Lord's appointing each day
Seek Him and pray

Trust His life and love and power
Through each hour
Redeeming time, it be ours
Twenty-four hours
In each day, yet still abide
In Christ confide
Morning, night, and afternoon
With Him commune

Light and life and salvation
To each nation
He does bring, to Him praise sing
Rest 'neath His wing
Earthly time not last for e'er
But hope we share
Eternity with him spend
Christ our true Friend [of sinners]

Acceptable Aspirings

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalm 19 v.14

As sweet Psalmist did ask and pray
So I pray too today
Look on me, hear my prayer, my pleas
My intentions you see

Let the words of my mouth, let be
All wholesome and flow free
And meditation of my heart
Be pure in very part

So may all I do, think, or say
Through this and every day
Be acceptable in your sight
O LORD of power and might

For you, LORD, my strength, you sustain
Me through good, ill, or pain
And you my redeemer, I live
By graces that you give

Mission Message

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Matthew 4 v.13-17

Jesus left Nazareth*, did come
Unto Capernaum*
Which is on sea coast, in borders
Zabulon#, Nepthalim's# shoulders

That it might be fulfilled, was said
By Isaiah^, he led
To prophesy, saying, Christ He
To northern lands comes, see

Lands of Zabulon, Nepthalim
By way of the sea@, Him
See, you land beyond the Jordan
See Christ now, every one

Galilee of the Gentiles, who
People in darkness true+
Did see great light, Christ there revealed
His nature not concealed

And too they sat in the shadow
Of death, they shall now know
Christ's light, the regions illumined
Brightness does not rescind

Then Jesus He began to preach
That He all nations reach
Repent, for kingdom of heaven
Is near, be ready then

* Towns in Northern Israel

Areas in Northern Israel

^ An Old Testament prophet

@ The Sea of Galilee

+ The lands of the north (of Israel) were often
the first in the path of enemy invaders

Hear And Help

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 25 v.15-22

My eyes are ever to the LORD
I trust sure in His word
For He shall save m from snares made
Which enemies have laid

Turn to me, LORD, and have mercy
On me, I lonely, see
And afflicted am I, my heart
Trouble herein large part

O bring me out of my distress
See my affliction, bless
Me, and my pain do here relieve
Forgive me, me receive

Consider now my enemies
They many, on me seize
They hate me with cruel hatred
Would harm me, wish me dead

O keep my soul, deliver me
Let me not ashamed be
For I do put my trust in you
You shall help me anew

Let integrity, uprightness
Keep me, hold me, no less
For in faith I do on you wait
Come to me, help not late

Redeem Israel, O God, I pray
They your people today
Save them out of their troubles all
Trusting you they not fall

Joyful Journeying

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 119 v.105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet
And to worship you it is meet
And your word too a light it be
Unto my path, I clearly see

I have sworn I will carry out
Your righteous judgements, with no doubt
I them will keep, though afflicted
I am, O be not from me hid

Revive me, O LORD, according
unto your word, so will I sing
And offer freewill offerings
Teach me your judgements in all things

My soul is always in my hand
I am in troubles in this land
Yet I do not your law forget
And you have remained with me yet

The wicked a snare for me laid
Yet I erred not, was not waylaid
From your precepts, but still them did
E'en though I enemies amid

Your testimonies to me be
A heritage so rich and free
They the rejoicing of my heart
I delight in them, every part

My heart to your ways I inclined
And you have cleansed it and refined
Always I shall your statutes do
Perform each one, obeying you

Assured of Answers

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Psalm 28 v.6-9

Blessed be the LORD, because He heard
My supplication, prayer, each word
He did to my voice attend sure
By grace came to His throne before

The LORD is my strength and my shield
I look to Him, my concerns yield
My heart trusted Him, helped I be
For answers to my prayers I see

So my heart greatly does rejoice
With song I praise Him with my voice
The LORD is our strength, He upholds
Us by saving strength in His fold

Save your people, LORD, and do bless
Them, they your inheritance, yes
Feed them also, lift them up e'er
Sustained by you, your life they share

Pharisee And Publican

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Luke 18 v.10-14

Two men went to Temple
To prayer, they heard the call
And one a Pharisee
Other publican* be
They prayed there, trusting in their Lord
That He would hear their every word
*(*Publican = tax collector, not one in charge of a pub!)*

The Pharisee did stand
His good deeds not disband
But prayed thus with himself
Of his self-righteous wealth
Of how he was not like others
Nor like his publican brothers

He thanked God he was not
Like them, sinners their lot
They extort, are unjust
Adulterers with lust
But I fast twice in the week, do
Give tithes of all I possess too

The publican did stand
Not his good deeds expand
But stood afar off, eyes
Did not to heaven arise
He beat upon his breast, saying
I not worthy in anything

God be merciful to
Me a sinner, 'tis true
Our Lord said this man, he
Was justified, so be
And it was not the Pharisee
But was the publican, here see

Each one that exalts self
Speaking of own pride, wealth
Shall be abased, made low
And humbling they shall know
But each one that does self humble
Shall be exalted and not fall

Through Temptations

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

Luke 4 v.1-4 & v.14

Jesus by the spirit led
To the desert, He no bread
Nor other earthly food there
In wilderness He did share

Forty days and forty nights
No tasty foods or delights
But likely did drink water
Though hunger pains they did stir

The devil did tempt Him there
It is too much for to bear
If the Son of God you be
Turn these stones here to bread, see

But Jesus He did reply
Man not live by this supply
Shall not live by bread alone
But by each word of God known

Each word that does sure proceed
From mouth of God, each word heed
He returned from desert filled
With power, He did not yield

Not yield to the evil one
But empowered, He the Son
In the Spirit, temptations
Did overcome, e'en each one

Gospel Goings

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

A song from heart and soul
Arise within, not be dull
If heavy-hearted we
Help us, Lord, your light to see
You who do each heart know
Graces on us bestow
Turning from sin and shame
We glorify your name

A touch, an influence
Something of your presence sense
May we, e'en your Spirit
Who dwells within blest lives lit
By your light free and sure
The light of life e'ermore
Turning from dark to light
So illumined our sight

For things, tasks of each day
We ask for your power, pray
To serve acceptably
To know what your way, will be
Your promise not to leave
Us, 'tis true, no deceive
We frame our pleas to you
And offer praises true

We small, we here below
And yet with more ardent glow
May we in service shine

Fulfilling your plan divine
A gospel for to share
Help us leave fear and care
The seed on good soil sown
Yet some on path, thorns, stone

Salvation Sure

Tune: Ode To Joy

('Joyful, joyful, we adore thee')

Psalm 30 v.1-5 & v.10-12

I will extol you, O LORD, for
You have raised me up, 'tis sure
Not made my foes rejoice o'er me
But your saving help I see
O LORD my God, to you I cried
You have healed me, not denied
Brought up my soul from the low grave
Kept me alive, me did save

Sing to the LORD, saints, His people
Give thanks for His mercies all
Remembering His holiness
He will look to us, us bless
His anger endures a moment
Holds it not e'er, does relent
In His favour is life and grace
His benefits we may trace

Weeping may endure for a night
But joy comes with sweet delight
In the morning, the light does dawn
Stay not ever sad or mourn
Hear, O LORD, have mercy on me
And too my strong helper be
You have turned for me my mourning
Into dancing, praise I bring

You have put off my sackcloth dull
I rejoice with all my soul

You have girded me with gladness
Are good to me, I confess
So my tongue will sing to you praise
Not be silent, worship raise
O LORD my God, I will you give
Thanks for ever, you e'er live

Night And Light

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
('All praise to thee, my God this night')

Where we be gathered in each night
Help us recall those out of sight
The poor, the weak, vulnerable
You have on them compassion all

And too we share in ministry
Your lowly servants may we be
Though we cannot meets needs of all
Help us hear where you to us all

So share some light, Lord, it of you
That others see in us Christ true
Not of ourselves the honours take
Give you glory for your name's sake

That in each thing done to needy
It shall as if done to Christ be
We pray your light shine through us bright
Give peace to all through every night

National Book Day

Some assorted ramblings for today
Here it is - National Book Day (5th March)
I can't tell if this is gonna all rhyme
And whether it'll take a long or a little time
Ahh - rhyming so far.....

Are you bookish?
A book-worm?
Who you calling a worm?
As crops up in some of my poems
And some don't like being called sheep
In my 'Sheep and Shepherd' lines

You got your nose in a book?
What will it be?
Poetry, adventure, factual
Romance, nature, history
Serious, non-sensical
Fiction, non-fiction?

I've got to sort out me metres
And me iambic pentameters
If I knew what they were!

It's educational on 'ere, ya know
Raising the literary standard
Not any old rubbish!

I'll give ya some 'thee's and 'thou's if ya wish
Sometimes it makes poems easier to rhyme
But thou dost not speak in ye olde language
In everyday conversation today

Happy readings all!
Says I and Fido
Woof! He's a dog that can read, ya know
Here' s one of his favourite books in the clip
So whether serious, humorous, whatever genre
Or a load of waffle - enjoy!
What? 'No change there then'
You reply to my poems!

There's always 'The Good Book' too
Bet ya knew I would sneak that in somehow!
Heehee.

"So many books; so little time"
(Frank Zappa)

Heard And Helped

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Psalm 3 parts

You, O LORD, are a shield for me
Around me your protection be
You are my glory, and you raise
Up my head, not downcast, I praise

I cried to the LORD with my voice
He heard me, so I do rejoice
From His holy hill did attend
To me and His aid did me send

I laid me down, and slept in peace
Your care for me it did not cease
Through day and night, and when awake
Again, you do not me forsake

Salvation belongs to the LORD
And true and right e'er be His word
His blessing on His people be
He shall them from enemies free

Healing Help

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Matthew 15 v.29-31

Jesus came near Sea [of] Galilee
Went up into a mount did He
And sat down there, many people
Brought sick, infirm unto Him all

There were the lame, the dumb, the blind
And too midst crowd the maimed* we find (*crippled)
With many others, and they placed
Them at Jesus' feet, Him they face

And he did heal them, great wonders
Blessings upon them He confers
The people did wonder, marvel
As Jesus dealt with ailments all

For He did make the lame to walk
And too the dumb to speak and talk
The maimed to be whole, fully fit
The blind did see, their way was lit

So praise and thanks, they glorified
Him, healings could not be denied
And God His Father too they praised
For His fine workings there displayed

Persistent Progression

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Psalm 119 v.145-152

I cried with my whole heart, hear me
O LORD, look unto me, see
I will keep your statutes, for they
My guide be through night and day

I cried to you, LORD, O save me
I shall keep your commands free
I rose before dawn of morning
My calls for help I did bring

I hoped in your word, my eyes woke
Through the night, I to you spoke
And in your word did meditate
For your laws be to me great

Hear my voice, LORD, you loving-kind
Revive me, may it your mind
Be to do, for you judge justly
And i your true servant be

They draw near that mischief follow
They far from your law, I know
You are near, LORD, your commands all
Be truth, I follow, not fall

Concerning your testimonies
I have know of old, agrees
My soul that you have them founded
Them for ever, they grounded

Passover Pieces

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Parts of Psalms 113-118

Introduction:

Here extracts of some Psalms of Passover

When people's hearts to praise, worship do stir

Praising and thanking the LORD, they concur

Alleluia. Alleluia!

Psalm 113 v.3

From the rising of sun to going down

Throughout each land and country and each town

The LORD's name is to praised in renown

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 114 v.7-8

Tremble you earth here, at the LORD's presence

Worship before him and His greatness sense

He brought water from rock, His works seen thence

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 115 v.3

Our God is in the heavens, He has done

Whatsoever He has pleased, deeds each one

Beyond His possibility there none

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 116 v.7

Return unto your rest now, O my soul

Though burdens upon you did take their toll

The LORD's bounteous dealings make you whole

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 117 v.1-2

Praise, praise the LORD, all you nations, people
His merciful kindness is to us all
His truth endures for ever, we not fall
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 118 v.2-4

Let house of Israel, house of Aaron, priests
And all that fear the LORD share in His feasts
Say, His mercy endures e'er, e'en to least
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 118 v.14

The LORD is my strength, song, and salvation
Come, righteous, praise Him, out of each nation
High and low, great and small, every station
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Country Comforts

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Based on part of Psalm 93

The floods have lifted up their voice
We must turn back, we have no choice
Alleluia, Alleluia
For *Holy Brook** its banks have burst
To progress further we not durst (=dare)
Dry land is flooded, quenched its thirst
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

* *Or insert name of your local River or Brook*

As Jordan's banks did overflow
Here a true picture, even so
Alleluia, Alleluia
Cows of the meadows, in barns stalled
Farmers them to their shelters called
Fields as lakes, swans, geese not appalled
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The fields turned into water span
Keeping to path, only way can
Alleluia, Alleluia
We hope to pass [is] on higher ground
But near river no place is found
For our feet, return we are bound
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Help us Lord your ways, paths to know
Where impassable not to go
Alleluia, Alleluia
Sun's rays glinting on surface pool

Takes time for it to recede all
Trusting in you Lord we not fall
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Yet where way muddy, hazardous
You have gone the way before us
Alleluia, Alleluia
E'en on rugged paths, hill and dale
Though not always smooth be the trail
You e'er our guide, you ne'er us fail
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Lord on high is mightier
Than many waters that may stir
Alleluia, Alleluia
Through field and forest, town, country
If the way hard or lighter be
You bide with us eternally
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Just A Sec, etc.

A bit late now I know
'Twas 11 days ago!

How did ya spend that extra day?
At leisure, shopping?
With friends and family?
Or did ya stay in bed an extra day?

I remember that extra second we had one year
Did ya spend it well?
I remember all I could have done in it
Hope I didn't waste it

I mean - in that second we could have.....
Got 10 year's shopping done
Gone to the moon and back 100 times
Swam 200 lengths of a swimming pool
Flown round the world 300 times
Watched 'Neighbours' 400 times (arrgghh!)
Sang 500 songs
Arrggh - if I'm singing 'em!
I will duet with Fido
His howls will drown me out!

Yep, it's a full life, ya know
These are only examples -
Ya can think up your own
And there's plenty of seconds in a day

But how is this all possible?
Well, of course -
It's Cloud Cuckoo Land
Do ya know it well, as I do?!

Heehee

Protection - Peace Series (4)

Tune and Hymn: 'Peace, peace, Jesus is here'

Psalm 91 parts

Pace for they who do dwell
Under God's wing, they tell
Of His safe keeping sure
In His shadow e'ermore
There they shall all abide
There they reside

Because those who have made
The LORD their refuge staid
The Most High true He be
Their habitation, see
He will protect and keep
Each of His sheep

He shall give His angels
Charge o'er us, them he calls
To keep us all our days
Following in God's ways
Prospering, kept from harm
His joyful calm

Yet where there be troubles
We shall win through them all
By His grace, His working
For our good, he our King
Share in His sufferings
He us strength brings

Thankful Thoughts

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord thy word abideth')

Luke 17 v.11-19

Here return a small praise
Or be great anthems raise
To you Lord, King of Kings
To you creation sings

May we not ungrateful
Be, but trusting, faithful
As healed leper returned
To give thanks [he] was concerned

But Jesus did say where
Other nine, they who did share?
In the healing, restored
To glorify the Lord

In our pleas for mercy
Look on us Lord, us see
And may we return, give
Praise to you who e'er live

Moving Me

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Move me, Lord, your way to know
E'en when listless feelings show
Not comfort in apathy
Settle for, but willing be

To do your will, it to see
When with self it not agree
And too in times of ease, rest
Then too find in you we blest

Where we grow not much, barren
Or life same, tedious, then
Show your light, each step ahead
We still your sheep by you fed

If discouraged, dull, dark, gloom
As if seems a lifeless tomb
Come inspire, reveal, then on
Grow in image of your Son

It not without temptation
But there no weakness, not one
That you unaware not know
You lived amidst us below

Though our path will never be
As difficult as yours, we
Seek with your grace to obey
Ever to Light's endless day

Peaceful Paths

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Isaiah 26 v.3-4

You will keep them in perfect peace
Will from worries, cares, fears release
They whose mind is upon you set
Lord, and they shall have no regret

Mind kept on you, because they trust
In you great Lord, though they are dust
Trust in the LORD for evermore
The LORD JEHOVAH strong and sure

For in Him is everlasting
Strength, and we unto Him do sing
He the Rock of Ages firm stands
Defends, protects, throughout all lands

So when we doubt or disbelieve
Forgive, give faith for to believe
Trusting not ourselves, but to you
Looking always, you us renew

Servant Sensibility

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Isaiah 42 v.1-4

See my servant whom I uphold
He Shepherd of the fold
My chosen one, God's servant He
Christ Jesus His Son be

The Lord's Spirit is on Him sure
He shall do justice pure
Shall not cry out, nor His voice raise
But bring salvation's days

Shall not be shouting harsh or shrill
Not wish to any ill
Not boasting, proud, but humble He
Obedient will be

A bruised reed shall He not break, for
He it shall true restore
Smoking flax, dimly burning light
Not quench, but re-ignite

He shall not fail nor discouraged
Be, but as encouraged
Shall set His judgements here below
E'en coasts His law shall know

Ravens Response

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Based on 1 Kings 17 v.2-6

Lord, we trust you provide
In you we confide
Feed us still like ravens
Fed Elijah then

Raven with bread in beak
Sustain us when weak
Seen on village green you
Feed fledglings anew

Yet come feed us also
The Lord's hand we know
Fly to us provision
Satisfy each one

As in Elijah's days
He trusts you, he prays
Ravens to brook do bring
Him each needful thing

He, we, not deserted
Sill by you we fed
And watered, so helped we
By your grace still be

Guided By Grace

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 5 parts

Give ear, O LORD, to me
My words hear, my state see
Consider my meditation
There greater than you none

To you LORD will I pray
In morning of the day
Or afternoon or evening cry
Or night-time by and by

Lead me LORD in your way
Of righteousness each day
Guard me from paths of enemies
Before you each one flees

Make your way here now straight
Before me, not mere fate
For your way be right, and I take
That route e'en for your sake

Let all who trust in you
Be joyful now anew
Because you defend them, as shield
To them, safe in your field

Prayer Prosperity

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Based on a Collect = Formal Prayer

Lord, you who sure be more ready
To hear us, than we to pray
Inspire us, that we pray steady
Continue each day

And you give more than we deserve
Or desire, please may be small
Strengthen us that we shall still serve
You and hear your call

So hear, answer us by your grace
Do what best for us shall be
That we your will, purposes trace
And your guidance see

Light of life, come, upon us shine
Clear the darkness, dispel night
Branches biding in you, the vine
Bring good fruit to sight

Selfless Suffering

Tune: Merton

('Hark a herald voice is sounding')

1 Peter 2 v.21-25

Christ suffered, and example left
Us, in troubles not bereft
Are we, for He endured sinless
Gave His life for us no less

That we in our sufferings here
Our feet in His steps should steer
Who did no sin, neither was guile
Found in His mouth, no defile

When He was reviled, His response
Not to revile even once
When He suffered, did not threaten
Trusted in the Judge of men

He committed Himself unto
He that judges righteous, true
God His Father, Christ His Son, we
Perfect relationship see

Christ in His own body did bear
Our sins on the cross, was there
On Calvary, that we should die
To sins, and to Him draw nigh

And so that we live righteously
By His wounds, stripes we healed be
Lost sheep we were, now we extol
Shepherd, Bishop of our souls

Watching And Waiting

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord hear my prayer')

Psalm 130

Out of the depths here
LORD, I cry, be near
And unto me appear
O LORD, hear my voice
By grace I your choice
And in you I rejoice

O let your ears hear
My prayer to you dear
Inspire me with your fear* (*awe)
If you, LORD, should keep
The sins of your sheep
We be in troubles deep

But there forgiveness
With you is, you bless
In awe of you, confess
We that you are great
We left not to fate
Waiting on you, our state

I wait on you more
Than they who for sure
Watch for the morning pure
After a dark night
Comes again your light
And too spiritual sight

Let Israel hope all

In you, LORD, and call
On you, so they not fall
For mercy there be
With you, and too see
Redeemed, you set us free

Whatever The Way

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

In times restricted or without
Some things a while, though not to doubt
But trust in you, Lord, that w go
Your way, though sometimes hardship know

May we not take for granted here
Everyday things that appear
Your way, your will, to put it first
To hunger rafter you and thirst

If find some unnecessary
Things we can do without, so be
Whether for short time or for long
Yet unto you still be our song

For you the Lord, you do not change
We shall not find uncertain, strange
Your guidance, leading, for you do
Promise good to who follow you

Though if we will follow you, see
You say take up our cross daily
To self-deny, not what we will
But seeking your will and way still

Through deserts, lonely lands may you
Go with us, strengthen us anew
Who travelled though bare wilderness
Tempted forty days, nights, no less

Holding On To Hope

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Habakkuk* 3 v.16-19

*'Habba-cook': Old Testament prophet

Though we not come so far
Extinguished not our star
Yet Habakkuk his prayer did say
When he in desperate days

Though fig tree not blossom
No fruit there, not e'en some
Nor grapes in the vine, olive tree
Is barren and bare, see

And if fields no food yield
Not restored and not healed
And flock be cut off from the fold
Not one sheep there be told

And no herd in the stalls
The earthly scene appals
Yet will he, prophet, still rejoice
In the LORD, He his choice

God of his salvation
And unto each nation
The LORD God, he his strength, He will
Uphold prophet's way still

So as prophet of old
Keep us, we in your fold
Act for ur good, mercy and grace

And your love may we trace

Trusting you will provide

Help us not hoard or hide

But share with needy, may day dawn

Soon, your restoring morn

On Through The Valley

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord teach us how to pray aright')

In your Communion we be
Met in spirit, soul, see
Though we not physically partake
Yet we join for your sake

You still give bread, wine spiritual
Though we are not met all
In person round your table here
You in our hearts appear

Maintaining love and friendship, care
You give us grace to bear
Till day comes soon, we pray, we meet
To worship at your feet

Give help and aid to solitary
Where we seem unfriendly
But for everyone's good it be
May we be wise, agree

To distance self in person, though
Still human kindness know
Our pain, hurt, feelings ne'er as deep
As you did toil and weep

In desert and Gethsemane
And on to Calvary
Then resurrection, sinner's Friend
Your mercies us defend

Prospering Presence

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Psalm 85

LORD, to our land you have favour shown
Your presence, blessings, here be known
You have brought back the captivity
Of your people [from exile], settled the be

You have forgiven your people's sin
Have come to us, cleansed us within
Your wrath you have all taken away
Show us mercy, not anger this day

Turn us, restore us to you, we pray
Will you be angry now, alway?
Will you not revive us again so
We in you rejoice, praises show?

Show us your mercy, LORD, and grant us
Your salvation, e'en unto us
I will hear what the LORD will no speak
His words of peace to humble, meek

But let us not turn unto folly
For there the unwise pathway be
Surely His salvation it be night
They that fear hlm, to Him ally

So then shall glory dwell in our land
The LORD's works done by His good hand
Mercy and truth are met together
Righteousness, peace, they have kissed there

Truth shall spring from the earth, righteousness
Shall look from heaven and us bless
The LORD shall that which is good us give
Our land shall prosper, we shall live

Righteousness shall before Him go sure
Set us in His steps evermore
Lead us to follow, daily growing
And our true worship to you bring

Sharing In Service

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to: 'O Jesus I have promised')

Acts 4 v.33-37

In early church the multitude
Each other's care they viewed
Believers of one heart and soul
They did hear the Lord's call
None said that any of their things
Was their own, each one brings
Possessions to a common pool
They shared out between all

With great power apostles they
Gave witness in their day
Witness of the resurrection
Of Jesus to each one
And great grace was upon them all
Supportive, they not fall
Nor did any lack for they shared
Their goods, and each well fared

Even those with houses or lands
Sold them, and with their hands
Brought proceeds of things that were sold
Heart's love did not grow cold
For apostle distributed
To each as had need, did
So Barnabas too, it is told
Having land, he it sold

Expectant Encounters

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Acts 5 v.15-16

Days of the early church, there be
Many signs, wonders, see
And too, Lord, show your healing power
To us this day, this hour

They brought forth the sick into streets
For them it no great feats
For thy expectant God would heal
And act for their good weal* (*well-being)

In the streets, infirm were placed there
But not on pavement bare
On beds and couches, awaiting
What God's power would bring

For they hoped at least the shadow
Of Peter they would know
Apostle who passed among them
In town, Jerusalem

Not magical, but shadow fall
On them, and heal them all
E'en without a touch in person
The Lord worked, healed each one

Meanwhile....

Meanwhile.... in Cuckoo Land

Dunno where it is mind ya

There's an epidemic of some sort there too

They are refusing to stay indoors

Look - everyone is about still

Football is on, pubs are open

All sorts of things

That are nightmares in the real world at present

But look - suddenly -

A threat to make them stop in their tracks

Instantly, striking fear into them

Making them all dash indoors pronto

They've known it happen before though

When there was no crisis

Now - what can it be?

This thing, this horror

This unbearable torment

(Surely it's not that bad Orchi? Yep, it is!)

Leave me not in agony

Reveal to me what it is.....

OK I will - it's just that I uttered them words again:

"I'm gonna sing!" (heehee)

Stay safe and well, all of you :)

Remember this is from my imaginary book

Entitled 'Meanwhile....'

Lonely Likenesses

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

A Maundy [Thursday] feel, a town, quiet, bare
Something of you we do share
Lord, of your loneliness, sorrow
That you facing the cross did know

Yet cannot be same cross you bore
That they on Calvary saw
For you did suffer us to save
Your life there once for all you gave

Emotional the hurt and pain
But trust we shall meet again
We must for hopeful short-term bear
That then we see in person, share

A searching of our minds and hearts
Whatever ways, whate'er parts
We are affected, way, shape, form
Continuing on through the storm

We pray help to those poor, needy
And to the vulnerable be
If your love seems dimmed, it still shines
Through darkness with its beams divine

So altar stripped, Good Friday neared
And church of vessels gone, cleared*
But soon comes morn, resurrection
Your salvation to every one

* This happens at the end of the
service on Maundy Thursday.

Believers Betray?

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

John 13 v.21

At the Last Supper, Jesus did
Reveal betrayer, was not hid
Was Judas, he would do the deed
The devil planted evil seed

Jesus was troubled, He did know
Which of disciples would do so
For pieces of silver thirty
Enough price for Judas it be

Yet help us Lord, forgive where we
Betray, forget you for nought, see
Our love grows cold, desire does fade
Casual of sacrifice you made

Restore us, heal, and fervent flame
Kindle in hearts, the Spirit same
He be the one, us empowers
Gives us your blessings dew-showers

Discerning Distancing

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Partly based on Isaiah 65 v.5

Stand not by me in person, be
A distance off from me (2 metres)
Though meaning it physically
Yet not spiritually

For 'tis for good of all concerned
We have guidance discerned
Put into practice, our part play
Longing for healing days

Not in sense, Come not near me for
I holier for sure
Than you are, do not me approach
Or I thus you reproach

Yet truth, there are favourites none
Impartial to each one
Is the Lord, and forgiven we
Are, if penitent, see

Sheep Selected

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Matthew 25 v.34-40

At Judgement, King will say
Come, you blessed today
You sheep at my right hand
Gathered from each land
You of my Father blessed
Now midst heavenly guests
Share in eternal bliss
Ready now, all this

The kingdom inherit
With lasting light lit
It prepared for you here
Its fullness you share
Ready since foundation
Of the world for each one
Has it been, sheep come in
For here be no sin

For I was hungry, you
Gave me food anew
I was thirsty, and you
Gave me to drink too
I was a stranger here
You helped me, calmed my fear
Took me in, gave shelter
Kindness not defer

I needed clothes, your aid
Garments me arrayed

I was sick, you did see
Came to visit me
I was in prison bound
You came to me, me found
You did these things to lest
Now come, share my feast

Christ you did not ignore
But served Him for sure
When e'en you unto one
Of the least, deed done
Happy your hears be e'er
You did show love and care
Rejoice, you good, faithful
You obeyed Christ's call

Salvation Sharing

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Acts 9 v.32-43 parts

Peter unto Lydda came - Alleluia!

Sometimes called Lod, town the same - Alleluia

There he did find Aeneas* (*E-knee-us) - Alleluia

Came to him in his distress - Alleluia

For he bed-ridden eight years - Alleluia

Yet now to him hope appears - Alleluia

He though paralysed was healed - Alleluia

As Peter to him appealed - Alleluia

Aeneas, Jesus Christ makes - Alleluia

You whole, He your sickness takes - Alleluia

Arise, make your bed and go - Alleluia

He did so, others did know - Alleluia

They did see his healing there - Alleluia

Lydda and Sharon* did share (*Share-on, town)

They turned to the Lord, Him praised - Alleluia

Thankful to Him, worship raised - Alleluia

And at Joppa Tabitha - Alleluia

Dorcas, Gazelle, name for her - Alleluia

Full of good works and alms-deeds - Alleluia

Helping to meet many needs - Alleluia

She became sick, then she died - Alleluia

People there did then confide - Alleluia

In Peter, for he was near - Alleluia

Came to them, said, Do not fear - Alleluia

Weeping widows showed coats to - Alleluia
Him that she had made, old, new - Alleluia
Peter went alone and prayed - Alleluia
By her bedside he was stayed - Alleluia

He turned unto her and said - Alleluia
Tabitha, arise, from dead - Alleluia
She did, and opened her eyes - Alleluia
And sat up, there no denies - Alleluia

He showed her to people, so - Alleluia
That she was alive they know - Alleluia
This caused them too to believe - Alleluia
In the Lord and Him receive - Alleluia!

Living at Peace with Others - Peace Series(5)

Tune: Merrial

('Now the day is over')

Romans 12 v.12 v.17-21

Repay no one evil
To no one ill-will
Have regard for good things
Christ's presence this brings

Living honestly, so
Each person shall know
And see you a witness
Of Christ sure through this

If it be possible
Live in peace with all
Do as much on your part
To maintain good heart

Drawing on resources
Of the Spirit, this
Will help you, empower
Desired peace [will] flower

Leave vengeance to the Lord
To repay, His word
Shall be just and righteous
And comfort to us

Be not overcome by
Evil when 'tis nigh
But do overcome it
With good, light be lit

Veil of the Valley

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

On through the valley, trials, tribulations
Whate'er particular affects each one
All that we know, all we not know, you know
Lord, all things in heaven and earth below

For your never-failing omniscience
And all-embracing your omnipotence
Nothing ever outside of your control
Help us through troubles still your praise extol

Valley of death, of darkness, vale of tears
A little life we have, it brief appears
We helpless, hopeless, here without your aid
Yet trusting in you we not be afraid

Valley of Baca*, weeping, it we may
Turn it to a well, pray your healing day
Upon us dawn, glimmers of hope we see
Light shine through death's dark pall to victory

As a vast cloud of incense prayers do rise
To you Lord Almighty above the skies
Yet by your Spirit dwelling in our hearts
Your comfort from us never it departs

We small, flesh as grass, glory as flower
Defend us by your grace, each, every hour
Cast us not off, have mercy still, we pray
Our Lord and Saviour, ever with us stay

* Psalm 84 v.6 Baca = Weeping

On The Royal Road

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Matthew 21 v.4-16 parts

Chorus

Tell in Zion the people

Your king comes to you all

Meek, riding on a donkey

Humble procession be

Disciples, donkey and colt

Did fetch, the did not bolt

Special mission to carry

The Saviour, lowly He - Chorus

A great crowd there did gather

In rejoicing did share

Spread their garments in the way

That Jesus passed that day - Chorus

Palm branches waved, and the road

With them they too bestowed

"Hosanna to David's son"

"Save now, Lord", holy one - Chorus

"Blessed He that comes in the name

Of the Lord", they proclaim

"Hosanna in the highest"

Then so their lips confessed - Chorus

The children in the temple

Joined in the praises all

From mouths of babes and sucklings

God perfect praises brings - Chorus

Ride on, and bring salvation

To each, every nation

Your cross before your crown borne

Then resurrection morn - Chorus

Trusting True

Tune: Everlasting Love

('Loved with everlasting love')

Psalm 27 parts

The LORD my light, salvation
Who shall I fear of nation?
The LORD of my life the strength
He will help soon or at length
Whom shall I fear with Him nigh?
Unto Him my prayer, my cry
Whom shall I fear with Him nigh?
Unto Him my prayer, my cry

One thing of Him I desired
With it my heart's passion fired
That will i seek after, so
His presence sure I will know
What can it be, what this thing?
What causes my soul to sing?
What can it be, what this thing?
What causes my soul to sing?

'Tis that I may here reside
Dwell in His house, here abide
All the days of my life to
Behold His beauty anew
And in His temple enquire
Of the LORD, He near, not far
And in His temple enquire
Of the LORD, He near, not far

I had fainted here unless
I had trusted you to bless

In th land of the living
of your goodness I will sing
Wait in faith on Him, your heart
He strengthens, courage, each part
Wait in faith on Him, your heart
He strengthens, courage, each part

Mark's Passion Missive

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Mark 15 v.33-39

Jesus crucified, noon-tide dark
A scene so bleak and stark
O'er the whole land for hours three
Christ's agonies here, see

Then with loud voice, Jesus did cry
God His Father not nigh
'My God, my God, why have you me
Forsaken?', my help be

'Eloi, Eloi', His cry, they said
To Elijah He pled
One to Him vinegar offered
Some comforting conferred

Then Jesus with final loud cry
Did breathe His last and die
Temple curtain in two was torn
And people there did mourn

His Passion did bring salvation
As said centurion
Stood there, said, 'Truly this man He
The Son of God sure be'

Prayer for Peter

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Luke 22 v.31-34 & v.61-62

Jesus did say to Simon {Peter} true
Satan has desired to have you
That he may sift you as wheat, make
Your faith fail and to it forsake

But I have prayed for you, so be
That your faith does not fail in me
And when you have turned again, you
Strengthen then my people anew

Lord, he replied, I am willing
And ready to leave everything
To go with you into prison
And unto death, too said each one

Each one of the disciples there
Who did in the Last Supper share
But Jesus said to Peter, see
This not the way that it shall be

For I tell you, the cockerel
Shall not crow before, I well know
Before you shall thrice have denied
That you have known me, so replied

At Jesus' arrest it was so
Peter denied Him, He did know
Cockerel crowd, Peter recalled
The Lord's words, and wept bitter all

Lamenting The Light

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, now wounded')

Luke 23 v.26-32

Journeying on your Passion
Simon chosen, he one
Of Cyrene, made to bear
Your cross, Jesus, right there
On way to be crucified
For us you bled and died
Sinners Friend, taking my place
And all of every race

Great multitude bewailing
Lamenting, sorrowing
Yet Jesus says, Weep not for
Me, but for yourselves sure
Faithful women and loyal
Now in distress and toil
Weep for yourselves and children
And husbands too, your men

For days are coming when they
Shall say, when in dismay
Blessed are the barren, childless
They shall not see distress
When 'tis said, You mountains fall
On us, hills cover all
Of us, for now 'green-tree days'
What shall be done [in] 'dry days'?

Grievous Gethsemane

Tune: Horsley

('There is a green hill far away')

Luke 22 v.39-46

Jesus came to Gethsemane
His soul heavy it be
Said to disciples, Here do stay
In garden, watch and pray

Pray, so you not enter into
Temptations old or new
Then He a little way off went
To pray was His intent

Saying, Father, if you willing
Remove my suffering
But not what I will, but what you
Will be done, ever true

An angel then to Him appeared
From heaven , His soul seared
Angel did Him strengthen, that He
Freshly emboldened be

In an agony, He prayed more
Earnestly, and for sure
His sweat was as great drops of blood
An over-spilling flood

Then after, still disciples slept
Had not their vigil kept
For human tiredness and sorrow
In garden they did know

Lord, who for me brought salvation
Died, then rose for each one
Help us pray, wake, not sleep, so we
Shall from temptation flee

Easter Eve Experience

Tune: Holton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Matthew 27 v.57-66 & 28 v.1-6

Joseph of Arimathea

See him at Passion scene here

Boldly of Pilate, does request

That he grant him his behest

That he may take Jesus' body

Prepare for burial, see

Laid it in his own new tomb, too

Other witnesses did view

There two Marys, they observing

What did happen, everything

Then Passover* day the next day

Chief priests, Pharisees did say

Did say to Pilate, Please command

That there be no sleight of hand

That Jesus' disciples at night

Move His body out of sight

Guard granted, sealed the tomb-stone sure

It was as the entrance door

But on the first day of the week**

Marys to the tomb did seek

Then great earthquake, and an angel

Rolled stone away, and did tell

Marys that the tomb was empty

And that Jesus risen be

Awesome, countenance as lightning
Fear, dread to the guard did bring
The angel, and raiment snow-white
Messenger of heavenly light

* Passover = Saturday in that particular year
(more accurately, Friday dusk ot Saturday dusk)
** First day of the week = Sunday
(more accurately, Saturday dusk to Sunday dusk)

Resurrection Rhapsody

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Matthew 28 v.1-10

Christ arisen from the dead - Alleluia!
Now e'er lives our risen Head - Alleluia!
Two Marys, they came forlorn - Alleluia!
To tomb on the Sunday morn - Alleluia!

Great earthquake, angel descends - Alleluia!
Land does shake and rocks do rend - Alleluia!
Rolled back stone from tomb entrance - Alleluia!
Christ He had arisen thence - Alleluia!

Guards at tomb did shake fro fear - Alleluia!
When the angel did appear - Alleluia!
They became like dead men there - Alleluia!
But Marys they did well fare - Alleluia!

Angel said, Fear not, for you - Alleluia!
Seek Jesus, crucified true - Alleluia!
But He not here, see the place - Alleluia!
Where the Lord lay, here it trace - Alleluia!

Go quickly, tell disciples - Alleluia!
He is risen from dead all - Alleluia!
Goes before to Galilee - Alleluia!
There you shall meet Him, Him see - Alleluia!

They left tomb with awe, great joy - Alleluia!
Nothing did their pursuit cloy - Alleluia!
On the way, Jesus them met - Alleluia!
His 'All hail' they ne'er forget - Alleluia!

They held His feet, did worship - Alleluia!
Gave Him praise in life and lip - Alleluia!
Jesus said, Go tell brethren - Alleluia!
See me in Galilee then - Alleluia!

Natural Neighbours

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Luke 10 v.25-37

A good Samaritan
Did help his neighbour when
He saw him injured on the road
Along which he had trode

For a Jew did travel
And took his journey all
From Jerusalem made his way
To Jericho that day

But thieves did then attack
Him, He could not go back
Though priest passed by on other side
Levite did from him hide

But there in compassion
E'en help other nation
Samaritan his wounds did bind
And for him shelter find

He took him to an inn
Gave the keeper therein
Two pence* for his keep, and if more (*two denarii - two days wages)
He would pay keeper sure

So which one was neighbour
To man who was robbed sure?
Asked Jesus, a lawyer replied
Toe one who stood beside

Not only stood, but gave
His love, and helped to save
Showed mercy on him Christ replied
Go you and do likewise

Communion Call

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Lord you call us, here partake
Of the rich feast that you do make
For you the bread of life be
And living water, e'en to me
Feed us, guide us, grace supplying
You giver of every good thing

We come to you, hearts prepare
In Communion we a share
Have, by you strengthened, sustained
By no merits of our own gained
But our trust is in you alone
For 'tis only you who atone

Hope of sins forgiven, we
Believe you did there on the tree
The cross, where your life you gave
Us sinners to redeem and save
This the gospel message ever
Steadfast, sure, unchanging never

Your people, your church you build
We offer ourselves to you, yield
Show us your way, your will true
Give grace and daily us renew
Onwards, constant, loving, serving
All our worship to you we bring

An insensitive.....ooh!

C'mon now - I don't care
About this crisis!
It probably don't exist even
So say some mad folk
Icke and Co!
I thought we had enough of their madness
Their first time around

C'mon now
I'm starting a Funding Page
For poor Branson
He must keep his private island you know
Oh it don't matter -
There's people suffering and dying
So what?
As long as 'I'm all right Jack!'

Throw in ya couple of quid or dollars
It'll all help, ya know
Never mind Tesco's 'Every little help'
People like Branson are in urgent need of it
Though he can't take it with him when he dies
(Nor can anyone)

Ohhhh - &^*%\$()&%\$£&
(&^%\$£!!()) (^%\$£()
(^%\$\$())^\$**!!!
(Are ya ears burning now?)

Gotta mark this 18+ now
Or Fido will bark furiously at me
Don't let him meet Branson
He'll go for his jugular

As if in a rabid fury!

C'mon, pay up now

All contributions gratefully received

Doh!

Tree-Trust

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 52 v.8-9

I be like a green olive tree
Dear is my Lord to me
A tree within God's house, I grow
More of Him seek to know

I trust in God's mercy for e'er
With me He does it share
And unto all who do believe
They too His grace receive

I will praise you for ever, for
You acted for me sure
Your name is good, your saints do say
Now dawned redemption's day

For by His power, I saved each hour
Foes not me devour
Though self I cannot save, 'tis he
All my salvation be

Nature Notes

Tune: Gelobt Sei Gott (Praise the Lord)
('Christ is the King, O friends rejoice')

Trees you have now burst forth in green
Leaves now found where had barren been
From your Winter, Spring-time now seen
Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lambs skip for joy, you rams and ewes
Signs of new life and country viws
And hope of the gospel, good news
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Show forth you flowers, grace-carpet
The Lord continue faithful yet
To bless the seasons, not forget
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Showers to refresh, dew's blessing
To quench land's thirst, reach everything
And too bright days, sunshine you bring
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Inspire our hearts where locked within
And do renew us, cleanse from sin
So we fresh praises shall begin
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Pleasant times too through valley we
Can know, and still you good hand see
Good of man to man done freely
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Restrain the evil, Lord you reign
Victor o'er death, never again
Shall you die, your light shines unfeign
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Delightful Desires

Tune: Coelites Plaudant (The Radiance of Applause)
('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

Psalm 84 v.1-2

How lovely your tabernacles, LORD of hosts
My soul delights in them and of your name boasts
It longs, yes, faints for your courts, there to abide
For there you do reside

Psalm 84 v.11

The LORD God, He a sun and shield to us is
He will give grace and glory to us, 'tis bliss
No good thing will he withhold from the upright
Those righteous in His sight

Psalm 85 v.7-8

Show us your mercy, LORD, grant your salvation
Unto all great and small, peoples of each nation
I will hear what He unto His people will speak
Peace to lowly and meek

Psalm 85 v.10-11

Mercy and truth are met together, e'en yet
Righteousness and peace kissed each other when met
Truth from the earth shall spring, fruitful abounding
Unto life e'erlasting

Emmaus Enlightening

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.26-35 parts

Jesus on the Emmaus road
To two disciples showed
His risen self, and did explain
And made the Scriptures plain

Made them plain, saying, Ought Christ not
To have suffered, His lot
To be, and so enter glory?
Which His forever be

He went in to stay with them there
That night and with them share
Bread, and then they did recognise
Him with their opened eyes

Then He did vanish, they did say
Our hearts did burn this day
For He did meet us, to us talk
On our Emmaus walk

Then to Jerusalem again
They returned there and then
Seven and a half miles each way
Fifteen miles walked that day

They said, The Lord is risen, true
We saw Him, did Him view
We knew Him in breaking of bread
By Him we ever fed

Comforter Companion

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, holy dove')

John 14 v.16-18

Jesus to the Father prays
And after not any days
The Comforter, Spirit, He
Shall be given, see

Given to us that He may
Bide with us, e'er with us stay
For ever, He not depart
Inhabits each heart

Even spirit of truth He
Eternally so He be
The world cannot him receive
For they not believe

They do not see him or know
But believers here below
May know Him, for He does dwell
In our hearts, we tell

Jesus will not lave us be
Comfortless, pitiable
But will come to us and stay
In the Spirit's day

Captivating Creation

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 104 v.1-5

Bless the LORD, O my soul, Him bless
And His good name confess
He is very great, and is clothed
With majesty bestowed

And honourable too He be
Covers self with light, see
As if a garment, so He wears
Light, none with Him compares

He stretches out heavens, outlaid
They as curtains displayed
He founded the depths, the waters
Made from His treasure stores

He makes the clouds His chariot
His greatness not forgot
He walks upon the wind, its wings
To Him creation sings

He makes His angels spirits pure
They Him worship, adore
They His ministers, servants are
Made by Him flames of fire

He laid foundations of the earth
Brings all things new to birth
So it is staid, and not removed
His power He has proved

Sheep Sustenance

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

Sustain us, your sheep we pray
And guide us e'er in your way
Through pastures green pleasantly
Or hard where the way may be
Looking to you, who us feed
Good Shepherd, meeting our need

Bread and wine you do provide
Unto us it not denied
Your our life, our strength, abide
By your Spirit, still reside
In harts, lives, people we trust
In you Lord, through we are dust

You leave us not comfortless
But come to us, do us bless
Onwards, fields, fountains, moors, plains
Valleys, hills, pray favour deigns
Upon us, do still us keep
We your people, we your sheep

So fed with food spiritual
And too our needs physical
Discovering more of you
Who show us your mercies true
'Til forever with you we
E'er gathered in your fold be

Burden Bearer

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord, hear my prayer')

Psalm 55 v.17-22 parts

Evening and morning
My prayer you I bring
Look on me, hear each thing
That I humbly ask
Be it small, great task
I sincere, with no mask

He shall come, save me
Show mercy, so be
With His love, strong and free
Deliver my soul
From enemies toll
Restore and make me whole

Cast your burden here
On the LORD, Him fear
Be in awe, He is near
He shall you sustain
His help you shall gain
Secure with none of feign

He shall not permit
The righteous one whit
To be moved, their path lit
With His presence clear
He does so appear
Safe we be, unmoved here

Prayers In Perils

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 57 v.1-3

Be merciful to me
Lord, do my troubles see
In shadow of your wings I trust
I who am small and dust

Here will I sure abide
Here my refuge, I hide
Until these troubles have passed by
I still shall know you nigh

I to the Lord will call
God most high over all
He does for me all things perform
I safe through each life's storm

He shall from heaven me aid
I trust in Him, am staid
He shall from reproach, snares save me
Mercy, truth to me be

Saying, Doing, Livng

Tune: Sussex

('one tune to: 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Colossians 3 v.23 & 4 v.2-6

Continue in prayer, be watching
In the same with thanksgiving
Live wisely among all people
Glorifying God in all

Redeem the time, it now waste not
Make most of appointed lot
Let your speech be always with grace
That others your meekness trace

Speak with grace, and seasoned with salt
Not promoting blame or fault
But be wise, that you may know how
To answer each person now

Whatsoever you do, so do
It heartily, even you
Do it as to the Lord, not men
What does please Him once again

Easter Evidences

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

John 20 v.1-18 parts

Th first day of the week, Sunday
Mary Magdelene, yea
When it was yet dark, came unto
Jesus' tomb anew
She did see the stone rolled away
From the entrance that day
Then ran back to the disciples
And told them story all

She did tell Peter and John how
Stone was rolled away now
And said, The Lord they have taken
From there, I know not when
Nor where they have now laid Him for
Tomb was empty for sure
Peter and John to tomb they went
In haste, with no relent

John, he did arrive first, and he
Stooped down to look and see
He saw linen clothes lying there
Then Peter scene did share
Went into tomb, saw linen too
And face cloth he did view
That was round Jesus' head, now see
Wrapped by itself it be

Then John went into tomb also
He saw, believed, did know

Now that Christ from dead arisen
Fulfilling Scriptures then
Then they went home, but Mary
Stayed at the tomb, and she
Saw Christ in the garden revealed
Her fears and frets were stilled

Loving-kind Light

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 36 v.7-12

How great, O LORD, and loving-kind
In large measure do we find
You to be and therefore we do
Trust 'neath your wings now anew

You give satisfaction, fullness
River of your pleasures bless
Us, for with you is fount of life
Here found peace, freedom from strife

For in your light we shall see light
All revealed clear to our sight
Continue your loving-kindness
In your mercy e'en to us

And show upright your righteousness
Your goodness we shall confess
Proud and wicked shall fall, they be
Not able to rise, we see

Assured Alignment

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Psalm 119 v.153-160

Consider my affliction
You do know and see each one
Deliver me, for I do
Your law not forget, nor you

Plead my cause, and deliver
By your word do me assure
Salvation from the wicked
Is far away, from them hid

For they not your statutes seek
Here revealed to humble, meek
Great are your tender mercies
Help me Lord, my soul them sees

Many my persecutors
Enemy against me stirs
Yet till I do not decline
From your testimonies fine

I the transgressors beheld
And was grieved, for each they held
To their sins, kept not your word
Turned from it, and it not heard

Consider how I love so
Your precepts, LORD, and them know
Revive me LORD, loving kind
So you act, we sure do find

Your word from the beginning
Is true, we it speak and sing
And hear your righteous judgements
They endure e'er, you them sent

Salvation Strength

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Hebrews 2 v.14-18

As we partake human frame
Of flesh and blood the same
So Christ did also share in
Our nature, yet no sin
Was found in Him, full divine
And full human, the line
Of David was His birth here
He did on earth appear

That through death He might destroy
The devil, each trick, ploy
Who had the power of death
To fright each trembling breath
Of humans while they living
Christ deliverance did bring
To those who through death's fear found
Were all their lifetime bound

For truly Christ the nature
Of angels took not sure
But took on nature human
For each child, woman, man
And so like us He was made
Trusting His Father, staid
So that He might be a priest
To greatest and to least

A merciful and faithful
High priest, He over all

In things to God pertaining
Our Saviour and our King
To make the reconciling
For sins of people, bring
Himself as the whole offering
And not lacking one thing

For in the life that He led
Suffered being tempted
He is able to help those
That are tempted, He knows
Lord, help us see you before
Us went, holy and pure
Our confidence, faith in you
Our eternal priest view

Praise Series - Chagag

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

'Chagag', to celebrate, observe
Festivals without reserve
Expressions of joy and marching
In procession of our King

To be giddy, move in circle
And to employ dances all
To reel to and fro, as drunken
As filled with the Spirit then

Psalm 42 v.5

In our mourning or oppression
We remember good times when
We went to the house of God to
Praise Him with voice of joy new

Joy and praise and great thanksgiving
We offered our Lord and King
Gathered with those, a multitude
Kept holy day, it renewed

So be not cast down, O my soul
The Lord will help, make you whole
You will again praise Him here for
He is your saving health sure

Just Judgement

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Romans 2 v.6-10 parts

God will judge righteously, render
To very one tender
According to their deeds they do
Whether many or few

To those who patient continue
In well doing, they who
Seek for glory, honour, and set
On immortality yet

To those shall be given reward
Eternal life, their Lord
Shall grace them with His presence sweet
They worship at His feet

And glory, honour, and peace be
To all who work good, see
To Jews and Gentiles, so they share
In God's right judgements fair

Salvation Sureties

Tune: Hyrfrydol

('Alleluia, sing to Jesus')

Lord, my footsteps, guide me and keep
In your fold, one of your sheep
You have more sheep which to gather
To know you and the Father
Fill us with your Spirit's power
To evangelise each hour
Taking opportunities bold
Grant our love may not grow cold

Telling of a Saviour's mercy
That was shown to save e'en me
How forgiveness, life eternal
Offered to who hear your call
To turn from sin, from self to you
Changed, transformed, in you anew
Showing, sharing, bearing image
Of the Son, our heritage

So there joy more sure in heaven
Over one who repents then
More joy than ninety-nine persons
Though they be your daughters, sons
So as prodigal returning
Treated as a lord and king
By your love, mercy unfailing
In your kingdom they do sing

Here a part for church to serve you
All included, not a few
Gifts and graces giv'n for service

Pointing out your way, 'tis this
That a welcome true awaits each
Who turn to the Lord, beseech
Him to forgive, cleanse, accepting
The salvation He does bring

Resurrection Reassurances

Tune: Judas Maccabaeus

('Thine be the glory')

1 Corinthians 15 v.51-58

Chorus

Death, where is your sting? Grave, where victory?

Christ has overcome death, Victor e'er He be

Here be a mystery, we not all sleep [in death]

But we shall all be changed, not forever weep

In a moment, in the twinkling of our eyes

At the last trumpet's sound, then the dead shall rise - Chorus

For they shall be raised, incorruptible

We alive shall be changed, here be glories all

For this corruptible must put on, 'tis true

Incorruption, for Christ shall make all things new - Chorus

And mortal must don immortality

So the saying comes to pass eternally

'Where O death your sting? Where grave your victory?

Death is swallowed up in endless victory' - Chorus

The sting of death is sin, and strength of sin

Is the law, but now let praise to God begin

And thanks, for He the one who gives victory

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, resurrected He - Chorus

So be you steadfast and immoveable

Always abounding in the Lord's work in all

For you know your labour in Him is not vain

He arisen, and eternal life we gain - Chorus

Praise Series - Thriambeuo

Tune: From strength to strength
(one tune to 'Soldiers of Christ arise')

'Thriambeuo', acclaim
And process in Christ's name
Conquering and celebrating
In Christ our risen King
For victory assured
He e'er our King and Lord
We triumph in Him, He the One
Who is the Father's Son

Colossians 2 v.15
There at the cross He toiled
'Gainst enemy and spoiled
Principalities and powers
And grace on us showers
He made an open show
And now each one may know
He triumphed over them and made
A way, the price He paid

Price to make us a way
To return, and to say
You Jesus Christ our Saviour are
You save those, near and far
So onward we shall go
Not stunted as we grow
But with Christ's power every hour
Each He does endower

Reaping Remembrances

Tune: Stowey

('When a knight won his spurs')

Adapted with permission from

'Peace in the Valley' by Angela & Brian

Well do I remember my quaint Old Village Church
Recalls memories to me of my youthful days
Their absence, their past days, they leave me in the lurch
For some have passed on or have gone their separate ways

Such scenes remind me, they do, of my youthful days
Where are the lads and lassies that I used to know?
For some have passed on or have gone their separate ways
Where are some living now, where, O where did they go?

Where are the lads and lassies that I used to know?
Some be in the churchyard, they be under the stones
Where are some living now, where, O where did they go?
Some in distant lands, some rest in peace, only bones

Some be in the churchyard, they be under the stones
Their absence, their past days, they leave me in the lurch
Some in distant lands, some rest in peace, only bones
Well do I remember my quaint Old Village Church

Praise Preamble

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Psalm 106 v.1-5

Praise you the LORD, O give thanks to the LORD
For He is good, and faithful to His word
His mercy endures even evermore
We can trust in Him sure

Who can utter all the LORD's mighty deeds?
He comes unto us, satisfies our needs
And who can show forth all His praises here?
Yet we to Him draw near

Blessed are they that keep judgement and justice
And thy that always do righteousness, this
Pleasing to the LORD, he will such bless
'Tis true, we do confess

Remember me, LORD, with your favour, grace
Visit me with your salvation, I trace
Your goodness, make glad the nation, so we
Join to praise your glory

Bluebell Beauties

Tune: Noel Nouvelet

('Now the green blade riseth')

Adapted and extended, with permission
from 'Bells' poem by Fay Slimm

Million bells waving bright bonnets of blue
Flaunting their tall ranks of incredible hue
Groundbreaking columns of stalks fill the shade
Assailing our senses from every dull glade

Mid dapple-dim woods we tread without a sound
Breathtaking armies of blue are all around
Sun shedding Spring over cold woodland dew
Highlighting patches of fine mystical blue

Sheer seas of colour are all billowing there
Dance to perfection in their Show of the Year*
Observantly on well-worn tracks we tread
Anticipating the joys that are ahead

Then our nature's ramble it comes to an end
Though we have explored where lanes and paths do wend
So happy memories of creation
Hopeful of fair weather, do it all again

** The poem is extended from hereon,
with me having added these lines.*

Faith Through Forebodings

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Lord, hear and help where we sad, grieve
Our heavy burdens relieve
Though we each have some cross to bear
Daily your sufferings share

But they redemptive, have purpose
Shall work out good unto us
Whate'er the cause, pray to us give
Your comfort, strength, so we live

Help us do what we can, a part
Committed in mind and heart
Contributing towards the whole
Support body, spirit, soul

Not to forget when in our need
Our prayers you heard, did them heed
Thus thankful, grateful may we be
Your people praising humbly

Relying not on feelings, they
Unsure, and stable not stay
But trust in you, our solid ground
Lord you our foundation sound

Restoring Request

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Spirit, rise up in me
Free from captivity
Where dull, dreary may be
Help us your true light see
Life of God, Person here within
Our hearts, come cleanse us from our sin

Revive, restore, we pray
And do forgive each day
Where we fail and fall short
Or give you little thought
Content to know your love, to rest
In you, and find your peace, we blessed

Breaking up fallow ground
Where unyielding soil found
So productive for you
We shall be fruitful too
Gifts and fruit of you, Spirit, show
While we on earth, this time below

Grant favour and your grace
To all of every race
To recover, prosper
As we to duties stir
At work, at home, whatever place
Whate'er situations we face

In troubles here to turn
To you, and your ways learn

Light through the darkness shine
'Tis your presence divine
Shall lead us, each step that we take
To grow in Christ, for His name's sake

Goodbye Sam

A Goodbye to one of our guinea pigs.

Goodbye Shiny Sam

A shiny black guinea pig

Black, except for a smidgeon of ginger

On one side of your nose

And a ginger stripe

On one side of your back

You had company a while

But when your mate passed away

You and a new piggy did not get on well

A lonely life a times

Though you lived alone for about five months

You did not seem bothered by it

Though we should not leave you living alone really

Not just one piggy on its own

You need company

You survived a scratching to your neck

But later one of your teeth broke off

And your top front teeth needed filing too

We humans don't know sometimes

You piggies rush around and play as normal

Until suddenly you may become ill

And often - that's it then - the end is near

But it was worse

Not only your teeth

For the vet found you had a tumour underneath

We could not see it properly

Unless we lifted you up

So now time to sleep....

Rest in peace little friend

Thankful for your love and company

Reigning Ruler

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's anointed')

Psalm 97 parts

The Lord reigns, let earth rejoice
People, make Him your choice
Let the many isles be glad
Not mourn, no longer sad
Clouds, darkness, Him round about
He awesome with no doubt
Righteousness, judgement, they be
His throne's foundations, see

Before Him does go a fire
For enemies it dire
It burns them up, they stand not
This be their outcome, lot
His lightning the world lightened
The earth's fear was heightened
In awe of Him thy trembled
Each village and town walled

Mountains they did as wax melt
The Lord's presence they felt
He the Lord of the whole earth
Praise Him, give Him His worth
The heavens his righteousness
Declare, all people, yes
See His glory displayed here
His works show He is near

For you Lord are high o'er all
And near who on you call

Far o'er all gods exalted
Yet by Him we are fed
You who who Him love, hate evil
His saints they shall fare well
He from the wicked does save
Their advances does stave

Light is sown for the righteous
The Lord shall bless e'en us
And gladness for th upright
Is sown, hearts filled and bright
Give thanks at the remembrance
Of His holiness hence
His holy name endures e'er
For it shall perish ne'er

Profitable Progress

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

As desert bare, as dull and dry
Lord, attend to our cry
Help us persevere, onwards go
And still your presence know

Your Spirit's touch, your Spirit's power
Come fill us every hour
What things of profit can we do
That are pleasing to you?

Give strength and grace where sad or tired
By yourself we inspired
To follow you, our risen Lord
True be your every word

Progress on in things great and small
We may learn from them all
Grow in your image more each day
You the Life, Truth, and Way

Wise Waiting

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Psalm 62 v.5-8

My soul, wait you on god, for He
My expectation, hope be
I look to Him, and no dismay
Shall distract me from His way

He only is my rock, I stay
Here form for sure each today
He my salvation sure for e'er
And shall me forsake here ne'er

He my defence and I shall not
Be moved, happy be my lot
I shall not be shaken, but bide
With him, I to Him allied

In God my salvation it be
And too my glory so, see
The rock of my strength, refuge too
Is in God, He me renews

Trust in Him at all time, people
Pour out hearts before Him, all
Good is a refuge for us, we
Wait, safe, secure in Him be

Bread Beneficiaries

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven....')

John 6 v.32-40

Jesus said, My Father gives you
The bread from heaven, bread true
For the bread of God is He who
Comes down from heaven for you
And gives life unto the world here
He does unto you appear
They replied, Lord, evermore give
Us this bread, so we shall live

Jesus said, I am the bread sure
Bread of life, a wholesome store
They that come to me shall never
Hunger, and not lack ever
And they that believe on me shall
Never thirst, a living well
Of water I shall be to them be
They shall drink, be refreshed, see

But He said, You too have seen me
But believe not, not agree
Though all that the Father gives me
Shall come unto me, so be
They that come to me in now wise
Will I cast out, nor despise
For I came down from heaven to
Not do my will, but to do

To do will of Him that sent me
He is God the Father, see

This the Father's will who sent me
That all He has given free
Unto me, I should lose nothing
But to save them, and them bring
To resurrection at last day
All shall be God's perfect way

And this too the will of Him who
Sent me, He is ever true
That every one which sees the Son
And believes on him, each one
May have everlasting life for
I will raise them up for sure
on the resurrection last day
They shall e'er bide with me, stay

Deliverance Dawns

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing)

Psalm 18 parts

You, O LORD, will light my candle
My lamp, through you I shall see all
You LORD my God will enlighten
My darkness, I see clear then

For who is God except the LORD
He does speak His eternal word
And who except our God be sure
A rock for us evermore?

It is you God that do gird me
With strength, so empowered I be
he makes my way perfect, guides me
In His paths, they plain and free

The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock
It withstands through all of life's shock
He the God of my salvation
Exalted in each nation

Great deliverance He does give
To His people, they saved and live
Knowing His mercy, His keeping
Praises unto Him they bring

Greatness, Guarding, Guiding

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 24 v.7

Lift up your heads, O gates
Your great King, He awaits
To enter in His city bright
Dispelling all dark, night
And be lift up, yo doors
Hear our prayers, our implores
You everlasting doors be raised
The city's king be praised

Psalm 24 v.8-11

Who is this King, who He?
The King of glory, see
The LORD strong and mighty He be
Enemies 'fore* Him flee (*=before)
He mighty in battle
Does defeat His foes all
He LORD of hosts of endless power
His reign shall ever flower

Psalm 25 v.1-2

Unto you, LORD I lift
My soul, you give each gift
And grace, O God, I trust in you
Come inspire me anew
Let not my enemies
Triumph, you each one sees
Grant me your aid, your victory
Undeserving mercy

Psalm 25 v.10-11

All paths of the LORD be
Of truth and of mercy
To such as keep His covenant
And testimonies sent
For your name's sake pardon
My sin, Lord, you the one
In whom forgiveness can be found
Praises to you redound

Psalm 26 v.8

LORD, the habitation
You chose it in Zion
Jerusalem, your city where
Your presence bidding there
I have loved this your place
Where you dwell by your grace
The house wherein your honour sure
And glory is e'ermore

Psalm 27 v.1

The LORD He is my light
My hope through the dark night
He my salvation, I not fear
For I know He is near
He of my life the strength
Throughout its entire length
Whom shall I fear, your presence dear
Shall keep me always here

Trusting And Rejoicing

Tune: Randolph

('God be with you till we meet again')

Psalm 27 v.1

The LORD, He my light, my salvation
This good news to every nation
Whom shall I fear? He my strength too
In Him I my confidence renew

Psalm 27 v.4

One thing of the LORD I have desired
This my longing, this my heart fired
This will I seek, that I may dwell
In His house for ever, of Him tell

Psalm 27 v.4

There I may the LORD's beauty behold
Enquire in His temple, His fold
Gathered there His people Him praise
To Him they sing, and Him worship raise

Psalm 27 v.14

Wait on th LORD, be of courage good
He shall strengthen your hear and should
Help you, keep you under His wing
Unto Him your thankful offerings bring

Psalm 28 v.7

The LORD is my strength, He is my shield
I did trust in Him, to Him yield
My heart in Him trusted, and so
I greatly rejoice, His help I know

Psalm 28 v.8

The LORD is His people's strength, we see
And strength of His anointed be
Christ His Son, the true Messiah
He commissioned by His Father sure

Psalm 28 v.9

Save your people, LORD, and do them bless
Your inheritance, they confess
You are their LORD, you do them feed
Shepherd, you lift them up, meet their need

Lively Love

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Psalm 36 v.5-10

Your mercy, LORD, in heavens is
Your faithfulness, sure this
We know reaches unto the clouds
Your love, it earth enshrouds

Your righteousness is like great mounts
Your judgements flow from founts
They are a great deep, ocean wide
In you we do confide

You preserve man and beast, an thy
Trust in you, you their stay
How excellent your mercies be
Loving-kindness to me

And so, O God, children of men
Trust in you, now as then
Through days past and that present are
You are our guiding star

They trust in shadow of your wings
And give you praise, song rings
You satisfy them and provide
In light you do reside

For with you is the fountain sure
Of life for evermore
In your light shall we see light, do
Constant us still renew

Be-Attitudes To Be

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Luke 6 v.27-25

The rules of kingdom life Jesus
Did explain clear ot us
His Sermon on the Mount He spoke
And our spirits awoke

Some of these rules were so to do
What you want men to you
To do, do unto them also
Then they God's presence know

Jesus said, If you only love
Those in your own encove
What credit is it, what do you
Do more than sinners do?

For they can love, but they love those
Who love them, pick and choose
And if you only do good to
Those who do good to you

What credit more is that to you?
For even sinners do
Do good to those who good them do
Herein is nothing new

And if you lend to those you hope
To be paid back and cope
If lending only unto such
Shall not be reward much

For sinners do to sinners lend
And do seek to amend
To be repaid to full amount
Each penny they will count

But love your enemies, not sole[ly]
Your friends, but do love whole
Do good, and lend, not hoping for
To be repaid full sure

So n these things you then shall be
Children of [the] Highest, see
God as your Father, you His sons
and daughters, holy ones

For He is kind to unthankful
As well as to grateful
And kind to those who evil be
And those good constantly

Agalliao - Praise Series

Tune: Diademata

('Crown him with many crowns')

Luke 10 v.21

A-gal-li-a-o. rejoice

Praise the Lord with one voice

And jump for joy and leap, exult

The Lord, He without fault

Jesus did rejoice such

Was grateful and glad much

That God His Father had revealed

To humble ones, so willed

1 Peter 1 v.6

Rejoice in salvation

You folk of each nation

Great joy you have, though seasons too

Where trials may come to you

And then you heavy be

Distressed, consternedly

Through temptations, though joy not left

You downcast nor bereft

Revelation 19 v.7

Let us rejoice, be glad

Our hearts no longer sad

For marriage of the Lamb shall come

God's people, every one

Invited to such feast

From greatest unto least

Christ is the Lamb and the bridegroom

We the bride, each has room

Luke 1 v.44

Elizabeth did say

On that great joyful day

When Mary, mother of our Lord

The Christ, the living Word

Did visit her, then she

Said, behold, the babe he

John Baptist in my womb did leap

For joy, and I not weep

Ascension Appellations

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Acts 1 v.9-11

Christ ascends victorious - Alleluia!
He has conquered death for us - Alleluia!
Gathered at the mount all see - Alleluia!
His ascent majestically - Alleluia!

His work done, the Father's Son - Alleluia!
Comparable unto none - Alleluia!
Returns to His throne on high - Alleluia!
Yet His presence with us nigh - Alleluia!

For His Spirit He us sends - Alleluia!
The Comforter, h us tends - Alleluia!
They did look, beheld that day - Alleluia!
A cloud received Him away - Alleluia!

They still looked up, then men two - Alleluia!
In white had this message, You - Alleluia!
Why do you still stand and gaze - Alleluia!
In wonder and great amaze? - Alleluia!

For this same Jesus will sure - Alleluia!
Who heaven and earth adore - Alleluia!
Shall in like manner return - Alleluia!
Serve Him faithful, for this yearn - Alleluia!

Shachah - Praise Series

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 95 v.6

'Shachah', to worship, to prostrate
In homage or a worship state
Come let us worship so, and bow
Before the Lord our maker now

Psalm 99 v.5

The Lord our God, Him now exalt
He holy, great, and without fault
Heaven His throne, earth His footstool
Come, give Him honour, one and all

1 Chronicles 16 v.29

Give to the Lord the glory due
Unto His name, and praise anew
Bring offerings and come before
Him, worship in holiness pure

Psalm 22 v.27

All ends of earth shall remember
Shall turn to Him, and to Him stir
All kindreds of the nations here
Shall worship him in lowly fear

Mercy Missive

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 123

To you we lift our eyes
To you our soul allies
We look to you, who dwell above
Come help us in your love

As eyes of servants look
To masters, not forsook
And as too maidens look unto
Mistresses, so we do

We do look unto you
Wait for your mercy true
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray
And save us sure each day

For we contempt do know
Enemies it us show
They scorn and mock at our troubles
But help us, hear our calls

Perpetual Presence

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Revelation 7 v,9-17

Lo and behold, great multitude
A glorious sight viewed
A glorious sight viewed
Of all nations, kindreds, people
Languages, they praise all
Languages, they praise all
Languages, languages, they praise all

They stood before the throne and Lamb
God's throne, the great I AM
God's throne, the great I AM
Clothed with white robes, palms in their hands
Gathered out from all lands
Gathered out from all lands
Gathered, gathered out from all lands

They proclaim, loud voice, Salvation
Be due from each nation
Be due from each nation
To our God who sits on the throne
And Lamb who does atone
And Lamb who does atone
And Lamb, and Lamb who does atone

All angels stood around throne there
In worship they do share
In worship they do share
Elders twenty-four, creatures four
Join in for evermore

Join in for evermore
Join in, join in for evermore

All worship saying, Amen, so be
We give you glory free
W give you glory free
Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks too
Be yours they are your due
Be yours, they are your due
Be yours, be yours, they are your due

And honour, power, and might too
Be given unto you you
Be given unto you
Our God for ever and ever
His reign does cease never
His reign does cease never
His reign, His reign does cease never

Those robed in white, they have come through
Troubles, suffered for you
Troubles suffered for you
Robes washed in the Lamb's blood, made white
Resplendent to the sight
Resplendent to the sight
Resplendent, resplendent to the sight

They those who serve God day and night
For ever, sweet delight
For ever, sweet delight
No more hunger or thirst they fear
God the Lord with them near
God the Lord with them near
God the Lord, God the Lord with them near

The Lamb, the Son of God, He will

Feed them, His presence still
Feed them, His presence still
E'er with them, to living waters
He leads, comfort confers
He leads, comfort confers
He leads, He leads, comfort confers

Positively Praising

Tune: Laudate Domino

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 145 v.1-7

I will extol you, my God, O King true
I will bless your name, for ever will do
Every day I will bless you, praise your name e'er
Your riches and wonders with all peoples share

God is the LORD, and greatly to be praised
Let all worship Him, and thanks be upraised
His greatness unsearchable, it not full known
To humans, but if Himself He has us shown

One generation shall praise your works to
Another, shall declare your acts anew
And I will speak, meditate of the glory
And honour of your majesty, splendidly

And people shall speak of the might, awesome
Of your deeds, and your greatness, let us come
To speak abundantly of your great goodness
And sing of your righteousness, us you shall bless

Deliverance Dealings

Tune: Abbot's Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

Psalm 18 v.31-38

For who is God, except the LORD?
He the true and faithful Word
Who except our God is a rock?
Firm in Him we withstand shock
It is God that girds me with strength
Helps me soon and too at length
He makes my way perfect, shows me
What His plans, purposes be

He makes my feet like the deer's feet
Agile of pace, swift, and fleet
And He sets me up on high for
He does lift me up 'tis sure
You have given to me th shield
Of your salvation, revealed
Your right hand has upheld me still
As you show to me your will

Your gentleness has mad e me grat
You have not left me to fate
You have enlarged my steps 'neath me
My feet not slip, settled see
They be in your paths, enemies
I pursued, and each runs, flees
I overtook and them consumed
Sore their plight, for they were doomed

Ruwa - Praise Series

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

'Ruwa', to shout, make a loud noise
Women and men, girls and boys
Ear-splitting sound, as an alarm
Of trumpets, to save from harm
Let all praise an give Him glory
The Lord He Almighty be

Psalm 47 v.11

Clap your hands now, all you people
Give praise to God, on Him call
Shout to God with voice proclaiming
His the triumph, he the King
For He is most high and awesome
King o'er the earth, to Him come

Zephaniah 3 v.14

Sing, people of Zion, and praise
Shout to Him, and voices raise
Be glad and rejoice whole-hearted
The Lord has not departed
From you, Jerusalem, it be
Ever His dwelling-place, see

Joshua 6 v.5

Round the walls of Jericho they
Marched with trumpets on the way
Circling the city, that so
All the enemy would know
That they would hen people shouted
Certain would be defeated

Proskuneo - Praise Series

Tune: Dundee

(one tune to 'O God of Bethel')

Proskuneo, to self prostrate
Before the Lord, He great
To bow in worship, reverence
And His true presence sense

To adore, to kiss, as dog shows
To its master, it knows
Him, and faithfully licks his hand
Relationship understands

Luke 4 v.8

Jesus did to the Devil say
Be gone and go your way
For 'tis written, You shall worship
The Lord in deed and lip

Luke 4 v.8

Him only shall you serve, and none
Take His place, he the one
Worthy of all to have first place
And praise from every race

Revelation 15 v.4

Who shall not fear you, O Lord great
And glorify your state
You only holy, nations all
Shall worship, on you call

John 4 v.24

God is a Spirit, and they who

Worship Him, such must do
Worship Him in truth and spirit
For such a stance is fit

Lordship Laudings

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Psalm 47

Clap hands, all you people
Praise, shout unto God all
With the voice of triumph, He Lord
True be His every word

He the LORD God most high
Awesome, yet to us nigh
He o'er all the earth a great King
Praises now to Him sing

He shall subdue all to
Himself, and we shall view
Him as LORD over all nations
All folk of all stations

He our inheritance
Shall choose for us, not chance
His nation Israel, excellent
Graces He has us sent

God ascends with a shout
Voice of triumph, no doubt
Sing praises with understanding
To Him our Lord and King

He reigns e'er over all
O'er all things great and small
Sits on throne of His holiness
His intent us to bless

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

John 14 v.6-11

Jesus the Life, the Truth, the Way
He be so every day
No one unto the Father may
Come, but through Christ the Way

Philip there said, Lord to us show
The Father, so we know
Him, that for us will satisfy
For we shall know Him nigh

Jesus said, Philip have I been
With you, yet you not seen
Nor known me, for who has seen me
Sees the Father, so be

Believe you it not that I be
In the Father? Here see
That the Father is in me too
He revealed unto you

For I do not my own words speak
But Father's will I seek
And say His words and do His deeds
Not my own wants and needs

The Father in me works His deeds
By His Spirit me leads
Believe this of me, or believe
For deeds' sake, no deceive

Pentecost Promise

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

Acts 2 v.14-21

Pentecost, it fifty
Days after Easter be
God's promise of the Spirit sent, fulfilled, see
Person of God abides
In human hearts resides
It all His working and there none else besides

Peter did there explain
To early church, no feign
That it all happened as the Lord did ordain
It prophesied of old
By former prophets told
Empowering to share the gospel, true, bold

Joel in his prophecy
Old Testament days, see
That it would come or pass in last days, so be
The Lord God said He will
His promise sure fulfil
Pour out His Spirit on all, for our fine weal* (*well-being)

There shall be prophecy
Visions and dreams too, see
On His servants and handmaids He will pour free
Prophecy, God's message
Spoken through every age
It traced faithfully through history's each page

He too wonders will show

And signs too we shall know
Blood, fire, and smoke in heaven, and earth below
Sun's sphere dark, moon red ball
Day of [the] Lord comes to all
They shall be saved who on the Lord's name do call

Prayer Parable

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Luke 18 v.9-14

Be not as the Pharisee
Who did pray with himself, see
Recounting his own good deeds
Seeing not his own true needs

But as publican did pray
He was justified that day
Stood afar off, did not count
Self worthy at mercy fount

For he stood, smote on his breast
Sought with repentance God's rest
Said, God do be merciful
To me, I a sinner all

No good deeds of self I show
Come before you, just as so
As I am, O heed my prayer
I pray humbly, you are there

For each one that self exalts
Shall be abased for their faults
And each one that self humbles
Shall be exalted, not falls

Selfish - and don't care!

Oohh, note to self -
What's all this, Orchi?
Well, it's an update from a previous poem....

C'mon now, you paid up?
To Branson, etc
These millionaires need your dough, you know
Never mind the NHS - just sue them like he has done

Oh, and never mind if ya won't have enough to live on
Just give it to Branson & Co!
C'mon now, he got his private island to maintain too
It's not fair it should be neglected

I'll be round soon with the collecting hat
A church got keen once -
It passed round TWO collecting hats - literally hats
In the same service!

What's that you reply to me?
'Money don't grow on trees, ya know'
But yes it does -
The paper money notes anyway!

Yep, c'mon now - go without
Make yourself suffer
Why should you enjoy yourself?
If the rich are not getting richer
And the selfish are not getting more selfish

Until it all ends -
And they lose it all -
Cos they can't take it with them when they pop their clogs!

Woof! Fido suggests an 18+
For this selfish theme
But he knows it's tongue-in-cheek poem!
.....Yet true - the last couple of lines.

Image Impetus

Tune: Beatitudo

('O for a closer walk with God')

Help me, Lord, a step more to take
On the road, for your sake
To leave comfort of apathy
Your way ahead to see

Your Spirit He shall lead us on
To image of your Son
Denying self, o'ercoming fears
his grace to us appears

Where'er I stumble, not progress
In life of holiness
Forgive me, strengthen, encourage
Me here through every stage

What we cannot do, have mercy
And our poor state do see
You with us, you the path have trod
Eternal Son of God

Change m, where stubborn, where rely
On feelings by and by
You who know hearts of everyone
Hidden to you are none

Rise up within, godly desire
Spark blazing to a fire
your Spirit working in us, we
Your sons and daughters be

Penitent Pleas

Tune: Newington

('Thine for ever, God of love')

Psalm 80 parts

Give ear, O Israel's Shepherd
In your mercy our prayers heard
By you, who your sheep do lead
Tend unto them and them feed

Turn us, O God, us restore
Us again, we you implore
Cause your face to on us shine
Send bright beams of light divine

So we shall be saved, and know
Your mercy, your keeping so
Be not angry, but pardon
By your grace each humble one

Return to us, Lord, we pray
Look from heav'n on us this day
Visit us, we your vine, see
In your vineyard, so we be

This vineyard you have planted
You have tilled it and it fed
Branches there you have made strong
For yourself, this be our song

Trumpet Triumph

Tune: Unter Herrscher - Neander
('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')
Revelation 11 v.15-19

Seventh angel's trumpet does sound
Great voices in heaven redound
Saying, The kingdoms of this world
Have become, it is unfurled
Become the kingdoms of our Lord
'Tis true to His every word

Kingdoms of our Lord, and too be
Kingdoms of His Christ, here see
And He shall so reign fo ever
Loses omnipotence ne'er
Four and twenty elders round throne
Fall down, worship God alone

Saying, We give you thanks, O Lord
God Almighty, living Word
Who is, and were, and are to come
Lord over all, not just some
You have taken to you your great
Power, have reigned, no abate

Nations were angry, your wrath now
Shall be demonstrated, how
You will it show, and time of dead
To be judged, you living head
Shall reward servants, prophets, saints
They know no more of sin's taints

Reward too, those that fear your name

It Almighty, e'er the same
Small and great comforted, but they
Who destroyed the earth, their day
Has come and they shall destroyed be
By your judgements, we agree

Temple of God in heaven open
Was seen in His temple then
The ark* of His testament there
Awesome sights to behold, share
Lightnings, voices, thunders, earthquakes
Great hail, wondrous vision makes

* Ark - not a boat, but a box, in which were put the two
stone tablets with the Ten Commandments written on them,
given to Moses by God.

Trusting Theme

Tune: Rodmell

('All things which live below the sky')

Psalm 118 parts

It is better [to] trust in the LORD
For He [e'er] the living Word
Than to put confidence in man
Who only small help can

The LORD He be my strength and song
I praise Him all day long
He is become my salvation
Through Christ His only Son

This is the day the LORD has made
Here His wonders displayed
We will rejoice in each today
Follow on in His way

Save now, we pray, O LORD, humbly
Come before you now we
And too do send prosperity
We worship gratefully

You are our God, we will you praise
Will exalt your name, it raise
Give thanks to you, for good you are
Your mercy endures far

Way To Walk

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Lead us, Lord, show to us your way
Your light we need each day
Where things are lost, when once we gained
We joyed then, now are pained

But help us see what your plans be
in our reality
Though downcast if back at square one
May be, after work done

Yet not all wasted, though dark, seems
If devoid of light's beams
We trust you will show way ahead
Thus far you have us led

Not disappointment, fear, or shame
Nor accusation, blame
Help us move on, show what you will
Have us do for you still

If things not work out as we thought
E'en with prayers we besought
You, and seemed all settled it be
Yet not permanently

Give grace to us to persevere
To know your purpose clear
What do you say? What will you show?
So that we your will know

Abiding Assurances

Tune: Marching

(one tune to 'Father, hear th prayer we offer')

Psalm 92 v.12-13

Righteous shall flourish as palm tree

As Lebanon's cedars be

Planted in th house of the LORD

Feeding on His every word

Psalm 93 v.1

The LORD reigns, clothed with majesty

Clothed with strength and glory He

Has girded Himself, the world be

Stablished, cannot be moved, see

Psalm 93 v.2

His throne is established of old

Through all generations told

He from everlasting abides

With the meek, lowly resides

Psalm 94 v.14

The LORD will not cast off, but keep

His people, the be His sheep

His inheritance, possession

Tends and cares He for each one

Loyalties of Love

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, holy dove')

Adapted from poem 'Foremost' by Fay Slimm, with permission

Love needs itself, nothing more
Love acts, but ne'er seeks applause
Love withstands words spoke to hurt
Never vain nor curt

Love pledges cares, ne'er reverts
Love regrets not, knows no guilt
Intends forgiveness to win
Let healings begin

Love vows its feelings not end
Love becomes a bond for e'er
Heals raw hearts with Heaven's law
From its gracious store

Love is foremost force of all
Possible, not order tall
To aspire to, each [a] part takes
Towards good all makes

Just Judgement

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's anointed')

Psalm 9 v.16

How the LORD, how He be known?

Known by His judgement shown

Which He executes truly

The wicked shall snared be

By the work of their own hands

Righteous judgement, all lands

Meditate* on this a while

'Higgaion', thoughts compile

Psalm 10 v.16-17

The LORD is King for ever

And abdicates never

His enemies are perished

For they evil cherished

Lord, you have heard the desire

Of humble near and far

Their heart you will them prepare

Will hear them, they well fare

Psalm 11 v.7

For the Lord he is righteous

Comes to us, for to bless

He loves righteousness daily

It be His holy way

His countenance does behold

The upright of His fold

They safe 'neath His wings trusting

He does salvation bring

Psalm 12 v.7

The words of the Lord are pure

They avail evermore

They be as silver tried in

A furnace, fire within

Purified seven times they

Show us the light, the way

Each word perfect and faultless

Word of life, we confess

* Mediate = Higgaion - word used in this verse
in some Bible versions.

Communion Continuing

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn

('All praise to thee, my God, this night')

Though virtual communion here
We celebrate your presence dear
We your sons, daughters by your grace
Nothing shall this sure truth efface

Though many, one body we be
Body of Christ the church is, see
Still living witnessing, so we
The church in society be

Of heavenly food, bread and wine
We virtual partake, gifts divine
Church shall not cease, you Lord us feed
Your presence with us still indeed

'Til time we may meet in person
Share Communion with each one
Strengthen us, with your Spirit guide
Fill us, within our hearts reside

Old And New

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Luke 5 v.36-39

Not put new piece of a garment
On old, it will make rent
Tear from the old, and matches not
A disagreeable lot

Not put new win in wineskins old
It will not work, be told
For the new wine will wineskins burst
Outcome worse than the first

For old wineskins will ruined be
New wine will be spilled see
But put new wine in wineskins new
And both are preserved true

Yet no one having drunk old wine
Straightway says, 'It is fine
Give me the new', but says rather
'I find the old better'

Rural Rambles

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

There work to do, though too take time
In going through life's rhyme
To rest, and ramble as you may
Partake a pleasant day

By water's edge or country lane
Soul be refreshed again
in quietude and peaceful green
And fine wildlife scenes seen

By river-bank graceful heron
Takes off, a flightful one
Spreads wings, and clear-water below
Sun's beams or raindrops show

Enjoying views of creation
And then when journey done
Return in peace, calm and content
And maintain good intent

To walk, not rush, nor pressurise
As if strain for a prize
'Tis not a race, but gentle stroll
Whether long or short all

Nature Nurturings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Through woodland's glades, a leafy canopy
God's creation shown here expressively
Linger a while, this beauty to behold
As passing seasons they do here unfold

Back to nature, and ramblings on the way
If sunny skies, or even damp and grey
Peace outwardly and inwardly we sense
Of God, and of His creative presence

And so a tune springs up within our heart
Some melody we now begin, we start
Tracing the path through greenery, and so
Too flow of babbling brook we may know

Wildlife unspoilt, take time to pause and rest
Chance to be restored, soul strengthened and blest
Squirrels, rabbits, birds, here be your abode
No human damage or corruption sowed

Help us to care, Lord, we your caretakers
You the Creator, of all the Maker
They joys of nature, colours, seasons here
Until you return in full glory clear

Praise Parade

Tune: Cranbrook (On Ilkley Moor)
('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 66 v.1-2

Make joyful noise now, you lands all (you lands all)
To God, and on Him call
Sing forth the honour of His name
Sing forth the honour of His name
Praise Him, His endless fame
Praise Him, His endless fame
Praise Him, His endless fame

Psalm 66 v.7

By His power He rules for e'er (rules for e'er)
He acts with justice fair
His eyes behold the nations all
His eyes behold the nations all
Be proud not, but humble
Be proud not, but humble
Be proud not, but humble

Psalm 66 v.11-12

When we were trapped as in a net (in a net)
You did still help us yet
Your help through afflictions we trace
Your help through afflictions we trace
Rescued we by your grace
Rescued we by your grace
Rescued we by your grace

Psalm 67 v.1

To us, O God, be merciful (merciful)
Help us hear when you call

Cause you face to here on us shine
Cause your face to here on us shine
Bright beams of love divine
Bright beams of love divine
Bright beams of love divine

Psalm 67 v.2-3

So may your way on earth be known (earth be known)
Your saving health be shown
Among all nations, so they praise
Among all nations, so they praise
To you glad anthems raise
To you glad anthems raise
To you glad anthems raise

Psalm 68 v.1

Let God arise, His enemies (enemies)
Be scattered, victory
Sure it be the Lord's, He most High
Sure it be the Lord's, He most High
Let them that hate Him fly
Let them that hate Him fly
Let them that hate Him fly

Psalm 68 v.3

But the righteous, let them be glad (them be glad)
Not mournful, downcast, sad
And let them before God rejoice
And let them before God rejoice
Greatly, exultant voice
Greatly, exultant voice
Greatly, exultant voice

Psalm 68 v.8

O God, when you went forth before (forth before)
Your people, it was sure

When you did march through wilderness
When you did march through wilderness
Earth, heaven shook no less
Earth, heave shook no less
Earth, heaven shook no less

Psalm 68 v.28

You God have our strength commanded (commanded)
Your people by you led
Strengthen, God, what you for us wrought
Strengthen, God, what you for us wrought
By our grace we are taught
By your grace we are taught
By your grace we are taught

Psalm 68 v.35

O God, you holy, awesome e'er (awesome, e'er)
With you none can compare
God, you strength to your people give
God, you strength to your people give
You sustain us, we live
You sustain us, we live
You sustain us, we live

Paraclete Perceivings

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

John 14 v.22-27

Jesus did answer Judas, see
Though he not [Judas] Iscariot be
In reply to question asked there
That Judas did with Jesus share

Saying, Lord, how is it that you
Will show yourself unto us true
And not unto the world? and so
Jesus answered him, he did know

Said, If one loves me, they will keep
My words and shall be as my sheep
And my Father will love them too
We will come, bide with them anew

Myself, the Son, and Father too
Shall unto them this honour do
They that love me not, they keep not
My sayings, not done, and forgot

They be not my own words, but see
They of the Father, His words be
I speak these things while with you here
While I in person do appear

But the Comforter, Paraclete
The Helper, the Spirit, He meet* (*suitable)
Sent in the Father's name will teach
You all things, none outside His reach

And He will bring to remembrance
All things that Jesus has said thence
Unto us, His peace, He us leaves
Constant unto each who believes

Delightful Dwelling

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Psalm 48 parts

Great is the LORD, and greatly
To be praised in city
City of God, Zion be
In Jerusalem, see
Mountain of His holiness
He shall the righteous bless
Beautiful situation
Praise be from each nation

'Tis the joy of the whole earth
Praise Him, give Him His worth
Mount Zion, it the city
Of God, He the King be
He known there for a refuge
Trust in Him, take courage
His palaces there shine bright
With everlasting light

We have thought of your kindness
In your temple, come bless
Us, O God, for as your name
Is, so your praise the same
It be to earth's farthest ends
Your presence there attends
Righteousness true is found there
It is your dwelling fair

Let mount Zion rejoice, for
Inhabitants for sure

Shall know your judgements, justice
Hear our prayers, each good wish
Walk about Zion, and tell
As you go round, mark well
Her buildings, and tell children
He our God to death e'en

Hopeful Help

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's Anointed')

Psalm 86 v.1-7 & v.15-17

Bow down your ear, Lord, hear me
For I poor, needy see
Preserve my soul for I sure
By you made holy, pure
O God come soon to save me
You ever my God be
Be merciful to me, for
I Lord my prayers outpour

I call upon you daily
My soul, make it glad be
To rejoice in you, for to
You I lift it anew
For you, Lord, are good, ready
To forgive free you be
Plenteous in mercy to
All they who call on you

Give ear, Lord, unto my prayer
I trust you still are there
Attend to my voice, and hear
I here to you draw near
In th day of my trouble
I will unto you call
For you will hear, will answer
Will not for e'er defer

You, O Lord, are a God who
Full of compassion true

Does come to our help, and you
Are gracious, patient too
With longsuffering your bear
Us, mercy and truth share
O turn to me, have mercy
A sign for good show me

Riding The Waves

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Inspired by a painting by R.M.

Each episode on sea of life
If even, calm, or strife
Help us Lord to learn, show your way
To us here every day

If pessimism, peer pressure
Or if arrogance stir
Joy, irritation, confidence
Or euphoria hence

In ups and downs help us to know
Your presence even so
Is there in all of life's aspects
And we sense its effects

Give grace to us, do lead us still
And show us all you will
Waves shall not o'erwhelm while you guide
No greater help beside

Marriage Magnificence

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Revelation 19 v.5-9

John heard voice from throne, saying, Our God praise
All you His servants, Him worship upraise
And you that do fear Him, you folk small and great
Come praise and adore, He of royal estate

And heard as it were, voice, great multitude
And as many waters sound, fresh, renewed
And as mighty thunderings, they all saying
Alleluia, omnipotent, God is King

For He reigns for e'er, Lord God eternal
Let us be glad, rejoice, give honour all
To Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come
His Son Jesus welcomes wife unto His home

For she has prepared, made herself ready
They who trust in Christ and His servants be
She given fine linen, it both clean and white
Her wedding-dress glorious, wonderful sight

It be made up of the saints righteous deeds
Now gathered in wheat, and cast out the weeds
Blessed they who are called to marriage supper pure
Of the Lamb, these are true sayings of God sure

Supper Of Salvation

Tune: Dies Dominica

('We pray thee, heavenly Father')

Matthew 26 v.26-29

Gathered at the Last Supper
They did meet, there confer
Jesus and disciples all
Sure they had heard His call
To follow Him, make ready
The meal, prepared that day
And as they there were eating
Jesus did do a thing

He took bread, and did bless it
Broke it, gave it, 'twas fit* (*suitable, apt)
Gave to disciples, and said
Take, eat, by this be fed
For this is my body true
Shall be broken for you
The gospel of salvation
Unto every nation

And He gave thanks, took th cup
Gave to them, said, All sup* (*drink)
Of this, for it is my blood
Shall be a cleansing flood
Blood of the new testament
'Tis the new covenant
Shed for many, remission
Of sins brings to each one

Brings forgiveness, redemption
Through Jesus, God's own Son

Would drink it then not again
Until the time comes when
He shall drink it with us true
In the kingdom anew
In His Father's kingdom sure
Which shall be evermore

Trust Today

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Psalm 37 v.1-11

Fret not yourself because of evil-doers
Nor be envious against those whose heart stirs
To work iniquity, for they shall soon be
Cut down like the grass, and whither like it, see

Trust in the LORD, and do good, so shall you dwell
In the land and be fed, you shall true fare well
Delight yourself also on the LORD, and He
Shall give you your heart's desires, so shall it be

Commit your way to the LORD, trust in Him too
And He shall bring things to pass, shall you renew
He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light
And your justice, judgement as the noon-day bright

Rest in the LORD, and be waiting, patiently
For Him, not fretting at wicked's evil way
Their seeming prosperity, it shall not last
The LORD soon shall their wicked schemes all out cast

Cease from anger, forsake wrath, yourself not fret
In any wise to do evil, though not yet
Evil-doers they seem not cut off, but they
Shall be so in time, and so shall come their day

But those waiting on the LORD shall inherit
The earth, and the wicked's plans shall be forfeit
But th meek the earth shall inherit, 'tis true
And delight in abundance of peace e'ermore

Trusting Truly

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 20 parts

The LORD hear you, answer
And to your help stir
In the day of trouble
When you on Him call
The name of God defend
You, keep you to the end
Send you help from His place
Whate'er you may face

Send help from sanctuary
Where He resides, seee
From Zion strengthen you
That His abode too
May He remember you
The good words. deeds you do
Grant you your heart's desire
He the Morning Star

We will rejoice in your
Salvation, LORD, sure
In the name of our God we
Will set up, here see
Our banners, and may He
The LORD gracious so be
Fulfil each petition
That you make, each one

Some trust in chariots
And have no regrets

Some trust in horses, they
Ride on battle-day
But we will remember
The LORD's name and concur
Trust Him to save, we pray
Call on Him today

Temporal Time

Tune: Alleluia Dulce Carmen

('For the healing of the nations')

Psalm 90 v.12-17

Teach us, LORD, to number our days
To follow you, know your ways
That we may our hearts apply to
Wisdom, us daily renew
Return, LORD, and have compassion
On your people here, each one

O satisfy us here early
With your mercy, so that we
May rejoice, all our days be glad
As time passes, not be sad
We your servants, show us mercy
Give grace that we serve you free

Make us glad according, so be
Where you have afflicted, see
And where we have seen evil, years
Passed in times of sorrows, tears
Let your work, LORD, appear unto
Your servants, we praise you new

And show your glory to children
Of your servants, and too then
Let the beauty of the LORD be
Upon us, He our God, we
His servants, our works establish
Each good thing in us finish

Strong To Save

Tune: Horbury

('Nearer my God to thee')

Psalm 143 v.9-12

O LORD, deliver me
My troubles see
Save me from enemies
I am midst these
To you I come, I flee
From my enemies, see
Take cover 'neath your wing
Hide here and sing

Teach me to do your will
You my God still
Your spirit is good, lead
me, meet my need
Lead me into the land
Even by your strong hand
The land of uprightness
There do me bless

Revive me, O LORD, for
Your name's sake sure
And for your righteousness'
Sake, and goodness
Bring my soul here, I pray
Out of troubles this day
May I by your mercy
Be enemy-free

Practical People

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

1 Thessalonians 5 v.12-24

Know them which work among you
Who do in the Lord teach true
Such leaders esteem highly
In love, for work's sake, so be

Among yourselves be at peace
Let conflicts and strivings cease
Warn them that are unruly
Comfort feeble-minded, see

Support the weak, patient be
Unto all people freely
Give not evil in return
For evil, but good do learn

When to rejoice? Evermore
How to pray? unceasing sure
When to give thanks? In all things
That God's will in Christ you brings

Tend the Spirit? Him not quench
Prophesyings? Them not french
Nor despise them, all things prove
In you life nearer Christ move

Hold fast that which is good though
No form of evil do know
The God of peace sanctify
You wholly, for He be nigh

Body, soul, and spirit be
Preserved blameless, made worthy
'Til the coming of the Lord
Faithful, calls us by His word

Communion Continuing 2

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus in thy dear Sacrament')

Your Sacrament we may share, see
Though be virtually
Until time we may meet again
Commune in person then

Yet still partake of bread and wine
Your gracious gifts divine
Strengthened in this, we still are fed
By you our living Head

'Corpus Christi', Christ's body be
And blood symbolically
It we not transubstantiate
Not in literal state

For it your simple meal ordained
Before you suffered, pained
And then did die and rise again
Great Saviour of all men (mankind)

For you said, Lord, each time we do
Eat and drink, recall you
Remember your Passion, love shown
As you for us atone

Justification Joys

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Romans 3 v.24

We by God's grace be justified
In it we do confide
Justified freely, redemption
That is in Christ the Son

Christ Jesus, Anointed Saviour
We made righteous, secure
In Him we forgiven, no guilt
No accusations stilt

They stilt not, nor against us stand
We saved by God's good hand
He in the person of His Son
Redemption work has done

No cost could we pay, could not give
A price that we may live
Forgiven in God's sight, but He
Redemption price pays, see

'Tis the price of Christ's life, He made
An offering, price paid
To bring us life and salvation
Avails to each nation

Waiting for the Big Ch?

No, not the Big C
The 'unmentionable' word, relating to health

But c'mon now, guess, the Big Ch.
Dare I mention it, this early in the year?
Well, half the year's gone
Only another half year until the next Ch.

Ya know ya likes getting those Ch. catalogues
In June or July
Well, it gives ya enough time to choose prezzies -
Whisky with water for me, please
If ya are stuck as to what to buy me!

If we wish away the year too quick
It can seem like it's nearly always Ch.
Wishing our lives away - arrggghhh!

Well, I wish ya a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year now!
But why now? Cos I might forget later on
I best compose some carol-poems now then
And wrap a fancy gift-ribbon around Fido's bone
Never too early to start!
Happy 2021 to ya!

I'm quite busy now, ya know
Gotta start me Ch shopping today!
Yep, save money - buy Ch cards at start of New Year
When they're reduced in price
Makes sense to me - my middle name is Scrooge!
Heehee.

Here's a clip to remind ya

Or to prolong your agony?!

Creation Cantabulations

Tune: All For Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come confirm us')

You swans, ducks, geese, at estuary
Here you gather patiently
Through each season that nature gives
By God's gift of life each lives

You do wait for morsels of bread
That you be by humans fed
We enjoy river-side meeting
Unto you some food we bring

Or birds gathered near the lock, they
There whether a sunshine day
Or may be clouds, rain, or shower
They faithful to show each hour

Peaceful scenes we do here observe
To settle soul, calm each nerve
God providing in creation
And to folk of each nation

Rivers ever ebbing, flowing
Its waters sustain each thing
That live there, a refuge, haven
And a solace unto men (mankind)

Flow on rivers, take your journey
Travelling on to the sea
Then returning whence you started
Ordered by God, He your Head

Reconciled Reminder

Tune: Rivaux

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Ephesians 2 v.12-14

Remember, one time you did not
Know Christ's salvation, that your lot
You were as aliens, strangers
And unto God desire not stirs

Did not share in the commonwealth
That brought you life and your soul's health
Not in covenants of promise
But not for ever the way miss

Though had no hope, and in world, see
Your state was without God, so be
But now in Christ Jesus you who
Were far off are now made nigh true

Made nigh by His blood, the Lamb slain
Lamb of God, that we life may gain
His life given in innocence
His lonely sufferings we sense

As lamb to slaughter, did not speak
He our sacrifice lowly, meek
An offering to God, perfect
Entire, whole, and without defect

He is our peace, He has made one
Jew and Gentile, He God's own Son
And has made one too God and man (mankind)
Breaking down walls as none else can

Leading Light

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty?')

You will accept our praises true
That we, Lord, make to you
Here find humble thanks from our hearts
Your Spirit ne'er departs
Takes up within His residence
His presence we do sense
We your servants, your people be
Help us with mercy free

Yet you call us not servants, nor
Slaves, for by your grace sure
We are your friends, you reveal
Of the Father, His will
Unto us, who with you commune
And raise a joyful tune
You bring salvation to each one
Who are the Father's Son

Lighten our way, where troubles too
Come strengthen us, renew
You who know what we need before
We ask, and do know more
Than we ourselves know, though you say
Ask, seek, and knock today
Promises of prayer's answers we
Trust, rely on you see

Special Sheep

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Sheep seem same, yet in one fold
Good Shepherd your love will hold
Each one safe, and pastures true
You lead them to, they know you

If one strays, Shepherd will seek
'Til He finds it, then strong, meek
On Hi shoulder He will lay
Bring it back into the way

Sheep a crowd, yet for each one
You redemption's work have done
None useless, all a purpose
Here, for you do care for us

Though gentle, there discipline
You do forgive, cleanse from sin
With you e'er we sure abide
No better Shepherd beside

Greatness Gloryings

Tune: Darwall

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Psalm 147 v.1-7

Hallelujah, now praise
The LORD, His name upraise
For it is good to sing
To Him, our God and King
For it is pleasant, and praise be
Comely, lovely in its beauty

The LORD He does build sure
His city evermore
Jerusalem it be
He gathers outcasts, see
He heals the broken in heart, true
Binds up their wounds, sorrows anew

He counts numbers of stars
he sets earth's frames and bars
He calls stars all by name
The LORD, who made the same
Creator of all e'er He be
Each star, planet, and galaxy

Great is our Lord, and He
Too of great power be
His understanding is
Infinite, true is this
His thoughts innumerable, so
Humans cannot Him fully know

He lifts up meek, humble

They trust Him, on Him call
He casts wicked to ground
Their ways shall not abound
Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving
All voices and instruments bring

Presence Perceived

Tune: Hursely

('Sun of my soul, my Saviour dear')

Psalm 46 v.1-2

God is our refuge and strength He
A present help in trouble be
Therefore we will not fear, e'en though
Earth be removed, unsettled so

Psalm 46 v.5

God is in midst of His city
She shall not be shaken, but see
Firm shall remain, God help shall give
To her early, so she shall live

Psalm 47 v.7-8

Sing praises to God and rejoice
Sing with understanding and voice
Your praise and t hanks ot Him, he reigns
Over nations, justice ordains

Psalm 48 v.1-2

Mount Zion His city it be
It found in Jerusalem, we
Express its beauty, of it sing
For there He resides, the great King

Psalm 48 v.14

This God is our God evermore
His reign ne'er fails from shore to shore
He will be our guide unto death
Until we draw our final breath

Prayer For Progress

Tune: Ye Banks And Braes

('We cannot measure how you heal')

Nehemiah 1 v.4-11

Historical note: Nehemiah, a servant to the King of Persia,
and later Governor of the Jews, hears of Jerusalem's ruins, and prays:

I sat down, wept, mourned certain days
For Jerusalem's sorry ways
Prayed to the God of heaven, said
I beseech you, LORD, you have led
Your people, you great, terrible
Appearing as awesome to all
You keep covenant and mercy
For those that love you, obey, see

Let your ears hear, and eyes open
To hear my prayer now for all men
I be your servant, and I pray
Before you here in night and day
Your people's sins I here confess
And my sins too, come forgive, bless
We have dealt corruptly and not
Obeyed you, this be our poor lot

Remember, LORD, Moses, I pray
And what unto him you did say
That if people be unfaithful
You shall cast them midst nations all
But if they turn to you, obey
Your commands, follow your good way
Where'er they scattered, you will bring
Them back to your place, they will sing

The place that you have chosen for
Your name LORD to beset there sure* (*Jerusalem)
Now for your servants, your people
I pray, redeemed they, them you call
Saved by your strong hand, now I pray
They who fear, revere you this day
Grant me mercy as I do plead
To the king for your people's need

All I Need

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Inspired by a painting of a cargo ship
on the sea, by A.R.

As through the sea of life we go
May we your presence, Lord, know
Through storm and calm, and wind and wave
You the only one, does save

Grant to us, Lord, all we need, for
You do provide for us sure
Your grace is multi-faceted
Your people as your sheep e'er lead

Gifts and skills help us to employ
May none them fade or destroy
As a cargo ship in life's sea
Laden with precious goods we be

For all is given from your hand
To all peoples, every land
Help us to serve, glorify you
And strengthen us daily anew

Joyful Journeyings

Tune: Lasst uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Take country lanes, with nature share
And of the land, creatures, take care
Alleluia, Alleluia!

What may you see today, old, new?
It be of God's creation true
Panoramic sights we may view
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Horses in fields take food and rest
Some drink at river, they are blest
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Then scurry back to join the clan
Finding there comfort as they can
Their stables overseen by man
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

River flows gentle, peace remains
Our souls true benefits each gains
Alleluia, alleluia!
Time to stroll by, ducks, swans may see
And geese, all swim elegantly
Here their habitation daily
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Exploring tracks and paths and lanes
New routes and journeys are our gains
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Or old familiar ways we go
Keeping to well-worn walks we know
They all glories of nature show

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Light Limitless

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Psalm 36 v.9-12

With you, LORD, is the fount
Of life, and we do count
What we can, you have made
All things, your plans outlaid

In your light we see light
It revealed to our sight
not false light, deception
But true light's beams, each one

O continue we pray
Loving-kindness each day
To them that do know you
With your graces endue

And your righteousness show
To upright in heart, so
Let not pride nor wicked
Turn me to paths misled

For there in those ways be
Those who set on evil, see
Are cast down, cannot rise
They who the good despise

Patient Progress

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Parts of Psalms 61,62,63

Hear my prayer, O God, attend me
From ends of earth I do call, see
To you, when overwhelmed my heart
Be, for you my rock, my best part

For you have been shelter for me
Strong tower from the enemy
I will abide in your tent e'er
Under your wings cover trust there

My soul, wait upon God only
My rock, salvation, sure He be
My hope, my defence, so I shall
Not be moved, shaken, but fare well

Trust in Him at all times, and do
Pour out your hearts before Him too
You people, for He a refuge be
For us, we shall dwell securely

O God, you are my God, and I
Will seek you early, know you nigh
My soul thirsts for you, and flesh longs
As in dry land, praise still and songs

To see your power and glory
As I have seen in sanctuary
This my desire, you loving-kind
From my lips worthy worship find

Sensitive Sufferings

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Lord, in your human need upon the cross
Did thirst when suffering to redeem our loss
You died, then rose again, our sins bearing
Full human, full divine, now reign as King

O depth of pain and humiliation
You gave your life for all of each nation
We could not save ourselves, but only you
Could save us, your Father's will perfect do

Your love, the Son, unto your Father true
And His love shared mutually with you
Filled with the Spirit, you would e'er obey
Made possible for us salvation's day

Yet can it be, your Father's will, that you
Should take the cup of suffering to do
What we cannot do, to save us from sin
And make us new creations, cleansed within?

But yes, 'tis so, upon your offering
We meditate, and unto you praise bring
Holy Lamb of god, sacrifice for all
Forgiveness, new life, to who on you call

Providence Praise

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 145 v.13-21

Your kingdom, Lord, it is everlasting
Let songs arise and Him your worship bring
His dominion it endures e'en for e'er
Let earth agree, and it with heaven share

Through all generations you are the LORD
Sustaining all through your creative word
You uphold all that fall, and those bowed down
You do lift up, and remove downcast frown

The eyes of all wait upon you here, see
They look expectantly, their focus be
On you, for you food daily to all give
In due season, and so through you we live

You open your hand, and do satisfy
The desire of each living thing, they cry
Unto you, you do hear and answer prayer
We are assured you are God always there

You, LORD, are righteous, good, in all your ways
We look to you, trust you through all our days
And holy are you in your works, gracious
Grace that reaches in measure e'en to us

You, LORD, are nigh unto all them that call
upon you in truth, you do hear them all
You will fulfil the desire of them who
Fear you, and will come to save them anew

You preserve all that love you, but wicked
You will destroy, their evil not be hid
My mouth shall speak your praises, worship share
And let all flesh bless your holy name e'er

Profitable Praising

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Psalm 108 parts

O Lord God, fixed is my heart
On you, I will do my part
In singing and praising you
Give to you the glory due
Wake, instruments, I will too
Wake early, and will praise you

I will praise you midst people
Sing praises midst nations all
For your mercy it be great
To the heavens, you not late
To help me, and your truth pure
Reaches to the clouds, 'tis sure

O God, be you exalted
Above the heavens, and tread
Down all our enemies here
Let your glory now appear
It high above all the earth
We praise you, give you your worth

Save with your hand, answer me
Look on your beloved ones, see
Deliver them, they do trust
In you, though they be mere dust
You will help us to the last
Though seems you did us off cast

Give us help from trouble, for

Vain is the help of man sure
Through you we valiantly
Shall do, for you completely
Shall tread down our enemies
With this your justice agrees

Praise Pieces

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

Parts of Psalms 84, 85, 86

Your tabernacles, LORD, amiable
They be to all
Your dwellings they lovely
And there your presence be
My soul e'en faints, and longs
To be there, sing you songs
For you, the living God, cries out my heart
Do ne'er depart

For you, LORD God, are a shield and a sun
Unto each one
You will give grace, glory
We shall your mercies see
No good thing will you keep
From us, your trusting sheep
You will guide those who do uprightly live
And peace them give

Mercy and truth, they are together met
Still constant yet
And righteousness and peace
Kissed each other, no cease
Truth from the earth shall spring
It shall fair justice bring
And righteousness shall down from heaven look
We not forsook

All nations that you have made shall come, they
In your sure day

Shall come and worship you
And give you honour due
O LORD, and they shall too
Glorify your name true
For you are great, and do wondrous things sure
You God e'ermore

Providing Prayer

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour lifted')

Be Lord near us always
Even through all days
Your Spirit in our hearts
Satisfies all parts

Lead us on through dark times
Of life's ways and rhymes
Grant light shines through struggles
Yet trusting, none falls

You who ne'er lose control
Human woes take toll
Give repentance where we
Fail your way to go

And forgive, heal, restore
We can ask no more
Except you by grace say
Come to me today

Look on the afflictions
Of here needy ones
Turning to you we live
Us your help you give

Assuring Aspirations

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to the, for thou, O King divine')

Peace, my heart, and peace unto my mind too
Ponder on God's treasures, they old and new
Carry His presence within, all times be
His witness constantly

Many necessary tasks, daily life
Yet attend to them without trouble, strife
Let not any fears alarm, disturb here
Know God's presence is near

Grow in this communion, steady flow
With spiritual understanding Him know
More and more, Him revealing of Himself
His blessings, heavenly wealth

Vanities in the world aplenty are
Sadly we do not have to seek them far
Faith arises from within, for bar none
God reigns, Sovereign One

Passover Participation

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Exodus 12 v.1-14 part

When plagues on Egypt dd befall
The Lord then gave the call
To prepare for the Passover
And so no death incur

For then a lamb they were to take
And a sacrifice make
It did symbolise, prefigure
The Lamb of God for sure

The blood was to be put upon
The two door posts, each one
And on the upper post, lintel
Of each front door, on all

For that night the Lord would pas through
Egypt, and He would too
Kill all the first-born of the land
By dark death's-angel's hand

But where blood seen on the houses
The Lord, He espouses
To pass over them, spare from death
It would be as He saith

So as they there did then abide
In houses did reside
So may we stay by Jesus' cross
For He redeems our loss

Our only plea, our only place
And true for every race
Protection here, we safe and sound
Here praises do redound

For Christ the Lamb of God is slain
Need never die again
Salvation whole He does provide
Let us in Him confide

I AM The Bread Of Life - Part 1

Tune: Rosefield

('Bread of heaven on thee we feed')

John 6 v.35-40

I am the bread of life, true
Jesus says to us anew
They that come to Him shall ne'er
Hunger, His supply is there
For us to feed on, receive
Trusting in Him we believe

And they that believe they shall
Never thirst, for He a well
At which they may quench their thirst
Turn to Him in your need first
But He said unto those there
They not believe, not life share

All that Father to Him gives
Shall come to Him, they shall live
They that come to Him He will
Welcome, bear to them no ill
Shall in no wise cast them out
Shall accept them, there no doubt

For He came down from heaven
Not to do His own will then
But the will of His Father
Who had sent Him that rather
Did He choose and did obey
Brought to us salvation's day

What will this be? That of all

The Father gives, they not fall
Father gives them to the Son
They not be lost, not e'en one
But be raised up at last day
So Secure and saved alway

And too Father's will it be
That every one which does see
The Son, and on Him believes
May e'erlasting life receive
And be raised up at last day
So it be in God's good way

Words For Walking Wisely

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Psalm 19 v.12-14

Who can understand their errors?
Faults, sins, guilts, and their terrors
Cleanse me from secret faults, I pray
Lead me on in your sure way

Keep back your servant here also
Presumptuous sins [may I] not know
Let them no have dominion
Over me here, no, not one

Then shall I be upright, intent
And I shall be innocent
From sins great, many, that offend
Unto me here your grace tend

Let the words of my mouth, here see
And heart's meditation be
Acceptable, LORD, in your sight
My strength, redeemer, true light

Relationship Remedy

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Relationship, not ritual
Unto all who hear Christ's call
Need to be born of the Spirit
So the way through life is lit

For it as a new birth truly
Life to our spirits it be
To know God, Father, Son, Spirit
And abundant life, each whit

Help us, guide us, where stale, dreary
Or stuck in ritual we be
Or in religiosity
Only small progress make, see

Yet bring refreshment, renewal
That we do not dry up, stall
Turn wilderness to water-springs
Fresh praises to you each brings

River of the Spirit outflow
From our lives, so other know
Too of life and your salvation
Gospel unto each nation

I AM The Bread Of Life - Part 2

Tune: Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

John 6 v.47-51

Truly, truly, Jesus He did say
They that believe on me today
Have everlasting life, it is so
God in three Persons they do know

I am that bread of life to sustain
Ancestors they too food did gain
They ate manna in the wilderness
Daily supply they did confess

But they are dead, yet I the bread be
The living bread from heaven, see
if any eat of this bread they shall
Live for ever, and shall fare well

The bread that Jesus woudl give, it be
His flesh, we eat symbolically
His life given for life of the world
The plan of salvation unfurled

Heavenly Home

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Based on a Collect = Formal Prayer

Lord, support us all day
Along life's troublous way
'Til this earthly life past
And evening shadows cast

'Til busy world is hushed
Your words not faint or crushed
When fever of life o'er
We reach the distant shore

Here work be done daily
There it be over, see
Then Lord in your mercy
Grant us lodging safely

A holy rest and peace
All sin and sorrow cease
At the last time you call
To our long home us all

Trusting Truly

Tune: Everlasting Love

('Loved with everlasting love')

Psalm 62

Truly my soul on God waits
His help to me ne'er abates
From Him comes my salvation
I praise, give adoration
He only my rock, defence
I not be moved greatly hence
He only my rock, defence
I not be moved greatly hence

How long will you, enemies
Imagine mischief and seize
On the righteous, your end shall
Come soon, and to all then tell
How you fall as fence or wall
Though you built your towers tall
How you fell as fence or wall
Though you built your towers tall

My soul, wait on God only
My hope is still from Him, see
He only my salvation
And my rock, the holy one
He my defence, safeguard sure
I not be moved evermore
He my defence, safeguard sure
I not be moved evermore

God my salvation, glory
Rock of my strength He e'er be

In Him is my refuge strong
He preserves me all life long
Men at best are vanity
But the Lord eternal be
Men at best are vanity
But the Lord eternal be

Trust not men, but trust the Lord
Assured of His living word
All power to Him belongs
Sing unto Him worthy songs
And He merciful, here see
Rewards each one's work, so be
And He merciful, here see
Rewards each one's work, so be

Trust in Him all times, people
Pour out your hearts, to Him call
Upon Him, our refuge He
And our guardian shall be
Wait on Him, prayer shall He hear
You shall sense His presence near
Wait on Him, prayer shall He hear
You shall sense His presence near

High Priest Petitioning

Tune: Eventide

('Abide with me')

Hebrews 4 v.14-16

Seeing that we do have a great high priest
Who does attend to greatest as to least
He has passed into the heavens, Jesus
The Son of God, He the high priest for us

So let us hold our profession of faith
For true is each word that He sure does saith
We have not a high priest which cannot be
Touched with our condition, He each does see

He is able to sympathise and feel
Our infirmities, works for our good weal
Was in all points tempted as humans be
Yet was without sin, and helps you and me

Let us therefore come boldly to His throne
Of grace, where He does reign, and He alone
There to obtain mercy and His grace find
In our time of need, stay to Him aligned

Delightful Desire

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 73 v.25,26,28

In heaven whom have I
But you, God, by and by
And upon the earth there is none
I desire, except one

You, O God, that one be
My heart and flesh fail, see
But you, God, strength of my heart are
You are not from me far

My rock and my portion
'Til all of life is done
Then on through all eternity
You e'er my God shall be

It is good for me to
Draw near to God anew
In the Lord GOD I put my trust
Show His works, though I dust

I AM The Bread Of Life - Part 3

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

John 6 v.53-58

Though seems a mystery to be
'Tis not literally
That Jesus, bread of life, does say
Words unto us today

That except we do the flesh eat
Of the Son of Man meet* (*suitable)
And drink His blood, we have life not
So poor shall be our lot

Who eats His flesh, who drinks His blood
Symbolic as a flood
Such have eternal life and He
Shall raise them [at] last day, see

For His flesh it is food indeed
And his blood drink indeed
They that His fleshe eat, His blood drink
In symbols, so do think

They who do eat and drinks uch dwell
In Him, and shall fare well
And He dwells in them, there abides
Within their heart resides

As the livng Father has sent
Christ, by Father's intent
Christ lives by the Father, so we
Eating Him shall live, see

This is that bread come from heaven down
To every people, town
Not as ancestors now dead, they
Had manna for each day

But who shall eat of this bread sure
Shall live for evermore
Expressed in Communion we
Eat, drink symbolically

Watchful Waiting

Tune: Song 22

('Love of the Father, love of God the Son')

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I cried to you, LORD
LORD, hear my voice, attend unto my owrds
My supplications, requests, i now make
Hear me, help me, for your good mercies sake

If you, O LORD, should mark sins, who shall stand?
There be not one, no, not from any land
But there is forgiveness with you, that you
May be feared, revered, with awe anew

I wait for the LORD, my soul does wait here
In His word I hope, trust He shall appear
And come to my aid, my soul does wait more
Then night-watchers who wait for morning sure

Let Israel hope in the LORD, with Him there
Is mercy, loving-kindness He does share
And with Him is plenteous redemption
He shall redeem us from our sins, each one

I AM The Light Of The World

Tune: Newcastle

('Eternal Light! Eternal Light!')

John 8 v.12

Jesus, He said, I am the light
Of the world, and give sight
To those that follow me, they shall
Not walk in darkness, but do well
Have the light of life bright

Light of the world, illuminate
And view our darkened state
Give light spiritual, on us dawn
For you are the true Dayspring's morn
Your light does ne'er abate

John 1 v.4-5

In Christ is life, and that life, see
The light of men* it be (*mankind)
The light does shine in the darkness
Darkness ne'er dims light, we confess
It shines victoriously

John 9 v.5

As long as Christ in the world is
His word said, true is this
That He is the light of the world
Salvation's plan reveled, unfurled
Lead to eternal bliss

John 12 v.36

While we have light, let us believe
In the light, it receive

So then the children of the light
We shall be, and forsaking night
See the Way*, no deceive (*the Way = Christ)

Fido Rant

Woof! Woof!

Fido here - didn't go to Spain really!

Been reading the papers and am furious

What - some cad, some bounder, some *****

(Steady on there Fido!)

But someone says - 'I will NEVER wear a mask'

I will bark severely at them

And ask them - What makes you more special than others?

What does it matter (true)

If you are a volunteer for the Green Party?

Your attitude will make some people

NEVER vote for that Party again!

And you are a University lecturer too

Where's your three brain cells gone, man?

Gone on holiday - and never come back?!

We don't wish harm on anyone

Or - we don't wish harm to many

It's going too far to say -

Hope you catch the virus

But we can say - Hope you get fined - and often

And - Just stay away from me

If you are NEVER going to wear a mask

Just hope my Master (Orchi) never meets you

With me in tow

I'll go for your jugular!

We ALL need to play out part still

We don't have to wear a mask EVERYwhere

Or not at present anyway

But wear one where we should
Like it or not
For everyone's common good

Have a bone, Fido - rant over!
Now I have to mark it 18+ for Fido!
He is usually the 'watchdog'.

Prayer for the Aged

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Psalm 71 parts

LORD be my strong habitation
And to all, each nation
Where I may ever still resort
By you be led and taught

Cast me not off in time, old age
Passing through life's each stage
Forsake me not when my strength fails
Your power still avails

I will go in your strength, LORD, praise
To you I shall up raise
I will speak of your righteousness
Turn to me and me bless

O God, from my youth you have taught
Me, and have sure me sought
And hitherto I have declared
Your wondrous works, well-fared

Now when I am old, grey, forsake
Me not, may I partake
To show your strength to those now here
And [to] those who shall appear

My lips shall greatly rejoice, they
Shall sweet songs sing and say
I sing to you, my Redeemer
Who does save souls for e'er

I AM The Door (or Gate)

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

John 10 v.7-10

Jesus did say, Truly, truly
The door, the gate, I be
Of the sheep-fold, they safe reside
I with them e'er abide

All that ever came before me
Are thieves and robbers, see
But the sheep di not hear them when
They sought to mislead then

I am the door, and if any
By me enter in free
Into sheep-fold, they saved shall be
Find pasture pleasantly

They, my sheep, in and out hall go
And they shall blessings know
The thief comes not, but for to steal
Kill, destroy, do ill-will

But I am come so that they may
Have life, and too I say
That they might have it sure, fully
E'en more abundantly

Just Judgement

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 10 v.16-18

The LORD is King, e'en for ever
His rule shall sure decrease never
The enemies of His perished
His righteous judgments accomplished

LORD, you have heard the desire
Of the humble, what they require
Be pleased to give, to answer prayer
They confident that you are there

You will thus their heart prepare so
And you will their petitions know
You will cause your ear to them hear
They shall know you, your presence near

You will vindicate fatherless
And the oppressed, you will them bless
Will remove their oppressions for
You the righteous LORD evermore

I AM The Good Shepherd - Part 1

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

John 10 v.14-18

I am the good Shepherd, and know
My sheep, it sure is so
And I am known of them my sheep
I will them each one keep

As the Father knows me, e'en so
I do the Father know
And I do lay down my life for
Them, I can do no more

And other sheep I have, they be
Not of this sheep-fold, see
Them I must bring, and they shall hear
My voice, to me draw near

And there shall be one flock, one fold
Counted, it shall be told
And one shepherd, they gathered in
The lives that I shall win

Therefore does my Father love me
For I do His will, see
Lay down my life, that I may take
It again for sheep's sake

No one takes it from me, but I
Lay it down, then to die
Power I have to it down lay
Then take again, I the Way

This commandment have I received
Of my Father believed
Risen good Shepherd of the sheep
Your fold bless and us keep

Quota Of Qualities

Tune & Hymn: Amazing Grace

2 Peter 1 v.3-8

'Tis true, God's divine power, He
Has given to us, see
All things that unto life pertain
Too godliness we gain

It is through knowing Him, our Lord
And this is sure, His word
That He has called us to glory
And by virtue, so be

In this calling we are given
Whether child, women, men
Exceeding great and precious too
Promises, e'en to you

Given that by these promises
We may partake in this
The divine nature, escaped we
The world's corruption, see

And so do give all diligence
Add to faith virtue hence
Add to virtue knowledge, good sense
To knowledge [add] temperance

And to temperance add patience
And to patience add thence
Godliness, add to godliness
Warm brotherly* kindness

To brotherly kindness add love
The Spirit, holy dove
Shall help you grow, to know Christ more
His graces on you pour

* 'filial' could be used instead of 'brotherly',
to cover male and female, as there is sisterly love too!

Positively Prospering

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 112

Praise you the LORD, blessed are they that do fear
The LORD, with reverence draw to Him near
They that do in His commands greatly delight
Descendants shall be mighty and have true light

The generation of upright they shall
Be blessed, have wealth and riches and fare well
Their righteousness endures for ever, so be
Prosperity outcome of their life shall see

Unto the upright there arises light
In darkness, they shall see clear and have sight
They are gracious, full of compassion, righteous
Blessed by God, they a blessing to Him and us

Good people show favour, and they do lend
And to their affairs with discretion tend
They shall no be move ever, they stand steadfast
The righteous' remembrance, it ever shall last

They shall not be afraid, evil tidings
Whatever they hear, nor of troublous things
For their heart is fixed, in the LORD Him trusting
Heart established, assured, His grace he will bring

They shall see their desire on enemies
They distribute to the poor, so each sees
Their righteousness endures ever, their strength shall
Be exalted with honour, so shall all tell

The wicked shall see, and they shall be grieved
Their plans not come to pass, what they conceived
Against the righteous, but they shall melt away
Wicked's desire perish, righteous' victory day

Spiritual Sight

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Psalm 119 v.129-136

Your testimonies wonderful
They be unto my soul
The entrance of your words give light
We gain spiritual sight

And your words give understanding
To the simple, each thing
That love your name, and my steps here
Direct in your word near

Let not sin dominate o'er me
For I your servant be
Deliver me from oppression
Of men, troubles each one

So will I keep your precepts sure
Make your face shine e'ermore
Upon your servants, and do teach
Me your good statutes each

Rivers of waters overflow
From my eyes, for 'tis so
Men do not your law steadfast keep
For this cause do I weep

Merry.....

Hi everyone!
And a Merry Christmas to ya all!
Well, Fido said , Best mention it early
In case I forget later.

I mean - you had a Christmas catalogue or two
Through your door yet?
You got that tree ready yet?
I've decorated mine now
Did it in June

You got that manger ready too?
And the hay for the oxen there?
They are Fido's friends!

Ohh, wishing the year away
Wasting every moment.....
Help - I must stop!
Wishing it away
There's 365 (or 366) days each year.

Did you use that extra second we had one year?
How did ya spend it?
I used it by flying round the moon 17 times
And swimming the Channel 14 times
And more that I can't remember
All in one second

Well, stop enjoying yourselves then!
If time goes quickly when you're enjoying yourself
As they say

Just ask advice from Fido

On how not to enjoy yourself
Then the time may go slower!
He won't let us have much 'excitement'
And certainly no 'ardour'
Only cos it will stop him and His master (me)
From swooning!

And - Get your Easter eggs in early
Next week probably!
Heehee.

Salvation Sharings

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 69 v.29-36

I, O God, be poor, sorrowful
I your salvation recall
Let it set me up on high for
I do trust in you here sure
I will praise the name of God here
With a song to Him draw near

Will magnify Him, and thanks give
By His mercies I shall live
The humble shall see this, be glad
Turn from mourning, not be sad
Your heart shall live, you that God seek
Heart that be lowly and meek

For the LORD the poor He does hear
To His prisoners does appear
Let the heaven and earth Him praise
The seas too, throughout all days
For God will save Zion and build
Judah's cities, home and field

So that he may there within dwell
His people His glories tell
It be their possession, their own
In His city He is known
His servants descendants too they
Inherit, love Him alway

Quenching Quest

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 42 v.1

As the deer pants for water brooks
My soul has not forsook
You, Lord my God, but it anew
Does pant and desires you

Psalm 42 v.2

My soul thirsts for God ,when shall I
The living God espy?
When shall I before Him appear
And know His presence near?

Renew us here in arid land
Sustain us by your hand* (*Spirit)
Come quench our thirst where hot and tired
By you we fresh inspired

Is soul, spirit, as body state?
You shall help us not late
Bring refreshment to satiate
We trust your mercies great

Psalm 63 v.1

O God, you are my God, early
Will I seek you, now see
My soul thirsts, my flesh longs for you
To satisfy me true

Psalm 63 v.1

I thirst and long as in dry land

If be as desert sand
A land where there no water be
But you shall supply free

Supply life-giving water so
Your comfort we shall know
And go to share that Adam's ale* (*water)
Which resources ne'er fail

I AM The Good Shepherd - Part 2

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

John 10 v.27-30

Jesus said, My sheep hear my voice
They love it, and do rejoice
And I know them, they follow me
Them I not e'er forsake, see

And I give to them eternal
Life, they shall ne'er perish, fall
Nor shall anyone from my hand
Snatch them, they bide in good land

My Father, who gave me my sheep
I will love, protect, them keep
My Father is greater than all
And my sheep do hear my call

No one is able to them snatch
Out of Father's hand, them catch
I and my Father we are one
He my Father, I His Son

Prominent Praise

Tune: Moscow

('Thou whose almighty word')

Psalms 148 & 150 parts

Praise the LORD in the heights
Praise Him through days and nights
Father of lights
All creation now sing
And Him your tributes bring
Worship in holiness
And do Him bless

Angels, sun, moon, each star
You beings near and far
Let none debar
All creation Him praise
He made all, thank now raise
Established now for e'er
And ceases ne'er

Let all praise the LORD's name
It excellent, the same
Of worthy fame
His glory is above
Earth and heaven, the dove
The spirit of His love
Let praises ring

He does exalt the strength
Of His people at length
It be their praise
The praise of His people
All they who on Him call

A people to Him dear
They know Him near

Praise Him with instruments
And with wisdom, good sense
Even from hence
Come, Praise Him loud and long
Joining in joyful song
All that has breath Him praise
Wondrous His ways

Enemy Emancipation

Tune: Webb

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Psalm 83 parts

O God, keep not you silence
Nor hold your peace from hence
Be not still, your enemies
Make tumult, each agrees
To exalt selves against you
Crafty counsel anew
They have taken against your
People, the faithful sure

They said, Come, let us destroy
Israel's nation, our ploy
So it not be remembered
Nor help on it conferred
They consulted and conspired
To cut off, their hearts fired
Their aim to defeat us, true
Lord, they fight against you

Make them like th whirling dust
Your enemies they must
Submit to you, none greater
Shall be soon or later
And cause them your name to seek
To serve you, humble, meek
So JEHOVAH your name great
They shall know, royal state

Wholesome Waiting

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 62 v.5-8

My soul, wait you on God only
For He your help shall be
From Him is my expectation
He Lord, ruler o'er each nation
Of men of each station
Of men of each station

He only is my rock and my
Salvation, He is nigh
He is my defence, I shall not
Be moved or shaken, firm my lot
He has me not forgot
He has me not forgot

In God true is my salvation
And so unto each one
Who does upon Him call, they shall
Know His presence, and all be well
And they His glories tell
And they His glories tell

He the rock of my strength, I stand
Sustained by His good hand* (*Spirit)
He my refuge, trust Him always
You people, pour out heart these days
To Him, so safe your ways
To Him, so safe your ways

I AM The Resurrection And The Life - Part 1

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

John 11 v.20-32 & v.43-44

Martha did to Jesus go
Her heart full of sorrow
She met Him there, Bethany
And said to Him, "Lord, see
If you had been here, it so
I am assured and know
My brother Lazarus would
Not have died, lived he could"

"But I do know even now
You can help us here, how
It be so, I know whate'er
You ask God, with Him share
He will give it to you, 'tis true"
Jesus did say unto
Her, "Your brother, he shall rise
Again, it be no lies"

Martha said to Him, "I know
He shall rise again, so
In the resurrection, this
That last day of fine bliss"
Jesus said to her in need
"I still my people heed
I am the resurrection
And the life for each one"

"They that believe in me, though
They die, yet shall live, know

This, and whosoe'er in me
Lives and believes, so be
They shall never die, do you
Believe that this is true?"
Martha said, "Yes, Lord, I believe
Your words my griefs relieve"

She said, "I believe that you
Are Christ, Son of God true
The one who should come into
The world to give life new"
Then her sister Mary too
Met Jesus, did Him view
He from the dead Lazarus raised
And all there were amazed

I AM The Resurrection And The Life - Part 2

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

John 11 v.38-44

Gathered at Lazarus' tomb there
In sorrow they did share
Jesus said, "Take away the stone"
In spirit He did groan

Martah, Lazarus' sister said
"Lord, four days he be dead
By this time he will smell, decayed
In tomb he has been laid"

Jesus said, "Said I not to you
If you would believe true
You would see God's glory revealed
Not hidden, not concealed"

They moved the stone, Jesus eyes raised
To Father prayed and praised
Said, "Father I thank you, you hear
Me always, to me near"

But because of those which stand by
I said it, so that nigh
To them they may know you, believe
You sent me, no deceive

Then "Lazarus, come forth", He loud
Called out amid the crowd
And he that was dead came forth bound
Thanksgiving did resound

He with grave-clothes bound hands and feet
And in burial sheet
Face covered with napkin, made way
Out to the light of day

Jesus said to them, "Now him free
Loose him from grave-clothes, see
And let him go", this miracle
He showed there unto all

I AM The Way, The Truth, And The Life

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

John 14 v.1-7

Let not your heart be troubled, see
Believe in God, also in me
I Christ His Son, [God] my Father He
Be now and through eternity

In my Father's house are many
Mansions, if not so, it would be
I would have told you, now I go
To prepare a place for you, know

And if I go, a place prepare
I will come again, take you there
Receive you to myself, that where
I am, there you may be too, share

And where I go you know, and too
The way there is known unto you
Thomas Said, Lord, we know not where
You go, how can we know way there?

Jeesus said to Him, See, I be
The way, truth, life, know this clearly
No one comes to the father save* (*= except)
But through me the Son that He gave

If you had known me, you then should
Have known my Father also, would
Have understood, and from now on
My Father you know in His Son

First Focus

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Lord, help us seek you first
For you hunger and thirst
Knowing you will tend to
Our daily needs in view

Food and drink and clothing
You know we need each thing
May we trust you provide
And sure in you confide

You will lead us your way
Guide us to watch and pray
Hold to you, spark burn bright
Lead us with your clear light

We shall live by your grace
Each thing of life we face
Show us your plan, purpose
Your intent to bless us

Living for your glory
Sharing gospel story
Salvation here for all
Who on your name, Lord, call

Stormy Scene

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Night-storm, the lightnings flash
And loud the thunders crash
The rain teems down. refreshes land
All under your strong hand
You, Lord of life and power
Your strength constant each hour
Your voice loud in the storm is heard
Or e'en in quietest word

Wind makes the trees to shake
Raindrops o'er river, lake
And waters land, relief does bring
To each dry, arid thing
So your Spirit you send
Unto us you do tend
Water of life you with us share
We revive and well fare

All life dependent be
On you, Creator, we
Do believe, what you will, you do
And wonders not a few
Life you give unto all
Help us to hear your call
To turn to you, your salvation
By grace unto each one

Jerusalem Joyful And Just

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me
Let us go now, come, see
To the house of the LORD to praise
Him, and to worship raise

Our feet within your gates shall stand
Jerusalem the land
'Tis builded as a city strong
Compact all days along

There the tribes of the LORD they go
Up, for His laws to know
And to give thanks to Him, He dwells
In His Temple, each tells

There are the thrones of judgement set
They still are righteous yet
Pray for the peace of this city
Jerusalem it be

They shall prosper that do it love
And blessings from above
Shall come, peace be within its walls
The people trust, none falls

And prosperity be within
Its palaces, may sin
Not corrupt nor defile its place
God dwells there by His grace

For my companions sake I say
'Peace be in you today'
Because the house of God is there
Your good I seek for e'er

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Because the house of God is there
Your good I seek for e'er

Gospel Gladness

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Jesus, you my Saviour, I will
Praise you and extol you still
My Redeemer, you save from sin
Your Spirit me dwells within

Partakers of New Covenant
That you have from heaven sent
Forgiveness, eternal life for
All who will turn to you sure

I cannot myself save, but you
Make possible all things new
Paying price for my salvation
And to all of each nation

Taking on the cross my place there
In all human life you share
God the Father's justice it be
Satisfied there, true I see

And the hope of resurrection
Through you, you the risen Son
Help us go, share, evangelise
Ever more to the high prize

The prize of knowing you fully
Changed into your image be
Christ, by your Spirit's great power
Show me more of you each hour

Prosperous Praising

Tune: Infant Praise

('Children of Jerusalem')

Luke 19 v.38-40

Blessed be the King that comes in
The name of the LORD, no sin
Does He have, peace in heaven
Highest glory to the Son

Chorus

Children praised Jesus at His entry
Into Jerusalem, songs there be
Raising fine heir loud 'Hosannas'
Worship each on Him confers

Some of the Pharisees there
Did not in the praises share
Bid the Lord the praise silence
May they not rejoice from hence
Chorus

But Jesus did answer, say
Of these hold heir peace this day
The stones would straightway cry out
Praise be not muzzled, no doubt
Chorus

Vindicated Victor

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Revelation 1 v.11-18 parts

Jesus unto John revealéd
He the Lord, o'er all the head
Walking midst seven candlesticks
Shining bright with burning wicks
Christ in midst of His church walks
Guides His people, with them talks

See, He one like the Son of Man
None other compares, none can
Match this vision, He first and last
Knows all future, present, past
Clothed with garment, royal robe
Author of the New Encove* (*Covenant)

Golden chest-band, head and hairs white
Majestic unto our sight
White like wool, and too white as snow
Eyes as flame of fire, we know
And His feet as brass burnished
With beauty, glory furnished

Sound of many waters His voice
Let us worship Him, rejoice
In His right hand seven stars bright
He who is the world's true Light
Out of His mouth two-edged sword
Sharp it be, true His each word

His countenance as sun strong shines

Works all to His own designs
He the one that lives, was once dead
Now lives evermore, He said
Alpha and Omega I
First and last, no more I die

New Jerusalem

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Revelation 21 v.2-7

New Jerusalem descending
Holy city, praises ring
Coming down from God from above
From the heaven of His love
Prepared as a bride for husband
He shall her ever defend

From heaven a great voice saying
Great and marvellous this thing
God's tabernacle is with men
Let praises resound again
For His dwelling shall with us be
His people, He our God, see

And God shall wipe away all tears
From our eyes, and gone our fears
There shall be no more death, sorrow
No more crying, pain we know
For these former things shall be passed
Away, not for ever last

God sat on His throne, does say too
Behold, all things I make new
These His words, they true and faithful
He shall keep promises all
All done, He Alpha, Omega
Beginning and ending sure

He will give to those there thirsty

Of fount of water freely
Fount of water of life it be
They shall live eternally
He our God, we His daughters, sons
Inheritors we, each one

Treasure Trove

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Colossians 2 v.2-3

This be a prayer, that hearts might be
Comforted and encouraged, see
Being knit together in love
Joined by the Spirit, holy dove

And knit together too unto
All the riches that we may view
Of the full assurance it be
Of understanding whole and free

So we have knowledge, we attain
Revealing of mystery we gain
The mystery of God, He is
The Father, Christ His Son, true this

In Christ are hid all the treasures
Of wisdom, knowledge, pure pleasures
Lord, grant us grace, do still us show
More of Christ, so we more Him know

Wise Ways To Walk

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 1 v.2

Blessed are they who do delight
In the LORD's law, keep sight
Of all His commands, meditate
They day and night, not late

Psalm 1 v.3

They shall be like a tree planted
By the rivers, they led
And guided by the LORD, they shall
In season bring forth well

Psalm 1 v.3

Their leaf shall not wither nor fade
They remain constant, staid
Whatsoever they do concurs
With God's ways and prospers

Psalm 2 v.11-12

Serve Him with fear, godly trembling
To Him your tributes bring
Rejoice before Him, in Him trust
We who are but mere dust

Psalm 3 v.3

You LORD are a shield unto me
And you my glory be
You lift my head up from despair
I know you always there

Psalm 3 v.8

Salvation to the LORD belongs
To Him we sing our songs
Your blessing is sure here upon
Your people, through your Son

Psalm 4 v.1

Hear me, O LORD, I to you call
In you I shall not fall
You have helped, enlarged me, I prayed
[May] Mercy not be delayed

Psalm 4 v.4

Stand in awe, and sin not, commune
With your own heart quite soon
Upon your bed, when daylight ends
Be still, God His peace sends

Merciful Matters

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Like as a father pities his children
So the LORD pities the children of men

Pities them that fear Him, He knows our frame
Remembers we are dust, and knows our name

As for man, his days they be as the grass
They a brief span on this earth, they soon pass

Man as a flower of field does flourish
Wind blows on it, man gone, each thought, each wish

Then man's place gone, forgotten, is no more
But the LORD's mercy abides ever sure

It be from e'erlasting to e'erlasting
Upon them that fear Him, Him praises bring

His righteousness be to children's children
Endures through each generation of men

'Tis to those that His covenant do keep
And that do His commands. they be His sheep

The LORD His throne in heaven has prepared
His kingdom rules o'er all, it with us shared

Decisive Departure

Tune: Song 34

('Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go')

2 Timothy 4 v.6-8

Paul said, I am now ready to
Be offered, Lord, my life to you
Time of my departing at hand
You give me grace to understand

I have fought a good fight, and I
By your help I you not deny
I have finished my course, my race
Now to leave earth for better place

I have kept the faith, and from now
There is laid up a crown, 'tis how
The Lord, the righteous judge rewards
Crown of righteousness me affords* (*gives)

At the last day it me shall give
He, Lord of life, does ever live
Not given only unto me
Also to all who love Him, see

Praise Proclamation

Tune: Lobe Den Herren

('Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation')

Psalm 45 v.6-7

Your throne, O God, is for
Ever and ever, still stands sure
The sceptre of your kingdom
Is a righteous sceptre, wholesome
You love the right
Though enemies do you fight
You overcome them in your might

Psalm 45 v.7 & v.17

Lord Christ, you hate wicked
Therefore your God has you anointed
You with oil of gladness
Above your companions, does you bless
I will make your
Name to be remembered sure
Through all generations e'ermore

Psalm 46 v.1-2

God is our refuge, He
A present help in troubles be
Therefore we will not fear
Though the earth may be removed here
Or mountains be
Carried into midst of sea
God shall help us abundantly

Psalm 47 v.1-2

Clap hands, all you people
Sing, praise, shout you unto God all

Raise voice of triumph high
For the LORD is great, and is nigh
He awesome be
King over all the earth, see
Reigning in omnipotency

Psalm 47 v.6-7

Sing praises to God, sing
Unto Him worthy tributes bring
Sing praises to your King
He be the LORD o'er everything
O'er all earth King
He be, let worship now ring
Sing praises with understanding

Majestic Marriage

Tune: St Gertrude

('Onward, Christian soldiers')

Revelation 19 v.6-9

Voice of great multitude
This John sure he heard
Sound of waters many
Mighty thunderings be
Saying, Alleluia
From all near and far
For the Lord God unfeigns
Omnipotent reigns

Chorus

Praise our God, you servants
You be penitents
You that fear Him, great, small
Join in praises all

Let us be glad, rejoice
Give glory, one voice
To Him, for marriage here
Has come, does appear
Marriage of Christ, Lamb He
Bride His people, see
She His wife has ready
Made herself, so be - Chorus

In fine linen arrayed
There she be displayed
It clean and white, whole, pure
Made out of the store
Of righteous deeds of aints

Without sin, no taints
Perfect, acceptable
She hears Bridegroom's call - Chorus

John did write, Blessed are they
That be called that day
To the marriage supper
Of the Lamb, it sure
These be the true sayings
Of God, word He brings
All-powerful ever
Loses strength never - Chorus

Bounteous Blessings

Tune: All that thrills my soul is Jesus
('Who can cheer the heart like Jesus?')

Psalm 103 v.1-8 parts

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all
That is in me on Him call
Bless His holy name for ever
Forget His goodness never

Chorus

As heaven is above earth high
Great is His mercy, yet night
As far as east is from the west
He removes our sins, we blest

He who does all your sins forgive
Now in His sight you may live
He who heals all your diseases
To do so it Him pleases - Chorus

Redeems your life from destruction
Crowns you with mercies, each one
Loving kindness and tenderness
It be His intent to bless - Chorus

He satisfies you with good things
Food, drink, clothing to you brings
Your youth like the eagle's renewed
He has favoured and you viewed - Chorus

He be merciful and gracious
Slow to anger unto us
Plenteous in mercy, abounds

Praise here unto Him resounds - Chorus

Dynamic Display

Tune: Angel Voices

('Angel voices ever singing')

Psalm 76 parts

In Judah is God known, His name
Evermore the same
His name great in Israel be
Strong and whole and free
In [Jeru]Salem His tabernacle
Is, He dwells midst His people

There He breaks the weapons of war
Bow, shield, sword for sure
he more glorious, excellent
Thant mounts high ascent
Proud are spoiled, the mighty fallen
God e'er stronger than all men

He is to be feared, revered
Here His presence sensed
Who may stand in His sight, when He
Once angry shall be?
His gives judgements from heaven sent
Let us worship, penitent

He did judge to save all the meek
The lowly He seeks
Surely wrath of man shall Him praise
It shall ne'er Him faze
The remainder of wrath shall He
Restrain, mighty God He be

Prize Pursuit

Tune: Quem Pastores Laudavere

('Jesus, good above all other')

Philippians 3 v.12-14

Not that I have here attained to
Perfection in Christ, but anew
I press on, and so persevere
To what Christ has called me here

To apprehend, lay hold on, see
That [for] which Christ has laid hold on me
Not that I have arrived there yet
But this one thing not forget

It be to leave things of the past
They be gone, not for ever last
I reach forward unto those things
That are ahead, which Christ brings

I press toward the mark, the goal
Diligent, body, spirit, soul
The prize of the high calling free
Of God in Christ Jesus [it] be

Gladness And Goodness

Tune: Wonderful Love

('Come let us sing of a wonderful love'

Psalm 30 v.10-11

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me

My helper be

You have turned for me my mourning into

Rejoicing, dancing anew

For you have sure

Put off my sackcloth, given me gladness sure

Psalm 30 v.12

'Tis to the end that my soul it may sing

You worship bring

Not be silent, but express praise to you

You my God holy and true

Thanks will I give

Unto you for ever, you ever live

Psalm 31 v.7

I will be glad, rejoice in your mercy

It to me be

For you have considered my trouble here

And to help me did appear

You have known my

Soul in adversities, I to you cry

Psalm 31 v.19

O how great is your goodness that you keep

For all your sheep

For those that fear you, do you reverence

And do your awesomeness sense

You have good wrought

For they that trust in you and have you sought

Psalm 32 v.10-11

Many sorrows shall be to the wicked

They be misled

But they that trust in the LORD, mercy shall

Surround them, they shall fare well

Rejoice, be glad

In the LORD you righteous, not for e'er sad

Storm Stilled

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Mark 4 v.35-41

When passing o'er the sea
The sea of Galilee
A great storm did arise
Did them all there surprise
Disciples panicked, Jesus slept
In back of boat, yet control kept

They came to Him, Him woke
And words to Him they spoke
"Master, do you care not
That we perish, our lot
Upon this wild and restless sea?
Help, save us here, this company"

Then He from sleep arose
And His power He shows
Rebuked the wind, said, "Cease"
And to sea, "Be still, peace"
Silencing angry elements
They obey and His presence sense

For wind did cease, was calm
On sea still, healing balm
Jesus to disciples [said]
"Why fearful, what appals
You, how is it that you have no
Faith? Believe now, and so faith show"

They feared exceedingly

Said, "Who can this man be?
What manner of man He
Who commands e'en wind, sea?"
He Christ the Son of God He be
Now and through all eternity

Deliverance Desires

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Psalm 4 v.6-8

There be many that say
Who will show good today?
LORD, turn to us your face
Inspire us with your grace

Lift up the light of your
Countenance, 'tis good sure
Upon us now do shine
With beams of love divine

You have put in my heart
Gladness, LORD, ne'er depart
I more glad than they who
Reap the harvest anew

I will both lay me down
'Neath your smile, not your frown
Lay down in peace and sleep
For you, LORD, safe me keep

Miracle For A Multitude

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to: 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Mark 6 v.32-44 parts

Great multitude did Jesus meet
How would they be fed? How this feat?
Over five thousand gathered there*
How would they in sustenance share?

Disciples counted loaves and fish
That were there, but was this mere wish?
Five loaves and two fishes to feed
So many in hor of need?

They suggested, Shall we go, buy
Pay over six months wages, try#
To buy enough food for them all?
Yet even this an order tall

Jesus did command them to stay
And sit down on the grass that day
Though evening was passing, still He
Would show them He Provider be

He took the loaves and fish, prayed there
Blessed and broke them for all to share
Disciples distributed, so
Food multiplied, an ample flow

For they did all eat, satisfied
Enough for all He did provide
And even more, for gathered all
Were twelve baskets extra and full

Gathered up, spare, and none did waste
When all had eaten, had their taste
Of food, and seen this miracle
They did partake there, one and all

* Some Gospels say 'Five thousand men, plus women and children.'

So it was OVER five thousand people.

They suggested spending 200 denarii. 1 denarius was one day's wage

Prayer And Peace

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Philippians 4 v.4-9

In the Lord e'er rejoice
Lift up His name with one voice
Let your moderation
Be known here unto all men
For the Lord is at hand
Grant we may, every land
Trust you, Lord, that you near
By faith to us appear

Be anxious for nothing
But do so in every thing
By prayer, supplication
With thanks, your requests, each one
Let them all be made known
Unto God, He alone
Omniscient, knows all
Hears those who on Him call

And so God's peace, it be
Beyond understanding, see
Shall keep your hearts and minds
Through Christ Jesus each one finds
And think on things then true
Honest, noble, this do
And things lovely whate'er
And good reports do share

Think too if virtue be
And what of praise does agree

Think on these things, so mind
Shall be enlightened, not blind
What you have learned, received
Heard from others, believed
What seen in them, so do
[The] God of peace be with you

Inclusive Invitation

Little Cornard

('Hills of the north rejoice')

Isaiah 55 v.6-11

Seek the LORD while He may
Be found, salvation's day
Is still upon us here
Call upon Him while near
He be ready to accept each
Who does pray, humbly Him beseech

Let the wicked forsake
Their way, the LORD's way take
Let the unrighteous too
Forsake their thoughts, and do
Return unto the LORD, and He
Will have mercy upon them, see

So to their God return
His will and ways to learn
He will abundantly
Pardon and forgive free
For His thoughts they are not our thoughts
His way not our ways, He has wrought

For as the heavens are
Higher than earth by far
So His ways are higher
Than our ways be, for sure
And His thoughts too they higher be
Than our human thoughts certainly

For as the snow and rain

Fall, they do not again
Return to heaven, they
Water the earth, allay
Its thirst, makes it bud and bring forth
O'er all lands, east, west, south, and north

So it may give seed to
The sower thence anew
And food as we do eat
Of the produce replete
So God's word does not void return
To Him, we prosper, of it learn

Who Do You Say?

Tune: Tyrol

('A man there lived in Galilee')

Mark 8 v.27-33

Jesus and His disciples they
Continued on their way
To Caesarea Philippi
They came there by and by
Jesus said to them, "Who do men
Say that I am?" And then
They replied, "Some say John Baptist
Elijah, or from list"

List of the prophets, that Christ be
One of them, some agree
Then Jesus to disciple He
Said, "Who say you I be?"
Peter said, "You are the Christ, for
You the Son of God sure"
But Jesus said not to tell then
Not spread yet to all men

He taught them He must suffer, yield
To be rejected, killed
And after three days rise again
Peter did take Him then
And he rebuked Him, said, "Lord, ne'er
Shall you these sufferings share
It cannot be, take not this way
But easy path today"

Jesus did Peter rebuke then
Said, "These the things of men

That you think on, and they be not
Things of God, not His lot"
Though seeming fair, an evil voice
Sought to deter the choice
That Jesus should make, but the will
Of Father He chose still

Creator Consciousness

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Ye holy angles bright')

Psalm 33 v.1-8

Rejoice in the LORD, you
Righteous, and praise Him true
For praise is beautiful
For the upright, here call
Upon His name, praises now sound
With voices and instruments found

Sing to Him a new song
Play skilfully along
With a loud noise, and shout
Of joy, let it ring out
For word of LORD is right and sure
All His works done in truth e'ermore

He too loves righteousness
And judgement, we onfess
The earth here it be full
Of the LORD's goodness all
By the LORD's word heavens were made
And all their host by Him arrayed

The waters He gathers
Seas, and on them confers
Boundaries, they pass not
Limits He does allot
Store-houses there be of the deeps
High and low He creation keeps

Let all the earth now fear

The LORD, for He is near
Let all inhabitants
Of the world Him now sense
And stand in awe, for He e'er great
Rules over all, and not mere fate

Covenant Communing

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus in thy dear Sacrament')

Hebrews 8 v.10-12

The Lord said, This the Covenant
It be from heaven sent
New Covenant I with people
Shall make with nations all

I will put my laws in their minds
Within them they shall find
My laws, too write them in their hearts
E'en in their inward parts

And I to them a God will be
And they my people, see
Shall be, no intermediary
Except my Son shall be

For He shall from their sins them save
His life He shall have gave
And they all shall me, the Lord know
Myself I shall them show

Yes, all shall know, from least to great
Whate'er their class or state
For I will be merciful, bless
Them, I their righteousness

Their sins and iniquities they
Will all be washed away
I shall remember them no more
My Son bears them for sure

Hopeful Harvest

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Psalm 65 v.5-13

O God, you are the confidence
Of ends of earth, who now hence
Look to you to provide through all
The year as they on you call
You see those on the sea that are
On their travels, they go far
By your strength you mounts establish
By your power, not mere wish

The noise of the sea's waves you still
And tumult of man's ill-will
To utmost ends of earth men fear
Your signs, revere you, you near
You make morns and evenings rejoice
Each day appointed, your choice
You visit the earth and do pour
Waters on it from your store

With the river of God you do
Greatly enrich it anew
This river full of water be
Not given meagre, sparsely
You prepare foods, corn of the land
Provided by your good hand
Cycle of life, harvest does spring
Again, and does plenty bring

You water ridges and furrows
Abundantly, the land knows

'Tis from your supply, and showers
You send at certain hours
To make land soft, and it you bless
Plants grow from it, we confess
You crown the year with your goodness
You give abundance, no less

Hills, mounts, lowlands, forests, and fields
All are glad, all praise you yields
Pastures are clothed with flocks of sheep
In your grace you do then keep
And valleys all are covered o'er
With corn, you do provide sure
They wave their heads in breeze gently
Sing they in fine harmony

Gracious Goldfinch

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Goldfinch painted by Raphael
You do your story tell
'Madonna of the Goldfinch' we
The picture thus do see
In infant hand of John [Baptist] are held
Gently, and not impelled
And too infant Jesus strokes you
A beauteous scene we view

One foot you have on John's hand graced
One on Mary's lap placed
What story do you tell of how
Red spot on your head, now
Do tell us what the legend be
You did fly from a tree
To see Christ there, He crucified
You helped Him ere He died

To do something to lift the strain
To ease the Saviour's pain
Unto His cross at Calvary
You did approach bold, free
To pluck a thorn from off His crown
You did descend, come down
As you with your beak a thorn pulled
Then this is here recalled

That as you did so, blood, a drop
Splashed on your head atop
Sweet bird, you did there what you could

At that cruel cross of wood
Sing on still with your melody
Of the Saviour now free
Of death, He lives for evermore
He remembers you sure

The painting of 1505 is in the Uffizi, Florence.
It also shows Mary reading 'The Throne of Wisdom' book.

Countenancing The Cross

Tune: Rockingham

('When I survey the wondrous cross')

Mark 10 v.32-34

Gathers dark cloud of destiny
Yet for world's salvation it be
Jesus and His disciples they
To Jerusalem made their way

They were amazed, followed afraid
Yet God's will, plan, was not mislaid
For He did tell disciples there
Of things that He would then in share

Saying, Behold, we now travel
To Jerusalem to fulfil
Plan and will of my Father sure
Will bring salvation evermore

For I, the Son of man shall be
Delivered to sufferings, see
From the chief priests and scribes, and they
Shall condemn Him and have their day

Shall sentence Him to death though He
Pure, spotless, and innocent be
Shall deliver Him to Gentiles
He be in their power awhile

And they shall mock and scourge Him sore
Shall spit upon Him, hatred for
Him they shall have, shall Him e'en kill
He faces humanity's ill

But not the end, for on third day
He shall rise again, He the Way
And the Truth, and the Life of all
Who in faith believe, on Him call

Quality Not Quantity

Tune & Hymn: 'Peace, peace, Jesus is here'

Mark 12 v.41-44

Jesus by treasury
In Temple sat, did see
How the people cast in
To offerings therein
Saw the rich cast in much
Others gave such

Such as they did each choose
Each one, Jesus He views
Then a poor widow she
Her offering it be
Two mites, they a farthing
Yet everything

Everything that she had
Though with poverty clad
Jesus said, Truly she
Poor widow though she be
Has cast in more than they
All gave that day

For they of abundance
Surplus, well-off finance
They gave of that, but she
Cast in all she had, see
She gave more than they all
Grace did not stall

Amiable Anointing

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Mark 14 v.3-9

Jesus, He in Bethany
At house of Simon was, see
Sharing a meal, then did come
A woman, entered the home
Had box of precious ointment
Broke the box and it was rent

Poured it upon Jesus' head
Some were indignant instead
Said, Why waste of ointment made?
Could o'er ten months wages paid*
To sell it, to help the poor
Would not this be useful sure?

Jesus said, Let her now be
See has wrought good work on me
For you have the poor with you
Always, any time may do
Good to them, but me 'tis true
Have not always here with you

She has done what she could do
Has come beforehand, here view
To anoint my body now
For burial, it be how
She shows her love, thankfulness
All people shall hence her bless

For truly I to you say

What deed she has done this day
Shall be spoken of her, shared
How she my body prepared
Where'er gospel shall be preached
Memory of her ne'er impeached

* A penny was one days wage, They said 'Could not this ointment
have been sold for over 300 pence (over 10 months wages)
and the money given to the poor?'

Trusting Tale

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Psalm 37 v.7

Rest in the LORD and wait
Patient, He not late
To come to your help, see
He your strength will be
Fret not o'er the wicked
In false paths they led
Fear not they who evil
Schemes seek to fulfil

Psalm 37 v.23-24

The steps of good people
They are ordered all
By the LORD, they delight
In His word and light
Though they may fall, they shall
Not stay down, fare well
For the LORD them upholds
Guards them guides, enfolds

Psalm 38 v.21-22

Forsake me not, LORD, you
Are my God, 'tis true
Be not far from me, so
Your presence I know
Make haste here to help me
I your servant be
O LORD my salvation
And to each nation

Psalm 39 v.5

My days as a hand span
You have made, none can
Add to years you ordain
And have settled plain
You great God, we all be
Small and vanity
Before your power we
As a vapour be

Psalm 40 v.16

Yet let they who seek you
Rejoice, be glad too
In you, and who do so
They salvation know
Let them lift your name high
Above earth, sea, sky
Say, LORD, be magnified
None compares beside

Hope of Heavenly Help

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Psalm 17 v.5-8

Hold up my steps, Lord, in your ways
Help me to follow all my days
So shall I slip not, persevere
Trusting you with me, always near

I have called on you, you will hear
Incline your ear, hear my prayer clear
Show me your marvellous mercy
Your loving-kindness unto me

You are He who does save by your
Right hand them which trust you for sure
You save them from those that do rise
Against them with oppression, lies

Keep me as apple of your eye
Look on me and not pass me by
Hide me 'neath shadow of your wings
So then safe, my soul to you sings

Wheat And Weeds

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields and scatter')

Matthew 13 v.24-30

The kingdom of heaven be
Like to a man who, see
Sowed good seed in his field, then
While men did sleep, was when
Enemy came and sowed weeds
Among the wheat, the deeds
He did, then went on his way
Undiscovered that day

Chorus

Wheat, weeds, together grown
'Til harvest, this be known
Then weeds burnt up, wheat gathered in
All free from sin

But when the wheat's blade did spring
Was revealed everything
Wheat brought forth its fruit, each ear
In fullness did appear
Then did appear weeds also
They with the wheat did grow
Servant said to the sower
How these grow? Do you know? - Chorus

Sower said, An enemy
Has done this, so it be
Servants said, Shall we gather weeds?
They of no useful needs
Sower said, No, not yet, lest

While you gather, the best
The wheat you may uproot too
And damage to crops do - Chorus

Let both grow to the harvest
And then view good, the best
The reapers shall gather first
The weeds, the bad, the worst
Shall bind them in bundles to
Burn, this be their end true
But wheat gathered in barn, for
It safe for evermore - Chorus

Acceptable Atonement

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

Now the day of salvation
Is here for each nation
Now is time acceptable
To come to Jesus all

To take Him as your Saviour
He has made the way sure
For you to come unto God
This earthly path He trod

Did live, died, and rose again
Himself and offering them
When He upon the cross gave
His life, us all to save

This was the atonement made
That we not need afraid
Be to approach to God now
Christ has made way, 'tis how

How God is now satisfied
He has not us denied
His justice shown to be right
We welcomed in His sight

Welcomed, for Christ our place takes
Gave His life for our sakes
Paid price for our sins so we
May now forgiven be

No other hope or person
We have, but Christ the one
For our salvation, for all
Who believe, on Him call

Next To Nature

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Cedars of Lebanon, your wings
Spread out, to your Creator sing
And fields and valleys, moors and mounts
Rivers and you refreshing founts

Atop a hill, the view we see
It all of God's creation be
He faithful through each season sure
And lives and reigns for evermore

Green pastures, birds at riverside
Your beauty shown, it not denied
Flow on rivers, your circling rounds
In God your origins are found

Here peace amidst a church graveyard
You blessed ones, if life easy, hard
Was for you while you lived below
God's presence you now for e'er know

Harvest-Lord, Lord of all seasons
Far above man's thoughts and reasons
You came to us in Christ your Son
Brought salvation for every one

Here going on our journey's way
Your presence assures us each day
O leave us not, through sun, wind, rain
Eternal life through you we gain

I AM The True Vine

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

John 15 v.1-8 parts

Jesus said, I am the true vine
Myr Father vine-dresser divine
Each branch in Christ that bears fruit none
He takes away, a reaping done
And each branch that does ber fruit He
Purnes it, that it bear more fruit, see

Now we are made clean through Christ's word
He has spoke to us, we Him heard
Abide in Christ, and He in you
For branch cannot bear fruit, 'tis true
If unattached from vine it be
Non-productive, unfruitful, see

If branch not in the vine abide
To be nurtured there, to reside
No more can you do, except you
Remain in Christ, He the vine true
But abiding in Him fruit much
We shall produce, He shall bless such

If you abide in Christ, and too
Christ's words they do abide in you
You shall ask what you will, and so
It shall be done to you, thus know
Christ's Father He is glorified
As you bear much fruit, here abide

Burden Bearers And Sharers

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

Galatians 6 v.1-5

If one so be in a fault caught
You who [are] spiritual ought
To restore such one with meekness
Consider self too no less

In case you be tempted alos
Bear each others burdens, show
That you so law of Chrsit fulfil
Love, care for neighbour, no ill

For if one does thing he (she) something
When in truth he (she) is nothing
Such one does himself (herself) sure deceive
Of self does falsely believe

But let each one their own work prove
That it be firm, not remove
Then shall he (she) rejoice in self sole
And shall not others control

For each one shall their burden bear
And in others burdens share
Mutual help, love, care, and friendship
In God's service, we worship

Gospel Given

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Romans 1 v.16-17

Be not ashamed of the gospel
Receive it for yourself, and tell
Others too, show in word and deed
That Christ is the Saviour indeed

Gospel is the power of God
To save, Christ His Son earth has trod
To make it possible, 'tis for
Everyone that does believe sure

To the Jew and the Greek it be
Whether you Jew or Gentile, see
For in the gospel is reveled
[The] Righteousness of God unconcealed

It be a matter of faith, for
It is from faith to faith e'ermore
Those made just by God, they shall live
By faith, and they shall Him praise give

Comforting Call - Isaiah Series (1)

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Isaiah 40 v.1-5

Comfort, comfort, my people all
Hearken now to the heralds call
John Baptist cries in wilderness
Turn from your sins, repent, confess

For he a voice, he says, Prepare
Way of the Lord, it just and fair
Make straight in desert a highway
For our God, to Him trust and pray

Every valley shall be lifted
Up, mounts and hills be made low, bid
Crooked places to be made straight
Rough places mae smooth, not be late

And the glory of the LORD shall
Be revealed, and all flesh shall tell
Shall see it together, the LORD
By his mouth has spoken this word

Salvation Seasons

Tune: St George's, Windsor
('Come ye thankful people, come')

Seasons come and seasons go
Winter, Spring, Summer we know
Autumn too, cycle of years
Here all human life appears
Fauna and flora abounds
Now the crops fill harvest-grounds
Time to gather in it be
It supplied by God's hand, see

He does see our daily need
Of food, drink, clothes, does us feed
Physically, spiritually
Body, soul, and spirit, three
On Him for all we depend
He does to us help and tend
We His creations, He be
Creator eternally

Lead us Lord to share freely
Where poverty, famine be
Sharing with our fellow man
So doing good as we can
With your grace, your compassion
Showing life of Christ your Son
In unselfish service free
Examples of His love be

You Lord e'er of time and space
Knowing each nation, each race
Help us put your kingdom first

Not for earthly things crave, thirst
Yours the greatness, power be
The victory, the majesty
Thanks to you, who ever live
Every good thing you us give

Salvation Song

Tune & Hymn: 'All For Jesus'

Romans 5 v.6-8

For when we were yet strength without
Christ came to our aid, no doubt
In due time died for ungodly
That we redeemed, saved may be

For scarcely for a righteous one
Will one die, but Christ the Son
Of God the Father, salvation
Has brought unto each nation

And too perhaps for a good man/woman
Some would dare to die, if [they] can
But God to us His love commends
Love infinite, without ends

For so while we yet sinners were
Love He did on us confer
In person of Christ, who died for
Us, to save us evermore

Michaelmas Melody

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

For Michaelmas Day - St Michael And All Angels

(29th September)

Come now to the Michaelmas Fair
Take part in celebrations there
Come now to the Michaelmas Fair
Take part in celebrations there
Join in praise with angels above
Father, Son, Spirit, holy dove

Michaelmas daisy, flower see
White and gold in colour it be
Michaelmas daisy, flower be
White and gold in colour it be
The Lord's purity and glory
Displayed by Him creatively

And you vanguards of angels strong
You praise the Lord each day, night long
And you vanguards of angels strong
Your praise the Lord each day, night long
Michael your Archangel he be
Help us humans in ministry

If you do fly with golden wings
Bring unto us from God good things
If you do fly with golden wings
Bring unto us from God good things
News of salvation, gospel told
Strengthen us to be true and bold

Myriads you are. shining bright
Messengers of heavenly light
Myriads you are, shining bright
Messengers of heavenly light
Too brilliant for human sight
Help us the good fight of faith fight

Greatness Of God - Isaiah Series (2)

Tune: Slane

('Be thou my vision')

Isaiah 40 v.12-18

Who has measured the waters in his hand?
And measured out heaven, and too every land?
Who has calculated the dust of the earth?
Weighed out mounts and hills? The Lord, give Him His worth

Who has directed Spirit of the LORD sure?
Who has been His counsellor, taught Him things pure?
What humans did He seek to counsel Him, guide?
No one, for He the LORD, none compares beside

Who has taught Him of judgement and justice?
Or taught Him knowledge? Saying, Right way is this
Who has showed Him the way of understanding?
He ne'er dependent on anything we bring

Behold, the nations are counted as drop
In a bucket, let all pride, arrogance stop
For they are counted as small dust of the scales
Islands very little, yet His power ne'er fails

Cedars of Lebanon, though strong and tall
You not suffice to burn, offer to Him all
Nor all beasts of Old Covenant sacrificed
In burnt offerings, His greatness not sufficed

All nations before Him counted nothing
They less than nothing, and vain in everything
To whom then will you liken God? He be great
Omnipotent, reigning in splendid state

Forward Faintless - Isaiah Series (3)

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's Anointed')

Isaiah 40 v.28-31

Have you not known? Have not heard?
That this true be the word
That the God everlasting
Creator of each thing
Faints not, neither is weary
And there no searching be
Of His understanding, for
It infinite for sure

He gives power to the weak
His help to lowly, meek
To them that have no might He
Increases strength, so be
Even the young people, they
Shall faint, fall in their day
But they that wait on the LORD
Shall know truth of His word

For they that do on Him wait
Shall renew their strength great
They shall mount up as with wings
As of eagles, each sings
They shall run, not be weary
Shall trust confidently
They shall walk, and they not faint
Each one in Christ, each saint

Gracious Guidance

Tune & Hymn: Amazing Grace

Come to me Lord, and search my heart
And show me what the part
You have for me, for all, each day
Lead me on in your way

Where slow to act, grant me your grace
To go at even pace
Along your way, not aimlessly
But in your footsteps be

Help me, help us, to trust always
In cloudy or bright days
And through the darkness shine your light
Light of the world, give sight

Not that we of ourselves are heard
But still your living word
Spoken through us, your message clear
Your love you us endear

Not that deeds of ourselves are done
But done through you, the one
The one who is the Father's Son
Comparable to none

So all our doings, words, and deeds
Help us, that each one heeds
Your will, your purpose for us, so
We each more like you grow

Woof, woof!

Apologies - this is what's left of the poem, after Fido censored it!
It's 18+ of course.

**** * * * * sexy *****

***** smouldering *****

*** smoochy ***** lips met*****

Dark horse *****

**** secret trysts **** saucy

*** more like a 'Carry On' farce *****

***** bedroom***** ooohh, he/she said! *****

Sensual***** ecstasy ****

*** someone's having fun! *****

This dare not be translated, says Fido! heehee

Creation Collaboration

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Join with heavenly company
And all in earth and sky and sea
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To praise God, creator of all
Let all His creatures on Him call
He upholds them, they shall not fall
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Remember Francis [of] Assist
His love, care for creation see
Alleluia, Alleluia!
All animals, if large or small
Their stature, be they short or tall
In wisdom God has made them all
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Forgive our horrid greed and pain
Where we do seek for human gain
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To exploit, harm your creatures here
Causing them misery and fear
Bringing them mourning grief and tear
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

But thanks for those who for good work
And in endeavours do not shirk
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To provide sure creatures welfare
That they have life in a good share
Human care-takers treat them fair

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 104 v.24

O LORD, your works how manifold

Numberless, cannot all be told

Alleluia, Alleluia!

All made in your wisdom, and too

Earth full of your riches anew

Creator, they belong to you

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Fearless Faith - Isaiah Series (4)

Tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

Isaiah 41 v.10-14 parts

Fear not, my people, for I be
With you for always, see
I am your God, be not dismayed
Trust firm and staid

I will strengthen you, and too I
Will help you, I am nigh
You, with my hand I will uphold
You in my fold

My hand, a hand of righteousness
I shall with it your bless
All that were against you shall fall
E'en one and all

You shall seek them, but shall not find
They be gone, out of mind
They be nothing, no more you harm
I bring you calm

For I the LORD your God will hold
Your right hand, trust, be bold
I will say to you, Fear not, for
I help you sure

Though you as a worm, and I great
I leave you not to fate
I your Redeemer, Holy One
The LORD, bar none

Practising And Preaching

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to: 'At the name of Jesus')

Colossians 3 v.12-17

Put on, as God's chosen
People, you each one
Holy and beloved you
Tender mercies too
With kindness, humbleness
To each forgiveness
Meekness, longsuffering
And each Christ-like thing

Forbear one another
Sister and brother
If quarrel, disagree
let forgiveness be
Shown, as Christ forgave you
This the standard true
So forgive in same way
Children of light, day

And above these things all
Put on love, not fall
It bond of perfectness
Here each other bless
Let the peace of God rule
In your hearts in full
To this you are called, show
Christ's peace here below

Called in one body we
Let us thankful be

Let word of Christ indwell
You, His wisdom tell
Teaching, admonishing
One another, bring
Psalms, hymns, spiritual songs
Join the worship throngs

Sing with grace in your hearts
Each one take your parts
Sing to the Lord, and what
You do in life's lot
In word or deed do all
In the Lord's name, call
On Him, Jesus, thanks give
To God who e'er lives

Praise Professions

Tune: Armageddon

('Who is on the Lord's side')

Psalm 124 v.6-8

Blesséd now the LORD be

We saved, enemy

Snares have not us entrapped

Our soul is escaped

As a bird we set free

Snares broken they be

By the LORD's help we be

Set at liberty

Chorus

If the LORD had not been

On our side, it seen

We would be o'ercome, lost

Great would be the cost

Psalm 125 v.1

They that in the LORD trust

Though they be mere dust

Shall be as the mount* high (*Mount Zion)

Know the LORD is nigh

Mount cannot be removed

Steadfast it has proved

Abides here for ever

Is destroyed never - Chorus

Psalm 125 v.2

As th mounts do surround

[Jeru]Salem, so is found

The LORD is round about

His people, no doubt
Round them e'en for ever
His strength fails never
Safe, assured, His presence
They may always sense - Chorus

Psalm 126 v.1-3
When the LORD did turn, see
The captivity
Of His people, then they
Were like dreams that day
Laughter and restoring
He to them did bring
The LORD's great doing shown
Unto them made known - Chorus

Thirstless Times - Isaiah Series (5)

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Isaiah 41 v.17-20

When the poor, needy seek water
I will help them for sure
Where there no water, they thirsty
I a spring to them be

For I, the LORD, I will them hear
Will forsake not, be near
Them, and will open rivers there
And in founts they shall share

Yes, mountain streams and valley brooks
And change wilderness looks
For it shall be a water pool
And dry land have springs full

I will plant trees in wilderness
For I their land will bless
That they may see, consider, know
Understand I do so

It is the LORD's doing, these things
He His provision brings
He the Holy One, Creator
Praise Him, give Him honour

Balaam's Oracles (4)

Tune & Hymn: All For Jesus

Numbers 24 v.17-24

I shall see Christ here, but not now
Shall behold Him, I avow
There shall come a star from Israel
A Sceptre rise, all shall tell

He shall smite to Moab's corners
Destroy Sheth, God's word assures
Edom, Seir, Israel they shall
Possess, shall do valiant, well

From Israel shall He the Christ rule
He shall have dominion full
Amalek shall perish never
They shall recover never

And you Kenites, strong your dwelling
Safe and sturdy everything
You have built your nest in a rock
But shall experience shock

For you shall be wasted until
Assyria comes, then will
Carry you away captive, you
Shall not prosper nor renew

Alas, who shall live when this be!
For God shall act, do this, see
Ships shall come from Cyprus coastland
Against Assyria their hand

So Israel they shall be blessed sure
Be under the curse no more
Balaam these oracles he spake
God's words did to Israel take

Victory Vindicated

Tune & Hymn: 'Tell me the old, old story'

1 Corinthians 15 v.51-58

Look, I show you mystery
We shall not all sleep, see
Not sleep in death, but all changed
For so the Lord has deigned
In moment, twinkling of eye
At sound of last trump high
Dead raised incorruptible
We ever changed shall be

Chorus

Death swallowed up in victory
O grave, where your victory be?
O death, where now your sting be?
In Jesus we set free

Changed to incorruptible
And too to immortal
Then comes to pass the chorus
Applying sure to us
The sting of death it be sin
What is sin's strength therein?
It is the law, but thanks be
God gives us victory - Chorus

'Tis through our Lord Jesus Christ
His offering has sufficed
To set us free from sin and death
Gives us eternal breath* (* the Spirit)
So nothing here be useless
The Lord He shall it bless

Continue steadfast, it not vain

Your service for Him plain - Chorus

Affectionate Attention

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Philippians 1 v.8-11

God is my witness, how greatly
I long after you all, see
Paul says to the Philippians
His care and comfort they sense

It is with Christ's affection, so
He prays that their love may grow
May so abound more and more in
Knowledge and judgement therein

That they may approve things that are
Excellent, from evil far
That they may be sincere, without
Offence till Christ returns, no doubt

That they be filled with the fruits sure
Of righteousness, whole and pure
Which are by Jesus Christ unto
Glory and praise of God anew

Peoples Praises

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Psalm 95 v.1-2

O come let us sing to the LORD, make joyful
Noise to the rock of our salvation, praise all
You peoples, come before Him with thanksgiving
With songs, hymns, psalms, worship Him gratefully bring

Psalm 96 v.9-10

Worship the LORD in beauty of holiness
Fear before Him all the earth, His name confess
Say among the heathen, The Lord, He reigns e'er
He judges righteously, with Him none compare

Psalm 97 v.1-2

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice and be glad
Let multitude of the isles not now be sad
Clouds, darkness around Him, and righteousness be
With judgement, His throne's foundations they are, see

Psalm 98 v.3

The LORD has to us remembered His mercy
His loving-kindness and His faithfulness, He
Keeps towards His people, His truth ever sure
All ends of earth have seen His salvation pure

Psalm 99 v.2-3

The LORD great in Zion, over peoples all
Let them praise His great name, and unto Him call
For His name is holy, terrible, awesome
Yet He will accept your praise, unto Him come

Sincere Servant - Isaiah Series (6)

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Isaiah 42 v.1-4

Behold, my servant, I
Am always Him close by
Christ my Son He be, my chosen
One, to do my will then

In Him my soul delights
He e'er is in my sight
I have put my spirit upon
Him, yes my chosen one

He shall bring forth justice
Shall not cry out, true this
Nor raise His voice, nor shouting loud
Not be boastful or proud

A bruised reed shall He not
Break, but shall save its lot
A smoking flax, dimly burning
He shall not quench, but bring

Bring forth justice, judgement
My Son from heaven sent
Shall not be discouraged nor fail
Judgement, truth shall prevail

Merry Mirth And Madness

Yes, it's all true, ya know!
Goldfinch and I at Hastings
In good old 1066 - and all that....rubbish!

Me dog (imaginary), Fido, was there too
An 18+ censoring cur
Barks at any poets that write 18+ poems
But 'forget' to mark them as such
Yep, a reading, talking dog

We, Goldie and I
Was on the moon too before 1969
Why, WE was the first men on the moon
We came up from the other side of the moon
To greet the earthlings who landed in 1969
We're not human, ya know
Well, we're maybe half human, half something else

This nuttiness could go on and on
How old are you two? You may say
Ohh, millions of years old
So old, we forgot when we were born!

Now - we didn't tell ya
When we was at Trafalgar in 1805
And it was our fault Nelson lost an arm!

Join us in Hastings today for Reunion
Only if you was there in person in 1066 with us
That's the only condition... heehee.

Refreshing Renewal - Isaiah Series (7)

Tune: Halton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Isaiah 43 v.18-21

The LORD says, Remember you not
The former things, old days lot
Dwell not on them, stay not in past
I do new thing that shall last

Now it shall spring forth, and shall you
Not know it, and it you view?
I will make way in wilderness
Dry, barren places I bless

For I make rivers in desert
Bring comfort, not harm or hurt
Beasts of field, they shall honour me
Desert creatures too shall see

Shall see my workings, I shall give
Waters, rivers, so shall live
My people, my chosen they be
They shall quench their thirst full, free

This people now I have formed for
Myself, they be mine for sure
They shall show forth, declare my praise
To me worship and thanks raise

Hopeful Help - Isaiah Series (8)

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

Isaiah 44 v.1 - 7 parts

Hear Israel, my chosen
And my servant, you the one
I who have made you, Fear not
Prosperous your lot

For I will help you, here see
Water pour to the thirsty
And floods give upon dry ground
Here refreshment found

And I my spirit will pour
On you, your descendant sure
They shall spring up midst the grass
I not you bypass

You shall be as willows set
By the rivers, and shall yet
Call yourselves by my name, for
I the LORD e'ermore

So says the LORD, He the King
Of Israel, to Him sing
Their Redeemer, LORD of hosts
Unto farthest coasts

He the first and last, there be
No other God beside He
Who like him can do or say?
There none else today

Idiomatic Incisiveness

Tune: Old Yeavinging

(Like a mighty river flowing')

Matthew 13 v.10-17

Disciples said, Lord, why do you
Speak in parables? It is true
Jesus said, Because to you be
Revealed mysteries, here see

Mysteries, they of the kingdom
Of heaven, hidden truths, wholesome
Yet to some applies prophecy
Which Isaiah said, so be

Outcome expressed as intentioned
But as idiom it mentioned
By hearing, some shall hear, but not
Understand, that be their lot

And seeing, they shall see, but shall
Not perceive, and they not fare well
For their hearts are waxed gross, grown dull
Not receptive spirit, soul

Ears they have become dull to hear
Eyes they have closed, sight not appear
Lest at any time they should see
With eyes, and hear with ears free

And should understand with their heart
Receive of the gospel their part
And be converted, turn to me
The Lord, I would heal them, see

But blessed the eyes, they that do see
And the ears that do hear, so be
Many have desired to see, hear
Of old, the things now known here

Holistic Healing

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Luke 10 v.1-9

For St Luke's Day (Oct 18th)

Luke, the good doctor, in gospel
Of how the Lord sent, he does tell
Sent seventy out in pairs, so
Preceded places He would go

Said, harvest is great, workers few
Pray Lord of harvest that He do
Send forth workers out, His harvest
To reap, that mankind true be blest

They to go as lambs among wolves
With minimum items or tools
Whate'er houses they enter in
With 'Peace to this house, words begin

If they be peaceful, then that peace
Shall rest on house and e'en increase
But if not, that peace lost not be
It shall return to givers, see

Be content in simplicity
Eating, drinking, what there then be
heal the sick that are here, and say
'Kingdom of God near you this day'

Medicine of the gospel whole
Healing for body, spirit, soul
Natural means too you provide

Ways that you heal, Lord, none denied

Redemption Rejoicings - Isaiah Series (9)

Tune: We're marching to Zion

('Come ye that love the Lord')

Isaiah 44 v.21-24

Remember Israel me

You are my servant, see

Says the LORD, for I have formed you

Says the LORD, for I have formed you

You are my people true

You are my people true

Chorus

Sing, O you heavens, for

The LORD He has done it, 'tis sure

Has redeemed Israel, in true bliss

Has glorified Himself in this

He has not forgotten

His people, and too then

He has blotted out as thick cloud

He has blotted out as thick cloud

Their sins of dark enshroud

Their sins of dark enshroud - Chorus

Return to the LORD, He

Has redeemed, set you free

Let heaven and earth shout and sing

Let heaven and earth shout and sing

Unto Him praises bring

Unto Him praises bring - Chorus

Rejoice now, depths and heights

It glorious in your sight

You deepest seas, you highest mounts
You deepest seas, you highest mounts
Forests and trees and founts
Forests and trees and founts - Chorus

For He our Redeemer
He saves His people sure
And all creation that He made
And all creation that He made
Honours His works displayed
Honours His works displayed - Chorus

Holistic Heart-Spring

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Based on a Collect {Formal Prayer} and 1 Peter 4 v.7-10

O Lord, our hearts they restless be
'Til rested sure in thee
In you, our Creator, and we
Your creatures we so be

Help us offer ourselves to you
You strengthen us, renew
Whate'er we have, 'tis what you give
Each breath you give, we live

Take us, our gifts, skills and talents
That we and others sense
Your presence in and through us by
Your Spirit within, [and] nigh

The aim of man, to glorify
You, Lord God, we ally
Ourselves to you, what we speak, do
May it e'er honour you

Be sober, watching unto prayer
In charity, love, share
Be hospitable and grudge not
So fair shall be your lot

Be good stewards, your gifts do use
To spread gospel, good news
The grace of God, it manifold
Expressed in what done, told

Salvation Scenes - Isaiah Series (10)

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Isaiah 45 v.17-25 parts

Israel shall be saved by the LORD, it true
With everlasting salvation anew
They shall not be ashamed, nor be they disgraced
Nor confounded, though their troubles they had faced

For thus says the LORD, He God, Creator
Of heaven and earth, He made them all sure
Not made in vain, but to be inhabited
By all His creatures, He them has established

Look to me, be saved, all unto the ends
Of the earth, for I am God, who you tends
And there is none else, so it shall come to be
Every knee shall bow, each tongue confess unto me

In the LORD all Israel's descendants
Shall be justified, and His presence sense
They shall the LORD glorify, He God alone
His Son Jesus Christ does for mankind atone

Freedom Favour

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 142 v.5-7

I cried to you, O LORD
Hear me, true is your word
I said, You LORD, my refuge are
My portion, best by far

In this land of living
My cry I to you bring
Attend to me, I am brought low
May I your help now know

My enemies they be
Stronger than I am, see
Bring my soul out of prison, raise
Me up, so you I praise

Will praise your name, it be
Good and wholesome and free
The righteous they shall surround me
You tend me graciously

Comforting Closeness - Isaiah Series (11)

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Isaiah 49 v.13-16

Sing, heavens, be joyful
O earth, and give praise all
Break forth into singing, you mounts
And spring you water founts

For the LORD has comfort
Unto His people brought
And mercy upon afflicted
He shows, has not it hid

But His people, they say
O woe is us today
For the LORD has us forsaken
Not to us Him taken

Forsaken and forgot
Yes, this is sure our lot
But the LORD says, Woman, can she
Forget child, from it flee?

Upon her babe she should
Have compassion, so would
She love and care for child, but know
If she did forget so

Know I the LORD will not
Forget you, will allot
You a place ever, engraven
You on my hands, see then

You and your dwellings be
Before me constantly
Close to my heart, e'en on my palms
I bring you comfort, balms

Just a second, or an hour.....

Now look - how did you spend that extra second
That we had one year?!

A timeless amount, never to be wasted
In which to do so many things
Why, yes, I remember it well

I spent it in.....
Taking 3,497 trips around the moon
Doing 5,436 marathons
Swimming the English Channel 2,643 times - and back again
Taking Fido for 6,547 walks
Doing enough shopping for 6 months
All these in one second!

But now - soon (in UK) an extra hour
A whole 3,600 seconds
Time enough to do all the above
3,600 times more!

Ohhh, I can't do all that, Orchi
I will spend the hour in bed sleeping!

Fido says - Orchi forgot that we lost an hour in March
And we're having it back now in October

But time almost infinite in Leap Year
An extra whole DAY!
It's all too much. heehee.

Luminous Light

Tune: Laudes Domini

('When morning gilds the skies')

Jesus, you be the Light
Of the world, banish night
You reveal to our sight
Your plan of salvation
For folk of each nation
Whate'er class or station

If natural light be less
Yet you do still us bless
Your goodness we confess
Equinox and solstice
The year's cycles is this
Help us not waste or miss

Not miss times to serve you
In things done, old or new
And give you praises due
Growing in Christ-likeness
In love, in humbleness
You Son of God no less

Light revealed, show the way
For us to take each day
May we continue, pray
Path ever shining bright
Unto land of delight
Where all is holy, right

Restoration Reassurances - Isaiah Series (12)

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Isaiah 51 v.9-16 parts

Awake, awake, arm of the LORD
Show strength of your powerful word
Was it not you, your people led
Through Red Sea, with you at their head?

Therefore the redeemed of the LORD
Shall return and come, it assured
Come with singing to Zion's land
All safe, guided by God's good hand

And everlasting joy shall be
Upon their heads comfortingly
They shall obtain joy and gladness
The LORD shall help them and them bless

And sorrow and mourning shall flee
Away, nor shall there sighing be
The LORD is He who them comforts
Fear not man, he be of small sorts

Forget me not, I Creator
have made heavens and earth, 'tis sure
Though oppressed and captive you were
Redemption I on you confer

I have given to you my words
You opened ears and heave them heard
Covered in shadow of my hand
I bring you back to Zion's land

Endeavouring Elucidations

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Based partly on a Collect [Formal Prayer]

Endeavour to keep unity
Of the Spirit, so be
In the bond of peace, family
Of God His people be

In sharing love practically
In deed and word freely
So witness to the world we may
Of Christ's salvation day

With all lowliness, gentleness
And meekness, Christ profess
With longsuffering, forbearing
Each other in each thing

Not pride or selfishness, what I
Want, but to self deny
To know Christ's way, so true life gain
E'en times of suffering, pain

Yet we shall in His image grow
And more Christ's likeness show
Help us way of your Spirit go
Follow, where wind does blow

If earth-bound, give grace to release
What we hold to, so cease
Shall things of me, not what I will
But your good will fulfil

Death Destroyed - Isaiah Series (13)

Tune: Lyngham

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Isaiah 25 v.6-9 parts

In mount Zion the LORD shall make
A feast, and none shall take
A feast, and none shall take
It from His people, it fine fare
Rejoicing, plenty there
Rejoicing, plenty there
Rejoicing, plenty there

He will destroy on that mountain
Death, and bring life's fountain
Death, and bring life's fountain
Will destroy face of covering
Death's pall spread o'er each thing
Death's pall spread o'er each thing
Death's pall spread o'er each thing

It be a veil spread o'er nations
Of peoples, all stations
Of peoples, all stations
He swallows up death in victory
So shall His triumph be
So shall His triumph be
So shall His triumph be

And the LORD God will wipe away
Tears from each face that day
Tears from each face that day
Will take away from His people
Rebukes, accusings all

Rebukes, accusings all

Rebukes, accusings all

Then the people shall in that day

This is our Lord God, say

This is our Lord God, say

We have waited for Him, and He

Will save us, joyful we

Will save us, joyful we

Will save us, joyful we

Faithful Following - Isaiah Series (14)

Tune: Contemplation

('When all thy mercies, O my God')

Isaiah 26 v.1-4

In the days of the LORD's kingdom
Judah shall sing, each one
We have a strong city, no end
That God will sure defend

For salvation He will appoint
His presence will anoint
He be as strong walls and defence
Unto His people hence

Open gates of the city, know
Righteous nation may so
Enter in, it the truth does keep
And is as faithful sheep

You will keep them in perfect peace
Whose mind stays on you, cease
Then worries, fears, for trust such do
In the LORD God anew

Trust in the LORD for evermore
For in JEHOVAH sure
Is everlasting strength, and He
The Rock of Ages be

Note to Self...

A note to self.....

In some of the comments I make on poems

Saying

"I wish I would shut up sometimes"

But it can't be done

I go on and on... and on

I have shut up shutting up

I've given up shutting up as a bad job!

You know such folk?

They always says 20 words when 5 will do

Or they may show off

By using long or cryptic words

So that we dunno what they're on about

And - do THEY know what they're on about?!

It's a bore, a nuisance

You know - They who start every sentence

With 'And'. Erm, And, another thing....

See - they've got me doing it now!

Psst - I already did it in the line above:

"And - do THEY know what they're on about?!"

Also - adding hyfaluting words, quite naff

Such as 'Basically'; 'This moment in time'

[Insert your own example here]

But don't get me started on the utter naffness

The utter impossibility

(That's quite a long word, says Fido)

Of they who say "I give 110%"

Well, I'm not practising what I preach
In one of my mottos 'Talk sense, man!'
I mean - I have a talking dog
It's my excuse to talk rubbish

Aww - why they say? -
"No change there then 99% of the time!"
Heehee

Oh well, must not waste the day
I wish people would talk English
By the time I found out what Carpe Diem meant
Most of the day had gone
There was none left to seize!
Well, I thought it was French
Spent hours in a French-English dictionary!
Doh! Such is life.
LOL.

PS. Oh, don't bother me just now
I got me own problems
Me Halloween Wedding Anniversary to KP
(I will explain if you don't know this eccentricity of mine)
Woof! Too many long words, says Fido!

Returning And Restoration - Isaiah Series (15)

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Isaiah 30 v.15,18,21 and 31 v.5

Thus says the LORD God, He the Holy One
Of Israel, In returning and rest shun
Not these, for in them you shall be saved sure
Quietness, confidence your strength e'ermore

The LORD will wait, that He may gracious be
To you, so will He be exalted, see
That He may have mercy on you, for He
A God of judgement and of justice be

Blessed are all they that do so for Him wait
In faith, He shall come to them, not be late
And you shall hear when in need of guidance
A word behind you, and His presence sense

The word will say, This is the way, walk you
In it, when turn to left or right you do
And as birds flying, the LORD will defend
His people, save, preserve them to the end

Saints Splendorous

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Revelation 7 v.9-17

Fro All Saints Day - Nov. 1st

John did behold, and, lo, great multitude
Which no man could number, these be sure viewed
All nations, peoples, kindreds, praise renewed
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They stood before the Lamb, and too the throne
Clothed in white robes, Jesus as Lord they own
With palms in hands, they worship Him alone
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They cried with loud voice, saying, Salvation
To our God, He atones for each nation
Sits on the throne, the Lamb He be His Son
Alleluia, Alleluia!

All angels worshipped, and all gathered there
In endless jubilation they do share
With saints redeemed ones, e'er under His care
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They said, Amen, Blessing, wisdom, glory
Thanksgiving, honour, power and might be
To our God ever, through eternity
Alleluia, Alleluia!

One there said to John, These be they which, see
Come forth from great tribulation, now free
Their robes washed in the Lamb's blood, white now be*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Therefore they before God's throne day and night
Serving Him in His temple, in His sight
he dwells among them, here endless delight
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They hunger nor thirst any more, for so
The Lamb shall feed them lead to fountains flow
Of waters, every tear gone, glory's glow
Alleluia, Alleluia!

* A picture, or symbolism, of forgiveness.

Souls Salvation

Tune: St Anne

('O God, our help in ages past')

1 Peter 1 v.3-9 part

For All Souls Day - Nov. 2nd

The God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, true His word
Blessed He be, who according to
His great mercy in view

Has begotten us again to
A living hope anew
By resurrection of His Son
Jesus Christ He has won

Victory over death, risen
Inheritance for men (mankind)
He gives, it incorruptible
Undefiled, is pure all

And it fades not away, it be
Reserved in heaven, see
For you, and for souls gone before
To the eternal shore

Trying, testing of faith, there times
Occurring through life's rhymes
There be, though more precious than gold
Is enduring faith bold

We through faith kept by God's power
Until the final hour
When our salvation full reveled

His creation all healed

Christ we not yet see, but rejoice

And praise Him with one voice

Receiving end of our faith, it

Be our souls saved each whit

Delightful Dwellings - Isaiah Series (16)

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Isaiah 32 v.14-18

The land desolate it sure be
Until the spirit, see
Be poured upon us from on high
And then we sense God's presence nigh
He will not us deny
He will not us deny

Then wilderness be fruitful field
It shall fresh produce yield
Fruitful field counted as forest
Giving abundance, God shall bless
He good, our lips confess
He good, our lips confess

Then judgement it shall dwell therein
And righteousness, not sin
Shall remain in the fruitful field
It be not barren, but be healed
God's workings here revealed
God's workings there revealed

And work of righteousness shall be
Peace, and its effect, see
Shall be quietness, assurance
God's people dwell peacable hence
Quiet, restful residence
Quiet, restful residence

Contrasts Considered

Tune: Glendon

('Sing to God, with joy and gladness')

Psalm 107 v.31-38

Chorus

On that men would give thanks and praise
To the LORD, His name upraise
Praise Him for His greatness and for
His wondrous works shown us sure

Let them praise in congregation
All peoples of each nation
He turns waters to wilderness
Water-springs turns to dryness - Chorus

Fruitful land turned to barrenness
It be for he wickedness
Of them that dwell therein, they not
Serve the LORD, and sad their lot - Chorus

But for the righteous, wilderness
Does He turn to pools, does bless
Turns dry ground into water-springs
Nature with His people sings - Chorus

There the hungry dwell, He does make
Them to be filled for His sake
Live in the city and sow fields
And vineyards their increase yields - Chorus

He blesses them with abundance
The His presence near do sense
Gives prosperity, they there thrive

Glad in him to be alive - Chorus

City And Country Comforts - Isaiah Series (17)

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

Isaiah 33 v.20-22

Look upon Zion, the city
Of our solemnities it be
You shall see Jerusalem, it
A quiet habitation fit

It shall be as a tabernacle
Shall not be taken down, not fall
Not one of the staked shall ever
Be removed, it shall fail never

Not one of the cords be broken
It shall stand permanent, sure then
But there the glorious LORD, He
Shall be there with us constantly

He will be unto us a place
Of broad rivers and streams, calm pace
Wherein no ship with oars is seen
No human effort great or mean

And no gallant ship shall pass by
Pride, arrogance, it be not nigh
For the LORD is our judge, and He
Too is our lawgiver, so be

He is our king, save us He will
We partake of waters fresh, still
His the glory and all praise be
Now and throughout eternity

Word Wholeness

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 119 v.137-144

Righteous are you, LORD, and upright
Your judgements to my sight
Your testimonies sure have you
Commanded, they all true

And righteous and very faithful
They be, I see them all
My zeal it has consumed me for
My enemies abhor

They abhor and have forgotten
Your words spoen to men (mankind)
But your word very pure I find
Your mercies to me kind

Therefore I your servant do love
Your word, it encove (encovenant)
To me, for I am small, despised
But I have none beside

None beside you, and I recall
Your precepts, note them all
Your righteousness everlasting
Your law is truth, I sing

Trouble and anguish have took hold
Though I still in your fold
And your commands are my delight
They pleasing in my sight

The righteousness of your laws be
Everlasting and free
Your testimonies last for e'er
Them I understand, share

Returning Reality - Isaiah Series (18)

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Jehovah')

Isaiah 35 v.1-10

The wilderness and desert place
Shall be glad, sadness no trace
Desert shall rejoice and blossom
As the rose and be fulsome
Abundantly blossom, rejoice
Singing, and the LORD's praise voice
Singing, and the LORD's praise voice

Strengthen weak hands, firm feeble knees
When the LORD comes, seen be these
Say to them of fearful heart here
Be strong, fear not, the LORD near
Even God will come with vengeance
To enemies recompence
To enemies recompence

But salvation to His people
Wonders, signs, miracles all
Then eyes of blind shall be opened
Ears of deaf hear tunes that blend
The lame shall then leap as the deer
And tongue of dumb sing, praise here
And tongue of dumb sing, praside here

For in wilderness waters shall
Become a pool, and so tell
Thirsty land shall become refreshed
With springs of water be blessed
Where was barren and desolate

Grass, reeds, rushes now do sate
Grass, reeds, rushes now do sate

A way of holiness be there
No evil, sin in it share
But redeemed, ransomed of the LORD
Shall walk therein, that His word
Shall return to Zion's city
Songs and lasting joys there be
Songs and lasting joys there be

They shall obtain joy and gladness
For the LORD He shall them bless
Shall restore, bring back to own land
His people by His good hand
And sorrow and sighing shall flee
Away, there His presence free
Away, there His presence free

Revering Remembrance

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Remembering those who have gone before
Or caught up now in conflict, battle, war
Their memory is blessed, poppies arrays
Show their service of past and present days

Remembering your sacrifice, Lord, we
In wonder of your life given up free
Offering of yourself upon the cross
Taking our place to there redeem our loss

For you yourself said, Greater love has none
That one lay down their life for friends, so Son
Of God, you chose to pay price for our sins
That we may new life as your friends begin

Lord, by your Spirit, give peace in our days
That unto you shall issue songs and praise
Your kingdom come, your will on earth be done
In heart and mind we not forget e'en one

Gospel Glories - Isaiah Series (19)

Tune: The Staff of Faith

('My faith it is an oaken staff')

Isaiah 52 v.7-11

How beautiful upon mountains
Are feet of they that bring
Good tidings of good things and peace
The gospel, and release
From sin, and from captivity
Hark, this is what the message be
Your God reigns, Zion, mount holy
Jerusalem, here see

Break forth into joy and do sing
Together to your King
You places lain waste, now comfort
For you the LORD has sought
And He has His people redeemed
Though all for them was lost it seemed
The LORD made bear His holy arm
His power saved them from harm

All nations they shall see His power
And salvation each hour
Gospel message unto earth's ends
His messengers He sends
Leaving the things that be unclean
Let cleanness, purity be seen
Of those who do evangelise
A mighty band arise

Wholesome Worship

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Psam 96 v.9-13

Chorus

Worship the LORD in beauty

Of holiness true, free

All the earth before Him fear

In reverence draw near

Say among nations, The LORD

Reigns, faithful to His word

The world established alos

Shall not be moved, we know - Chorus

He shall judge all righteously

Let heavens rejoice, be

Glad all the earth, and sea roar

To islands farthest shore - Chorus

Let fields be joyful, and praise

Nature to Him songs raise

And trees of woods too rejoice

With one harmonious voice - Chorus

Worship before the LORD, for

He comes to judge earth sure

With his truth and righteousness

He great God, we confess - Chorus

Watery Ways

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Psalm 107 v.23-31

They that in ships do go to sea
The LORD's wonders of the deep see
For He commands, and He does raise
The stormy wind, yet still Him praise
Wind lifts up the waves and billows
And turbulent crossings each knows

They in the ships, their souls troubled
By force of storm and gale appalled
They reel to and fro, as drunken
Men, at their wits end appear then
Then they unto the LORD do cry
And know His presence with them nigh

He brings them out of their distress
Makes the storm a calm, does them bless
And then the waves thereof are still
Then they are glad of His good will
For waves be now quiet, He does bring
Them to their haven, thus they sing

O that men would praise the LORD for
His goodness, wondrous works for sure
To all His people, land and sea
Whate'er trade, occupation be
He LORD of all, earth, sea, and sky
Praise to Him due, we not deny

Suffering Servant - Isaiah Series (20)

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, sore wounded')

Isaiah 53 v.1-6

Who has believed our report
Heard of it, has been taught?
To whom is the LORD's power
Revealed now in this hour?
Christ the suffering servant
He God the Father's Son
Grows up as a plant tender
With Father's will concurs

And as a root from dry ground
No form, comeliness found
But plain, and beautifully
He shall not appear, see
He not desired naturally
Despised, rejected be
Man of sorrows, grief knowing
We hid from His showing

But surely He our griefs ill
Has borne, as Father wills
Carried our sorrows and pains
That in Him life we gain
Though we did count Him stricken
Oppressed by God and men
Yet He wounded for our sins
To cleanse us from within

And He bruised, pierced for us too
On the cross Him we view

He chastised was for our peace
To bring us our release
Our salvation, though He be
Beaten, afflicted, see
We like sheep lost in our way
Still Christ does for us pray

Praise Prelude

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Psalm 117

Praise the LORD, all nations

Joys and elations

Praise Him all you people

Humbly on Him call

For His mercy, kindness

Is great, He will bless

Will look toward us, for

His goodness is sure

And the truth of the LORD

Endures, every word

Even lasts for ever

Fails nor fades never

In short simplicity

Praise expressions be

To the LORD of glory

Whole, eternal, free

Restoring Revealed - Isaiah Series (21)

Tune: Hallett

(one tune to 'God of mercy, God of grace')

Isaiah 54 v.4-8 & v.17

Fear not, you shall not ashamed be
Nor disgraced, confounded, see
You shall not be put to shame
I will help you, strong my name
Says the LORD, and shame, reproach
Shall no more on you encroach

For your Maker your husband
Is, will to you loving tend
The LORD of hosts is His name
Your Redeemer, He the same
Holy One of Israel
God of the whole earth, now tell

He has called you as woman
Forsook, grieved in spirit, then
When you were refused he did
Come to your aid, was not hid
But for a moment, little
Wrath He had, now mercy all

He will show lasting kindness
Unto you, His people bless
Says the LORD, your Redeemer
And it true, promise sure
No weapon against you formed
Shall prosper, light on you dawned

Every tongue that shall arise

Against you and speak, despise
In judging you, you then shall
Condemn them and so fare well
This heritage God's servants
Have, righteousness, pleasantness

Word Wonders - Isaiah Series (22)

Tune: Praise my soul

('Praise, my soul, the King of heaven')

Isaiah 55 v.10-13

As rain and snow fall from heaven
And waters the earth so then
Making it bring forth and bud too
Gives seed to sower anew
And gives bread unto us, we eat
God's providings thus complete

So shall His word be that proceeds
From His mouth, it meets our needs
Shall not return to Him empty
But it shall accomplish, see
What He pleases, and shall prosper
Where'er He does send it sure

For you shall go out with joy new
And be led forth with peace true
Mounts and hills shall break forth into
Song, creation join with you
Trees of fields shall too clap as hands
In the celebration bands

Instead of thorns shall be fir trees
Instead of briars myrtle trees
It shall be to the LORD a name
Worthy of honour and fame
It be for an e'erlasting sign
Not destroyed but His design

Servant Sheep

Tune: Merrial

('Now the day is over')

Psalm 119 v.173-176

Let your hand (Spirit), LORD, help me
I have chosen, see
Your precepts, will obey
Unto final day

Longed for your salvation
LORD of each nation
Have I, and your law be
My delights still, see

Let my soul live, it shall
Praise you, and do well
Let your judgements help me
I with them agree

I have gone astray, sheep
Lost I am like, keep
And seek me, your servant
Lowly, reverent

A Preaching Précis

Tune: Abbots Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

Acts 10 v.38-43

Peter preached in Caesarea
It was Gentile area
Saying, God anointed Jesus
Come to earth, Saviour for us
With the Spirit and with power
He anointed, served each hour
Went about doing good, healing
Oppressions [that] the devil did bring

For God was with Him, and he willed
To do His will, to it yield
Peter and others were witness
Of Christ's death, and they knew this
That the people Him crucified
That He suffered, bled, and died
But God did Him raise the third day
Now alive, He lives alway

Though not show then to everyone
But to witnesses begun
Was He revealed, God had chosen
Some to eat, drink with Him then
After He had risen from dead
By His command they were led
To preach to people, testify
That His presence is sure nigh

To preach that He of God ordained
Was, to be Judge, they explained

Judge of the dead and the living
And forgiveness He does bring
To whoever in Him believes
Each eternal life receives
Sins forgiven all through His name
Worthy name of endless fame

Prosperity Promises - Isaiah Series (23)

Tune: Ode To Joy

('Joyful, joyful, we adore thee')

Isaiah 60 v.18-21

Prosperous Israel's returning
To their land shall be, each thing
Shall be blessed, in peace they shall dwell
And of the Lord's goodness tell
Walls of city called Salvation
An honourable nation
Gates of city shall be called Praise
Joyful songs to the LORD raise

The sun shall no more be their light
Nor the moon shall shine then bright
But the LORD shall unto them be
An everlasting light, see
And their God shall be their glory
Sun not go down, but stay free
Nor moon withdraw, for the LORD shall
Be their e'erlasting light well

And days of their mourning shall be
Ended, now as company
The LORD's presence with them ever
They be forsaken never
They shall be all righteous, holy
Inherit the land plenty
The branch of the LORD's planting, see
His work, all for His glory

Messiah's Ministry - Isaiah Series (24)

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Isaiah 61 v.1-3

The Spirit of the LORD God be
Upon me, anointed see
Am I, to preach good tidings to
Meek and poor, to them renew
To bind up broken-hearted
Captives freedom imparted

Opening of prison to they
Who are bound, in bondage lay
To proclaim acceptable year
Of the LORD, and His day near
Day of vengeance of our God
Enemies shall be down trod

To comfort all that do mourn in
Zion, they that dwell therein
To console, to appoint, to give
Beauty for ashes, they live
The oil of joy for mourning
Garment of praise to them bring

A garment of praise in the place
Of heaviness, by God's grace
That they be [as] trees of righteousness
Planting of the LORD no less
That He may be glorified
Now has come restoring-tide

Practical Perusals

Tune & Hymn: Father I place into your hands

Colossians 3 v.12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones
You are His daughters, sons
Tender mercies, and too be kind
have humbleness of mind
Meekness too and longsuffering
Patient be in each thing
Following Him, He our Lord and King

Forbear one another, forgive
Not in quarrelling live
But do forgive as Christ forgave
For us He came to save
Above all these things put on love
The Spirit, holy dove
Will help us, we be in His encove* (*covenant)

Love, it the bond of perfectness
So the Lord shall us bless
Let God's peace rule within your hearts
He it to us imparts
To this peace you are called in one
Body, that of His Son
Be thankful, despise His graces none

Let the word of Christ dwell in you
In wisdom, it rich, true
Teach, admonish one another
Each sister and brother
Using psalms, hymns, spiritual songs
Joining the joyful throng

Sing with grace in your hearts all along

Sing to the Lord with joyful voice

In His presence rejoice

And whatever you do in word

Or deed, what done or heard

Do all in name of the Lord, see

For Jesus He sure be

Give thanks by Him to God, Father free

Joyful Journeyings - Isaiah Series (25)

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Isaiah 61 v.10-11

I will great in the LORD rejoice
Unto Him my praise voice
In my God my soul be joyful
For He has clothed me all

Clothed with garments of salvation
They beauteous for each one
He has covered me with the robe
Of righteousness' encove* (*covenant)

'Tis a bridegroom himself decks
With ornaments, effects
And as a bride herself adorns
With jewels, not now mourns

For as earth does her bud forth bring
And garden everything
Sown in it does sure so forth spring
So lost shall be nothing

For so the Lord GOD He will cause
Righteousness, peace, assures
That they will spring forth before all
The nations shall not fall

Scenes of the Spirit - Isaiah Series (26)

Tune: Coelites Plaudant

('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

Isaiah 11 v.1-4

There shall come forth a rod, out of Jesse's stem*
A Branch shall grow out of his roots, not condemn
The Spirit of the LORD shall rest on Him sure
Bringing life evermore

The spirit of wisdom and understanding
The spirit of counsel and might in everything
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD
According to His word

And shall make Him of quick understanding in
The fear of the LORD, His alignment not sin
He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes
With the Spirit allies

Neither shall reprove after hearing of ears
Not what naturally to sight, hearing appears
But with righteousness shall He judge the poor fair
No injustice left there

And shall reprove with equity for the meek
Of the earth, the vulnerable, and the weak
He shall smite the earth, His word, breath slays wicked
They are not from Him hid

* One of Jesse's (the stem) sons was David,
Christ (the Branch) was descended from David, in His human lineage.

Desirous Dwellings - Isaiah Series (27)

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Isaiah 62 parts

Israel, they shall be a crown
Of glory, even each town
In the hand of the LORD they be
And royal diadem, see
Their name no more be Forsaken
Azubah (Hebrew) from them taken*

Nor shall their land be Desolate
Shemamah (Hebrew) removed, not late**
But Hepzibah shall your name be
'My delight is in her' free
And your land be Beulah, 'Married'
You and land to the LORD wed

For as the bridegroom rejoices
Over the bride, clear voices
Of rejoicing shall the LORD sound
And echoes of praise redound
For His delight in them shall be
He with them eternally

Say to Zion, Your salvation
Comes, you be the blessed nation
They shall be the holy people
The redeemed who on Him call
They named 'Sought out, 'Not forsaken'
The LORD His bride has taken

* The thought here is that where the people were forsaken,

the 'forsaken-ness' will be taken away.

** The thought here is that their desolation will be taken away 'not late'.

Majestic Meditation

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Psalm 93

The LORD reigns, He is clothed
With majesty He robed
He clothed with strength, has self girded
The world He established

His throne is e'er of old
His e'rlasting days told
Nature joins to praise Him, floods lift
Voices, extol His gifts

The LORD on high He be
Mightier than waves see
And greater than noise of many
Waters of the vast seas

His law as are very sure
And holiness it pure
Adorns His house for evermore
He LORD, rich be His store

Tabernacle Time

Tune: Wolvercote

('one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

Exodus Chapters 25-40 parts

Numbers 1. 2. etc, are the order in which the instructions were given.

Numbers (1) (2) etc, are the order in which they were made.

1. Offerings for Tabernacle (1 - general note)

This is how ordered all

Order outlaid, the Ark the first

2. Ark of Covenant be (7)

3. Then the Table of Shewbread (8)

4. Next golden candlestick (9)

5. Then curtains of linen for Tent [i.e.Tabernacle] (3)

6. Next boards and sockets made (4)

7. Then inner (5) and [8.] outer veils (6)

9. And large altar of brass (13)

10. Then court of Tabernacle (15)

11. Next the oil for the lamp (2)

12. Then priest's garments and items (17)

13. For their consecration (18)

14. Then altar of incense to make (10)

15. Then ransom money due (16)

16. Next the laver of brass to wash (14)

17. Then the anointing oil (11)

18. Finally the incense to burn (12)

These the instructions all

All by the Lord appointed, though

Not in same order made

Outward things mainly first, then

All that was placed within

Idyllic Inspiration - Isaiah Series (28)

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Isaiah 65 v.17-25 parts

The LORD says, I do create
New heavens, new earth, state
Of perfection it shall be
And endure endlessly
Be glad, rejoice for ever
In what I create, ne'er
Shall it be corrupt, defiled
But filled with mercy mild

In city I shall rejoice
And my people with voice
Of joy shall all celebrate
Their happiness be great
No more the voice of weeping
But voice of those who sing
No more the voice of crying
Comfort, solace I bring

And they shall houses there build
Plant vineyards, fruitful field
It shall be their possession
Jerusalem their own
They the people of the blessed
Of the LORD, now at rest
I will answer ere* they call
Will hear ere* they speak all

Wolf and lamb feed together
Free, not tied to tether

Lion eat straw like oxen
Shall be harmony then
Dust shall be the serpent's food
Evil no more intrude
They shall not hurt, destroy not
My holy mount their lot

* ere = before.

Hark, A Herald

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a herald voice is sounding')

(Or 'Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding')

Matthew 3 v.1-6 and v.13-17

One is crying in wilderness
It John the Baptist no less
Saying, Repent, and come, believe
The gospel, good news receive

Preapre you the way of the Lord
Make His paths straight, hear His word
People unto Jordan went out
To him, repenting, no doubt

They there were baptised by him for
They did confess their sins sure
Even Jesus, by John baptised
Sinless one, John he surprised

But it was an act to fulfil
All righteousness, in God's will
God the Father, from heaven, voice
Approved of His Son, His choice

Spirit of God on Christ descends
Like a dove, on Him attends
Voice said, This my beloved Son
I well pleased, good has been done

Give us grace Lord, so to repent
Where be things impenitent
Give us strength to share your gospel

To go out and others tell

Continuing Communion

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Though in person meeting we not
Yet still it be our happy lot
To join in Communion here
Until we meet each other dear

Chorus

Bread, wine, fare fine, share in spirit
Way to salvation you have lit

At church or home these gifts divine
You give us, we to you align
Give grace to continue, go on
Formed by degrees to Christ your Son - Chorus

This bread and wine at your Supper
You did gracious to us confer
To eat, to drink, your family
Your witnesses on earth we be - Chorus

Awaiting your return, may we
Ready, alert, diligent be
Not sleep at wrong time, but our part
Take in your service with good heart - Chorus

So sustain us, you bread of life
Through all our earthy trouble, strife
And water of life, full supply
Your Spirit in and with us nigh - Chorus

Alacritous Andrew

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

John 1 v.35-42. For St Andrew's Day - Nov.30th

* Alacritous = from alacrity: briskness;
cheerful readiness.

John Baptist saw Jesus one day
To two disciples (of John) did say
Behold the Lamb of God, there see
Jesus Christ He be

Jesus said to them, What seek you?
They said, Master, may we view
Where you dwell? He said, Come and see
They followed freely

They stayed that day at His abode
Seed of the gospel was sowed
One disciple, his name Andrew
Found his brother too

It be Simon Peter, then he
Brought him unto Jesus, see
Said, We the Messiah have found
His voice a glad sound

Messiah, Christ, Anointed One
Of the Father He the Son
When Jesus did Simon there see
He spoke graciously

Saying, You are Simon the son

Of Jona, e'en the same one
You shall be called Cephas, a stone
As Peter he known

Lord give us in our day grace to
So witness as did Andrew
Bringing brothers, sisters to you
As Saviour to view

Peace Prominent - Isaiah Series (29)

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Isaiah 2 v.2-5

It shall come to pass in last days
Mount of the LORD's house, the LORD says
Shall be established, top of mounts
It shall be dispensing life's founts

And above the hills exalted
All nations flow to it, be led
Many people shall say, Come you
Let us go there, and I go too

To the house of God, there will He
Teach us His ways, and we shall be
They who walk in His paths, for out
Of Zion goes His words, no doubt

He shall judge amidst the nations
All classes, creeds, and all stations
Rebuking many, turn they shall
From sin and evil and do well

Shall beat their swords into plow-shares
Beat spears to pruning knives, no cares
To lift up sword, nor to learn war
Living in the LORD's light e'ermore

Soul Satisfaction

Tune: Sharpethorne

('What does the Lord require?')

Psalm 107 v.1-9

O give thanks to the LORD

He is good, true His word

His mercy endures e'er

It comes to an end ne'er

Let His redeemed ones say

He has saved us today

Redeemed from out the hand

Of enemies, we stand

Gathered from all the lands

East, west, north, south, in bands

Though one time they wandered

Comfort then not conferred

They in the wilderness

Lonely, hungry no less

And thirsty, soul fainted

Their joy all deflated

Then they to the LORD cried

With them He did reside

They cried in their trouble

LORD, deliver us all

He out of their distress

Took them, and did them bless

O that people would praise

The LORD, His name upraise!

For He does satisfy

The longing soul, He nigh
Shows His goodness, His deeds
Comes to us, meets our needs
Fills the hungry soul, He
Does provide for them, see

Marvellous Marriage

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Revelation 19 v.7-9

Let us be glad, rejoice
Praise the Lord with one voice
For marriage of the Lmb is come
Christi invites every one

The Bride, church, has prepared
And with her it be shared
Fine linen, clean and white, her dress
Christ, the Groom, does her bless

This fine linen it be
Righteous acts of saints, see
There she arrayed all glorious
It is the church, e'en us

Blessed are they who are called
To this supper, enthralled
They be, it the marriage supper
Of the Lamb, holy, pure

Love of the Bride and Groom
Depart mourning, tears, gloom
Marriage lasting eternally
Fro mall sin, evil free

Greatness Of Grace

Tune: Cranbrook, aka On Ilkley Moor Bah Tat

(one tune to: 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 113

Optional 'echo' of last three syllables on first line of each verse.

Praise, praise the LORD, you His servants (His servants)

Praise name of the LORD hence

Blesséd be His name evermore

Blesséd be His name evermore

Reaching from shore to shore

Reaching from shore to shore

Reaching from shore to shore

Yes, from the rising of the sun (of the sun)

Come praise Him every one

From dawn to dusk His name be praised

From dawn to dusk His name be praised

And joyful tunes upraised

And joyful tunes upraised

And joyful tunes upraised

The LORD high above all nations (all nations)

Of men of all stations

His glory above the heavens

His glory above the heavens

He His people defends

He His people defends

He His people defends

Who is like unto the LORD high? (the Lord high?)

Our God, yet to us nigh

He humbles Himself to behold

He humbles Himself to behold

Things in earth, heaven told
Things in earth, heaven told
Things in earth, heaven told

He raises from the dust the poor (dust the poor)
Does the needy assure
Lifts them up out of the ash heap
Lifts them up out of the ash heap
His people He does keep
His people He does keep
His people He does keep

And He sets them then midst princes (midst princes)
'Tis a great honour this
Makes barren woman to rejoice
Makes barren woman to rejoice
With children, thus His choice
With children, thus His choice
With children, thus His choice

Truly Trusting

Tune: Roll Call

('When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound')

Psalm 34 v.1-9

I will bless the LORD true at all times throughout life's stages, rhymes
His praise shall be in my mouth, let fresh begin
My soul to make her boast now sure in the LORD evermore
The humble, they shall hear, be glad, no more sad

Chorus

O magnify the LORD with me
How great His works, His wonders be
Come, praise His name together, free
Offer him thanks, worship Him continually

I sought the LORD and He did me hear, delivered me from fears
Looking now unto Him we by faith Him view
So we be lightened, radiant, and we be to Him attent
Our faces they not ashamed nor faring poor - Chorus

I was a poor man, unto the LORD called, and He heard my word
And saved me out then of my troubles, was when
I prayed, did seek Him, and He knew all my cares, He did them view
Helped me, guided me, for it be His grace, see - Chorus

The angle of the LORD camps around those who fear Him, they sound
And safe kept, for He does deliver them, we
Can come, taste, see, the LORD is good, supplies spiritual food
Blessed are they that do trust Him e'er, He does care - Chorus

Ready For His Return

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, He comes with clouds descending')

Luke 21 v.25-36 parts

Jesus, the time of His return
There things of it we can learn
Signs in the sun, and stars, and moon
Prepare for His coming soon
On earth nations distress
Perplexed, troubled, no less
The end nears, the seas road
Waves o'erflooding on the shore

People's hearts, they shall fail them, for
They look on these troubles sure
These things shall then come on the earth
As the pains of a new birth
Powers of heaven shaken
Son of man coming then
In a cloud with power
And great glory in that hour

When these things do start to take place
Believers, lift up your face
Not downcast, for your redemption
Draws near, full now, for each one
'Tis as fig tree budding
Signs are showing each thing
Of His return shortly
Kingdom of God near, whole, free

Taking heed to your selves, lest you
Overcharged with surfeits due

Or drunkenness, or in life's cares
Taken up in its affairs
So you may be caught out
Miss the time or it doubt
As a snare unto all
It shall come, pray you not fall

Tips on singing:

Lines 1 and 3 of each verse:

The 4th syllable of these lines seems a little longer.

The 5th syllable of these lines seems longer still.

Then 3 normal syllables (6, 7, and 8) to end these lines.

Watering-Wells - Isaiah Series (30)

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be'

Or: 'Who would true valour see')

Isaiah 12 v.1-6

In the restoration

Days of the nation (of Israel)

We shall say, O LORD, I

Praise you, not deny

Though you were angry, your

Anger is turned back, for

You comfort us, we say

You save us today

God our salvation, He

Our strength, song too be

We will trust and not fear

Knowing you are near

You, the LORD JEHOVAH

Blessings on us confer

Therefore with joy we shall

Draw water from wells

They wells of salvation

Refreshing each one

We shall praise the LORD, we

His doings shall see

Sing to the LORD, for He

Excellent, holy be

Cry out, shout, not desist

He great in our midst

Eternal Elation

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Revelation 22 v.1-5

In new Jerusalem there be
Pure river, water of life, see
Clear as crystal, proceeds from throne
Of God and of the Lamb (Christ) there known

In middle of street of city
And either side of river be
The tree of life, does bear twelve fruits
Produces as each month it suits

Leaves of tree were for the healing
Of the nations, comfort each thing
And there shall be no more curse then
God and the Lamb's throne is therein

His servants, they shall serve Him there
Shall see His face, in great joys share
His name shall be on their foreheads
No fears, not condemnations, dreads

And there shall be no night, dark there
No need of candle, sun, to share
For the Lord God He gives them light
They shall reign for e'er in His sight

Shine on us Lord, to us appear
As your return draws ever near
Good Spirit, Christ dwells in our hearts
Fits us for heaven in all parts

'Til day eternal, light does dawn
Shall be the everlasting morn
Gone sin, death, fear, all that offends
With Christ, whose kingdom never ends

Turning And Trusting

Tune: St Cecilia

('They kingdom come, O God')

Psalm 81 v.13-16

O that my people, they
Had inclined to my ways
And hearkened unto me
I would have helped them, see

I soon should have subdued
Their enemies, renewed
Them, and too turned my hand
Against oppressors band

Those who the LORD does hate
Should soon, it not be late
They soon sure would submit
To Him, so it be fit

Then the LORD's people, they
Would have endured alway
And He would have them fed
To plenty water led

Fed as with finest wheat
And honey, it sweet treat
I the LORD your rock be
Shall satisfy full, free

Wholesome Way

Tune & Hymn: 'Make way, make way'

Luke 3 v.4-6

John Baptist, voice of one crying
Words he does bring
In wilderness, he says , Prepare
All in this share

Chorus

Make the Lord's way (echo - Make the Lord's way)
Straight, level today (echo - Straight, level today)
Make the Lord's way (echo - Make the Lord's way)
Even, and watch and pray

Every valley it shall be filled
Pride, it be stilled
Every mountain, hill be brought low
It shall be so - Chorus

Crooked places shall be made straight
Delay not late
And the rough places be made smooth
Comforts shall soothe - Chorus

All flesh shall see the salvation
Every nation
Salvation of God, Christ His Son
The Promised One - Chorus

Ascertaining Advent

Tune: Bristol

('Hark, the glad sound, the Saviour comes')

Matthew 24 v.27-31

For as lightning flashes from east
And shines e'en to the west
So shall coming of Jesus be
The Son of man is He

Wherever there a carcase be
There vultures gather, see
And after troubles in last days
Change in celestial ways

For sun shall be darkened, and moon
Light shall be dimmed, it soon
Stars fall from heaven, its powers
Be shaken in those hours

And then shall appear sure the sign
Of the Son of man fine
Sign in heaven, then all tribes mourn
For when they did Him scorn

Son of man comes in heaven's clouds
With power, great glory shrouds
And He shall send out His angels
Great sound of trumpet hails

Angels gather His chosen ones
They be His daughters, sons
Gathered from four winds, they be sure
Now with their Lord e'ermore

Just Judgement

Tune: St Stephen

('The Lord will come and not be slow')

Malachi 3 v.1-4

Behold, the LORD, His messenger
He shall send, so hearts stir
John Baptist, he shall prepare way
For the Christ in His day

He shall come to his temple swift
Then hearts rejoice, uplift
But who may the Christ's coming bear?
For He shall sure judge there

He does bring the new covenant
God's promise, testament
He shall sit, refine, as cleaner
To make all right and fair

Shall refine and shall purify
And His salvation nigh
Brings forgiveness, that people be
An offering pleasingly

A people to the LORD offered
His grace on them conferred
Come search our hearts, O Christ, may we
Serve you acceptably

Eternal Enfranchisement

* Enfranchise - to liberate; set free

Tune: Carlisle

('Tis good Lord, to be here')

Revelation 21 v.9-12 parts

John in vision was shown
New Jerusalem known
Descended from the heavenly height
A true resplendent sight

It shone with God's glory
Light like precious stone, see
As jasper stone, clear as crystal
Glowing most beauteous all

It had wall great and high
With twelve gates by adn by
Names written on gates of twelve tribes
Of Israel there inscribed

Each gate made of a pearl
As vision did unfurl
Street of the city was pure gold
As transparent glass bold

Wall had twelve foundations
Name there of holy one
Of the twelve apostles, for they
Followed Christ [the Lamb] in His day

Foundations were garnished
With precious stones furnished
Jasper, sapphire, chalcedony

Emerald, so some be

Sardonyx, sardius
Infinite wonders thus
Chrysolite, beryl, and topaz
Of these the city has

Chrysoprasus, jacinth
Various hues and tints
And amethyst, above earth's store
Of its glories e'ermore

General guide to precious stones:
Jasper - red, yellow, or brown
Sapphire - blue
Chalcedony - white, grey, blue, or brown
Emerald - green
Sardonyx - brownish red, or ruby
Sardius - yellow or orange
Chrysolite - pale yellow-green
Beryl - pale green, light blue, yellow, or white
Topaz - yellow, white, rose, pale blue, or pale green
Chrysoprasus - golden green
Jacinth - reddish-orange
Amethyst - purple or violet

Heraldic Harbinger

Tune: Dudley

('God is gone up on high')

Luke 1 v.11-17

Zacharias, he there
Temple service did share
Gabriel did appear
Then trembling and fear
Angel said, Zacharias, Fear
Not, I bring you words of good cheer
Not, I bring you words of good cheer

For your prayer it is heard
The Lord heeded your word
Your wife Elisabeth
Shall bear a son, 'tis saith
You shall call his name John, and you
And many shall rejoice anew
and many shall rejoice anew

For he shall sure be great
In the Lord's sight, shall sate
Neither wine nor strong drink
But on the Lord bethink
Shall be filled with the Spirit e'en
From mother's womb it shall be seen
From mother's womb it shall be seen

Many of the people
That be of Israel
He shall turn to the Lord
Their God, shall hear His word
Shall go in the spirit and power

Of Elijah, blessing's showers
Of Elijah, blessing's showers

Shall turn hearts of parents
To children, and too thence
Hearts of children shall be
Turned unto parents' see
And disobedient be turned
To wisdom of the just and learned
To wisdom of the just and learned

So making a people
Ready for the Lord all
Prepared so, for he, John
Baptist, prophetic one
His mission set, he goes before
To prepare the Lord's way for sure
To prepare the Lord's way for sure

Beneficent Beholder

Tune: Harewood

('Christ is the corner stone')

Psalm 33 v.13-22

The LORD from heaven looks
He has us not forsook
He beholds all mankind
All their places does find
None can from Him hide, He does see
From His heaven high and lofty

He fashions their heart all
That men may on Him call
They not saved by strength much
But saved by Him, it such
His eye is on them that Him fear
They trust in Him, to Him draw near

And those that His mercy
Hope in, He keeps them free
Saves them from death, amine
So fresh praises begin
To Him, our soul does for Him wait
He is our help and shield, not late

Our heart in Him it shall
Rejoice, and praise Him well
Because He faithful be
We have trusted Him, see
Your mercy LORD be on us true
According as we hope in you

Timeless Not Temporal

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalm 102 v.25-28

Of old, LORD God, 'tis you have laid
Foundations of earth staid
Heavens, they the work of your hands
creator of all lands

They shall perish, but you endure
Continue evermore
They all shall as garment grow old
Become dead, barren, cold

As a coat you shall change then, they
Do have no lasting day
They shall be changed as you ordain
You shall make your ways plain

But you, LORD, are the same, and your
Years have no end for sure
The children of your servants shall
Go on and prosper well

Bethlehem Birth

Tyne: Forest Green

('O little town of Bethlehem')

Luke 2 v.8-14

Shepherds in field there abiding
Message angel did bring
As they watched o'er their flock by night
They saw heavenly sight
Angel shone on them, glory
Of the Lord they did see
They greatly feared, but comfort's word
From angel then they heard

Fear not, said angel, for, behold
Good tidings to you told
News of great joy to all people
Pray hear my voice, my call
For to you is born this day
A Saviour, so I say
In the city of David*, He (*Bethlehem)
Appears, the Christ-child, see

And this shall be to you a sign
The babe human, divine
You shall find wrapped in swaddling clothes
Humility He knows
Not resting a palace grand
But here now understand
He lays in a manger, food toruhg
Of cattle, it enough

Suddenly, with angel a host
Made their praises, their boast

A multitude, all heaven sings
Sky with melody rings
Saying, Glory to God on high
Yet now to us He nigh
On earth peace, and good will unto
All people, go, Him view

Angelic Alighting

Tune: Greensleeves

('What child is this?')

Luke 1 v.26-35 parts

From God angel Gabriel sent
Messaged Mary his intent
Sent to Nazareth, to virgin
Glad tidings of joy brought then

Chorus

Rejoice, Mary, Fear not
For yours shall be a pleasant lot*
You are highly favoured
True to you is the Lord's word

When Mary did the angel see
Then troubled in mind she be
Angel said, Fear not Mary, for
God's favour is to you sure- Chorus

And, behold, you shall conceive in
Womb, bear a son, free from sin
For God His heavenly Father be
This revealed by Him to me - Chorus

And you shall call His name JESUS
A Saviour unto all of us
He shall be great, Son of Most High
God's Son come to mankind nigh - Chorus

The Lord God shall give Him the throne
Of David His ancestor known
And He shall reign for evermore

No end of His kingdom sure - Chorus

* Or these two lines could read:

Greetings (or Hail), Mary, Fear not

For yours shall be a joyful lot

New Jerusalem Joys

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Revelation 21 v.22-27

New Jerusalem, the city
There no need of temple be
For the Lord God He Almighty
And the Lamb (Christ) the temple be
Holy dwelling, inhabitants
God's presence they know and sense

And there no need of sun or moon
To shine in it to illumine
For the glory of God its light
Shines there eternally bright
Here the Rapture, sin, dark, gloom gone
Presence strong of Christ the Son

The nations of them which are saved
Shall walk in that light, it paved
By the Lamb, He be God's own Son
Salvation for all has won
Rulers of the earth do bring their
Honour, glory there to share

The gates of of it shall not shut be
By day, and no night there, see
Honour, glory of the nations
They shall bring into it, sons
And daughter of light shall reisde
There, for ever shall abide

Nothing at all that does defile

Nor of abominable
Nor no lies. these things not enter
Into that city, 'tis sure
Only they that are written in
Lamb's book of life, without sin

Ding Dong Ditty

Tune: Branle De L'officiel

('Ding, dong! Merrily on high')

Ding, dong! Here a Saviour born
Upon the first Christmas morn
Bing, bong! Bells small and great sound
Spread the good news all around

Chorus

A-ll-ll-e-lu-ia! Glory to god, peace on earth
A-ll-ll-e-lu-ia! Good news of a Saviour's birth

Sing, song! High your joyful praise
Your worthy songs now upraise
Ling[ual], long! Tell it day, night long
Witness with the happy throng - Chorus

Jesus, born in manger bare
The stabled animals there
Viewed the babe, the Prince of Peace
Whose reign it never shall cease - Chorus

Bethlehem, you little town
Now of an endless renown
Light of the world born in you
Revealed, and all may Him view - Chorus

Come, our darkness now dispel
Bells ring out o'er hill and dell
Ever praise the Christ-child dear
In flesh to man He appears - Chorus

Rejoice, He Reigns!

Tune: Darwall

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Psalm 97

The LORD reigns, let the earth
Rejoice, give Him His worth
Let all the isles be glad
Not be downcast or sad
Clouds and darkness do Him surround
Righteousness, judgement, with Him found

A fire before Him goes
Consuming blaze, it shows
Burns up His enemies
All do His lightnings see
The earth saw, trembled at the sight
The LORD displays His awesome might

Mountains like wax did melt
The LORD's presence they felt
He LORD the whole earth o'er
Dominion stretches sure
From coast to coast, and heavens declare
His righteousness, they in it share

The people His glory
Do see, its majesty
Let all those be ashamed
Who have their idols named
Worship the LORD, you peoples all
Turn from idols and on Him call

You that love the LORD, hate

Evil, and trust Him great
He preserves His people
Saves them, they shall not fall
Light is sown for the righteous' part
And gladness for upright in heart

Rejoice in the LORD, you
Righteous, and give thanks too
At the sure remembrance
Of His holiness, sense
His greatness, He LORD, ever reigns
Each thing created He ordains

Faith Through Fears

Tune: Tallis' Canon

('All praise to thee, my God, this night')

Psalm 56 v.9-13

When I call unto you, O LORD
My enemies shall at your word
Turn back, this I know, for God be
For me, and shall my troubles see

In God I will praise His word, He
The living God will ever be
In the LORD I will His word praise
Songs of melody to Him raise

In God I have put my trust, man
I shall not fear that what he can
Do unto me, the LORD shall keep
Me safe, I confide, as His sheep

I will give praises unto you
LORD, for you my state here did view
Saved my soul from death, will not you
Come to my help again anew?

So shall I walk before you true
LORD God, and still shall follow you
In the light of the living for
You the Light of the world e'ermore

Benedictus Blessing

Tune: Es Ist Ein Ros

('A great and mighty wonder')

Luke 1 v.67 - 79

From a reading set for Christmas Eve

Zacharias, John's father

Prophecy did confer

At his son's birth, the Spirit

Did speak words that befit

Chorus

His name is John, sure be

John the Baptist the same be

A wondrous ministry

Blessed be the God of Israel

Has visited, now tell

And has redeemed His people

Strong salvation to all - Chorus

Was as He spoke by holy

Prophets, since the world be (began)

That we should be saved from those

Who hate us, us oppose - Chorus

Save us from enemies too

His promise we do view

His holy covenant, oath

He shall fulfil them both - Chorus

He shall show us His mercy

To Abraham first it be

That He would grant, deliver

Us from enemies sure - Chorus

That we might serve unafraid
Way ahead He has made
Serve Him in holiness, song
Righteousness all life long - Chorus

You, child, shall be called prophet
Blessings we can expect
You shall before the Lord go
His ways prepare and show - Chorus

Give knowledge of salvation
Forgiveness, each nation
Through God's tender mercies nigh
He Dayspring (Christ) from on high - Chorus

Light to them sat in darkness
And shadow of death, this
He shall show, and guide our feet
In way of peace complete - Chorus

Christmas Continues

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

Still sing a song, you joyful throng
Christmas it be here all along
Still sing a song, you joyful throng
Christmas it be here all along
Ne'er cancelled since first Christmas morn
Jesus, Saviour of the world born

What we go without, large or small
You made yourself poor, Lord of all
What we go without, large or small
You made yourself poor, Lord of all
Through your poverty we may be
Rich, if we as you Saviour see

Comfort our hearts where we cannot
Meet, where ours be pitiful lot
Comfort our hearts where we cannot
Meet, where ours be pitiful lot
'Til time comes, we may meet again
In person, and restored joys then

Meek, lowly, Joseph and Mary
Vulnerable on travels be
Meek, lowly, Joseph and Mary
Vulnerable on travels be
From Nazareth to Bethlehem
To enlist in the census then

From north to south they did travel
Joseph was of David's line all

From north to south they did travel
Joseph was of David's line all
City of Bethlehem, though there
Mary no room her babe to bear

They shared a poor stable, was so
Troubles, difficulties did know
They shared a poor stable, was so
Troubles, difficulties did know
Yet there Mary without delay
Brought forth the Christ-child there that day

Martyr Missive

Tune: Tempus Adeste Floridum

('Good King Wenceslas')

Acts 7 v.51-60

For St Stephen's Day: Dec 26.

Stephen in Jerusalem
Did preach there unto them
At the ending, he did say
You stubborn ones, this day
Impenitent in your heart
And in ears, on your part
You the Spirit do resist
As ancestors, no desist

They prophets persecute
Evil was their heart's root
Prophets showed of the Just One
He to come, God's own Son
You Him betrayed and murdered
Spoke against Him your word
Crucify was all your breath
You oppressed Him to death

You who have the law received
Not kept it, not believed
When they heard these thing they were
Enraged, wrath did occur
But Stephen, he being full
Of the Spirit withal
Looked up steadfast to heaven
Saw the glory of God then

And Jesus there at right hand

Of God, there His place manned
Heavens opened he did see
But then the crowd's fury
Vented on him, with loud voice
Cast him out, that their choice
Not listened to message there
In his stoning did share

He did call on God, saying
Lord, do forgive this thing
Jesus, my spirit receive
I trust you, I believe
Lay not this sin to their charge
Then with peace and courage
He did die, did fall asleep
The Lord his soul did keep

Lead us, Lord, to witness strong
Acting against all wrong
As your holy martyr did
Stephen, your light not hid
What seems waster in human thought
Greater purpose has brought
Full of power, life, and grace
Your example he did trace

Light And Love

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

1 John 2 v.9-11

St John's Day: Dec 27.

They that say they are in the light
But hate, it be not right
Such are in darkness even now
They have not loved, 'tis how

They that love others do abide
In the light, there reside
In them no cause of stumbling be
They live righteous, truly

They that hate others, now they be
In darkness, here now see
Live in the dark, and know not where
They go, in no light share

For that darkness has them blinded
Not loving, but hatred
They show, so let us here love all
Obey word of God's call

John, apostle, spoke much of love
O Spirit, holy dove
Empower us Christ's way to go
His selfless love to show

Innocents Intonation

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

Matthew 2 v.13-18

Holy Innocents Day: Dec. 28

O great horror! O great pain!
When Herod in wrath did deign
Children* under two to kill (*boys)
Working out his evil will

How can we be comforted
When our little ones are dead?
They holy and innocent
They to death unchoosing went

For Herod was outwitted
In a dream wised men were led
Not to return to him there
Place of Saviour's birth not share

For it be dangerous, so
Rival, king Herod did know
Yet a kingdom heavenly
Christ would bring, so would it be

May we, Lord, not be afraid
Where troubles evil has made
Poor, lowly, vulnerable
To help as we hear your call

So to turn the darkest night
From desolation to light
You, Lord, light of the world shine

None can o'ercome light divine

Blessed Birth

Tune: Personent Hodie

('Long ago, prophets knew')

Matthew 1 v.18-25 parts

Now the birth of Jesus
Is recorded for us
Matthew writes, these his words
Mary was with child by
The Holy Spirit nigh

Chorus

Fulfilled prophecy
A virgin would, see
Be with child, they shall call
His name Emmanuel

Angle to Joseph said
Her betrothed, thus he led
In a dream, angel showed
That he should then fear not
To take Mary, his lot - Chorus

For child conceived in her
Is by the Spirit sure
There good tidings revealed
She would bring forth a son
JESUS, to save each one - Chorus

For He shall His people
Save them from their sins all
God in human form shown
Yet He be divine too
Comes to make all things new - Chorus

Isaiah's prophecy
Of these things, they would be
Sure to pass, God's own words
Joseph then did awake
Mary as wife did take - Chorus

Incarnational Image

Tune: London Waits

('Past three o'clock')

John 1 v.14-18

[Start with Chorus]

Light of the world

Fullness of grace, truth unfurled

Father's glory

By faith we do Him see

The Word was made flesh, among us did dwell

Glory beholden, they of it did tell - Chorus

John Baptist's witness, saying, This is He

Of whom I spake, He be greater than me - Chorus

He born after me, but higher than me

I a voice for Him, His messenger be - Chorus

We of His fullness have all here received

It be His grace if we have sure believed - Chorus

The law was given by Moses, but grace

And truth came by Jesus Christ, see His face - Chorus

No one has seen God at any time, though

Son of the Father has shown Him, we know - Chorus

Redeemer Revealed

Tune: Humility

(See amid the winter's snow')

Christ born, full of truth and grace
He reflects His Father's face
God in human form appears
Brings us comforts, calms our fears

Chorus

Light of the world come to earth
Tidings of a Saviour's birth
Inspire faith, that we believe
And Him in our hearts receive

Born of Mary, lowly, mild
In a manger laid her child
People and animals too
Rejoiced the great sight to view - Chorus

There no room in the inn for
He whom heaven and earth adore
Not in palaces He found
Christ does sleep in manger sound - Chorus

See, that birth for ever blessed
By humans, angels confessed
Light upon us, holy Son
Saviour now for every one - Chorus

Join we with the joyful throng
Of angels who sing their song
When to shepherds they appeared
Telling, god to man has neared - Chorus

Glory to God in highest
Message to north, south, east, west
On earth peace, to men good will
Christ He would God's will fulfil - Chorus

To Us A Child, A Son

Tune: Carol (Willis)

('It came upon the midnight clear')

Isaiah 9 v.6-7

For unto us a child is born
Was on first Christmas morn
Unto us a son is given
The Christ-child sent from heaven
The government shall be upon
His shoulders, ruling One
And names He shall have lastingly
He the Son of God be

His name shall be called Wonderful
He full of glory all
And Counsellor, He shall us guide
Within our hearts reside
The mighty God, the Prince of Peace
Whose reign shall never cease
The everlasting Father He
Son of God, same He be

Of increase of His government
And peace, no end, [the] intent
Peace shall be upon David's throne
Israel's King, so known
And upon His kingdom, it shall
Be ordered, stablished well
With judgement and justice for e'er
The LORD's zeal works this fair

Chosen Country

Tune: Stille Nacht

('Silent Night')

Micah 5 v.2

Micah, prophet, prophecy
Bethlehem, small town, see
Though your place it little sure be
Midst Judah your residency
Yet of you shall come forth
One to rule of endless worth

It be by the Lord ordained
In His will all arranged
His plan from old, eternity
God's Son will the Saviour be
Angels that birth announce
Mercy to mankind, not trounce*

What small to mankind's sight
When it full comes to light
It in God's sight is valued much
And blessed with His anointing touch
Stone rejected by men
Made head of corner then**

* trounce - in the sense of 'punish, beat, rebuke'

** stone - corner-stone is one title given to Christ

Notable Nativity

Tune: Cranham

('In the bleak midwinter')

Carolling at Christmas
Joyful tunes 'tis this
Tell of babe born, stable
Meek and lowly all
Bethlehem, little town
Now of great renown
God in flesh comes to you
Worship Him anew

Babe grows, boy to a man
To follow God's plan
He e'er set to do still
Of His Father's will
He born of the Spirit
Obeys every whit
Joseph, Mary, parents
Earthly, true is this

Light of the world, Dayspring
Salvation does bring
Dawn follows with day bright
Banishes dark night
Teaching, preaching, healing
Good news in each thing
Still your people witness
Of eternal bliss

Promise Perfected

Tune: God rest ye merry

('God rest ye merry, gentlemen')

Good Christmas cheer, the Lord is here
He does to us appear
In human form now in His Son
He be the Promised One
The Messiah, the Saviour sure
Saves us from sin e'ermore

Chorus

O praises now to Christ the King
Let all now sing
O praises now to Christ the King

His light does dawn that all may see
And all redeemed may be
He the Dayspring, o'ercomes darkness
Comes unto us to bless
He shall fulfil the prophecies
Made by the prophets these - Chorus

Light of the world, bring peace we pray
In these our troubled days
Spirit reside within hearts, show
More of Christ, may we know
And follow him, empowered by
Your presence, no deny - Chorus

And on through life, your salvation
Hope unto each nation
Sinless One, you the price would pay
For our sins, make the way

Open for us that we may come
To God, there find our home - Chorus

Saviour-Seeking

Tune: In Dulcie Jubilo

('Good Christian friends, rejoice')

'Tis joy to all mankind
When the Saviour they find
Look not in a palace grand
To a manger turn your hand
Babe does in a stable lay
Come in, come in, animals say
Here is Christ today
Here is Christ today

He Light of world for all
Hope for who to Him call
He shall save, redeem from sin
And shall dwell in hearts within
By His Spirit, infant child
We see with parents undefiled
Grace and mercy mild
Grace and mercy mild

God comes to human race
His Son shows Father's face
Full of truth and full of grace
His Father's will He does trace
And all to make salvation
Firm and sure to every nation
True joys, elations
True joys, elations

Star Scene

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

For Epiphany: Jan 6

Season of Epiphany

Revealing of Christ-child, see

To wise men who saw His star

They travelled from country far

To worship and to adore

He who is Lord, King e'ermore

In that young child they did see

By faith all that He would be

Worthy of their richest fare

They presented to Him there

Gold and myrrh and frankincense

God's Son's presence they did sense

They warned of God in a dream

That all was not as did seem

They were warned of the false plan

Of King Herod, evil man

He would feign to worship too

Desire Chrsit the King to view

What can we offer today

To you, Lord? Show us we pray

Rich or poor, to give what we

Give willing, not grudgingly

Nor necessity only

Giving burden-free may be

As they shared their love and praise

So, Lord, unto you we raise
Our worship, and freedom find
Serving you, merciful, kind
Worthy of all we can bring
You who give us each good thing

Trust Through Trials

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 56 parts

Be merciful to me
O God, my enemy
Would swallow me up, for daily
He fights, oppresses me

What time I am afraid
I will trust in you staid
In you LORD God I praise your word
Your truth of it I heard

In God I have put my
Trust, will not fear what, by
And by what man can do to me
My hope is in you, see

You know my wanderings
My tears, troubles, all things
When I call to you, enemy
Shall turn, before you flee

You have delivered me
My soul, from death be free
So I walk before you in light
Of the living, clear, bright

Revelation - Seals One To Four

Tune: Unter Herrschen

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Revelation 6 v.1-8

John did see when the Lamb* opened (*Christ)
The seals**, to Christ did attend (**the seven seals of a scroll)
And did hear the noise of thunder
One of the four beasts then there
Said, Come and see, and I did see
A white horse in majesty

He that sat on him had a bow
A crown given him, I know
And he went forth in conquering
And to conquer, victory bring
Then the second seal opened there
Second beast said, Come, see, share

There went out another horse, red
Power given rider, said
That he may from the earth peace take
Kill each other, turmoil make
There was given him a great sword
He rules as an overlord

And when opened wa the third seal
Third beast said, Come and see, feel
I did see a black horse, and he
Sat on him did have scales, see
I heard voice say, measure of wheat
For a penny, a day's feat# (# a day's work)

And three measures of barley for

The same, a penny for sure
And see you not hurt oil and wine
Protect you these gifts of mine
Then fourth seal was opened, and then
Fourth beast said, Come, see again

And I looked, and saw a pale horse
He proceeded on his course
His name that sat on him was Death
Hell followed him, poison breath
Power given him to destroy
Fourth part of the earth, no joy

Koinonia Keeping

Koinonia = Fellowship

* *Tune: Lux Benigna*

(*'Lead, kindly light'*)

Psalm 121

I will lift up my eyes to Zion's mounts
There blessings founts
Do proceed, my help does come come sure from there
God's mercies fair
My help comes from the LORD, 'tis he who made
heaven and earth, His wondrous works displayed

He will not let your foot slip in the way
But firm shall stay
Your steps, for He who keeps you shall not sleep
He shall you keep
He no slumber, nor grow tired any hour
Almighty He remains with endless power

He be your keeper, your protector strong
Through all life long
He be your shade, your shelter through troubles
E'en in them all
You be not harmed in things 'neath daylight's sun
Nor 'neath things of the night's moonlight, not one

The LORD shall preserve you from all evil
Keep, you not fall
He shall preserve your soul, His love and care
Shall with you share
He shall preserve your going out and in
From now, for ever, outward and within

Epiphany Excellings

Tune: Epiphany

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Matthew 2 v.1-12 parts

The first verse is repeated at the end

At the time Jesus was born in Bethlehem
In days of Herod the King, behold, then
Wise men, magi, did come from the east unto
Jerusalem, new-born Christ-child to view

They said, Where is He, He born King of the Jews?
We have seen His star in east
It did we follow, it guided to this place
We are come to worship Him, full of grace

Prophets did say, it be in Bethlehem sure
Though small town, shall come from you a Prince pure
He be Governor, the Ruler o'er Israel
He shall fulfil all the prophecies well

Then they departed, the heavenly King to seek
Lord of all, strong, yet He humble and meek
The star continued to guide and did arrive
O'er house where little family did thrive

They did Him see, with joy they presented
Gold, frankincense, myrrh to Him they offered
In their worship and devotion, there holy
The world's Saviour, the Christ-child He true be

At the time Jesus was born in Bethlehem
In days of Herod the King, behold, then
Wise men, magi, did come from the east unto

Jerusalem, new-born Christ-child to view

Revelation - Seal Five

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Revelation 6 v.9-11

John saw opened fifth seal
Saw under altar still
Souls of them that were slain
Though life true did they gain

Slain for the word of God
Martyrs, this earth they trod
They gave testimony
Witnessed to men bold, free

They cried with loud voice, See
How long, O Lord, holy
And true do you not judge
And our blood shed avenge?

They given robes of white
Beautiful to the sight
It was said to them, Wait
Rest little while [in] this state

Rest till fellow servants
They too be penitents
Some more brethren of lands
Would join the martyrs bands

Voice Vanguard

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

John 1 v.19-27 parts

John witnessed to priests and Levites
Replied to their invites
Of 'Who are you?' 'What shall we say
To enquirers today?'

John said, I am the voice of one
Preparing way of Son
Way of the Lord, making it straight
Enter by narrow gate

They said, If you not Christ, nor be
Elijah, prophet, see
Why do you baptise? John did say
I answer you, here stay

I baptise with water, but there
Be one here, I do share
With you, that you do Him not know
E'en Christ, God's Son, 'tis so

He is before me, ranks higher
Than me, more place preferred
His shoe's latchet I unworthy
To unloose, great He be

Hair-Raising?

What? trust someone with such a dodgy barnet?

That's 'odd hair-style'

If you don't know that bit of lingo!

Or is it a wig?

It might be a cat curled on top of his head!

Good bye to Trumpton (Trump) Barnet

I always said -

We can't trust anyone with such a dodgy barnet!

Another example in a comedy show:

'Oohh, I couldn't work for a guy who wears red trousers!'

But there's more to it than that...

A final evil attempt to hold on

In what was done the USA?

It's the attitude of heart and mind

What goes in inside

More than hair-style or trouser colour

Goodbye, rat

Sink with your ship!

Good Lord, save us from him

Ever getting back again!

Revelation - Seal Six

Tune: Picardy

('Let all mortal flesh keep silence')

Revelation 6 v.12-17

John beheld the sixth seal opened
A great earthquake, rocks did rend
Sun became black as sackcloth hair
Moon became as blood then there
Stars of heaven unto the earth fell
Like unready figs we tell

Heaven departed as a scroll
When together one does roll
Every mountain and island moved
Out of their places, it proved
Kings of the earth, rich men and great
Considered their dreadful state

From great to least, from slave to free
Hid themselves in dens, so be
And in rocks of mountains, did say
Fall on us, hide us, we pray
From face of Him sat on the throne
Great day of His wrath now known

Revelation - Seal Seven

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Revelation 8 v.1-5

Seventh seal opened, silence
Half-hour in heaven thence
John saw seven angels stand
There, given trumpets in hand
Ready to set in motion
More, at the sound of each one

Another angel was there
At the altar was his care
Having golden censer, he
Was given much incense, see
It was so he should offer
It with prayers on the altar

Prayers of saints, altar golden
It was before the throne [of God] then
The smoke of the incense rose
With the prayers of the saints close* (*near)
Up to God it ascended
Fragrant offering blended

Then angel did take censer
Filled it with fire of altar
Then it to the earth did cast
Time for trumpets soon, at last
Voices, thunderings, lightnings
Earthquake, and awesome tremblings

Looking To The Lamb

Tune: Bread of Life

('Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord to me')

In meditation sweet, here at your feet
Lord, we do contemplate, you do us greet
Recalling your Supper, Communion
Shared with forgiven sinners, e'en each one

Lamb of God, God's own Son, this your name be
Your sacrifice, offering, it for me
Your life laid down that we so may be saved
The Way to God, you alone it have paved

Of olden times* animals sacrificed (*Old Covenant days)
For sin, in those days offerings sufficed
But now animals saved too, for you do
Bring in the days of your Covenant New

Lamb of God, innocent, spotless, we muse
Here a plain Way to see with no confuse
Like lamb to slaughter you meekly did go
That salvation, forgiveness we might know

Eating of the bread, drinking of the wine
We shall not find a feast more fairer, fine
Bread of Life, Water of Life, you sustain
Through your mercies we eternal life gain

Omniscient Observations

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! hearts to heaven and voices raise')

Psalm 139 v.14-18 and v.23-24

I will praise you, O LORD, for I
Am made by you, 'tis no lie
Made fearfully, wonderfully
That fear it awesomeness be
Marvellous are your works, and my
Soul knows well, and you are nigh
So I give thanks, you in each thing
Unto me in wisdom bring

My substance was not hid from you
When you did make me, all new
Made in secret, in the womb, you
Skilfully wrought there then too
You saw me before you made me
Things invisible you see
You continued, and me fashioned
Of your wonders there no end

How precious also are your thoughts
Various and of all sorts
Your thoughts unto me, O God! How
Great, I cannot count them now
If I try to, they be more than
Grains of sand on shore, how can
One then reckon up the sum whole?!
But we still can you extol

Waking, sleeping, working, resting
I still with you in each thing

You Creator, I your creature
So search me, O God, know sure
My heart, try me, and my thoughts know
If any wicked way show
Me, and lead me in your way to
Everlasting walk with you

Revelation - Trumpets One To Four

Tune: Sussex

(slower tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Revelation 8 v.6-13

Seven angels, seven trumpets
Sounding each one sure begets
First trumpet, there followed hail, fire
Mingled with blood, judgement dire

They fell on the earth, and a third
Part of trees burnt up, true word
All green grass was burnt up, destroyed
Disastrous scenes, land made void

Second trumpet, a great mountain
Burning with fire was cast then
Into the sea, third part of sea
Became blood, polluted be

Third part of creatures in the sea
Which had life, they then died, see
And third part of the ships vanished
From seas, oceans were banished

Third trumpet, there fell a great star
From heaven, came from afar
Burning like a lamp, it did fall
On third part of rivers, pools

Name of star it is Wormwood called
Third part of waters were soiled
Became wormwood, many folk died
For waters bitter they tried

Fourth trumpet, third part of the sun
Smitten, shone for that part none
And third part of moon, third of stars
Did not shine, the darkness mars

Then angel through heaven flying
Said, Woe, woe, woe, in the things
To follow to mankind, it bound
Other three trumpets to sound

Revelation - Trumpet Five

Tune: St Asaph

('Through the night of doubt and sorrow')

Revelation 9 v.1-12

Fifth angel sounded, John saw star
Fall to earth from heaven afar
One granted key to bottomless
Pit, was a smoke-filled abyss
Sun and air darkened by the smoke
As great furnace, it did choke
From smoke came locusts, and power
Given to them at that hour

Power as do have scorpions
Stinging and poisonous ones
But they not to hurt anything
Green, but to those torment bring
That have not in foreheads received
Seal of God, such not believed
Torment is as scorpion's sting
Pain and hurt in everything

Though in those days men shall death seek
They not find it, judgement wreaks
Troubles to them, locusts they be
Like horses for battle, see
Crowns of gold, and faces of men
Hair as women, their teeth then
Were as lions, iron breastplates
Wings as chariots sounds makes

Tails as scorpions, they do sting
For a time misery bring

King over them, he the angel
Of bottomless pit, we tell
That his name it be Adaddon
In Hebrew, it Destruction
And in Greek tongue, Apollyon
His name the Destroying one

Walking This Way

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 86 v.9-15 parts

All nations who you have made shall
Come, worship before you and tell
Of your doings, you are the Lord
God alone, the living Word

Teach me your way, O LORD, I will
Walk in your truth, follow you still
Unite my heart to fear your name
It claim solely for your fame

I will praise you with my whole heart
O Lord my God, in every part
For great is your mercy to me
You have delivered me, see

Saved me from the lowest hell, for
You did attend to my needs sure
Full of compassion and gracious
Plenty mercy, truth to us

Calling And Choice

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

1 Corinthians 1 v.26-29

For consider your calling how
That not many wise now
Nor many mighty, nor noble
In human terms are called

They not by God chosen, but few
It be His plan to do
To choose things that the world does not
'Tis in His wisdom's lot

He chooses the foolish, so He
Does shame the [worldly] wise, so be
And weak things to shame the [worldly] mighty
Cause them to humble be

He chooses lowly and despised
Though the world is surprised
And things that are of worth little
That great things then should stall

It all be that no humankind
Should in His presence find
Reason to boast, be proud, glory
His all the glory be

Comforting Companion

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, My God, and King')

O Lord, you will revive
When we with troubles strive
Will hear simple prayers, you know all
E'en before we do call

But you do us invite
To pray, and in your sight
We blessed be, continue to know
Good things which you us show

Never alone, but you
Come, comfort us anew
Words in season strengthen, uphold
Your sheep within your fold

Grant us some thought, that we
Not dry or barren be
Some thought new or old, so commune
We with you, keep in tune

Thought of you, your our Lord
And your life-giving word
You impart to us, and Christ He
Your Word true ever be

Whether in midst of storm
Or calm and cosy, warm
In darkest night or brightest light
Yet you still our delight

You Father heavenly
To us, how can this be?
To all believing in your Son
He saves, has our hearts won

Forgive where we forget
And may struggle on yet
Help us recall your presence, seek
You lowly in heart, meek

Residents Returning

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Matthew 2 v.19-23

When King Herod was dead, behold
And angel of the Lord told
Joseph in a dream, directing
Him, the Lord's hand them guiding

Angel said, Take Mary, your wife
And you child, Jesus, whose life
They who sought to destroy, they be
Dead now, return home safely

Return from Egypt to Israel
Did little family well
But when they heard in Herod's place
Archelaus ruled, they did face

Did face fear, for Archelaus be
Herod's son there, they did see
In Judea's region, but still
An angel warned them of ill

Showed Joseph in a dream again
To turn to Nazareth then
In Galilee, true prophecy
Christ a Nazarene shall be

It town where angel Gabriel
Announced unto Mary all
News of Christ-child that she would bear
Nazareth, their home town fair

Giving Glory

Tune: Was Lebet, Was Schwebet

('O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness')

Also: 'Sing of a God in majestic divinity'

The first verse is repeated at the end, traditionally.

Psalm 96

Come, sing a new song unto the LORD, all the earth
Bless His name, praise Him, and give Him His worth
Proclaim the good news of His salvation daily
Voices and instruments, bold, strong, and free

Declare His glory among the nations, and too
His wonders among all people anew
For the LORD is great, and He greatly to be praised
Let praise, worship, thanksgiving be upraised

He is to be feared above all gods, for they
Are nothing more than idols in their day
But the LORD the earth and heavens He created
Spoke them into being, each word He said

Before Him there be honour and too majesty
Strength and beauty there in His sanctuary
Give to the LORD glory and strength, all you people
Bring Him offering, on Him humbly call

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness
Fear before Him all the earth, and confess
That He reigns over all, the world is established
His judgements righteous be, just as He wished

Let heaven rejoice, earth, all creation be glad
Seas, fields, and woods now no longer be sad

For the LORD comes to judge the world with righteousness
And the people with His truth sure, no less

Come, sing a new song unto the LORD, all the earth
Bless His name, praise Him, and give Him His worth
Proclaim the good news of His salvation daily
Voices and instruments, bold, strong, and free

Paul's Progress

Tune: Regent Square

('Blessed city, heavenly Salem')

Ephesians 3 v.1-9

For St Paul's Day: Jan 25.

Paul the prisoner of the Christ for
To share with the Gentiles sure
Given stewardship of the grace
Of God, for all he would face
By revealing God did make known
To him, hidden truth now shown

It in other ages not known
But now can make it our own
Apostles and prophets sharing
By the Spirit they do bring
Message of salvation, it be
That Gentiles, Jews may have, see

That Gentiles be now fellow-heirs
With the Jews shall be their shares
Of promise of Christ's salvation
Made open to each nation
His gospel, the good news for all
Who believe and on Him call

Paul made minister by God's grace
And His mercies he does trace
It by working of God's power
Not his efforts any hour
Granted to Paul, his place he be
Least of all saints, so says he

So he preached among the Gentiles
Of this message he sure tells
Of the riches unsearchable
Of Christ, cannot tell them full
For they great, high, and marvellous
Yet saving truths unto us

Times of Timothy and Titus

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

2 Timothy 1 v.5-9 and Titus 1 v.2-5

For St Timothy & St Titus' Day: Jan. 26

Paul's companion, Timothy
And too Titus be
Paul of Timothy's faith
Remembers, and saith
It dwells in him, and too
His grandmother [Lois] she knew
It, and mother [Eunice] also
She did believe so

Paul said to Timothy
Stir up your gift, see
For God has to us not
Given fearful lot
Not the spirit of fear
He does to us endear
But the spirit of power
Love, sound mind each hour

And that he not ashamed be
Of the gospel, see
But in courage partake
Sufferings for Christ's sake
Enabled by His power
Not fear nor fright nor cower
He has saved us, we face
All things with his grace

Paul, he Titus in Crete

Left, there to complete
Things in the church lacking
To deal with each thing
To share eternal life
The gospel, with no strife
It be a true hope sure
Lasting for e'ermore

Titus to preach, ordain
Leaders fine, unfeign
Sharing the gospel news
Praying that all choose
To come to Christ the Lord
Believe His living word
In Him find salvation
Here for each nation

Revelation - Trumpet Six

Tune: Lostwithiel

('Head of thy church triumphant')

Revelation 9 v.13-21

Sixth trumpet sounded, angel
Heard voice from altar, did tell
Angel to go, release the four
Angels at [River] Euphrates shore
They were loosed, they were prepared
For an exact hour shared
Was for to slay third of mankind
The second woe here we find

And an army of horsemen
Two hundred million then
In vision they sat on horses
Had breastplates of fire, was thus
Jacinth (red), blue too, and brimstone
Yellow, and horsed head prone
As lions, and from their mouths flowed
Fire, smoke, and brimstone bestowed

By these three was the third part
Of mankind killed, when did start
The fire, the smoke, and the brimstone
Which came from their mouths, so known
This judgement, for their power
Is in mouths in their hour
And in their tails, like serpents girt
Had heads, and with them they hurt

And rest of men who not killed
By these plagues, yet did not yield

To God, did not repent, their days
Still filled up with their own ways
Worship devils, idols, would
Of gold, silver, brass, stone, wood
Which neither see, nor walk, nor hear
Blind, immobile, deaf appear

Nor did they repent, nor turn
From their evil deeds, but burn
To continue with their murders
And hearts to evil deeds stirs
Nor repent of sorceries
Nor their fornications, these
They carried on, and their thefts too
Even though judgements in view

Revelation - Trumpet Seven

Tune: Michael

('All my hope on God is founded')

Revelation 11 v.15-19

Seventh angel sounded, there be
Great voices, they heavenly
Saying, The kingdoms of this world
Are become, banners unfurled
Become kingdoms of our
Lord and Christ, He reigns each hour

He shall reign ever and ever
His rule shall decrease never
Four and twenty elders gathered
Round God's throne they there worshipped
Fell on faces before
Him, and there did Him adore

Saying, We give you thanks, O Lord
God Almighty, true your word
You are, and were, and are to come
You the high eternal one
For you have taken too
Your great power, reigned anew

Nations were angry, your wrath be
Come, time of dead's judgement, see
And reward to servants, prophets
And to saints, without sin's taints
Those too that you name fear
Small and great, who hold it dear

Destruction to those who destroy

The earth, with their evil ploys
Then temple of God was opened
In heaven, the skies did rend
There in temple the ark* (*box)
Of the covenant, now hark

Hark, and see lightnings and voices
Yet there godly rejoicings
Then there thunderings and earthquake
Great hail, all the land does shake
Third woe here does appear
The Lord's kingdom reigns for e'er

David's Dynasty

Tune & Hymn: Skye Boat Song

Psalm 132 v.13-18

[Start with] Chorus

Arise, O LORD, now into your rest

By your presence we blest

You and the ark (box) of your covenant

Your laws unto us sent

For the LORD has Zion chosen

His habitation then

He says, This is my rest ever

I shall depart never - Chorus

He will here bless abundantly

Provide, none needy be

He will clothe priests with salvation

They His holy nation - Chorus

Her saints shall shout for joy aloud

It be so, He avowed

He will make the government grow

Line of David, we know - Chorus

He has ordained a lamp for light

For His anointed's sight

Even King David, and He shall

Deal with enemies well - Chorus

Enemies He will clothe with shame

They lose honour and fame

But King David's crown shall flourish

The LORD will him nourish - Chorus

Revelation - Vials One To Four

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Revelation 16 v.1-9

Note: 'Vial' could also be 'Bowl'

John heard great voice out of temple
It to seven angels did call
Saying, Go your ways, vials outpour
Vials of God's wrath on earth for sure

First angel poured vial on the earth
Foul and grievous sore, there no mirth
Fell upon those with mark of beast*
Who worshipped beast's image, great, least

Second angel poured vial on sea
Became as blood of dead man, see
Every living soul in the sea
Died, expired, now no more to be

Third angel poured vial on rivers
And on fountains, on them confers
Blood, and angel of the waters
Said, Lord your righteous judgement stirs

You, Lord, which are, were, and shall be
They did shed blood of prophets, see
And of saints who lived righteously
Now blood to drink you give them free

And another angel did say
Even so, Lord, true are your ways
Lord God Almighty, true, righteous

Are your judgements made unto us

Fourth angel poured vial on the sun

Power was given to that one

The angel, to scorch man with fire

Here they receive of torments dire

They scorched with great heat, and blasphemed

Name of God, blamed Him, so they deemed

He over these plagues has power

But men still not repent those hours

* The beast and its image - see Revelation Chapter 13.

Redeemer Revealed

Tune: We Three Kings

('We three Kings of Orient are')

Matthew 2 v.1-12 parts

Three called Kings, they wise men were then
Made their journey, travelling when
Christ-child's star in the east they saw
Come to worship, adore

Chorus

O here be the Epiphany
Christ revealed unto all, see
To the Jews and to the Gentiles
Here stay, contemplate a while

Bethlehem, though you little town
Now be of an endless renown
Chosen by God, in you be born
His Son, redemption morn - Chorus

Precious gifts to Christ they did give
Saviour, in whom all may now live
Gold, frankincense, myrrh presented
By star they to Him led - Chorus

Guide us Lord, that we too humbly
Present gifts and selves to you, see
Serving you in freedom, gladness
Desiring you us bless - Chorus

Bright your light, you Light of the world
At your Epiphany unfurled
Sharing with others your gospel

Light o'ercomes darkness all - Chorus

Revelation - Vials Five And Six

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Revelation 16 v.10-16

Fifth angel his vial did pour
Upon seat of beast, judgement sore
Beast's kingdom full of darkness
People gnawed tongues in pain's distress
Blasphemed God because of their pains
Not repenting, no comfort gains

Sixth angel his vial did pour
On river Euphrates and shore
Water dried up, that the way
For kings of east to come that day
Three unclean spirits like frogs did
Appear then, for they were not hid

Came from mouth of the dragon
And beast and false prophet, each one
They the spirit of devils
Working miracles, great evils
They went forth to kings of the earth
To gather to battle and dearth

The battle of the great day
Of God Almighty, we now say
He said, Behold, come I do
Watch and be ready here anew
Clothed in garments spiritual, so
His providings His people know

Kings and armies gathered to

A place called in Hebrew, ehre view
Armageddon, battle-place
Mount Megiddo, we did it trace
Another judgement unconcealed
In God's plan each one is revealed

Christ At Candlemas

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Luke 2 v.25-32 parts

For Candlemas Day: Feb 2.

Jesus, infant dedication

At forty days age, He God's Son

Presented in God's Temple there (in Jerusalem)

Simeon, Anna, they did share

With His parents in the event

Saw the Christ-child from heaven sent

Simeon took up in His arms

Jesus, whose peace for the world calms

He blessed God, said 'Nunc Dimittis'

His words of wonder, they be this

Lord, now let your servant depart

Your Son Jesus has warmed my heart

So let me now depart in peace

For your true word, it did not cease

That I should not see death before

I had seen the Lord's Christ for sure

My eyes have seen your salvation

he prepared now for each nation

You, Lord, have Him prepared before

Face of all people, we adore

A light to lighten the Gentiles

And the glory of Israel's

They your people, Anointed One

Here is shown in Christ-child your Son

Mary and Joseph did marvel
At those words here, they heard them all
Simeon blessed them, to Mary
Said, Behold this child is set, see
For the fall and rising again
Of many of Israel's men (and women)

And He be for a sign which shall
Be spoken against, tongues will tell
And a sword shall pierce your own soul
Mary, in your sorrows and toil
So thoughts of many hearts revealed
They stay not hidden, unconcealed

Then Anna there, a prophetess
She of age eighty-four no less
A widow, she did not depart
From Temple, served with all her heart
Served God with fastings and with prayers
She gave thanks, of redemption shared

Prosperous Progression

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Philippians 3 v.12-16 parts

I press on here, that I may
Grow more Christ-like through each day
Not that I have yet attained
Fullness, but a measure gained

I press on to the high prize
Follow truths, and counter lies
It the prize of high calling
To know Christ sure in each thing

The calling of God it be
In His Son Christ Jesus, see
This I do, forgetting past
Looking forth to things that last

Things which are ahead of me
Help me, Lord, diligent be
Onwards, upwards, as you set
Your face like flint, prize did get

Forward then with constant mind
More of God's will, ways to find
Taking each step faithfully
'Til by God's grace perfect we

Prayer For Progress

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Philippians 1 v.9-11

Paul longs after Philippians
Greatly, with Jesus' affections
And prays that their love may abound
More and more, in Christ's fullness found

Love abounding in knowledge more
And in all judgement rue and sure
In wise discernment, what to do
And to know God's will here anew

That the ymayapprove things that are
Excellent, unspoilt, tht not mar
And that they may too be sincere
And without offence, living clear

Living in God's clear light, ready
For Christ's return, when that shall be
Being filled with the fruits good, pure
Of righteousness, they by Christ sure

That this be to the glory, praise
Of God, to Him worship upraise
Progressing on, faith, hope, and love
Each day nearer our home above

Revelation - Vial Seven

Tune: St Helen

('Lord of lords and King eternal')

Revelation 16 v.17-21

Seventh angel's vial out poured
Great voice from Temple assured
Saying, It is done, voice from throne
In heaven, God's reign is shown
Voices, thunders, earthquake, lightnings
Judgements on peoples He brings

Great earthquake such as was not seen
Since race of mankind had been
So mighty and so great, shaking
The earth, awesome everything
Great city divided in three
Cities of nations fell, see

Babylon did God remember
It His fierce wrath did incur
City of evil now punished
All in it shall be banished
And every island fled away
And mounts vanished in that day

There fell upon men a great hail
It was strong and did prevail
From heaven it rained on them, [hail] stones
Weighing talent* each, pains, groans
Men blasphemed God for exceeding
Great was the plague He did bring

* talent - in weight = over 25kg, or over 50lbs

Example of the Macedonians - Giving Series (1)

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

2 Corinthians 8 v.1-6

Paul writes of giving to those there living
It Southern Greece, Corinth, he did bring
Them good news of the grace of God unto
Macedonian churches anew

That be Northern Greece, they in a great riel
Off affliction, though still gave meanwhile
Their abundant joy and deep poverty
Abounded to [rich] liberality

Paul bore them witness, they faithful in this
Service opportunity [they did] not miss
To their power, and even beyond they
Were willing of themselves, and did say

Take this gift we pray, take it nwo this day
So share in Christ's loving, giving way
Thus doing you do in fellowship share
In giving to believers, just, fair

They did more than Paul and his friends hoped for
They first gave their selves to the Lord sure
And gave their selves unto Paul and his friends
By the will of God, grace here attends

So Paul and friends to Corinth they did send
Titus, that to matters he would tend
It be money matters, deed to complete*
Plea that they welcome him, warmly greet

* Paul sent Titus and some others to Corinth.

The 'deed' was to receive a monetary collection to
take to poorer believers in Jerusalem.

Snowdrops Serene

Hymn & Tune: 'Under the burdens of guilt and care'

From poem by Kevin Michael Bloor -
adapted with permission

Just now the sweet snow drops are blooming
Reminds that Springtime is looming
They brave the breeze biting and snowing
In bleak mid-winter start growing

Chorus

Galanthus Nivalis

To love them, you don't need know this
'Milk Flower of the Snow'
By Romans brought here, we this know

All clouded in folklore and fable
With Cain's mother, he killed Abel
These shy sturdy blooms bright with beauty
Destined by God for this duty - Chorus

That when Eve shed tears in the garden
Pleaded with God for His pardon
An angel was moved to take pity
From snowflake made flower pretty - Chorus

As symbol of hope's new beginning
In God's Holy Son, no sinning
This maid of February frozen
Lady of loveliness chosen - Chorus

Just now the sweet snowdrops are blooming
Reminds that Springtime is looming
Cruel Winter, they tell us, is ending

Sweet solace of Spring is pending - Chorus

Dawn After Darkness

Tune: Saffron Waldon

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 88 v,10-13

Plunging in prayer of one downcast*
He asks, Shall your mercies still last?
Lord, your loving-kindness, shall it
Be known in grave one whit?

Or shall your faithfulness be shown
When great destruction we have known?
Shall your wonders in dark be known?
Will they there still be shown?

And will your righteousness be known
As if it be you us disown?
As if land of forgetfulness
We be in, we not blessed?

But unto you he still does cry
Trusting you in dark still are nigh
Prayer, persisting, it a lifeline
Come, grant me help divine

* Heman, writer of this Psalm.

Trusting Through Troubles

Tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

Psalm 25 v.15-22

My eyes are ever to
The LORD, He shall renew
Me, take my feet from net
That my enemies set
Turn unto me, LORD, have mercy
On me, I lonely, troubled be

The troubles of my heart
And enlarge, LORD, impart
Your help to me, and bring
Me out, so I shall sing
That you do save me from distress
You protect me and do me bless

Look on my affliction
And my pains, e'en each none
And forgive all my sins
Wash and cleanse me within
Consider, LORD, my enemies
They are many, LORD, hear my pleas

O keep my soul safely
Deliver me freely
Let me not be ashamed
And not be falsely blamed
For I do put my trust in you
By eye of faith I do you view

I pray integrity

And righteousness keep me
Preserve me, for I wait
On you, LORD, not on fate
Redeem, O God, your Israel
From all their troubles, save them well

Example of Christ - Giving Series (2)

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

2 Corinthians 8 v.7-9

Paul to Corinthians did say
As you abound in every way
In faith, speech, diligence, and love
Graces given from God above

He said to see that you abound
In grace of giving too, and sound
But not command, see example
Of others, and follow them all

And to prove that your love, it be
Sincere, in giving wholesome, free
Knowing the grace of our Lord, He
jesus Christ, Son of God, he be

That though He was rich, yet for your
Sakes did empty His treasure-store
Became poor, that through His poverty
You might share His true riches, see

Covenant Concerns

Tune: Finlandia

('We rest on thee, our shield and our defender')

Psalm 74 v.19-23

O LORD, to you, I be as turtle dove
Come to me, save my life now, in your love
Deliver me not to the multitude
Of the wicked, for they have not you viewed
Forget not the poor, but have respect to
Your covenant, and come help us anew

For the dark places of the earth, they be
Full of cruelty and of violence, see
O let not the oppressed return ashamed
Let poor and needy praise, you they have named
Arise, O God, and your own cause do plead
Look upon us, and see our desperate need

Remember, LORD, how the foolish reproach
Your name daily, revilings, taunts they broach
Forget not voice of your enemies, they
Rise up against you, continual each day
Hear us and act, e'en for your own name's sake
Guard us, guide us, under your wings us take

Fixed Focus

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 57 v.7-11

My heart is fixed, steadfast on you
O God, you my God true
I will sing and will give you praise
With melodies you raise

Awake, my tongue, and instruments
For I will praise Him hence
Bring psaltery and harp to play
Delight in worship's way

I will praise you, Lord, midst people
Sing to you midst them all
For your mercy great ever be
Your truth to the clouds, see

Your mercy great to the heavens
So be exalted then
O God, and let your glory be
Above the earth endlessly

Blessings Bounteous

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Psalm 103 v.19-22

The LORD has prepared His throne - Alleluia!
In the heavens, all His own - Alleluia!
His kingdom rules over all - Alleluia!
Sing praise, on Him humbly call - Alleluia!

Bless the LORD, you His angels - Alleluia!
Each you in His presence dwells - Alleluia!
You excel in strength, and you - Alleluia!
Always His commandments do - Alleluia!

You the voice of His word hear - Alleluia!
Ever know Him to you near - Alleluia!
Bless the LORD, all you His hosts - Alleluia!
Heaven, earth, to farthest coasts - Alleluia!

Bless the LORD, you ministers - Alleluia!
You His servants, He confers - Alleluia!
Grace upon you, and you do - Alleluia!
His pleasure, His mercies view - Alleluia!

Bless the LORD, all His works in - Alleluia!
Heaven, earth, sky, all therein - Alleluia!
Bless the LORD, O my soul too - Alleluia!
There place in worship for you - Alleluia!

Valentine Verities

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

Luke Chapter 15 parts

Jesus, you Friend of sinners be
They who turn to you, see
Shall find a welcome, acceptance
If true in repentance

Forgiveness in your love you give
That through you we may live
Eternal life, your salvation
Offered to each nation

There joy in heaven, one lost sheep
Found, returned, safe you keep
Or one lost coin sought and found
Thanks and praise do resound

And one human if prodigal
Gone own way, is lost all
Yet if return to Father, he
Or she shall received be

Not treated as slave, but as son
Or daughter true, each one
Rejoicing in heaven there be
O'er one lost, found now, see

At Valentine's, love remembered
Thoughts and affections shared
Faith, hope, and love do abide sure
Love the greatest e'ermore

His life he gave, Christ's example
Followed, Christ died for all
And rose again, heart, a symbol
Of love whole, perfect, full

Purpose Of Giving - Giving Series (3)

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

2 Corinthians 8 v.10-15

Paul in Corinth did advise
The people there to be wise
in their giving, ready they
Were, thus do so, he did say

If there first be willing mind
It be fair grace, you shall find
In you giving, for it be
Accepted, what you have, see

It not unreasonable
Unto you is not the call
To give that which you have not
But from what you have, your lot

Not that others eased, while you
Do get into hardships true
Not that you be burdened while
Others have easy lifestyle

But that there equality
And a just sharing shall be
havin enough, share with they
Who do lack, are poor this day

Then times may be, they have more
And you yourselves are then poor
Then they help you and provide
Give to you, in you confide

So as it is written, They
That had gathered much that day
had nothing over, and they
Gathering little, no dismay

For they would have no lack, see
It as daily manna be*
If gathered much, did reduce
If little, suffice# produce (# sufficient)

* Manna - in Old Testament days when Israel wandered in the wilderness, the Lord provided daily manna from heaven - sort of bread-like. If any gathered too much, some may have melted; if any gathered too little, some may have expanded.

Hope Of Help

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour, lifted')

Psalm 55 v.16

As for me, I will call
Upon God for all
And the LORD shall save me
He my helper be

Psalm 56 v.9

When I call unto you
You will help anew
Then my enemies hide
God is on my side

Psalm 56 v.11

In God I have put my
Trust, drawn to Him nigh
Not fear what man can do
To me, God helps true

Psalm 57 v.2

I call to God most high
He will hear my cry
Performs all things for me
His good hand I see

Psalm 57 v.10

For His mercy is great
Of royal estate
To heavens it does reach
Truth to clouds, to each

Stones To Bread

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Matthew 4 v.1-4

Jesus' time of temptation
In the wilderness, three (temptations), not one
Led of the Spirit to go there
For forty days and nights did bear

He has fasted, and was hungry
The tempter, devil, said did he
If you the Son of God true be
Command these stones be made bread, see

Jesus replied, Man shall live not
By bread alone, but this their lot
That they shall live by every word
From mouth of God, it can be heard

Help us, Lord, that our appetite
Selfish, with your strength may we fight
Not give in to ease, greedy gain
But follow you in love unfeign

Though temptations severe for you
You did not yield, you did not do
What lies if th devil did speak
But obeyed Father, humble, meek

21 Again? That Old Chestnut

I'm not taking Goldfinch's name in vain here
An eccentric ditty for ya today

Oh no, not that again!
Orchi - are you 21 again? Fido asks
See - a talking dog?!

Then he says '5 times over?'
I say 'Noooo, not yet!'
Though it could be 5,000 times over
Seeing as Goldie and I are very old

Why, we was at The Battle of Hastings in 1066
And even around in dinosaur's days
Man's moon landing in 1969
Was no surprise to us
We was already there
We stepped out from the other side of the moon
To greet them warmly
Saying 'Welcome, earthlings'
Us two are not human of course
(Or 'Speak for yourself' says Gold)

We showed the astronauts a lone tree on the moon
Where we carved our initials
And also 'We Woz Ere'

You'll have to put up with my singing
Though there's no remedy
Things can help though
Such as, You sing loud enough to drown me out
Or ask Fido to howl louder than me
Me singing tutor is happy that it's me birthday

Cos he can charge me for more lessons
Though I've had 874632094 lessons already
Not a shred of difference!
He listens with ear muffs in
And assures me I'm getting better every time

O to be in April
Now that Spring is there
(That's me poetic bit for today
It's the correct version, I believe)

'Happy Birthday, you old dog', they say
Doh! they mean me, not Fido!
Heehee

Past And Present

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

1 Peter 2 v.9-10

Yoy believers are a chosen
Generation, excluded none
A royal priesthood, made a prince
Or princess of God, it was since

Was since you did believe, become
A holy nation, that your home
God's special people, that you show
Forth His praises, now you Him know

The praises of him who has called
You out of darkness, where embroiled
You were, but now He has you brought
To His marvellous light, you sought

In time past you not a people
But now people of God you be
One time had not obtained mercy
But now have, forgiven you be

Policies In Giving - Giving Series (4)

Tune: St James' Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

2 Corinthians 8 v.16-24 parts

Offering for Jerusalem

Paul did collect from them

They at Corinth, here policy

This how it sure would be

Paul's friend Titus, and a brother

Would go, they did concur

To take this grace, this offering

It to the needy bring

It would the Lord Him glorify

And would too by and by

Show their ready mind, they did care

And helped the needy there [In Jerusalem]

Avoiding that there any blame

Should be, and too no shame

In giving of this great gift they

Showed honesty alway

Providing, act honourably

In sight of God, so be

And so doing in sight of men

All be harmony then

They of Corinth this diligent

That this offering be sent

So Paul and friends, they confident

Their love shown, it well-meant

Afflictions Assistings

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

Psalm 119 v.65-72

You. LORD, have dealt with me well
You true to your word, I tell
I your servant, good teach me
So shall I in your ways be

Teach me good judgement, knowledge
To obey you with courage
I your commands have believed
In my mind, heart them received

Before I was afflicted
I went astray, was misled
But now I have kept your word
Your commands I have them ehard

You are good, and good you do
Teach me your statutes anew
The proud have forged lies of me
But I will keep your laws, see

Will keep them with my hwole heart
The proud be from me apart
Their heart is fat as grease all
To you they insensible

But I in your law delight
I do keep it in my sight
It si good for me that I
Was afflicted by and by

It was so that I might learn
Your statutes and them discern
Your law, LORD, better to me
Then much gold and silver be

Redeemed By The Son

Tune: Fountain

('There is a fountain filled with blood')

Ephesians 1 v.7-12

Redeemed by Christ, 'tis through His blood
A sparkling, cleansing flood
It be forgiveness of our sins
Washed away from within
Washed away from within
Washed away from within
It be forgiveness of our sins
Washed away from within

It by the riches of His grace
God's favour we do trace
In this He does to us abound
His wisdom, prudence found
His wisdom, prudence found
His wisdom, prudence found
In this He does to us abound
His wisdom, prudence found

Has made known to us mystery
Of His will to us, see
It agrees with His good pleasure
Purposed from His treasure
Purposed from His treasure
purposed from His treasure
it agrees with His good pleasure
Purposed from His treasure

It be that in fullness of times
End of life's seasons, rhymes

He might gather in one all things
In Christ, perfection brings
In Christ, perfection brings
In Christ, perfection brings
He might gather in one all things
In Christ, perfection brings

In Christ also we have obtained
An inheritance named
It be through God's pre-destiny
His mercies to us be
His mercies to us be
His mercies to us be
It be through God's pre-destiny
His mercies to use be

It be according to purpose
Of God, He works for us
Great things, he works by the counsel
Of His own will things all
Of his own will things all
Of His won will things all
Great things, He works by the counsel
Of His own will things all

So we should be unto the praise
Of God's glory, and raise
Thanks and worship, in Christ trusting
He does redemption bring
He does redemption bring
He does redemption bring
Thanks and worship, in Christ trusting
He does redemption bring

Testing Times

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Psalm 11

In the LORD put I my trust, how say you
To my soul, Flee as a bird to mount, do?
For the wicked bend their bows for arrows
And evil their mind knows

They ready to shoot at upright in heart
To trouble them, persecute from the start
If the foundations be destroyed, what can
The righteous do, each man?

The LORD is in His holy temple, see
The LORD's throne is in heaven, so it be
His eyes behold, His eyelids test men here
They all to Him appear

The LORD tests the righteous but the wicked
And the violent the LORD, He hates instead
Upon them He shall rain snares, fire, brimstone
Judgements from Him are known

It shall be an horrible tempest sure
Unto them, this their portion, turmoils sore
The righteous LORD He loves true righteousness
The upright He shall bless

Sincere Serving

Tune: Northampton

('Songs of praise the angels sang')

Psalm 100

Make joyful noise to the LORD
All you lands, true is His word
Serve the LORD with gladness free
He who reigns eternally

And come before His presence
With singing, His glory sense
The LORD He is God, this know
His praises worthy forth show

He it is that has us made
All by Him it be arrayed
We have not made ourselves, He
E'er our great Creator be

We His people and His sheep
In His pasture He does keep
Us, so enter in His gates
With thanks, it be no mere fates

And enter his courts with praise
Give thanks, bless His name all days
For the LORD is good, and He
Merciful and true e'er be

Gracious Giving

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Matthew 6 v.1-4

Take heed that you do not do your
Giving to be seen of men sure
Your alms and charitable deeds
what you do plant, they goodly seeds

For if you give to be seen by
Men, your reward from you shall fly
For them you have no reward from
Your Father in heaven, no, none

When you give alms, sound not trumpet
To draw attention to you yet
For hypocrites they do so, to
Have glory from people anew

That be their reward, but when you
Give alms, do not let left hand view
What right hand does, so shall you see
Your Father reward openly

Mad Dark Humour

...Or 'humor,' if you prefer
But not to be side-tracked by extra 'u's!
Woof! Mark it 18+ says Fido
Or he'll bite me
He's not beyond biting his master.

Oohh, I dunno - suicide?
It's very bad for your health, you know
I tried it - but me knife was blunt
Oohh, and it' ll hurt too much. Doh!

I lay on a railway track
Waiting for a train to run over me
But there were leaves on the line
The train ran on another track. Doh!

I tried getting run over by a No.7 bus
I stood there for hours
But they had changed the route. Doh!

I tried an overdose
Some pills looked like Smarties
I took the whole lot
But - they were Smarties. Doh!

I jumped over a cliff once
But it was the town's annual Fair
They had put out a bouncy castle
I landed safe on top of it. Doh!

I tried holding my breath for 24 hours
To rid myself of me
Cos I thought - the planet needs to save air

I survived (eh? - well, I'm half human, half guinea pig)
But didn't feel very well afterwards. Doh!

I was gonna electrocute myself
But whatta ya know?
There was a power cut. Doh!

I played Russian Roulette
It finished off a mate of mine
But I got a blank chamber of course. Doh!

Oh well, I'll have to live and survive
Live to sing another day
In this padded cell
So no one will hear me
That'll torture ya
Like a living death! heehee

OK - I'll stay
I knows ya wants me to! lol.

Spring Story

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 104 v.24

See now, Spring is springing!
Earth with colours does ring
Snowdrops, you not dismay
New growth is on it way
Daffodils, raise your yellow heads
All bright arrayed in flower beds

Trees blossom, pink and white
'Tis of new life a sight
Sweet crocuses there be
And too more greenery
Some ordained evergreen to stay
They part of Nature's fine display

Sun's warmth to clear the chill
Daily course does fulfil
And rain to water ground
That produce may abound
Around and around, life's cycle
Who does into being it call?

Here trust, God, Creator
And we His creatures be
Humans, each of them made
In His image arrayed
Crowning point of His creation
His forming of each woman, man

Grant us grace, Lord, that we

Do care-take constantly
Of your creation, how
Many your works seen now!
In wisdom have you made them all
The earth is with your riches full

Spectacular Signs?

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Matthew 4 v.5-7

In temptation devil did take
Jesus, to try to make
Him cast self down from Temple height
To do a showy sight

Was at Jerusalem, city
Holy, God's Temple, see
Set Him upon a pinnacle
Cast self down was the call

Devil did say to Him, If you
The Son of God be true
Yes, throw self down, it is written
God shall save from harm then

For He His angles charge shall give
You shall not die, but live
They shall keep you in their hands, so
Jump to safety below

Jesus said to him, It is writ
Not use as you befit
The Scriptures, to twist them to tempt
The Lord God, no contempt

Help us, Lord, your word not to use
For our ends, nor confuse
Them ourselves sole to satisfy
But with wisdom apply

Readiness In Giving - Giving Series (5)

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

2 Corinthians 9 v.1-5 parts

Paul says to the Corinthians
concerning their giving
Helping other churches, they do
Already give, he knew

He did know sure their willing mind
Generous did them find
Spoke of them well to those that be
In North and South Greece, see

They were ready a year ago
To make their giving, so
Now time to send their offering
To Jerusalem bring

That it should be bounty ready
When Paul should arrive, see
Ready, of generosity
And not of grudging be

So Paul and friends that offering
To the church they would bring
In Jerusalem, needy there
In blessings they did share

Seasons Of Seeking

Tune & Hymn: 'Will your anchor hold?'

Psalm 42 parts

As the hart pants after the water brooks
So pants my soul for you, not forsook
Am I by you, O God, my soul does thirst
For God, the living God, put Him first

Chorus

Why are you downcast, O my soul,? Why
Disquieted in me? Hope by and by
In God, for I shall yet praised Him, for
He my salvaiton, and He my God sure

When shall I come and before God appear?
Asured again of His presence near?
My tears as as my food through day and night
Where is your God? enemies incite - Chorus

When I remember these things, then do I
Poiur out my soul, good days have gone by
When I went with many to God's Temple
Rejoiced and praised you ther with them all - Chorus

Deep calls unto deep, LORD, see my distress
Though o'erwhelmed by your waves, I confess
That you will command your loving-kindness
Send it to me again, will me bless - Chorus

And in the dark times His song, it shall be
With me, and I shall pray constantly
To Him, the God of my life, to Him say
My Rock, forget me not, night nor day - Chorus

Progressing Prosperously

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 50 parts

The mighty God, the LORD
Has spoken, true is His word
Has called the earth, each thing
From sun's rising to setting
Created, ordered all
Trusting Him we not fall
He Lord of earth, heaven
His judgements fair, even

Out of Zion it be
Perfection of beauty, see
God has shined with His light
O'ercomes the darkness of night
He shall no be silent
Be prepared, penitent
For when His judgements be
World shall from sin be free

Call on me in the day
Our God to us now does say
In the day of trouble
And He will help, hear our call
He will deliver, save
And for help which He gave
We shall Him glorify
Confess His presence nigh

Who offers praise, the ydo
Glorify God, it is true

To they who do order
Their way of life right, it sure
That He will to them show
And certain they shall know
His salvation, and they
Be His people always

Praise Portion

Tune: Ever Faithful

('Let us with a gladsome mind')

Psalm 89 v.1 and v.13-18

You, LORD, have a mighty arm
Strong you hand, keeps us from harm

Chorus

I will sing His mercies e'er
Them with generations share

Justice and judgement they be
Foundation of your throne, see - Chorus

Mercy, truth, loving-kindness
We praise too your faithfulness - Chorus

Blessed they that know joyful sounds
Worship that to you abounds - Chorus

We shall walk, O LORD, in you
Light, comes from your presence pure - Chorus

In your name shall we rejoice
Say, You are righteous with one voice - Chorus

You of our strength the glory
In your favour our strength be - Chorus

For the LORD is our defence
The Holy One, our King hence - Chorus

Just Judgement

Tune: Newcastle

('Eternal Light! Eternal light!')

Psalm 94 v.17-23

Unless the LORD had my help been
My soul, it would be seen
That it would near in silence dwell
Not praises of my LORD forth tell
But He has dealt me well

When I said, my foot slips, then your
Mercy held me up sure
O LORD, among my thoughts many
Your comforts do keep them steady
My soul's delight they be

Shall throne, dominion of sin
Have fellowship therein
With you, LORD? they to mischief yet
And still are unrepentant set
Though I not fear nor fret

Against the righteous they gather
Against innocent stir
But the LORD He is my defence
My God, rock of my refuge hence
He shall defeat them thence

He shall bring on them their own sins
Which they did each begin
Shall cut them off, their wickedness
Destroy them, but righteous shall bless
They saved by Him, no less

Prayer For Purity

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

Psalm 19 v.12-14

Who can understand their errors? Cleanse me
LORD, from secret sins, then I from them free

Keep back me too from sins presumptuous
For I your servant am, I do confess

Let sins not have over me dominion
But forgive, cleanse, and heal me from each one

Then I shall be upright and innocent
From great sins, grant me grace to here repent

Let the words of my mouth, meditation
Of my heart be acceptable, be done (i.e. Amen)

Acceptable in your sight, you my LORD
My strength, my redeemer, my living Word

Peaceful Pursuals

Tune: Webb/Morning Light
(*'Stand up, stand up for Jesus'*)
Philippians 4 v.4-8

Rejoice in the Lord always
Give Him some praise all days
Let your moderation be
Known to all, so the ysee
Your life, that it Christ-controlled
You be sheep in His fold
Awaiting his return, for
The Lord is at hand sure

And be anxious for nothing
But do in everything
By prayer and supplication
With thanksgiving, each one
Of your requests, let them be
Made known to God freely
Thouh He knows all things, do pray
He shall show you His way

And the peace of God, it shall
Keep your hearts and minds well
Through Chrsit Jesus His Son, He
Your comfort, help shall be
His peace, it cannot be all
Understood by us full
And keep minds on things true, right
Honest, just, pure, and bright

And too things that are lovely
What of good report be

And virtuous, praiseworthy
Think, meditate freely
Continue on and progress
The Lord will thus you bless
Not overcome by worry
Nor fear, anxiety

Sufferings Seen

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

Hebrews 5 v.8-10

Lord Jesus, though meek and mild
Sinless and undefiled
Ever Son of God, yet you
Sufferings sure you know

Through them in obedience
You grew, always did sense
The way, will of your Father
His will you chose rather

Rather than you own will, sure
Then made perfect, mature
Became for us the author
Of salvation e'ermore

It salvation eternal
To all who on you call
To they who do obey you
You constant them renew

Help us, Christ, grow more like you
And through our sufferings do
Assist us, grant your strength, grace
For all in life we face

You forty days, forty nights
Temptations in your sights
In desert, yet a growth place
For future you would trace

You our high priest for ever
[You] Promise, [to] leave us never
Teach us in all things, for you
[Are] Our hope of heaven true

I Am With You

Tune: Herongate

('It is thing most wonderful')

Haggai 1 v.13-15 [Old Testament]

Haggai, prophet of the LORD
Spoke to people uplifting word
He spoke as the LORD's messenger
Encouraged them their hearts to stir

His message was, 'I am with you
Says the LORD', it a saying true
Will not forsake, help you rebuild
My Temple, shall be glory-filled

Then Zerubbabel, governor
Of Judah, he did reassure
With Joshua too, the high priest
Inspired people, from great to least

They came to house of God repair
For it had lain in ruins there
After return from exile they
Progressed, got the work under way

It be house of the LORD God there
With them His dwelling He did share
Focal point of the worship, they
Courageous rebuilt in their day

Nineveh Nullified

Tune: St Gertrude

('Onward, Christian soldiers')

Nahum 3 v.1-4 {Old Testament prophet}

Chorus

It Nahum's prophecy

Nineveh would be

Destroyed for wickedness

True this we confess

Woe to bloody city!

In you bloodshed be

Full of lies, robbery

And unceasing be

The prey that you capture

You held it for sure

Not turning to mercy

Now your end shall be - Chorus

Hear the sounds of battle

It be dreadful all

Noise of whips, rattling

Bring destruction's sting

Rattle of the jostling

Chariots do bring

Doom, horses galloping

Thunderous sounds ring - Chorus

Horsemen charge with swords bright

Spears glitter with light

Multitudes of slain be

Dead are cast out, see

There are corpses countless

Anguish and distress
Because of spiritual
Seductions they fall - Chorus

And too unfaithfulness
Land laid waste, no less
In Jonah's time before*
They repented sure
But turned back to violence
Idols, arrogance
Assyria's capital
Perished [is the] revival - Chorus

* Jonah (c.760BC) was about 150 years before Nahum (c.612BC).
They both preached to Nineveh, the capital of Assyria.

Productive People

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Hosea 10 v.12 {Old Testament prophet}

Sow to yourselves in righteousness
So will the LORD look on you, bless
Reap in mercy, loving-kindness
Return to Him, your sins confess

Break up your fallow ground, it left
Untilled and untended, bereft
It is time to seek the LORD, He
Shall hear your prayers made faithfully

Time to seek Him, until He sure
Rains righteousness on you once more
Soil of your heart shall be prepared
You in refreshings shall have shared

Thus you productive be again
Not in apathy, the time when
You were dull, fruitless, land laid bare
You turned away from God when there

But now fruit unto His glory
And crops be shown in your life, see
Dependent on the LORD who gives
The rain, so watered, each one lives

Publishing Praise

Tune: Moscow

('Thou whose almighty word')

Psalm 98

Sing the LORD a new song
Make praises day, night long
With joyful throng
He has done marvellous
Things, gained victory for us
By His holy arm, hand
Throughout each land

The LORD He has made known
His salvation, it shown
Flows from His throne
His righteousness revealed
To nations, not concealed
Open for all to see
He great God be

He has remembered His
Mercy and truth, sure this
To Israel, bliss
All ends of earth have seen
Salvation of God keen
Shown to Jews and Gentiles
He reconciles

Make joyful noise unto
The LORD, praises anew
His glories view
All the earth, make loud noise
Break forth into songs, joys

Bring psalms and instruments
His presence sense

Make joyful noise before
The LORD, the King, e'ermore
To farthest shore
Let creation join in
Seas roar, and waves begin
Floods clap hand, hills rejoice
All as one voice

Joy together before
The LORD, He comes fo sure
For from His store
He shall with righteousness
Judge the world, shll not miss
The people judged shall be
With equity

Prayer For Preserving

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Psalm 61

Hear my cry, O God, attend to
My prayer, come and help me, do
From the end of the earth will I
Cry to you, trust you are nigh

When my heart is overwhelmed, lead
Me to the rock, you I need
You the rock that is higher than
I, and trust in you I can

For you have been a shelter for
Me, a strong tower for sure
Kept from the enemy I be
Through your mercies, I them see

I will abide in your tent here
Your tabernacle, it near
I will trust in shelter of your
Wings, so shall I dwell secure

For you, O God, my vows have heard
Did attend to every word
have given me good heritage
Shall prolong, my life, good age

I shall abide before you e'er
Prepare mercy, truth, it share
With me, I pray, they shall me keep
So I praise you e'er, your sheep

Wise Waiting

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 62 parts

Truly my soul upon God waits
I trust in Him, not luck or fates
For from Him comes my salvation
Trust in Him, you His daughter, son

He only is my rock and my
Salvation, His presence e'er nigh
He my defence and my strong tower
Ready to hear, help every hour

I shall no be shaken greatly
Firm on Him, my rock, my stand be
My soul, wait you on God only
For my hope sure from Him it be

To the Lord God belongs power
And mercy, for He does render
Unto each one according to
The work they in their lives so do

Fruitful Followers

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

In your mercy, Lord, do forgive
Strengthen us to Christ-like live
Growing more into His image
By your grace give us courage
Leaving self, help us your cross take
Up daily, e'en for your sake

You do know our human failings
In penitence we may bring
Them to you, then inspire, we pray
Us to bring forth fruit today
The fruit of your Spirit shown, so
Others may you see and know

Love, joy, peace, patience, and kindness
From your Spirit, they will bless
And too goodness and gentleness
Humble lowliness, meekness
Faithfulness and self-control, see
Temperance and honesty

Committing all to you in prayer
And thanksgiving with you share
Help us, Lord, not your peace to lose
But your way always to choose
Thus settled in heart and mind we
Salt and light to the world be

Restoration Release

Tune & Hymn: 'Lord for the years'

Zephaniah 3 v.14-20 {Old Testament prophet}

Sing, Zion, shout, O Israel, all God's people
Be glad and rejoice, e'en with the heart all
For the LORD has your judgements taken away
Cast enemy out, now salvation's day

The King of Israel, the LORD is in your midst
Now evil and disaster shall desist
In that day to His people it shall be said
Fear not, let hands not be weak, do not dread

The LORD your God in midst of you is mighty
He will save, rejoice over you freely
Will rest in His love, quieten you, give His peace
Joy over you with singing, sorrow cease

He will deal with all that do here afflict you
Save the lame, outcasts, the land they will view
When He restores them, brings them back to own land
They will have praise, fame, all by His good hand

He will restore them, and will them again bring
Back to their own land, songs to Him they sing
He will make them a praise among all people
When He shall act and release captives all

Totally Trusting

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord')

Habakkuk 3 v.17-18 {Old Testament prophet}

Although the fig tree not blossom
Nor any fruit from vines come
If produce of olive trees fail
And troubles they do prevail

If the fields they do not food yield
Lands as bare, barren, and pealed
If there no flock be in the fold
No cattle in stalls, behold

Yet I will in the LORD rejoice
And I will make Him my choice
Will joy in Him, He the God be
Of my salvation e'er, see

May we trust, e'en if each thing here
On earth, if it disappear
Hold sure to you, not feeling, sight
Turn our darkness to your light

Pleasing Praise

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 149 v.1-6

Praise, praise you the LORD, sing Him a new song
Praise Him with believers all day, night long
Rejoice in Him who made you, He creates all
Be joyful in Him, and on Him humbly call

Children of the King, we His daughters, sons
Praise and worship Him, leaving out no one
Expressions in voice, song, and music be heard
His truth ever stands sure, the truth of His word

Use all skills and gifts to make melody
To him, whatever your style, background be
Praise Him in the dance, play on timbrel and harp
In harmonies sweet, not over-loud or sharp

For the LORD He does sure take pleasure in
His people, provides forgiveness of sin
He will beautify the meek and humble
With salvation, they glorious to Him all

Let the people be joyful, and rejoice
Extol Him and uplift him with loud voice
Let the high praises of God in their mouth be
Word of God in their hand as two-edged sword, see

Creation Celebration

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 104 v.16-24

The trees of the LORD they are full
Of sap, and thrive productive all
Alleluia, Alleluia!
The great cedars of Lebanon
Majestic appear every one
Great works in Nature God has done
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In these trees birds do make their nests
Storks make fir trees their house, there rest
Alleluia, Alleluia!
The high hills are a refuge for
The wild goats and the conies* sure
They rock-badgers, there lay their store
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The LORD appoints moon for seasons
And the sun through life's rhymes, reasons
Alleluia, Alleluia!
They know their going down, rising
Each nigh, day they faithfully bring
Let us ot the Creator sing
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He makes darkness, and it is night
In the forests beasts use their sight
Alleluia, Alleluia!
They creep forth, the young lions roar
And they seek their meet from God for

Without His providing they poor
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The sun arises, they gather
Themselves together in shelter
Alleluia, Alleluia!
They lay down in their dens, then see
Man goes forth to his labour, he
Works until evening's rest time be
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O LORD, your works how manifold
Are they, and of them too is told
Alleluia, Alleluia!
That in wisdom you all them made
Earth full of your riches displayed
For your pleasure, glory arrayed
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

* A coney is a rock-badger, a small badger-like
or rodent-type animal.

Sinners Salvation

Tune: Coelites Plaudant

('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

1 Timothy 1 v.14-17

In our salvation the grace of our Lord be
Exceeding abundant with faith and love, see
It be in Christ Jesus, Saviour to us shown
Here His presence now known

This is a faithful saying and is worthy
Of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus did He
Come into the world to save sinners lie me
Of whom I the chief be

So says Paul, yet if we sinners great or no
May obtain mercy, that Jesus Christ may show
Through us all longsuffering, patiently to bear
Wih us salvation share

It a pattern for them which should hereafter
Believe on Him to life everlasting, for
He the King eternal, immortal, unseen
By faith's eye perceived keen

Adn He the only wise God, to Him be praise
Honour and glory for ever, ever raise
His salvation endures, all generations
Come to him all nations

Progressing on the Passion

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

John 12 v.20-24 and v.32-33

Some Greeks they did make their journey
To Passover feast, see
At Jerusalem it be where
They in worship would share
With Jews at holy festival
They did to Philip call
Saying, Sir, we would see Jesus
Would you show Him to us?

Philip and Andrew told Jesus
Then Jesus replied thus
The hour is come, that the Son
Of man, He be the one
Time that He should be glorified
His destiny not hide
To suffer, die, and rise again
The saviour for all men* (*mankind)

Truly, truly, He did then say
I speak these words today
That except a corn of wheat fall
Into the ground for all
And die, it abides alone, stays
Unproductive its days
But if it die, it brings forth much
Fruit, so it happens such

And I, if I lifted up be
Lifted on a cross, see

I shall draw all men unto me
I lay down my life free
So saying this did signify
The way that He should die
Be crucified, but rise again
Fulfil destiny then

Resurrection Reality

Tune: Day of Rest

('O day of rest and gladness')

1 Thessalonians 4 v.13-18

We need not be ignorant
Of those who, penitent
Sleep in Christ now, they have died
But life them not denied
We need not sorrow as they who
Have no hope, but we do
Rejoice, Christ is arisen
We shall share in this then

For if we believe He died
Rose again, none beside
Him as our Saviour, e'en so
This hope we sure can know
That they who in Jesus sleep
God will bring them, will keep
Them with Him, they safe e'er be
Throughout eternity

For the word of the Lord be
That we alive here, see
Who remain till His return
We shall from Him so learn
That we shall not them precede
That sleep, and we shall heed
The Lord Himself descending
He shall His triumph bring

Descends from ehaven wih shout
Archangel's voce sounds out

Trumpet of God loud is heard
Dead in Christ, at His word
Shall rise first, and then we shall
Who live, remain, do well
For we shall be caught up to
The clouds with them, 'tis true

We shall meet the Lord then there
In the air, with Him share
And shall be with Him ever
Forsaken be never
With Him and loved ones departed
Christ e'er our living Head
Comfort, solace, strengthening
To each these words do bring

Dwelling Delights

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, Lord')

Psalm 84 v.4-7

Blesséd are they that dwell
In your house, Lord, they tell
Of your goodness, and still
Show forth your praises well

Blesséd are they who strong
Are, midst th joyful throng
Their strength is in you, Lord
In their heart is your word

In your ways they delight
Their path shines ever bright
Passing through Baca's* vale (*weeping)
They make it a spring, well

The rain too fills the pools
Shower of blessing falls
From strength to strength they go
The LORD God true they know

Each one of them appears
Before God, to Him nears
In Zion, His city
Dwelling with Him they be

Restoring Reinspirings

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Jehovah')

Jeremiah Chapter 30 parts

The days come, says the LORD, i will
Bring again my people still
Back to their homeland, they shall be
Returned to Israel, see
The land I gave to my people
And they shall possess it all
And they shall possess it all

They shall return, and be in rest
Quiet, unafraid, and blessed
For I am with you, says the LORD
To save you, this is my word
I will not make full end of you
But correct in measure true
But correct in measure true

For I will restore health to you
Heal you of your wounds, your bruise
Because they did call you Outcast
Saying, You are gone, time past
Though they say no one seeks for you
I will seek and save you too
I will seek and save you too

I will bring you, you shall return
To your land, of me shall learn
Shall rebuild the ruined places
Radiant be your faces
There thanksgiving, merriment heard

Through my grace on you conferred
Through my grace on you conferred

I will multiply them, and shall
Glorify them, they not small
I will punish all that oppress
Them, but shall them surely bless
You shall be my people, and I
Will be your God, ever nigh
Will be your God, ever nigh

Ecce Ancilla Domini

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Luke 1 v.26-38 parts

For The Annunciation Day {Announcement}: 25 March

'Ecce Ancilla Domini', it be
'Behold the handmaid of the Lord' I be
Said Mary, when the angel Gabriel
Came to her, and the announcement did tell

Would tell that she not fear, but has favour
With God, and would bear for us our Saviour
His name would be JESUS, he shall be great
Son of the Highest, of royal estate

The Lord God shall give unto Him the throne
Of His earthly ancestor, David, known
And He shall reign for ever and ever
His kingdom endless and ceases never

And here displayed in purity of white
Mary, a virgin, trembles at the sight
A small dove seen, the Holy Spirit, He
By His power the child's Father would be

Here feet of flames of angel painted, see
And white flower offered to Mary, see
A tapestry in foreground, Rossetti*
A scene revealed, contemplativity

So her response, Behold, I the handmaid
Of the Lord, let the angel's words be made
Steadfast, and so be it e'en as you say

I Him shall humbly trust, serve, and obey

* Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828 - 1882)

Picture painted 1850. His sister Christina, author of

'In the bleak midwinter', was the inspiration

for the figure of Mary.

Messiah Manifest

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Zechariah 14 v.3-8 {Old Testament prophet}

Messiah's second coming
Victory He shall bring
he the LORD shall go forth to
Defeat enemies true
His feet shall stand in that day
On Mount of Olives stay
It before Jerusalem
On east, He there seen then

And Mount of Olives shall cleave
In midst, with no deceive
Split in two, move east and west
It at the LORD's behest
And there, very great valley
Between the Mount shall be
Half shall remove to the north
Half remove to the south

People shall flee to valley
As when former days be
They did flee from an earthquake
When land did tremble, sake
It shall be a day known to
The LORD, we shall it view
Living waters then shall flow
Seas east*, west,** them shall know

* Dead Sea

** Mediterranean Sea

Gracious Guidance

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

Psalm 5 parts

Give ear unto my words, O LORD
So then I be assured
That you my meditation know
And hear my prayers below

In the morning I will direct
Prayers to you, and expect
That you will hear, and I will look
To you, not now forsook

I will come into your house for
You show much mercy sure
In godly fear in your temple
My worship give you all

Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness
Enemies I confess
Do trouble me, your path make straight
For me, so blessed my state

Let all they who do trust in you
Ever rejoice anew
With favour you will them surround
Their hope in you is found

Palms Procession

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Matthew 21 v.1-11 parts

Chorus

See, Jesus rides a donkey

In great humility

The procession makes its way

Unto [Jeru]Salem that day

All this was done, that it might

Be viewed unto the sight

Fulfilling of prophecy

Zechariah's it be - Chorus

It is, Tell Zion's daughter

That the Lord has sought her

Her king comes unto her, meek

Lowly, her love does seek - Chorus

He sitting on a donkey

Rides on through the crowd free

And donkey's colt, company

That day in history - Chorus

Great multitudes spread garments

In the way, they did sense

Their Lord and their King's presence

As He journeyed on thence - Chorus

Some cut down branches from palms

Waved them, as giving alms

Or spread them in the road there

In worship they did share - Chorus

They all did cry, Hosanna* (*'Save now')

To son of David sure

Blessed He that comes in the name

Of the Lord, Christ the same - Chorus

Hosanna in the highest

Thus their lips they confessed

Jesus the prophet is He

One from Nazareth, see - Chorus

Life Eternal

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

John 17 v.1-5

Christ prayed before His suffering
Pleas to Father did bring
Lifted up eyes to heaven there
Did all with Father share

Said, Father, the hour come is
Glorify your Son, thus
That the Son He may then so do
Also glorify you

As you, Father, have given Him
All power, not by whim
Power, authority over
All flesh on earth for sure

This is life eternal, that they
Know you, Father, today
You the only true God, and too
Know Jesus Christ, Him view

He is the Son whom you have sent
May people here repent
And so come to salvation's day
Through Christ the Life, Truth, Way

I have on earth you glorified
Father, and none beside
Have finished work you gave me true
To do, to reveal you

And now, Father, glorify me
With your own self which, see
I had with you before the world
In your plan was unfurled

Considering Creator

Tune: Offertorium

('When Jesus came to Jordan')

Psalm 33 v.13-19 parts

The LORD looks down from heaven
All people He sees them
From the place, [His] habitation
Looks upon each nation
Sees all their works and their ways
What they do, nights and days
Rules over all, all-seeing
The Almighty Being

He looks on inhabitants
Of earth, they may Him sense
He fashions their hearts, so be
Each individually
He considers, understands
What humans do, all lands
Nothing beyond His knowing
We humble worship bring

The eye of the LORD it is
Upon them that fear, this
Is true, them that do revere
Him, and stand in awe here
And too upon them that do
Hope in His mercy true
He delivers their souls sure
From death, famine, e'ermore

Acclaimed Anointing

Tune: Rockingham

('When I survey the wondrous cross')

Matthew 26 v.6-13

When Jesus was in Bethany
He was in Simon's house, we see
Then came unto Him a woman
She had a flask of ointment then

It very precious and costly
An alabaster flask it be
She poured it all on Jesus' head
But disciples indignant said

What purpose is this waster, Why not
Sell it for much to help poor's lot?
When Jesus knew, He said, Why do
You her trouble? Good she does do

For you have poor with you always
But I am not with you all days
Here it be right, for she has poured
Out ointment, worshipped, and adored

She did it for my burial
Prepared me for when that day fall
And wheresoever this gospel
Be preached in this world, 'e'en to all

There also shall it too be told
Of this woman's deed, free and bold
Be told for a memorial
Of her, her gracious witness all

Maundy Missive

Tune: Noel Nouvelet

('Now the green blade riseth')

John 13 v.1-17 parts

Will we travel, journey, with Christ, in His way?
Time of His Passion approaches, soon the day
But for now alight, share His Last Supper
Meeting in Communion, come, not defer

Before feast of Passover, Jesus did know
His hour was come, and still His love did show
To disciples, He would then wash their feet
As they gathered together, and share in meat* (*food)

Poured water in basin, girded He with towel
Peter said, No, no, my feet you never shall
Wash, but Jesus said, if I wash you not
You shall then have with me no part and no lot

When He had disciples feet washed, He sat down
Showing them and example, that they do that
As he has done to them, lowly, humble
Wash one another's feet, give service to all

He our Lord and Master, so He does us serve
Grant us grace to continue, not from Him swerve
Fellowship meal, then death and suffering
On to resurrection, new life He does bring

Suffering Scenes

Tune: Horsley

('There is a green hill')

Luke 23 v.26-43 parts

On way to crucifixion site
Jesus the world's true Light
One Simon, he does bear His cross
Who dies to heal our loss

Midst company, much lamenting
And too of bewailing
Jesus said, Daughters, not for me
Weep, but for yourselves, see

For if they do these things these days
Follow on in such ways
In these days, which are as green tree
What deeds [shall] in dry tree be?

When crucified, it Jesus' plea
Father, forgive them free
For they know not what they do, how
They put me to death now

Two criminals too crucified
There with Him, ere they died
One repentant said, Jesus, Lord
Look on me, hear my word

And remember me when you come
Into your kingdom, home
Jesus said, Truly, with me you
Shall join paradise new

Borne To Burial

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, sore wounded')

John 20 v.38-42

Friday evening, desolate
Believers mournful state
Christ dies for our salvation
Reaches to each nation
What would follow, mystery?
Would they again Him see?
Even as He has spoken
He would die, rise again

Then Joseph, a disciple
Secretly was he all
For fear of the Jews, but he
Boldly asked Pilate, see
That he might take the body
Of Jesus, and humbly
Give dignified burial
He did not falter, fall

And too Nicodemus did
Help, his faith now not hid
They took mixture of spices
Of myrrh and aloes (a-o-lees)
Body of Jesus bound they
With linen cloths that day
Along with the spices, for
This the Jews manner sure

The manner, how they buried
Their own people, their dead

In place of crucifixion
There was a garden one
Therein there was a tomb new
They laid Him there, did view
Him at peace, Preparation
Day* was for their nation

* Preparation Day = Thursday sunset to Friday sunset,
preparing for the Sabbath Day = Friday sunset to Saturday sunset.

Easter Expressions

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Based on various Gospel verses

Jesus, risen every day - Alleluia!

Stone from tomb is rolled away - Alleluia!

Christ triumphant over death - Alleluia!

Let all praise Him that has breath - Alleluia!

Come, come in, see where He lay - Alleluia!

Said angel that Easter day - Alleluia!

Face cloth folded separately - Alleluia!

From other linen cloths, see - Alleluia!

He not there, He had risen - Alleluia!

He met with some in garden - Alleluia!

And other appearances - Alleluia!

They did know Him, did Him sense - Alleluia!

Seek not living midst the dead - Alleluia!

Christ now e'er our living Head - Alleluia!

All as He had prophesied - Alleluia!

Now arisen, He had died - Alleluia!

Light and love and liberty - Alleluia!

From sins we may be set free - Alleluia!

Darkness ne'er o'ercomes the light - Alleluia!

E'erlasting, banishes night - Alleluia!

Christian's hope, now let all sing - Alleluia!

Unto Him praise, worship bring - Alleluia!

They who saw Him in person - Alleluia!

We by faith see, with them one - Alleluia!

Emmaus Encounter

Tune: Vulpus

('Christ is the King, O friends rejoice')

Luke 24 v.25-32

It was on the Emmaus road
Jesus to two disciples showed
Lifted then was their downcast load
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He said them, O foolish, slow
Of heart to believe prophets so
They spoke of me what they did know
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ought not Christ to have suffered these
Things with which the Scriptures agree
And enter into His glory?
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In Moses words and the prophets
He explained to them, no regrets
The Scriptures that speak of Him yet
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

They drew near unto Emmaus
Said to Jesus, Abide with us
They then to sense Him glorious
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For He did then with them break bread
Blessed it, and as they there were fed
Their eyes were opened, Christ not dead
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

They knew Him, but He did vanish
From their sight, not an idle wish
A resurrection showing this
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thye said, Did not our hearts burn in
Us, when Jesus did start, begin
Showed Himself from Scriptures therein?
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Saviour Seen

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

Luke 24 v.33, and v.44-49

Jesus appeared to eleven
Disciples, was seen then
Said, These are the words I spoke to
You, and they have come true
Words fulfilled from Moses' law
And in the prophets sure
Concerning me, now you view
Me risen, even you

He opened their understanding
Spiritual light did bring
That they might in Scriptures see
How all God's plan would be
He said to them, Thus it is
Written of me, e'en this
That Christ should suffer, then rise
Third day, there be no lies

And that repentance, remission
Of sins to man be given
That this be preached in Christ's name
He our Saviour, the same
Witness among all nations
To human daughters, sons
Beginning at Jerusalem
And spreading out from them

They who were with Jesus there
Were witnesses, did share

Of Him, received the promise
Of the Father, true this
In Jerusalem waited
Till they were in good stead
And endued with power from high
Preached gospel, Christ e'er nigh

Resurrection Revealing

Tune: Judas Maccabaeus

('Thine be the glory')

Matthew 28 v.1-10

End of the Sabbath, dusk of Saturday
On the first day of the week, dawn on Sunday
Came Mary Magdalene and other Mary
Unto tht sepulchre, it then for to see

Chorus

Christ ever with us, risen from the dead
Noe to die no more, He e'er our living Head

And, behold, there was too a great earthquake
Angel of the Lord descended, land did shake
Came from heaven and the stone he rolled away
At the tomb's entrance, and sat on it that day - Chorus

His countenance was like lightning, clothes white
As snow, guards at the tomb trembled at the sight
Angel said to women, Fear not, for I know
You seek Jesus, who was crucified here so - Chorus

He is not here, for He is risen, see
The place where the Lord lay, it now empty be
Come, look for yourselves, and then do go quickly
Tell disciples He is risen from dead, free - Chorus

Say that He has gone on to Galilee
Go there and then Him you shall certainly see
They did leave the tomb with fear and with joy great
Ran to disciples, bough them good news not late - Chorus

And as they went, Jesus did then them meet
They did know Him risen, and He did them greet
They worshipped Him, Go tell disciples, He said
Go to Galilee, see me risen from dead - Chorus

A Miracle To Mary

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! hearts to heaven and voices raise')

John 20 v.11-18

Mary Magdalene at tomb stayed
Weeping there, she was dismayed
She stooped down, and looked then inside
Two angels there, did not hide
They were in white, in tomb sitting
Their radiance displaying
At the head one, at the feet one
Where had lain Jesus, God's Son

They said to her, Woman, Why do
You weep? She said to them true
Because they have taken away
My Lord, I know not this day
Where they have laid him, and when she
Had said this turned round, did see
Jesus standing, but did not know
That it was Jesus, e'en so

Jesus said to her, woman, why
Do you weep? Whom do you seek?
She did think He was the gardener
And did say unto Him, Sir
If you have taken Him away
Tell me where he lays this day
And I will then take Him away
Make burial safe, I say

Jesus said unto her, Mary
She turned around, Him did see

Said, Rabboni, Which is, Master
Her risen Lord and Saviour
Jesus said, Hold not on to me
I not ascended yet be
But go unto the disciples
To they who have heard my calls

Say to them, I ascend unto
My Father, your Father too
And my God, and your God also
This be true, you may it know
So Mary disciples did tell
That she had seen the Lord well
And that He had spoken these things
To her, good news she each brings

Sowing And Reaping

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

Psalm 126

When the LORD turned, brought back captivity
Of Zion, see
We were like those that dream
Though all hope lost may seem
Then our mouth it was filled
With laughter unconcealed
And our tongue filled with singing, for now we
Returned, so be

They they did say there among the nations
They chosen ones
The LORD has done great things
For them, His grace them brings
And this be our reply
Yes, the LORD He is nigh
And He has done great things for us, we glad
Now no more sad

Turn us again, LORD, our captivity
That it may be
As streams that in south flow
Refreshment may we know
They that do sow in tears
Harvest to them appears
For they shall reap in joy, bear precious seed
God shall them heed

Plenitude Of Praise

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 148

Praise the LORD from heavens, in heights
All angels, hosts, in delights
Praise Him, sun and moon, stars of light
Where He present there no night
Praise Him, heavens of heavens high
Yet He a LORD to us nigh

Let them praise the name of the LORD
For He spoke, and by His word
They were created, and also
Established them e'er, we know
Made decrees which they shall pass not
They stay in appointed lot

Praise the LORD from the earth, all you
Sea creatures, and all deeps too
Fire and hail and snow and vapours
Each to Him their praise outpours
Stormy wind fulfilling His word
For His commands it has heard

Mountains and all hills, fruitful trees
And all cedars join with these
To praise, and beasts and all cattle
Flying birds, and creatures all
Kings, queens, and all people give worth
Judges, leaders of the earth

Young men, old men, maidens, children

Let them praise the LORD's name then
For his name alone excellent
His reign is omnipotent
His glory is above the earth
And heaven, praise Him with mirth

He exalts strength of His people
It be the praise of them all
Israel, the Jews, a people near
To Him, worship, godly fear
And Gentiles too His people be
Praise Him universally

Scenic Spring

Tune: Vreuchten

('This joyful Eastertide')

Easter season, new life
Christ victorious o'er strife
Has gained the victory
O'er sin, death, eternally

Chorus

Let all creation praise
To Him joyful songs upraise
Christ risen now for sure
Lives now, and He dies no more
Dies no more, Dies no more
Dies no-o-o-o-o more!

You daffodils do spring
Earth with signs of new life ring
You sheep, your lambs do tend
As Christ His sheep does defend - Chorus

You water brooks flow free
Though wintry did flow icily
Now warmth of land and sea
Comes again Spring's prosperity - Chorus

Showers, you water land
And sun seen, all from God's hand
In seasons He faithful
He Lord of heaven, earth, all - Chorus

Trees blossom, and leaves seen
Though some remain evergreen

We live and grow in you
Who bring us eternal life new - Chorus

Spirit of God within
Forgive and cleanse us from sin
Your works all here arrayed
We see your glories displayed - Chorus

Soul Seeking

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 73 v.25-28

In heaven whom have I
But you, Lord, yet you nigh
To me be, in hearts reside
By your Spirit abide

Upon earth there is none
That I desire, but one
It be you, Lord God, holy, strong
Support us all life long

My flesh and my heart fail
But you, Lord, still prevail
You the strength of my heart e'er be
My part eternally

Good is it sure for me
To draw near to God, see
In Him I have put my trust, so
I all His works may show

Comfort From Christ

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

John 14 v.1-7

Jesus said, Let not your heart be
Troubled, believe in God and me
In my Father's house are many
Mansions, bright dwellings, so they be

If it were not so, I would tell
You, and you sure would know it well
I go to prepare place for you
I will come back, take you there too

That where I am, you also be
And where I go you know, now see
You know the way, then said Thomas
Lord, we need you explain to us

For we know not where you do go
And how can we then the way know?
Jesus said, Look, I am the way
The truth, and the life be each day

No one comes unto the Father
Except by me, then they may share
In fellowship, if you had known
Me, too my Father you be shown

From now on you Him sure do know
E'en if not know Him long ago
And you have seen Him in His Son
Jesus, God's Son, the only One

Wells Of Life

Tune: Manchester

('With glorious clouds encompassed round')

John 4 v.13-14

A woman of Samaria
Jesus met at well there
Said to her, Who drinks this water
Of well, thirst still shall stir

Though necessary for daily
Health and living it be
Physical water cannot drench
Spiritual thirst not quench

But whosoever drinks of flow
Of water, they shall know
Water that Jesus to each gives
Shall never thirst, each lives

The water that He shall give, bring
Shall be in us a spring
A well of water supplying
Unto life e'erlasting

Such Is Life...

Such is life at times....

We/I can't always have what I want all the time
But we shall have what we need
Things may or may not turn out how I would like them to
Or may or may not happen when I would like them to

Sometime we may **have** to do some things in life
Sometimes we are able to **choose** - Yes or No

There's a sort of comfort
Being happy to do without some things
That we didn't like when they were happening
(Not necessarily only relating to covid)
Then when they start again, we may say
'Oh not that again; I'm back at square one'

Yet it can be an apathy, a 'cosy comfort'
Which is not good really to stay in
Not to rely entirely on feelings though
They **may** or **may not** be of help

There may be a false comfort
'This too will pass'
Yes, it may pass
But we may be in a fantasy
'Glad that nasty old thing has passed'
Or for now - it might not always go away

But have I learnt anything from it?
Did I learn anything from it, if it's passed now?
Did I grow in any way through it?
'Rewards' of looking forward to something

Maybe later the same day, or the same week
Or giving ourselves some treat
After some ordeal, or unpleasant experience

I'll join ya for a treat later
I'll buy ya a drink
A wine or sherry or three....
But I'll add water to it of course
And ya can meet Fido too
Just don't recite any 18+ poems in his presence
Or he turns very fierce!
'Bleeeuurghhh!' you say. Water in wine!
Is that a bit of French?!
Heehee

Carefree Contentment

Tune: St James (Courteville)
('Thou art the way, by thee alone')
Philippians 4 v,10-19 parts

Philippians, they did help Paul
Though he did learn in all
States he was in, to be content
Whatever to him sent

Learning how to live humbly, see
And in prosperity
Every where and in all things
What each occasion brings

Whether to be full of hungry
Or abound, or needy
He can do all things through Christ, He
His strength and power be

Paul did from them receive a gift
Not sole to him uplift
But that it shows fruit they produce
To their account's good use

He has enough, the gift received
Of it he true believed
It an aroma, as sweet smell
A sacrifice made well

And pleasing unto God it be
Paul says, God shall act, see
Meet all your needs through His riches
In glory by Christ, yes

Principles In Giving - Giving Series (6)

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

2 Corinthians 9 v.6-7

Paul says, They who sow sparingly
Still reap sparingly, see
And they which sow bountifully
Shall reap bountifully

Each one according as the ydo
Purpose, let them act too
As purposed in their hearts, so let
Them give even, fair yet

But not to so give grudgingly
Nor of necessity
Not feel compelled, or must, or ought
But give from heart's true thought

For God loves a giver cheerful
Whose motives are joyful
Who do His true example show
Of His love and grace know

Risen Redeemer

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Acts 2 v.22-25 & v.30-31

Peter at Pentecost

Said, Look, all is not lost

Jesus, a man appeared

Of God, among us moved

Did miracles, wonders, and signs

God did by Him in works divine

Jesus was delivered

Though it was there assured

Determined by counsel

And foreknown by God all

They had taken Him, crucified

Yet was for their sakes that He died

God has now Him upraised

He worthy to be praised

Loosed, destroyed pains of death

The Spirit His life-breath

Because it was not possible

That death should hold Him in its thrall

David did prophesy

In centuries gone by

That he saw the Lord e'er

Departing from him ne'er

And that He true would rise again

Saviour of women, children, men

Victory Voicings

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

1 Corinthians 15 v.51-57

Behold, a mystery to us shown
A hidden truth shall be made known
We shall no all sleep in death, but shall
All be changed, we may know it well

In a moment, in twinkling of eye
It shall no linger by and by
For at the last trumpet, it shall sound
The dead shall be raised, so be found

And we shall be changed in that instant
Hope of repentant, penitent
For this corruptible must put on
Its new state of incorruption

And this mortal, it must put on, see
Its life of immortality
Then shall be brought to pass the saying
Truth of it shall to all things ring

Death is swallowed up in victory
O death, where your sting, where it be?
O grave, where is your victory? We
Overcome through Christ, bold and free

The sting of deah is sin, and strength so
Of sin, it is the law, we know
But thanks to God, us victory gives
Through His Son Jesus, so each lives

Heavenly Help

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Micah 7 v.8 and v.18-20 {Old Testament prophet}

There promises of salvation
Made unto the nation
Of Israel, by Micah, prophet
The LORD has blessings for them yet
He did not them forget
He did not them forget

Rejoice not, O my enemy
When I am down, but see
That when I fall, I shall arise
When I sit in darkness, my eyes
The LORD lightens, hears cries
The LORD lightens, hears cried

Who is a God like unto you
That pardons sins? You do
Sins of His people, heritage
The way to God we cannot bridge
Of our own strength, courage
Of our own strength, courage

But the LORD keeps not anger e'er
Mercy with us does share
Will turn to us again, and too
Have compassion upon us new
Cast our sins out of view
cast our sins out of view

They be as cast in depths of sea

No more discovered be
The LORD will show His truth, mercy
To Israel, and Abraham, see
He made His promise free
He made His promise free

Chosen By The Father

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Ephesians 1 v.3-6

Blesséd be the God and Father
Of our Lord Jesus Christ sure
Who has blessed us with spiritual
Blessings, they in Christ all

According as He has chosen
Us in Christ, women, men
And children, before foundation
Of the world, e'en ere then

That through Christ we should be holy
Blameless before God, see
In love, having relationship
And giving God worship

God having predestinated
Us, it is so stated
To be His adopted children
'Tis by Jesus Christ then

God adopts us to Himself, He
Shows it agrees, it be
The good pleasure of His will, for
We His people e'ermore

It to the praise of the glory
Of His grace bestowed free
In this He makes us accepted
We part of the beloved

Prayers And Praises

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 84 v. 1-3

How amiable you tabernacles

My soul longs, e'en faints for them, to you calls

My heart and flesh for you, living God, cry out

And birds have found nest in your house, true, no doubt

Psalm 84 v.9-10

Behold, O God, you are our shield, look on

The face of your anointed, he your Son

For a day in you courts better than thousand

Elsewhere, door-keeper there I would gladly tend

Psalm 85 v.6-7

Revive us again, so we your people

May rejoice in yu, and witness to all

That pleas for mercy you will hear, it us show

O LORD, and sure your salvation shall we know

Psalm 85 v.10-11

Mercy and truth, met together they be

Righteousness, peace, kissed each other freely

Truth shall spring out of the earth, and righteousness

Shall look down from heaven, the LORD will us bless

Psalm 86 v.6-7

Give ear to my prayer, O LORD do now hear

For you will answer, and hear my voice clear

In my days of trouble I shall call to you

Attend to me, answer, and help me anew

Psalm 86 v.10-11

For you be great, and you do wondrous things

You are God alone, each you worship brings

Teach me your way, O LORD, I will your truth seek

Unite my heart to fear your name, follow meek

Liberty To Love

Tune: Glenfinlais

('Daises are our silver')

Galatians 5 v.13-16

Brothers, sisters, you be
Called to liberty
But use it not for to
Sinful works to do

But by love do now serve
Unity preserve
Serving one another
Each brother, sister

For the law is fulfilled
Summarised, God-willed
In this, You shall love your
Neighbour as self sure

But if you bite, argue
One another, you
If you each devour
You kill off life's flower

If you do so, selfish
Then take heed of this
That you be not consumed
Despair, life not bloomed

Do live in the Spirit
Your path each day lit
By Him, your daily walk
With Him fellowship, talk

Omniscient Oration

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of they sheep')

Psalm 139 v.1-6

O LORD God, you have searched me
Known me, all there is to see
You know when I do down sit
And when I rise up, each whit

You do understand my thought
Even from afar off brought
You surround my path, my way
My laying down, night and day

You are acquainted with al
My ways, help me, I not fall
For there is not a word in
My tongue, but ere I begin

Before I speak it you know
What I shall say, even so
Every word, and you are near
Behind and before me here

You on me your hand have laid
Your Spirit, set me sure, staid
Such knowledge too wonderful
Too high, I not know it all

Everyday Evangelism

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Mark 13 v.1-10 parts

For St Mark The Evangelist's Day: 25 April

Mark did evangelise

Pressed on towards high prize

Of knowing Christ more, and gospel

Wrote, and of Him did tell

In times of troubled days

Mark's words of Christ, it pays

To heed, for He said false Christs shall

Appear, know you this well

Though troubles there shall be

This be not the end, see

For the gospel must first be told

To all nations, free, bold

That before Christ's return

All may have chance to learn

Of Him, and His salvation choose

It the gospel, good news

So as Mark faithfully

Evangelised, may we

Take our part, by your Spirit share

You, so others too hear

Marvelling At The Miraculous

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

Mark 5 v..22-24; v.35-43

Jairus, a ruler of synagogue, he
Besought Jesus greatly, said, Come, see
My little daughter she lay, point of death
Not long before she draws final breath

But come, I pray you, and lay hands on her
That she may be healed, unto life stir
So shall she live, Jesus and the crowd they
Went off to Jairus' house that day

When they arrived, oen said, Woe, your daughter
Is dead, why trouble Jesus further?
But Jesus said to Jairus, Not fear now
Only believe, though sadly you bow

He said to mourners, Damsel is sleeping
They laughed Him to scorn in their weeping
But He from the house did put them all out
Time to remove unbelief and doubt

Jesus, Peter, James, John, father, mother
Went into damsel's room, none other
Jesus took her by the hand, and did say
'Talitha cumi', and there did pray

He did say, 'Damsel, little girl, arise'
She arose, walked, marvels and surprise
They did witness, for she was twelve years old
With great astonishment they behold

Heavenly Helper

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 54

Save me, God, by your name
It is strong, still the same
Hear my prayer, O God, and give ear
Assure me you are near

Oppressors seek my soul
Troubles do take their toll
My enemies think not on yoy
LORD, for my good act, do

Behold, God my helper
Will good on me confer
He with them too that do uphold
My soul, their virtue told

I will praise you, LORD, here
You do to me appear
In your goodness you have saved me
From out of troubles, see

Sure Seeking

Tune: Carlisle

('Stand up and bless the Lord')

Psalm 27 v.7-9

Hear, O LORD, when I call
With my voice, hear prayers all
Have mercy also upon me
And answer me, my plea

When you, LORD, said, Seek you
My face, my heart anew
Said unto you, Your face, LORD, will
I seek diligent still

Hide not your face from me
I pray, by faith I see
You, and put not me away in
Anger, guard me within

For you my help have been
Your mercies I have seen
Leave me not, nor do me forsake
Save me for your name's sake

Unity Unction

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Psalm 133

Behold, how good and how pleasant
It be, it is heaven-sent
For brethren to dwell together
In unity, we concur

It is like the precious ointment
Poured on the head, no relent
On the head of Aaron, high priest
Blessings unto greatest, least

It an oil poured upon his head
That he in holy steps tread
At his anointing, did flow down
From his beard unto his gown

It be as dew of Hermon's mount
Sparkling as a blessing's fount
And upon the mounts of Zion
There refreshing for each one

For there the LORD He commanded
Blessing, and His people led
The blessing it life for e'ermore
Eternal. safe in Him sure

Repentance And Restoration

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Joel 2 v.12-27 parts {Old Testament prophet}

If people repent, the LORD will restore
Give them prosperity and health once more
Fear not, O you land, now be glad and rejoice
The LORD will again turn and make you His choice

He wil do great things, be you not afraid
You people, nor beasts, nor land, for now stayed
is plague of the locusts, devouring host
Which consumed all their path from coast to coast

But land shall again produce of its fare
From fig and vine trees you again shall share
Be glad then, you His children, in Him rejoice
Make fine praise, anthems, extol Him with one voice

For He shall provide, give to you the rain
To make the land yield, give plenty again
He will restore to you the years the locusts
Have eaten, destroyed in their scavenging lusts

You shall eat in plenty, be satisfied
Praise the LORD's name, His goodness not denied
You shall know HIm as the LORD your God, there be
No other, you shall serve Him unashamedly

Parleying With Philip

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

John 14 v.8-14

For St Philip & St James Day: 1 May

Philip said to Jesus, Lord, show
Us the Father, then know
Him we shall, it shall satisfy
Us sure, with no deny

Jesus said to him, Have I been
So long with you, not seen
You, nor known, they who have seen me
Have seen the Father free?

Believe you not that I am in
The Father, and He in
Me? The words that I speak to you
Come from the Father true

I speak not of myself, but He
Father, does show me, see
What to do and say, He does dwell
In me, so I do tell

He dwells in me, and works does do
Believe me, this is true
That I in Father, He in me
Or believe the works, see

Truly, truly, I say to you
They that believe shall do
That believe on me, works the same

Shall do, e'en greater fame

Because I to the Father go

Whate'er you ask, it so

Shall be, what you in my name ask

I will do, e'en each task

That the Father be glorified

In me He does reside

I the Son, thus ask in my name

And I will do the same

Peter's Progress

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

John 21 v.15-19

A time for Peter, three times he
Did deny Jesus, see
But now by shore of Galilee
He would there restored be

Jesus asked him three times, did say
Do you love me today?
Peter replied, Yes, Lord, you know
That I do love you so

Peter, my lambs and my sheep feed
Unto flock take good heed
I prophesy now unto you
What shall for you come true

When you were young, you did go where
You would, went here and there
But when you are old, you shall be
Bound by others, not free

And they shall take you where you would
Not go, for if you could
You may escape, though signifies
Jesus how Peter dies

It would be unto God's glory
He would follow Him, see
Unto death, having a hope fine
Resurrection divine

Praise Proliferations

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Psalm 104 v.33-35 and Psalm 105 v.1-10

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live
While I have my being I will Him praise give
And my meditation of Him shall be sweet
I will be glad in Him, worship at His feet

Let those who continual sin be consumed
Out of the earth, wicked deeds not be resumed
Let them be no more, but to the LORD give thanks
All people, high. low. and whatever their ranks

Call upon His name, make known His deeds among
The people, sing psalms to Him, joyfully sung
Talk you of all His wondrous works, they doen fine
Glory in His holy name, perfect, divine

Let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD
Seek the LORD and His strength, e'er true is His word
Seek His face evermore, remember what He
Has done, His marvellous works, recall them, see

His wonders, and the judgements He has spoken
Proceeding from His mouth, for good of all men* (*mankind)
You His servants, His chosen people you be
He the LORD our God, judges earth righteously

Promises From Giving - Giving Series (7)

Tune: Penlan

('In heavenly love abiding')

2 Corinthians 9 v.8-15

Paul says, God is able to
Make all grace unto you
To abound, that you always
All sufficient all days
Do have in all things, and so
Abound in each work do
Your goodness in your giving
Love, part of your sharing

As is written, as are you
These Scriptures noted true
That you have dispersed abroad
Graciously through your Lord
You have given to the poor
Helped them through troubles sore
Your righteousness now remains
Ever, no selfish stains

Now He that gives seed unto
Sower, supply to you
Bread for your food, multiply
Your seed sown by and by
And increase the fruits of your
Righteousness evermore
Thus you are blessed in giving
To help needy living

You enriched in everything
To all bounty, we bring

Thanks to God for your service
You liberal in this
For it supplies needs of poor
And abounds oo for sure
As many thanks are offered
To God for gifts assured

While they who do your service
Experience, see this
They glorify God for your
Professed subjection sure
Unto the gospel of Christ
Your gifts have them sufficed
Thanks too for your free sharing
With all whom help you bring

As so their prayer is for you
And gratefulness they do
Express, they appreciate
Your loving, caring state
Recognise the exceeding
Grace of God in you, sing
Praise for gift unspeakable
You obey service-call

Rambling Reflections

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

* Local(ish) stream and river

Saint Patrick's stream* , your waters gleam

Reflecting of the sun's bright beam

Alleluia, Alleluia!

And River Thames*, here flowing by

Your peaceful waters they are nigh

Drink Water of Life and ne'er die

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Farmlands surround, you cows and sheep

Farmers them diligently keep

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Geese come to join, fly down from sky

Or travel from water-side nigh

Resting in green pastures you lie

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

On through permitted paths we tread

Following signposts we are led

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Not to trespass on private ground

For there no ramblers should be found

Nor the tread of runners feet sound

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O'er open countryside we roam

Till making our way back to home

Alleluia, Alleluia!

If haply we enjoy bright days

As we progress along our ways

God has made us, creation says
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

You crows, magpies, swans, birds many
Fields for you where you may come, see
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Or perching on telegraph wires
Your flight wish for freedom inspires
In us, in our human desires
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Stop for moments, see hill and dale
Gather memory of country tale
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Back to town, roads we may need go
Everyday life makes it so
Yet times of leisure we too know
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Plain Prayer

Tune: Genesis

('Think of a world without any flowers')

Matthew 6 v.5-15 parts

When you pray, be not hypocritical
They love to pray to be seen by all
Standing in synagogues, and street corners
That people praise on them each confers
Jesus says, Truly, they have their reward there
They have it now, no more in which to share

But when you pray, your inner room go in
Shut door, pray to your Father therein
Do so in secret, and your Father sees
In secret, rewards you open, free
But when you pray, use not vain repetition
As some do, endless reciting each one

Such think they shall be heard for much speaking
Be not like them, repeating each thing
For your Father knows what things you do need
Before you ask Him, yet will you heed
After this manner pray you thus, the 'Lord's Prayer'
Children with father, humbly sharing there

Our Father, who are in in heaven, hallowed be
Your name, your kingdom come, may we see
Your will be done in earth as it is done
In heaven, each deed and word, each one
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive
As we forgive others, so may we live

And lead us not into temptation sure

Deliver us from evil, for yours
Is the kingdom, the power, and glory
For ever, Amen, e'er it shall be
If we forgive, you Father will us forgive
If not, our forgiveness you not give

Hear, Help, Hold Us

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 17 v.5-7

Hold up my goings in your ways
My steps through all my days
So that my footsteps do not slip
In troubled spots not dip

I have called on you, for you will
Hear me, attend me still
O God, incline your ear to me
Hear my speech, and me see

Show unto us your marvellous
Kindness, come to us, bless
O you that save by your right hand
[They] Who trust you in the land

Save them here from those that do rise
Up against them, hear cries
Of they which all unto you, pray
Bring them salvation's day

Trusts, Trials, Tests

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 66 v.7-12 parts

God rules by His power fore e'er
For it decreases ne'er
His eyes behold the nations, let
Rebellious not fret

Not exalt themselves to be proud
Nor evil to enshroud
O bless our God, you people, word
Of His praise make it heard

He holds our soul in life, safe we
Our feet not slip, so be
For you, O God, have us tested
Through troubles have us led

You have tested us as silver
Is refined, yet did stir
To bring us out to a large place
Whate'er things we did face

Approaching Ascension

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

John 16 v.25-28 and v.33

Jesus said, I tell you plainly
I did come forth, here now see
From the Father into the world
Now His plan unfurled

And I again shall to Him go
In my Ascension, this know
Shall go to my Father again
Soon it would be then

For He would His Father's will do
Life of Him, God's Son, we view
Risen from death, forth days more
He showed on earth sure

Though He did go, we may still pray
He will still hear us today
As promised, the Spirit He sent
Us, that His intent

He speaks to us, that peace we may
Have in Him from day to day
In the world troubles, but good cheer
He has o'ercome here

Daily Duties

Tune: Song 1

('Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round')

2 Thessalonians 3 v.6-13

Paul and his companions they did say
Words to Thessalonians in their day
Said, In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
Withdraw from disorderly, that sufficed
For Paul and friends were not disorderly
Nor did they eat any man's bread for free

They worked, wrought on, with labour and travail
Toiled day and night their living to avail
So that they would not be chargeable to
Any of the people, but they did do
Their own tasks, not because they had no power
To command them to provide and endower

But they did make themselves and example
That people humbly would follow the call
That if any would not work, neither should
They eat, but seek to do the work they could
For some appeared busybodies, and they
Not work, but interfered with others day

Paul did exhort by the Lord that they live
Quietly, earn own living, and too give
To help poor and needy, be well-doing
Gifts offer, but not by compulsion bring
So praying, 'rogare', to ask of the Lord
That He give us daily bread, true His word

Peace Possibilities

Tyne: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Philippians 4 v.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord e'er
He does His comforts share
Let all know your moderate life
In trusting Christ, no strife

The Lord He is at hand
Near to all of each land
Be anxious for nothing, but let
Him know your requests yet

In prayer, supplication
People of each nation
And with thanksgiving, so God shall
Keep your hearts and minds well

He shall keep them, 'tis through
Christ Jesus, and renew
Us with His peace, fret not mind, heart
He shall not from us part

So turmoil, fear, worry
Shall flee assuredly
Though God knows all, we may here pray
He reveals His will, way

Prayer Possibles

Tune: Spiritus Vitae

('O breath of life, come sweeping through us')

Mark 11 v.22-24

Jesus said, Have faith in God, for, see
Whosoever shall say, so be
To a mountain, be you now removed
Be cast into sea, faith is proved

Whether ranging from fig tree to mount
Whate'er size of problem we count
It can be changed through faith, but doubt not
In heart, if it small or large lot

If we shall believe that those things we
Say shall come to pass, we shall see
Shall have whatever we say, praying
The Lord shall give us each good thing

So, what things we desire when we pray
Believe that we receive them, lay
Needs all before the Lord, and we shall
Too be provided by Him well

Ascension Alleluias

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Acts 1 v.3-11 parts

At the great Ascension-tide - Alleluia!

Forty days seen, not denied - Alleluia!

The risen Christ did appear - Alleluia!

Disciples did see Him there - Alleluia!

They would receive power sure - Alleluia!

The Spirit with them e'ermore - Alleluia!

Christ would send Him, we witness - Alleluia!

To all ends of earth no less - Alleluia!

Then they beheld Him, and lo - Alleluia!

A cloud received Him, was so - Alleluia!

He was taken up, they saw - Alleluia!

Him there in person no more - Alleluia!

While they looked up, two in white - Alleluia!

Clothing appeared shining bright - Alleluia!

Said, You men of Galilee - Alleluia!

Why your gaze to heaven still be? - Alleluia!

This same Jesus, ascended - Alleluia!

He o'ercame, risen from dead - Alleluia!

Taken up to heaven, we say - Alleluia!

Shall return one day same way - Alleluia!

Wise Waiting

Tune: All through the night
('God who madest earth and heaven')

Psalm 27 v.8-14

When you said, LORD, Seek you my face
I by your grace
My heart said unto you, Your face
I will it trace
I will seek it, hide not from me
So that by faith I your face see
Turn me not away in anger
You are sure there

You have been my help, leave me not
Blessed is my lot
Nor forsake me, O God of my
Salvation nigh
E'en if mother, father forsake
Me you will not leave, but uptake
Teach me your way, LORD, led me in
Plain path therein

Guard me from enemies, save me
They trouble be
With their lies and violence, see
And cruelty
I had fainted unless I so
Had believed your goodness below
On earth, in land of the living
You help me bring

Wait in faith on the LORD and be
Comforted free

Be of courage good, and He shall
Strengthen you well
In your heart, and close His presence
You shall know near and it true sense
Wait, I say, on the LORD always
Through nights and days

Persevering People

Tune: Taize Chant

('O Lord, hear my prayer')

Hebrews 12 v.12-15

Go on in the race
Helped sure by God's grace
Each step His mercies trace
Lift up drooping hands
Strengthen weak knees bands
Believers of all lands

Make straight path for feet
So find His ways sweet
In Him be whole, complete
Lest you lame become
And be hindered some
in sensing God, be numb

But let it be healed
And be with this sealed
Pursue peace, unconcealed
Follow in that way
With all folk today
And be watching and pray

And holiness too
Pursue, keep in view
For 'tis so, this you know
Without holiness
The Lord, we confess
We shall not see, not blest

Look diligently

Lest any fail, see
Of the grace of God free
Lest any root spring
Of bitterness' thing
And troubles to you bring

For it sure may spread
If you are misled
Path of bitterness tread
And so then many
Defiled, corrupt be
Sharing acrimony

Protection Place

Tune: McAfee

('There is a place of quiet rest')

Psalm 57 parts

O God, be merciful to me
My soul trusts in you, see
Yes, in the shadow of your wings
My refuge, my souls sings

Chorus

O God, be you exalted
Enemies you down tread
You above the heavens high
Glorious o'er earth, nigh

I will cry unto God most high
He knows my trouble, sigh
He shall for me things perform all
Unto Him shall I call - Chorus

He shall from heaven help me send
From enemies defend
They that would me sure destroy here
But your mercy, truth near - Chorus

My heart is fixed, O God, I will
Sing and give praises still
Awake, my tongue, harp, psaltery
I will arise early - Chorus

I will praise you midst the people
Among the nations all
For your mercy is great unto

Heavens, truth to clouds too - Chorus

Excellent Exaltation

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 68 parts

Let God arise, let His
Enemies be, true this
Scattered, and those that do Him hate
Flee before Him not late
As smoke driven away
O God, act in your day
Let them be so, and as melts wax
By heat, it not be lax

Let the righteous be glad
In Him, no longer sad
Let them rejoice before Him much
Enjoy His presence such
Exceeding celebrate
Wicked not mar their state
For the great God shall with them deal
And shall His people heal

Sing to God, sing praises
Each voice, tongue upraises
Worship to Him, does Him extol
He that rules over all
He upon heavens rides
None are like Him besides
His name JAH, JEHOVAH, the LORD
E'er faithful to His word

His whole triumphant host
Extends from coast to coast

His chariots twenty thousand
His power without end
Through wilderness he marched
And desert, though it parched
The earth shook, heavens did drop rain
At His presence again

He rides upon the clouds
His glory they enshrod
His voice is mighty o'er the earth
Speaks new things into birth
Ascribe unto Him strength
He God now and at length
He awesome, holy, excellent
Strength and power us sent

Governing In Grace

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O God')

Psalm 67

God now be merciful
To us, we shall not fall
Bless us, and cause your face
To shine on us by grace

That your way may be known
On earth, and your paths sown
Your saving health among
All nations, praise be sung

Let all people praise you
Nations be glad, sing too
For joy, for you judge be
Shall judge us righteously

You shall govern nations
Upon earth, daughters, sons
Let all people praise you
O God, and give thanks too

Then shall earth give produce
No fears that it reduce
For our God shall supply
And bless us, He be nigh

Then all the earth shall fear
And give Him reverence here
Thus shall all worthy praise
His creatures to Him raise

Life-Light

Tune: Moscow

('Thou whose almighty word')

Ephesians 4 v.30-32 and 5 v.8

Do not grieve God's Spirit
By Him your way is lit
Each step, each whit
For by Him you are sealed
Till redemption fulfilled
That day you sure shall know
When it comes so

Let all wrath, bitterness
Anger, clamour, no less
Things that not bless
Evil speaking, malice
Put these away, all this
Things of sin, selfishness
Repent, confess

And be you kind one to
Another, their needs view
Go help them true
And be tender-hearted
Forgiveness imparted
E'en as God forgave you
In His Son true

As darkness once were you
That your state, light not knew
Blind was your view
But now you are light in
The Lord, and cleansed from sin

Live now as sons (/daughters) of light
Good in God's sight

Hear And Help

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord teach us how to pray aright')

Psalm 86 v.15-17

You, O Lord God, are a God full
Of compassion, grace all
Longsuffering, and plenteous
In mercy, truth to us

O turn to me, and have mercy
On me here, even me
Give your strength unto your servant
Before you penitent

Show me a sign for good, I pray
That they who do today
hate me may see it, be ashamed
What they against me framed

So shall I have known your help sure
And too your comfort pure
Trusting in you, teach me your way
Now and through every day

Prayer, Petition, Praise

Tune: Camberwell

('At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 71 v.17-24

O God, you have taught me
From my youth, now see
I have shown hitherto
Your wonders here too
Now when I am older
To my help still stir
Forsake me not, may I
Go on, know you nigh

To show your strength unto
Generation new
That shall come to pass, for
Your mercies are sure
O God, your righteousness
Is high, I confess
You who have done great things
Unto you each sings

You, who have shown me great
And sore troubles, wait
I on you, you shall bring
Me out of each thing
Shall increase my greatness
Comfort me and bless
I will also praise you
With instruments too

You are the Holy One
Great things you have one

I will sing and greatly
Rejoice with voice free
For you my soul redeemed
And now I have deemed
Saved from my enemies
Say, They not me seize

Salvation In The Saviour

Tune: Anima Christi

('Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast')

Colossians 2 v.20-23

Man's rules and rituals, they cannot bring
Us salvation, ineffective each thing
That they try, maintain, profess so to do
Salvation is found in Christ, His life new

Though human laws for safety and good be
Such as, Touch not, Taste not, handle not, see
Yet laws are broken, the commands of men
And the doctrines, teachings, which they appoint then

These things indeed have a show, appearance
Of wisdom in will worship, seen from thence
It self-imposed religion, and seeming
Humility trying its best to wing

And too neglecting of the body, see
Asceticism, severe treatment be
Inflicted on us by ourselves to try
To win some salvation here by and by

It not giving our bodies some easing
Nor honouring them, suppressing each thing
Of desire, delight of our human frame
Though no value, humans still indulge same

In Christ we be free from doctrines of men
Their plans cannot assist us at times when
We tempted our salvation to earn, win
It only in Christ, He forgives our sin

Pentecost Pourings

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

Acts 2 v.1-4, v.16-21 parts

Come, Holy Spirit, come
And make our hearts your home
There you promised to come, take residency
As old, Pentecost day
The disciples did stay
In one place, waited until He came, so be

Suddenly then a sound
From heaven did redound
Of a rushing mighty wind, filled the house there
Where they were gathered all
In prayer did on you call
Now promise of the Spirit they did all share

And cloven tongues like fire
People from each town, shire
The flames descended on each of them present
The Holy Spirit filled
All of them, it God-willed
They spoke with other tongues* which He had them sent (*languages)

Peter, he did explain
To them, did make it plain
That this be what was spoken by prophet Joel
From days of old foretold
That they would witness bold
The Spirit poured out on each believing soul

Then prophecies, visions

Unto God's daughters, sons
And dreaming dreams, all shown, men, women, children
In heaven above wonders
Blood, fire, smoke, and vapours
Who calls on name of the Lord shall be saved then

Pleasant Presence

Tune: Lucy

('O Lord of every shining constellation')

Matthew 4 v.12-17

Now when Jesus heard that John the Baptist, he
Was in prison, He went to Galilee*
He left Nazareth*, came to Capernaum*
It on the coast
It on the coast by the sea, He did come

It be in the borders see, of Zabulon*
And Nephtalim*, there then He be, God's Son
That it might be fulfilled, prophecy told sure
By Isaiah
By Isaiah, that He was at that shore

Those lands were called Galilee* of the Gentiles
The peoples there sat in darkness long whiles
But now they saw great light, the Light of the world
He unto them
He unto them was revealed and unfurled

And to them which sat in region and shadow
Of death light is sprung up, its dawn they know
For Jesus was among them, He did there preach
Repent now, for
Repent now, for God's kingdom does you reach

* All towns or areas in Northern Israel.

Souls Satisfied

Tune: East Acklam

('For the fruits of His creation')

Psalm 107 v.1-9

Give thanks unto the LORD, He be
Good, come now, see
For His mercy endures ever
It fails never
Let redeemed of the LORD say so
So that others with them may know
He redeemed them from enemies
Fallen as trees

He gathered them out of the lands
By His good hands
From the east, west, north, and the south
Spoke by His mouth
Promised to redeem His people
They wandered in wilderness all
Solitary and desolate
He not [them] forget

Hungry and thirsty, they fainted
And then they said
LORD, so help us in our trouble
To you we call
He did hear them and did them save
His helping grace unto them gave
Brought them out of their distresses
They did Him bless

O that people would praise Him for
His goodness sure

And His wonderful works unto
Us, seen anew
For He satisfies longing souls
Fills the hungry souls, makes them whole
Fills them with goodness, us loving
Kindness does bring

Building Blocks

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Ephesians 2 v.19-22

You are no more strangers
Nor be you foreigners
To God's plan of salvation, He
To you has revealed, see

But fellow-citizens
With children, women, men
You be now with God's family
Saints in His household be

And built on foundation
Included now, each one
Founded on apostles, prophets
And chief corner-stone set

Jesus Christ Himself be
This stone is, we agree
In Him the whole building well-framed
Where He is honoured, named

It all grows together
To holy temple where
Each one is bring built, close-knit
God dwells through His Spirit

Do Shut Up Orchi....

Note to self:

Do shut up now, Orchi!

You waffle on and on sometimes

Well, I wish I would shut up

But I never seem to start shutting up

I witter on and on

Asking questions like:

'Is 'the morrow' the same as 'tomorrow'?

And 'Is 'witter' the same as 'twitter'?

And 'If Fire Exits have to be kept closed at all times

How we gonna get out if there's a fire?'

Doh! I must know these things!

One more: 'Who is Bill Stickers, and his mate Bill Posters?'

Why they got to prosecute them?!

Fido, me talking dog will help me

He knows 99% of what there is to know!

He checks them poems still, ya know

And barks severely at anyone

Forgetting to mark a poem 18+ when it should be

Then when I swoon

At the least hint of a hot poem

He revives me with wine, mixed with water, of course

He knows some Bible verses too

He found one recently:

'Your wine is mixed with water' (Isaiah 1 v.22)

Though that was not OK

It symbolised the people's compromise

Maybe half-heartedness

Or maybe even their stinginess
Well, that one applies to me
Yep, add water to ya wine/whisky./etc
It'll make ya tippie last longer
Ya won't have to buy another bottle so soon
Makes sense to me! LOL.

Wholesome Wisdom

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

James 3 v.13-18

Who is wise and who is endued
With knowledge, and has it pursued?
Let each show out of a good life
Works with meekness, wisdom, no strife

But if you have bitter envy
And strife in your hearts, not agree
Boast not, against the truth not lie
Or you be misled, gone awry

This wisdom comes not from above
Not from the Spirit, holy dove
But is earthly and sensual
Devilish, comes from evil all

But wisdom that is from above
God gives unto us in His love
It be pure, peaceable, gentle
Easily entreated of all

And it of mercy, good fruits full
Impartial, hypocrisy null
Fruit of righteousness sown in peace
Of them that make peace, never cease

Heart -Home

Tune: St James Air

('How lovely is your dwelling place')

John 15 v.26-27

Come, Holy Spirit, us indwell
E'en as Jesus did tell
That He would send you to us, for
You the comforter sure

The Helper you, the Paraclete
Your presence may we greet
God the Father, He does you send
You shall to us attend

You sent to us in Jesus' name
Worthy of honour, fame
But you seek not your own glory
You teach us constantly

You shall teach us all things that we
way ahead need to see
And bring all to remembrance
Jesus' words to us thence

Peace Jesus leaves with us, His peace
continuing, not cease
And say, Let not heart be troubled
Not fear, nor be appalled

So come, Holy Spirit, abide
Within our hearts reside
Find there a home, a welcome guest
Reserved true fro the best

And cleanse from sin, fill us daily
There your dwelling place be
Give us power to serve, witness
Gospel message no less

Gracious Gloryings

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 48 parts

As we have heard, so have we
Seen it, so be
The greatness of your city
Mount Zion, see
Jerusalem on this mount
Is built, a fount
Of blessing, there the LORD great
[Of] Royal estate

God will establish it e'er
It shall fail ne'er
We have thought of your mercy
Loving, kind, free
In the midst of your temple
And there we call
Unto you, as is your praise
Your name [is] the same

Your praise is unto earth's ends
Each to you tends
Out of every nation
You Holy One
Your hands full of righteousness
With them you bless
So let Mount Zion rejoice
Make her your choice

Walk about Zion, and tell
Her buildings well

Her defences, palaces
Beautiful this
Tell to next generation
Each daughter, son
That He is our God life-long
He be our song

Trinity Thoughts

Tune: Nicea

('Holy, Holy, Holy!')

God of all glory, God without beginning
Ever living, your years never have an ending
All below on earth here, and above heavenly
Hosts worship you, Eternal One you be

Creator of all, from the greatest to least
Your works of wonder seen, your power ne'er does cease
All by you is ordained, your order, arrangement
Your Spirit from [God the] Father through Son [to] us sent

We humans fathom not fully Trinity
Yet you be one God who is expressed [in] Persons three
What we may know of you, you to us reveal
Came in your Son, a world to redeem, heal

Our worship accept, here we humbly do pray
You source of all life, you true reign so sublimely
Grant us wisdom to still follow on in your way
What you are pleased to show to us each day

A Daily Ditty

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

A day awakes, the darkness breaks
May we your servants, as each takes
The minutes and hours now new
Lord, seek to know your will to do

To do some good, for days they be
Evil, they short to last, we see
Here we be for a life-time's span
My we honour you as we can

Aiming to share your good news too
That others will the saviour view
Midst many things in life daily
Help us you by eye of faith see

Onward in life, progress each day
To grow more Christ-like in each way
And believers hope, heavenly home
Which by your grace we hope to come

Hearing, Helping, Hoping

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Psalm 142

I cried unto the LORD, with my voice, I
Made my prayer unto Him, LORD, hear my cry
I told Him my troubles and my complaint
Overwhelmed was I, my spirit did faint

But then you knew my path, though in the way
Wherein I went they set snares in that day
I looked around, but no one would me aid
My refuge failed, no one cared, I afraid

I called to you, LORD, said, You my refuge
Be, and my portion, grant me strength, courage
In land of the living tend to my cry
For I am brought very low, but you nigh

Save me from my persecutors, they are
Stronger than I, and seek my way to bar
Bring my soul out of prison, that I may
Praise your name, and you are good I shall say

The righteous shall surround me, comforts share
You shall help me, not give more than can bear
You shall with me deal bountifully, so
You come to my help, all peoples shall know

Church Unity And Gifts

Tune: Morning Light

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Ephesians 4 v.1-11 parts

Live worthy of the calling
Of the Lord in each thing
Which He has called you to, see
What your vocation be
With all lowliness, meekness
With longsuffering bless
Each other in love forbear
As you in Christ all share

Endeavour the unity
Of the Spirit keep, He
Dwells with and too within you
He works, and does renew
You to more of Christ's image
Shown true in each visage
Maintain the bond of peace, so
Unity you shall know

There one Spirit, one body
And you are called, so be
In one hope of your calling
United praise and sing
One Lord, one faith, and there be
One baptism too, see
One God and Father of all
Above, through, [and] in us all

To each one is given grace
And Christ's good gifts we trace

Each one given a measure
They gifts from His treasure
They be means of unity
Apostles, prophets, see
Evangelists and pastors
And some they be teachers

Mercy Musings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 136 v.1-12 and v.25-26

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good
He daily bread provides, our needed food
O give thanks to Him, He the God of gods
And give thanks to Him, He the Lord of lords

For He is good, His mercy endures e'er
In His wonders and works we all may share
For He alone does great wonders of love
He by His wisdom made the heavens above

He stretched out the earth above the waters
Assigned the bounds of all the sea-side shores
He made great light, the sun to rule by day
And moon and stars to rule by night alway

He smote Egypt's people in their first-born
And brought Israel out, their redemption dawn
With a strong hand, arm outstretched, mighty power
He rescued and redeemed them in that hour

And more He did, His people He did lead
Through wilderness, and faithful did them feed
O give thanks to Him, He be God most high
His mercy endures e'er, and He us nigh

Meditative Moments

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 62 v.5-8

Settle now, heart and mind
Soul through your turmoils find
The peace of the LORD, on Him wait
He shall help you not late

My hope, expectation
Is from Him, He the One
He only my God and rock be
Here be security

He too my salvation
And unto each nation
He my defence, I shall not be
Moved, nor be shaken, see

My salvation it be
In God, and my glory
He be, and the rock of my strength
Throughout my whole life's length

My refuge too it be
In the LORD God freely
Trust in Him at all times, people
Unto Him pray and call

Pour out your heart before
Him, of His treasure-store
He shall give you, He a refuge
For us, here take courage

Communing Company

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in they dear Sacrament')

Not forgetting Communion
Your invite to each one
Here feast of bread and wine there be
We join in here humbly

'Tis feast, you Lord, did institute
With gifts simple, astute
The bread your body, it broken
To bring life to all men (mankind)

The wine your blood, it shed freely
To save us, even me
So with heart and mind wand will prepared
May we in it have shared

To strengthen body, spirit, soul
Forgive, heal, make us whole
We do partake, remembering you
Say for us so to do

And sharing gospel news to all
That they may hear your call
Come accept your salvation
Offered to each nation

Mustard Meditation

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Luke 13 v.18-19

The kingdom of God it here be
Like grain of mustard, see
Which one took, cast into the ground
Though it smallest seed found

It grew in garden, to great tree
Birds did lodge in it, see
Nested in its branches, the strong
There they made joyful song

If we little seem, as that seed
Help us, Lord, your words heed
From small starts we may grow apace
Inspired by your good grace

Potential, with power to grow
Valued to you we know
Become great plant, and sheltering
Others, them pastoring

The Way Of Wisdom - Wisdom Series (1)

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Proverbs 1 v.20-23

Wisdom calls aloud, utters voice
Come, you people, make me your choice
She* calls in the streets, and main place
Of the town, Receive me by grace

She says, How long, you naive ones
Naivete of daughters, sons
How long will you profess, not grow
In wisdom? I it to you show

How long will scorers delight in
Their scorning, now wisdom within
And how long will fools knowledge hate
I shall teach you wisdom not late

Turn you at my reproof**, behold
I show you wisdom, it be told
Will pout out my spirit to you
Make known my words, good shall ensue

* 'wisdom' is personified as 'she'.

** reproof = 're-proving; showing us where and when
we go wrong. Then 'correction', showing us how to
get back on the right path.

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

Tune: Spiritus Vitae

('O breath of life, come sweeping through us')

John 15 v.26-27 and 16 v.8-11

When the Comforter is come, He shall
Speak of Jesus, of Him well tell
The Comforter He is the Spirit
Through Him minds be illumined, lit

Jesus shall send the Spirit for sure
Who comes from the Father e'ermore
Through His power we shall bear witness
To Jesus, an assured truth this

When the Spirit comes His ministry
Shall be to reprove, convict, see
The world of sin, righteousness, judgement
His mission, from the Father sent

Reprove of sin, because they do not
Believe on Jesus, that their lot* (*state)
Reprove of righteousness, for Christ goes
To the Father, on earth not shows

Reprove of judgement, because the prince
Ruler of the world is judged sure
Satan and his hosts all defeated
For Christ over death has conquered

Wholesome Wisdom - Wisdom Series (2)

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Proverbs 2 v.1-9

If you will receive wisdom's words
They shall be useful to be heard
And treasure wisdom's commands, so
Incline ear to it and it know

Apply heart to understanding
Call out for knowledge in each thing
Lift up voice for understanding
The LORD shall wisdom to you bring

If you seek wisdom as silver
And search for her as hid treasure
Then shall you understand the fear
Of the LORD, shall revere Him here

And shall the knowledge of God find
It shall be shown to you, His mind
For the LORD gives wisdom, from His
Mouth knowledge, understanding is

He stores up sound wisdom to give
To the righteous, so they may live
Wisely, knowing Him, He a shield
To the upright, they to Him yield

He does guard the paths of justice
Preserves way of His saints, true this
We shall sure understand His way
And every good path all our days

Exercise Exhortation

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

1 Timothy 4 v.6-10

Continue on, and be nourished
By the true word of God be fed
Refuse profane and old wives' tales
They fables, there no truth avails

Exercise self to godliness
The Lord shall strengthen and you bless
Bodily exercise has place
Though in it small profit we trace

But godliness, profitable
Is sure unto things in life all
having promise of this life here
And of life to come, fullness clear

And this be a faithful saying
Worthy of all our accepting
Labour on, gospel message share
Christ is Saviour, none can compare

Benign Benefits - Wisdom Series (3)

Tune & Hymn: 'To the river I am going'

Proverbs 3 v.1-9

Do not now forget the LORD's laws
They shall keep you in way sure
Let your heart His commandments keep
So you guarded, still His sheep

For length of days, long life and peace
They shall add to you, not cease
Let not mercy, truth forsake you
Keep them in your heart, them view

Trust in the LORD with all your heart
Trust not to self, any part
Acknowledge Him in all your ways
He shall guide your paths all days

So shall you find favour, esteem
Your path lit by His bright beam
Be not wise now in your own eyes
Fear the LORD, trust to no lies

It shall be health to your body
Refreshment to your bones, see
Honour Him with all your substance
And with all your first-fruits thence

Wise Way - Wisdom Series (4)

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Proverbs 3 v.13-19

Happy are they that wisdom find
It shall direct their heart and mind
And happy who understanding
Get, they be guided in each thing

For the gain of it is better
Than gain of silver can confer
Its profit more than silver, gold
Is in life, its blessings be told

Wisdom more precious than rubies
And all things that the desire sees
Nothing to her can be compared
Nothing so well to her has fared

Length of days be in her right hand
As we are wise and understand
In her left hand riches, honour
Consult her, to her e'er refer

Her ways are ways of pleasantness
And all her paths are peace, no less
She a tree of life to who lay
Hold upon her, happy their day

Wisdom retain, and hold her fast
She shall give joys that ever last
The LORD by wisdom the earth laid
With understanding heavens displayed

Prosperous Path

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 37 v.23-31

The steps of a good man (woman), they be
Established by the LORD, see
And he (she) delights in the LORD's way
Does seek it from day to day
Though he (she) fall, he (she) not utterly
Cast down, but upheld shall be

For the LORD upholds with His hand
The good, righteous in the land
I have been young, and now am old
But have not seen, it be told
The righteous forsaken, nor their
Descendants with meagre share

He (She) is ever merciful, lends
To the needy, to them tends
And his (her) descendants are blessed true
Here these words again anew
Depart from evil, and good do
And dwell for e'ermore, e'en you

For the LORD loves judgement, justice
Forsakes not His saints, sure this
They are preserved, kept, for ever
But wicked He shall sever
Righteous shall inherit the land
Dwell there ever, by God's hand

Mouth of righteous wisdom does speak

He (She) lives loving, humble, meek
His (Her) tongue speaks of judgement, justice
To know the Lord's way his (her) bliss
Law of his (her) God is in his (her) heart
His (Her) steps not slip, no, no part

Sure Stone

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 118 v.19-24

Open me gates of righteousness

I enter, the LORD bless

I will go in, will the LORD praise

Joyful songs to Him raise

This gate of the LORD, it be see

Where righteous enter free

i will praise the LORD, for He heard

Me, listened to my word

He answered me, and did me save

What I needed, He gave

The stone which the builders refused

Rejected and not used

The same stone is become the head

Stone of corner instead

This is the LORD's doing, no lies

Marvellous in our eyes

This is the day the LORD has made

It all by Him outlaid

We will rejoice, be glad in it

'Tis with His presence lit

Heart Hearing - Wisdom Series (5)

Tune: Louvan

(Lord of all being, throned afar')

Proverbs 4 v.1-13; 18; 23

Let now your heart wisdom retain
Her commands keep, with you remain
So shall you live, and wisdom get
Get understanding, not forget

Forsake her not, she shall preserve
You, love her, she shall keep you, serve
Wisdom be the principal thing
Therefore get it for everything

And with all your getting do get
Understanding, exalt her yet
And she shall promote you, bring you
Honour when you embrace here true

She shall place on head ornament
Of grace, crown of glory, intent
It is of her to give to you
Hear wisdom's sayings old and new

So shall years of life be many
Needing not spend foolish any
When you go, your steps shall be sure
When you run, not stumble e'ermore

Take firm hold here of instruction
Let her not go now, daughter, son
Keep her, for she is your life, see
Guiding you through each day she be

Path of just is as shining light
Shines more and more with clearer sight
Unto the perfect day, when bright
It fully free of darkness, night

Keep your heart with all diligence
The LORD His wisdom, Spirit, sense
For out of the heart are the ways
And issues of life for our days

Wise Way To Walk - Wisdom Series (6)

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Proverbs 8 v.10-14

Wisdom says, Do here receive my
Instruction, and not pass me by
Receive me rather than silver
I shall blessings on you confer

And receive knowledge rather than
Choice gold, no comparison can
Be made with me, for I better
Than rubies, or rich gems allure

I wisdom do dwell with prudence
It does include fine common sense
I wisdom do find out knowledge
Wit and discretion to you pledge

The fear of the LORD is to hate
Evil, pride, and arrogant state
The evil way, perverse speaking
These things the LORD not glory bring

Wisdom has counsel, and is sound
With her right paths through life are found
She is understanding, and strong
Shall prosper you through all life long

Wisdom's Way - Wisdom Series (7)

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Proverbs 9 v.1-12 parts

Wisdom has her house builded
Made a feast, we may be fed
By her, all delicacies
Wholesome, nourishing are these
All is ready, her servants
Say, Come, join, choose wisdom hence

Who needs wisdom and learning
Or who lacks understanding
Turn in to house of feasting
Find treasures here in each thing
Forsake foolishness, and live
Wisdom, she shall good things give

Give instruction to the wise
And their wisdom sure will rise
Teach the just and fair, they will
Increase in their learning still
For by wisdom your days shall
Be multiplied, shall fare well

And years of life be increased
Not poor state nor be decreased
The fear of the LORD it be
Beginning of wisdom, see
Knowledge of the Holy One
Is understanding well won

Restoration Rejoicings

Tune: Lauda Anima

('Praise, my soul, the King of heaven')

Zechariah 8 v.1-8 {Old Testament prophet}

The LORD for Zion was jealous
With great fervour to them bless
The LORD says He is now returned
To Zion, of Him they learned
He will dwell in midst of city
Jerusalem it sure be

City of truth it shall called be
Holy mount of the LORD, see
There shall again old men, women
Dwell within the streets therein
The elderly be not forsook
They shall be seen therein, look

Streets of the city shall be full
Of boys and girls playing all
If this marvellous to you be
Should it be so unto me?
Says the LORD of hosts, and behold
I will save you, it be told

From east and west He will them bring
They shall return, to Him sing
In Jerusalem they shall dwell
And of His works they shall tell
He their God and they His people
In truth and righteousness all

Help From Heaven

Tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

Psalm 124

If the LORD was not on our side
Did not with us abide
When enemies rose up against
Us, they incensed

Then they would have swallowed us quick
We then in troubles thick
Would have been, when their wrath was stirred
On us conferred

Then the waters would have swept o'er
Us, and flooded our shore
Stream would have swept over our soul
And took its toll

Blessed be the LORD, He not given
Us to them, but riven
Their traps, our soul escaped as bird
Our prayers you heard

Set free from snare, we fly away
From those who hunt this day
Snare is broken, we free to go
His grace shown so

Our help is in name of the LORD
Trusty, true is His word
Creator of earth and heaven
Our comfort then

Seeking Surety

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 34 v.1-8

I will bless the LORD all times
Throughout life's rhymes
Lord, help us, as David did
Praises not hid
May your praise be continual
On our lips all
As the Psalmist did express
'Twas joy in this

My soul shall make her boast in
The LORD, not sin
The humble shall of it hear
In praises clear
magnify the LORD with me
For He worthy
Exalt His name together
Sister, brother

I sought the LORD, he heard me
Answered my plea
Delivered me from all fears
Gave me good cheer
They looked to him, lightened they
Were in the way
Their faces were radiant
Not despondent

They not ashamed, they as I
To the LORD cry

He heard us, He did us save
us His help gave
Saved us out of all troubles
From our pitfalls
Help us trust still, so we shall
Through you fare well

The angel of the LORD, He
Does encamp, see
Round about them that Him fear
He to them near
And delivers them, O taste
It be no waste
Taste, see the LORD, He good is
Blessed we, true this

Resurrection Reminder

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

1 Corinthians 15 v.12-20

If Christ be preached, that He has rose
How do some of you suppose
That there is no resurrection
For us now, no, not for one?

But if no resurrection be
Christ is not risen, see
If He be not risen, preaching
And faith is vain, every thing

And preachers do lie if they say
Christ is arisen today
If God has not from the dead raised
Christ, He still dead, and not praised

If He is not raised, then faith be
All vain and all contrary
And we are yet in our sins for
Then there no forgiveness sure

If we have in this life only
Hope in Christ, pitiable
We be, but now truth, He risen
Lord and Saviour of all men (mankind)

He the first-fruits of them that died
Sleeping in Christ they reside
Till comes resurrection morn when
Eternal life lasting then

Our Perpetual Priest

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Ye holy angels bright')

Hebrews 7 v.25-28

Jesus continues e'er
Risen, He now dies ne'er
Has an unchangeable
Priesthood, He Priest for all
He be, and so, He is able
To save fully who on Him call

They who do come to God
By Him, the path He trod
On earth, now reigns above
The heaven of His love
He ever lives, to intercede
Comes to aid of His people's need

For such a high priest He
Was fitting that He be
He holy, innocent
Grace to us He has sent
Harmless and undefiled, no sin
O'er death victory did He win

He is made higher than
Heavens, the Son of Man
Not daily as old times
Needs he repeat the rhymes
Of sacrifice, which priests did when
Offered, remembered their sins then

For this He once sure did

Was revealed and not hid
When He offered Himself
In him our treasure, wealth
Men continue not e'er, but He
Consecrated for ever be

Seed Sown

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Mark 4 v.26-29

Jesus said, Kingdom of God is
As if a man, see this
Should cast the seed into the ground
Hoping the yield abound

And then he sleeps, and rises night
And day, and to his sight
The seed should spring and grow up, though
How it does, he not know

For the earth fruit it does forth bring
Blade, then ear, then full thing
The full corn in the ear is seen
Now time for harvest keen

For when fruit ripens, it be time
In life's seasons and rhymes
To harvest it, food to provide
It not to us denied

Digit slipped....

Well, me poem for today
Dashed off somewhere!
I'm sure I pressed 'Publish Poem' button
Did a digit (finger) slip, and I pressed 'delete'?

Or did Fido notice something heretical?
Or something that could cause swooning?
Did he reach out a paw and press 'Delete'?

I'll be back soon!
More singing - oh yes!

It's them lasses I'm gonna meet
From Neville's poems
They've distracted me!

Hope this works -
Reaching 'Publish Poem' button now!

Prompt To Prayer

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Psalm 70 v.4-5

Lord, if our prayer is weak or short
It not treated as nought
For you will hear, fruit we shall bear
You grant us comfort, care

Let all those that seek you rejoice
And praise you with one voice
Let them be glad in you, and such
As love you, declare much

Who love your salvation, they say
God, He great, day to day
They extol Him, and serve humbly
His witnesses they be

But when I poor, needy, be swift
Lord, my soul do uplift
You my help and my Saviour, pray
I that you not delay

Salvation Story

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly Light')

Ephesians 2 v.4-10

God comes to save, He be rich in mercy
Shown to us free
In His great love wherewith He loved us, He
Saved us, so be
Even when we were dead in sins has He
Made us alive together with Christ, see

By grace we are saved, and He has us raised
His name be praised
Raised up and made us sit together there
With Christ we share
Seated in heavenly places in Christ
Jesus, His salvation does us suffice

For by grace you are saved through faith, in all
He does us call
It is not of ourselves, but it gift be
Of God, here see
Not of our own works, lest any should boast
The gospel message spreads from coast to coast

For we are God's workmanship, creation
From each nation
Created in Christ Jesus unto good
Works, as God would
Ordain and prepare that we should them do
So living in Christ, raised to life anew

Love Of The Law

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 119 v.89-96

For ever, O LORD, your
Word it is settled sure
In heaven, you faithful
To generations all
You have established the earth sure
And it abides for evermore

Earth, heaven, continue
They dependent on you
'Tis all as you ordain
They are your servants plain
Unless your law was my delights
I would have perished with sore frights

For in my affliction
I would be released none
But your precepts I will
Ne'er forget, do them still
I am yours, LORD, save me, I pray
I seek your precepts here each day

The wicked have waited
Until I be misled
They hope to me destroy
To hinder and annoy
I have seen things fully, clearly
But your commands broad, wide they be

Shepherd of the Sheep

Tune: Divine Mysteries

('Sweet Sacrament divine')

Psalm 23 v.1-4

The LORD is my Shepherd
He listened to me, heard
I shall not want, for He
My sure provider be
He leads me over hill and dale
And too over each mount and vale
Secure, part of His fold
His shall His sheep still hold

He makes me to lie down
In green pastures, not brown
Pastures, tender grass green
Lush fields here are seen
He leads me beside still waters
Waters of rest, he me assures
Of His presence, by grace
I view the Shepherd's face

He restores my soul, He
Leads me in the paths, see
Of righteousness, it for
His name's sake evermore
Paths good and right, not dangerous
His compassion, care unto us
Help us to follow on
Good Shepherd, God's onw Son

Though I walk through valley
Of shadow death, He

Is with me, I will fear
No evil, He is near
His rod and staff does me comfort
The sheep gone astray he has sought
Solace and strength He brings
To Him creation sings

Plea Of The Persecuted

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Psalm 129 parts

Where we in afflictions
Suffer other's sins
Yet with you help, LORD, they
Not prevail, we say

It was as if ploughers
In their bitter hours
Ploughed upon our backs to
Disturb us anew

But the LORD is righteous
Shall come to help us
Wicked cut in pieces
Shall be, sin ceases

Let them all ashamed be
Your true judgements see
Be as cut grass scattered
Where the wind has sped

Nor do they that go by
Wish them blessing nigh
To wicked no favour
Wrath they shall incur

Comforts, Commands, Communing

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

John 14 v.15-21

Jesus said, If you love me keep
My commandments, as my sheep
And I will pray the Father, He
Shall give you comforter then, see

That He may with you e'er abide
And my words to you confide
Even the Spirit of truth, He
Spirit, yet Person He be

Whom the world cannot Him receive
Because they not see, [not] believe
Nor do they know Him, but is true
Believers they know Him do

They know Him because He does dwell
With them, and too they would tell
At Pentecost that He would be
In them too by His grace free

He will not leave us comfortless
But will come to us and bless
Yet the world in a little while
Sees Him not, but this no guile* (*deceit)

For believers shall see Him still
And it be in His good will
That because He lives, we also
Shall live, and still Him shall know

At that day they shall know that He
Jesus in the Father be
And the Father be in Jesus
And Jesus too be in us

They that have His commands and keep
Them, they be His loving sheep
He, Jesus, and the Father shall
Love them, still show to them well

Little Life

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 39 v.4-7

LORD, make me now to know my end
From troubles me defend
Make me know measure of my days
In life's brief span to know your ways
To me your mercy send
To me your mercy send

You have made my days a hand-breadth
You them have ordained, set
Mankind at best state vain they be
Outcome may be futility
Though we may know you yet
Though we may know you yet

As a vain show, as a shadow
Pride, riches, they are so
But help us to wait, hope in you
You guide us to do good works true
Prosperity does flow
Prosperity does flow

Our little life compared to you
Your creation you view
And we may live life in your sight
Come to us and dispel the night
With graces not a few
With graces not a few

You Liking?

You 'liking' there?

You pressing that 'Like' button often?

You can even like your own poems

But only once

Though you may be able to come back

And like them again - and again - and....

Only one 'like' each time though

That's bit of cheating there!

And it's a bit 'sad' I know

For people with nothing better to do - lol

Or in need of a huge ego trip

But, hey, why not 'like' your poems once

If no-one else has 'liked' them

You will at least have one 'like'

Even if it's your own!

And - there's no 'dislike' button

No one writes 'I don't care for this poem much'

Someone wrote that on a load of poems

On another site somewhere

And incurred poet's wrath

Whoops!

Woof, woof, Fido still on guard

For any poems not marked 18+

When they should be!

Our Priestly Person

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Hebrews 4 v.14-16

Seeing we have a great high priest
Jesus, cares unto least
He is passed into the heavens
We view Him through faith's lens

He Jesus the Son of God, let
Us hold fast even yet
Our profession, our faith in Him
In word, deed, prayer, and hymn

For we have not a high priest which
Cannot be touched, but rich
From His store He can sympathise
For us He not denies

He can feel our infirmities
Our weaknesses are these
For He full divine, full human
Knows human hearts, each one

And He was in all points tempted
Yet without sin, our Head
Let us therefore come boldly to
His throne, find help anew

The throne of grace, that we may find
His presence loving, kind
Obtain mercy, and help of grace
In times of need we face

Testimony Of Tabitha

Tune: Ellers

('Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise')

Acts 9 v.36-42

Now at Joppa was certain disciple
Tabitha, or Dorcas, Gazelle, name-call
She was full of good works, charitable
Deeds she did, a fine witness unto all

And she fell sick, and died, then they prepared
Her for burial, tender care they shared
Laid her in upper room, and for Peter
Sent, for to come from Lydda to Joppa

When he was come they showed him Tabitha
Widows stood weeping, showed things made by her
The coats and garments, creativity
By these they said she would remembered be

But Peter caused them leave, then alone he
Kneeled and prayed, then turned to the body, see
Said, "Tabitha, arise", she opened eyes
Saw Peter, and then sat up, no denies

He gave her his hand, helped her from her bed
Then to people and widows he her led
Presented her alive, and it was known
Many believed in the Lord, wonder shown

Stone Sensibilities

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

Matthew 21 v.42 & v.44

Christ, He be the chief corner stone
The house built sure on Him alone
Yet the builders Him rejected
Would build up their own house instead

Yet same corner stone is become
Head of the corner, not just some
Of the building does He uphold
But every part, let it be told

This is the Lord's doing, it be
Marvellous in our eyes, we see
Building is built by Him, secure
Founded on Christ for evermore

Whoso shall fall on this stone shall
Be broken, heed what now does tell
But on whoso this stone shall fall
They shall be ground to powder all

Lord, help us rather fall on you
And willing to be broken too
That you fall not on us, it dire
It shall be our end, our expire

But moulded in you service, we
To your plan and shape sure will be
Part of the building, of the whole
We are in body, spirit, soul

Cooooee - Oh no!

Cooooee - Oh no!

I am back - it looks like it

I was cut orf - now that's painful!

Computer says 'yes' and has let me in again

I couldn't get in to this site

For about two weeks

I could say 'I'm back - for now'

Touch wood - touches head! lol

Hope I can stay

Just this site it was -

'Site taking too long to load' message appeared

Or was it - I been holidaying?

Or been to the moon and back 4,367 times?

Sailed round the world 5,846 times?

I fell down a black hole?

Or summat like that

But a coincidence?

I got back in nearly the same day

That a friend is resuming self-employment

After recovering from a operation for a few weeks

There was some delay to his healing

If I had not enquired

I would never have known

Why he had seemingly 'disappeared'....

Woof woof!

Fido and I send greetings again!

Finite And Infinite

Tune: St Margaret

('O love that wilt not let me go')

Psalm 102 v.25-38

Of old, LORD, you have laid foundation
Of the earth, formed every nation
The heavens are work of your hands
You LORD of all peoples and lands
Great things by you are done

Earth and heavens they shall perish
But you eternally refresh
You shall endure, continue ever
Subject to age and decay ne'er
Yet you your works cherish

They all shall grow old as garment
As coat or cloak fading or rent* (*torn)
You shall change them, they shall be changed
In your purposes thus unfeigned
Grace to us you have sent

But you are the same, and your years
Shall have no end, your power appears
The children of your servants shall
Continue, descendants fare well
Set firm in godly fears

A Little Leaven

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Luke 13 v.20-21

Jesus said, What shall I liken
Kingdom of God to then?
It is like leaven or yeast, so
This comparison know

It is like leaven that one takes
To use it when one bakes
it be hidden in three measures
Of meal, it be there sure

Adn then the whole bread is leavened
Teh ingredients blend
The leaven causes it to rise
We see, there no denies

It hidden, though with potential
To grow much, expand all
It prospers sure, sustenance gives
Who eats this bread [of life] e'er lives

Vengeance Vindication

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu, lover of my soul')

Psalm 94 v.14-23 parts

The LORD will not abandon
His people, not e'en one
His inheritance He will
Not forsake, preserve it still
But judgement it shall return
Unto righteousness, and learn
All the upright in heart sure
Shall follow it evermore

Who will rise up for the LORD
Against the evil? His word
Speak to them, or for Him stand
Against evil workers hand?
Unless the LORD had been my
Help, and if He passed me by
My soul would have soon dwelt in
Silence, been downcast within

When I said, My foot slips, your
Mercy, LORD, upheld me sure
In multitude of my thoughts
Your comforts, LORD, me have brought
Delight to my soul, shall throne
Of evil fellowship own
With you, good and gracious King?
No, you shall your judgements bring

The LORD He is my defence
My God, rock of refuge hence

He shall judge righteously, end
Wickedness, His vengeance send
it belongs to Him alone
It by Him perfectly shown
He shall cut off enemies
His rule and reign then all see

Some Mysteries Of Life

Oohh, something spiritual again, Orchi?
Maybe 'deep', thoughtful, philosophical ,etc?
Summat of vital importance maybe?

Nope! Well, it may be of interest
Pondering a few mysteries of life here
Such as - If there is a fire, how do we get out
If Fire Doors say 'keep closed at all times'?

And have they found Bill Posters yet?
Or his relative Bill Stickers?
They are gonna be prosecuted
But it don't say what for?
Can't understand that!

And what is the longest word?
That hippo-wotsit word? Or Supercala.....
I dunno wot it means!
Nope - it's 'smiles'
Cos there is a sMILEs between beginning and end

And now - the unfathomable
Fido - does he even exist?
A talking, reading dog
Who knows 99% of what there is to know.
What bit don't he know? The 1%.

And why say 5 words
When 30 will do?
Ain't no charge for words, or is there?
How much does a vowel cost? And a consonant?
And is waffle free?

I'll leave ya to figure these out
And any other mysteries ya may know
Along these lines
And - was you there in 1066?
In person I mean!
Heehee

Guidance Of Governors

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 72 parts

O God, give Kings, Queens your judgements
Wisdom, righteousness, may they sense
You as the LORD God in each thing
And unto you their worship bring

May they judge your people rightly
And poor, needy with equity
Those that govern guide by you by light
To do that pleasing in your sight

Their name shall continue ever
And last while the sun does confer
Light of day upon mankind, too
Endure while many moons show true

And people shall in them be blessed
And nations shall sure find their rest
The Lord God shall not disappoint
But will all for the good appoint

Hope Of Help

Tune: Laus Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Psalm 20 parts

The LORD hear you in trouble's day
Answer your prayers, make a way
Through, and name of God defend you
You be in His keeping true

God send help from sanctuary
To you, tend you graciously
Strengthen you out of Zion, see
His Temple residency

God remember your offerings
Sacrifices, all these things
Grant you according to your heart
What it desires in each part

And fulfil your counsel, purpose
We will rejoice, even us
In His salvation, in His name
Set up banners, show His fame

The LORD fulfil your petitions
He will hear us, daughters, sons
Enemies fall, we are risen
Save, LORD, children, women, men

Worship Worthies

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 95 v.1-7

O come, let us sing to
The LORD with praise anew
Let us make joyful noise unto
The LORD, he good and true
Rock of our salvation
And unto each nation
Let us come before His presence
And Him in worship sense

Come to Him, thanksgiving
Joyful noise to Him bring
Sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
To Him worship belongs
For the LORD a God great
Is, of royal estate
A great King, He above gods all
Will hear us when we call

In His hand are the deep
Places, He does them keep
The strength and height of hills also
Are His too, this we know
The sea is His, he made
It, marvellous displayed
And His hands formed the dry land, He
Creator of all be

O come, let us worship
Him, serve in deed and lip* (*word)

Let us bow down and kneel before
The LORD our maker sure
Each creature to Him yield
He perfect rules does wield
For He our God, we His people
The sheep of His hand all

Penitent Prose

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

Psalm 38 v.18-22

I will my sin now declare
To you, Lord, with you it share
In my sorrow, forgive I
Ask you to do by and by

But my enemies are strong
Though I do after you long
They are vigorous, lively
Seeking now to trample me

They also that evil give
Unto me for good, I live
Following things that good be
But they taunt me constantly

Forsake me not, O LORD, you
My God are, I know it true
Be not far from me, help bring
LORD, you save, to you I sing

Possessing Possessions

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Obadiah 1 v.17-21 parts {Old Testament prophet}

Then upon mount Zion shall be
Deliverance, salvation free
And there shall too be holiness
Israel shall possessions possess

Israel, they shall be as a fire
And as a flame, for judgement dire
On Esau's land, it Edom be
Shall be devoured fully, see

Israel shall thus possess land, see
Of Edom too, their enemy
For they not helped them in times past
But rather bitterness did last

Those returned from captivity
They shall gain sure the victory
Edom shall be judged for the LORD's
The kingdom shall be, true His words

Algebraic Attack!

Ohhh! *((^(\$£*)&*!!&\$

And furthermore - ()*&^\$^&*NH£"^*~

And even - ()&^%\$%~~}!\$£&**!!

Note to self:

Whatever's the matter Orchi?

Why you ranting and raving like this?

You'll make our ears burn

If you dared to translate this

Don't reach for the 'translate' function

On your laptop/computer, etc!

Nooo, I'm not in a state

I'm not in a mood

I'm doing a bit of algebra

Are ya familiar with them algebraic equations?

Or is it all as a foreign language to ya?

Oh yes, we can all do $3 + x = 5$

Simples - the answer is 2

But what about:

$3 \times 4y + 2bc / 4,536a - (3.6 - 47\%) + 5.375 \times \text{bbc1?}$

I made that all up - did I?

Answers on a postcard if you know the answer

I dunno the answer

It could be

27 and a half pork pies plus 15 bags of crisps

For all I know

Notice the 'bbc1' at the end?

You pulling our leg Orchi?

Fido understands it perfectly of course.

Sometimes it's enough though
To make ya say &%\$i]#+^8%\$£)?!
Or to go barmy and say
Whhhh????????????????!!!
(£ obtained by 'alt gr' and '4' keys
On my keyboard anyway)
And I don't mean in an algebraic form!
Oohh! heehee.

Now c'mon Orchi, says Fido
You know there's only 24 and a half pork pies in the answer!

Fruitful Friends

Tune: Song 34

('Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go')

John 15 v.12-16

Jesus said, This is my command
To you, hear, do, and understand
That you love one another, see
As I have loved you, so it be

Greater love has no one than this
It a comfort, eternal bliss
That one lay down their life for friends
And care, compassion here attends

You are my friends if you do what
Soever I command, your lot
Henceforth I call you not servants
But show to you my commandments

For the servants know not what their
Lord does, they do not in it share
But I have called you friends, for all
I have heard I share, and you call

All things I have heard of [my] Father
I have not hidden, but rather
Have made them known to you, and you
Have not chosen me, this is true

But I have chosen you, and by
My appointing, with no deny
You shall go and bring forth fruit, so
It shall remain, in goodness grow

That whatsoever you shall ask
Of the Father, small or large task
Asking in my name, and He shall
Give it to you, you shall fare well

Salvation Shown

Tune: Lyngham

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 86 v.9-17 parts

All nations, O LORD, who you have made
Shall come, and none shall fade
Shall come, and none shall fade
Worship before you, glorify
Your name, and know you nigh
Your name, and know you nigh
Your name, your name, and know you nigh

For you are great, and wonders do
You God alone and true
You God alone and true
Teach me your way, O LORD, I will
Walk in your truth here still
Walk in your truth here still
Walk in, walk in your truth here still

Unite my heart to your name fear
In awe, reverence here
In awe, reverence here
I will, O Lord my God, praise you
With all my heart I do
With all my heart I do
With all, with all my heart I do

And I will your name glorify
E'ermore with no deny
E'ermore with no deny
For great is your mercy to me
Your saving help I see

Your saving help I see
Your saving, your saving help I see

For you saved me from depths of hell
From low places, I tell
From low places, I tell
Though enemies against me rise
You hear my troubles, sighs
You hear my troubles, sighs
You hear, you hear my troubles. sighs

For you, O Lord, are a God full
Of compassion to all
Of compassion to all
And gracious, longsuffering be
Plenty truth and mercy
Plenty truth and mercy
Plenty, plenty truth and mercy

O turn to me, and have mercy
Upon me, my strength be
Upon me, my strength be
Save me, show me for good a sign
Shame those who me malign
Shame those who me malign
Shame those, shame those who me malign

That too enemies your good may see
And know that too freely
And know that too freely
You LORD have helped and comforted
Me, kept me in safe stead
Me, kept me in safe stead
Me, kept, me kept me in safe stead

Sing-Song Sounds

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 98

Sing the LORD a new song
Praise Him day, night long
For He has done marvels
And our gloom dispels
His right hand, and holy
Arm, strength, it so be
Has gained Him victory
For eternity

The LORD He has made known
Salvation, it shown
And too shown righteousness
Of His, He will bless
Shown among the nations
All earth's daughters, sons
He remembered mercy
And truth faithfully

He recalls His people
Remembers them all
All ends of earth have seen
His works fervent, keen
Have seen the salvation
Unto each nation
Salvation of God, see
E'er effective be

Make a joyful noise to
The LORD, praise anew

All the earth make loud noise
Adopt worship poise
Rejoice and sing praises
Each sweet song raises
Join all you instruments
And His presence sense

Harps and lyres and psalms be
Sung with melody
Trumpets, cornets make sound
That His praise redound
For He the LORD, the King
Ruler o'er each thing
Creation too join, for
He great God is sure

All in earth, sea, and sky
Creatures far and nigh
Rivers, streams, and hills stir
Joyful together
Before the LORD, for He
Comes to judge earth, see
Righteously judges He
Folk with equity

Prayer Pointers

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Matthew 6 v.5-15

Your [heavenly] Father knows what you need
Before you ask, will you feed
But desires us each to pray
And know more His will and way

When praying do be sincere
Attitude of godly fear
Not as hypocrites, for they
For to be seen of men pray

Truly they have their reward
That with them does sure accord
Praise of men they seek, but we
Who pray true pray secretly

In our room, and close the door
There do pray, it be no chore
Pray to father which is in
Secret, He will hear therein

And your Father which does see
In secret shall openly
Reward you, better than praise
Of men's laud that they can raise

Use not vain repetitions
Endlessly please one by one
Some think that they be heard for
Their much speaking more and more

But after this manner pray
As 'The Lord's Prayer' day by day
He shall come, all your needs meet
From His throne, His mercy-seat

Why Wisdom? - Wisdom Series (8)

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Proverbs 1 v.1-7

Why proverbs, spoken by wise Solomon?
And other wise folk, useful to each one
They be to know wisdom and instruction
To learn and do them, useless unto none

And to perceive words of understanding
To make good choices and be discerning
To receive the instruction of wisdom
Unto all people, not only to some

To learn justice, judgement and equity
To give subtlety and prudence, so be
To the simple, and to the young knowledge
And discretion wisdom does to them pledge

A wise person will hear, and will increase
Learning, flow of wisdom shall never cease
And those of understanding shall attain
Unto wise counsels and more wisdom gain

So understanding proverbs, and meanings
Their interpretation, they wholesome things
Words of the wise, their dark sayings, riddles
And enigmas, in life wisdom us schools

The fear of the LORD, reverential awe
Is the beginning of true wisdom sure
It the principal thing to get, but they
Who despise wisdom they shall fall away

Hailing Hope

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Psalm 130 v.6-8

My soul waits for the LORD, for He
To hope in, He sure worthy be
Let all His people hope and trust
Though we mere mortals made of dust

Why hope in the LORD? It is for
That there be with Him, from His store
Mercy, loving-kindness and too
Plenteous redemption anew

It be an abundant supply
For He the LORD does never die
And He shall His people redeem
From all their sins, salvation's theme

Confident Commitment

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 65 v.1-5

O God, in Sion praise
Waits for you, anthems raise
To you shall the vows performed be
Each deed diligently

O you, LORD, that hear prayer
Our needs with you we share
Unto you shall come peoples all
Turn to you, on you call

Sins prevail against me
Look not on them, not see
But forgive, and them purge away
Bring us salvation's day

Blessed they who you choose to
Approach to you anew
That they may dwell where you reside
They may in you confide

We shall satisfied be
With your goodness plenty
In righteousness you shall answer
Us, and firmly assure

You are the confidence
Of all the earth now, hence
Of all they on earth, on the sea
Saviour of all you be

Hope And Help

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalm 34 v.18-22

The righteous cry, and the LORD hears
Delivers them from fears
Saves them out of all troubles, He
Still their strong helper be

The LORD is nigh to them that be
Of a broken heart, see
And such as of spirit contrite
Or crushed, he will help right

Many are the afflictions, so
Of the righteous, we know
But the LORD saves them from them all
He hears when they do call

His protection shall safe them keep
They in His fold His sheep
Evil shall slay the wicked, they
Not stand in righteous' day

They that do hate the righteous shall
Be desolate, we tell
But the LORD does redeem the soul
Of His servants, makes whole

None of them who do in Him trust
Though all they be mere dust
They shall not be desolate, they
Be blessed, they thrive alway

Keeper Kindlings

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Psalm 121

I will lift my eyes to the mount
Of Zion, whence flow blessings fount
My help comes from there, from the LORD
Who made heaven, earth by His word

He will not let your footsteps fall
He that keeps you ne'er sleeps at all
He the LORD, he your keeper be
Protector of His sheep is He

He be your shade, sun shall not smite
You in things of day, He your might
Nor moon shall smite in things of night
In times of darkness he your light

The LORD shall preserve you from all
Evil, and He shall hear your call
To Him, and shall preserve your soul
Keep too in body, spirit whole

He shall preserve your going out
And your coming in, with no doubt
From this time for, and even for
Evermore, it a comfort sure

Disciples Denial

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Matthew 26 v.30-35 and v.69-75 parts

Jesus said to disciples, they
Would desert Him and run away
For it is written, I shall smite
Shepherd, sheep scattered in that night

But after He has arisen
Disciples they would see Him then
Though Peter said, Lord, though all may
Leave, I will not leave you this day

Jesus said, Truly I say to
You, before cock crows this night, you
Shall deny me three times, yet he
Said, I will no deny you, see

Even if I should with you die
No, I will never you deny
And so said the disciples all
That they would not stumble or fall

Later there at Jesus' arrest
Peter denied, and not confessed
That he was with Jesus, was thrice
He said he did not know the Christ

He went out and wept bitterly
Though later he restored would be
Lord, give us courage, that we stay
With you, who stay with us each day

Trusting Truly

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 27 parts

The LORD is my light and my salvation
Whom shall I fear? He great midst the nation
The LORD is the strength of my life, of whom shall
I be afraid? With Him I will true fare well

One thing I have desired of the LORD, see
That will I seek after, that I may be
Dwelling in the house of the LORD all the days
Of my life, to behold His beauty, His ways

In the time of trouble He shall me hide
In His shelter sure I there shall abide
In His temple I shall enquire of Him there
He shall His wisdom and comforts with me share

Hear me, O LORD, when I with my voice call
Unto you, and do answer my prayers all
When you said, seek my face, my heart said to you
Your face, LORD, will I seek, refresh me, renew

Wait on the LORD, and of good courage be
And He shall strengthen your heart, e'en freely
Wait, I say, on the LORD, His goodness He will
Reveal, show to you in land of living still

Promise of the Spirit

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

John 14 v.26-27

Jesus said that the Comforter
Which is the Holy Spirit sure
The Helper, He the Paraclete
Shall come, and you shall Him true greet

The Father, God, He will Him send
In Jesus' name, He will attend
To us, He shall teach us all things
All things needed to each He brings

And He shall bring all things unto
Our remembrance, fresh and anew
Whatsoever Jesus has said
To us, all for our daily bread

Peace, Jesus He does with us leave
His peace He gives with no deceive
Not as the world gives does He give
But His true peace that we may live

He says, Let heart not troubled be
Nor let it be afraid, but see
When I go away, suffer, die
I shall rise again, it no lie

To Like Or Not To Like

Nope, not a bit of Shakespeare
Not 'To be or not to be'
But a rendition from Orchi
But he ain't gonna sing it (pewh!)
Fido won't let him

'It's sad I know', says Fido to me
'Ain't you got nothing better to do than this?'
Discovering we can 'Like' and even 'Unlike' poems
By the simple of a click or two on the 'Like' button

'Why would you 'Unlike' it?' asks Fido
'Erm, we might change our mind
We might like a poem, but then not like it after all', I reply
You might cross a poet off your Christmas card list even!
Or is that going too far?

'Doh! make up your mind', says Fido
'And why you always 'Like' your own poems?' he asks me

'Well, no one else may 'Like' them', I reply
It will give me (and you too)
At least one 'Like' on your own poems! heehee.

Now you've wasted about 32 seconds reading this
'Likes' please!!

Mystery Manifested

Tune: Lobe den Herren

('Praise the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation')

Ephesians 3 v.4-12 parts

The mystery of Christ
We may understand, shall suffice
Our knowledge of Him, for
Was not known in past ages sure
But now revealed
No longer hidden, concealed
Apostles, prophets show what God willed

'Tis that the Gentiles should
Be fellow-heirs, planned as god would
And of the same body
With the Jews, partake with them, see
Of His promise
In Christ by the gospel, this
His purpose be that none do miss

It be so that all may
See His plan in salvation's day
That heavenly powers
Know by the church what endowers
He does set sure
Upon the church evermore
His manifold wisdom from His store

This be according to
His eternal purpose, we view
Purposed in Christ Jesus
To bring salvation unto us
He our Lord, so

Boldness and access we know
And confidence, faith, in Him grow.

Creation Crescendo

Tune/Song: 'The bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond'

Psalm 104 v.1-10 and v.24 (Chorus)

Bless the LORD, O my soul, He comes to make whole
He be very great, glad be my soul
He is clothed with honour and majesty, and light
He covers Himself with, beauteous sight

Chorus

O LORD, your works, how manifold they sure are
All in earth, sea, sky, to farthest star
In wisdom you have mad them all for your glory
Earth is full of your riches, so it be* (*Amen)

He stretches out the heavens like a curtain
Displaying His marvels unto men
He lays the foundation of the waters, sea sings
Clouds His chariot, He walks on winds wings - Chorus

He makes His angels spirits, and His servants
He makes a flaming fire, e'en from hence
He laid the foundations of the earth, firm and strong
That they be not removed but remain long - Chorus

He covered he sea, the great deep, as with garment
Mount Zion His residence, His tent
When floods came to pass they stood above the mountains
He rebuked them, they returned to streams, glens - Chorus

The rivers go up by the mountains, and down
By the valleys, passing through each town
They go by the ways that He has appointed, set
His creative power has ne'er failed yet - Chorus

Refreshing Rest

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Mark 6 v.31

Come you yourselves apart, rest a while
From work you have done, extra mile
Whate'er it be in service to me
Jesus said, Come now, refreshed be

For where they were, many came and went
Disciples needed rest, relent
From their endeavours, good though they be
We cannot toil on endlessly

Revive us, Lord, strengthen us as we
Take comfort, relaxation, see
In peace communing with you, Saviour
Confident of salvation sure

Then when returning to our labours
In your harvest-field, each one shares
Empower us with your Spirit to
Go forth, evangelise anew

Retaining peace in our minds and hearts
Your presence in our lives, all parts
With wisdom guide us, waking each day
Know you more, the Life, Truth, and Way

Prayer of Jonah - Minor Prophets Series

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Jonah 2 v.1-9

The LORD a great fish did prepare
To swallow Jonah there
In midst of sea, and Jonah be
In fish three days, nights he
He prayed to God from the belly
Of the fish, distressed he
Said, I cried by reason of my
Affliction, made my cry

Cried to the LORD, He did me hear
From belly of hell clear
They had cast him into the deep
God's words he did not keep
He said, The floods me surrounded
Your billows, waves I dread
LORD, for they have me over passed
I from your sight am cast

Yet I will look again toward
Your holy Temple, LORD
The waters they did me surround
E'en to my soul were found
The deeps, they closed me round about
You heard my call, my shout
The weeds were wrapped about my head
I was as living dead

I went to bottom of the mounts
From where spring the sea's founts

The earth did trap me as with bars
I saw no sky or stars
But you, LORD, have saved me and brought
Up my life, have me caught
Rescued me from the depths of sea
You true my LORD God be

When my soul did within me faint
And was held in restraint
I did the LORD remember, prayed
On Him my soul was stayed
And my prayer unto Him did come
In His Temple, His home
He did rescue me from the deep
I now His word shall keep

They that do observe of lying
Vanities, idol things
They do forsake their own mercy
But I praise you, LORD, free
I make my sacrifice of praise
To you, LORD, and thanks raise
Will pay my vows, say, Salvation
Is of the LORD, 'tis done

Praise Prominence

Tune/Song: Men of Harlech

Psalm 68 v.1-8

Note: The Chorus is after every two verses, not after every verse.

Sing to God, sing to Him praises
Every heart and voice upraises
Extol Him that rides upon high
Upon heavens sky

Praise His name, it be JEHOVAH
He has triumphed His foes over
Rejoice before Him and worship
True in deed and lip* - Chorus
(*word)

Chorus

Let God arise, let be
Enemies scattered, see
Let them also that Him hate
Flee away before Him great
As the smoke is driven away
And a wax melts without delay
Before he fire, so the wicked
At God's presence fled

But let the righteous be glad, let
Them rejoice before God e'en yet
Yes, let them exceeding rejoice
Praise Him with one voice

He does defend the fatherless
And as a father He does bless
Brings justice to widows, needy

Puts down proud, greedy - Chorus

He does help the lonely, brings friends

And by His power them defends

When he went before His people

He marched with them all

Through the exodus from Egypt

He was with His people, them kept

The earth shook, the heavens dropped rain

Over desert plain - Chorus

Gospel-Givers

Tune: Ever Faithful

('Let us with a gladsome mind')

1 Corinthians 9 v.18-24 parts

What be reward, hey who share
Gospel with compassion, care?

Chorus

A stewardship is to me
Made, that I a witness be

Reward be that I freely
Share the gospel completely - Chorus

Not charging, not abusing
Gospel, but sincere, each thing - Chorus

Be made all things to all men (mankind)
That some might come, be saved then - Chorus

Run as in a race to win
Praying for God's grace therein - Chorus

Jerusalem Journey

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me
Let us go, come now, see
Into the house of the LORD, for
We shall stand there, 'tis sure

His house at Jerusalem be
A city compactly
Built together, it firm and strong
We sing with joyful song

The people of the LORD there go
To His Temple, and show
Their praise to Him, and thanks Him give
The LORD who e'er does live

For there are set thrones of judgement
Of justice, discernment
Pray for Jerusalem its peace
That conflicts, troubles cease

They shall prosper who the city
Do love, so shall it be
Peace be within your walls, and too
Your palaces anew

For sakes of brethren, companions
To human daughters, sons
I will now say, Peace be in you
I shall seek your good true

Creature Comforts

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Acts 14 v.11-17

At Lystra, Paul and Barnabas
The gods have come to us
So said the people when man lame
Was healed, to him they came

Paul and Barnabas they did say
Sirs, why you act this way?
We be not gods, but men like you
With humanity true

And we preach to you, that you turn
From these vain things and learn
That God He is the God living
Who has made every thing

Heaven and earth, and too the sea
All things that in them be
Who in times past He did allow
Us walk own ways, yet now

Now see, he did leave us witness
Of how He would us bless
In doing good, and giving rain
From heaven, then sun again

And too giving seasons fruitful
Providing unto all
Filling our hearts with food, gladness
Hs graces shown, no less

Just Judgement - Minor Prophets Series

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Amos 5 v.20-24

Shall not day of the [return of the] LORD
Be true unto His word?
For those who do from Him turn back
They be deprived and lack

That day to them shall be
As dark, not as light, see
Very dark, and with no brightness
In it, gloomy, no less

The LORD of them does tire
A situation dire
will not accept the offerings
That each one falsely brings

And will not hear their songs
Hypocrisy prolongs
Wile they idols too do serve free
Mixing their worship, see

But let judgement, justice
Run down, good shall be this
And righteousness as mighty stream
Bright shine the LORD's light-beam

Glory And Graces

Tune: Unser Herrscher (*Our Ruler, Lord, etc)*

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Psalm 96

O sing to the LORD a new song
Make His praises all day long
Sing unto the LORD, all the earth
All whom He has granted birth
Sing unto the LORD, bless His name
Name of honour, worthy fame

Show forth His salvation daily
Spread it universally
Declare His glory midst nations
Unto all earth's daughters, sons
Show His wonders midst all people
They shine bright and glorious all

For the LORD is great, and greatly
To be praised, reverently
He to be feared above gods all
Let us praise Him, hear His call
For gods of nations are idols
Without any life or souls

But the LORD the heavens He made
'Tis His creation displayed
Before Him honour, majesty
Arrayed in resplendency
Strength, beauty in His sanctuary
Worship him now thankful, free

Give unto the LORD, you people

Glory and strength, you not fall
Give unto the LORD the glory
Due unto His name, so be
Bring an offering to Him give
In His presence you shall live

Worship the LORD in the beauty
Of holiness joyfully
Fear before Him all the earth, stand
In awe of Him every land
Say among the nations, that He
The LORD reigns for e'er, so be

The world also established be
That it shall not move or flee
The LORD shall judge the people right
Heavens rejoice in His sight
And let the earth be glad, sea roar
All in it, to farthest shore

Let fields be joyful, all therein
And too woods their song begin
Before the LORD, for He comes to
Judge the earth with justice true
With righteousness, and the people
With His truth, e'en one and all

Unworldly Wisdom

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

1 Corinthians 2 v.9-13

By human means eye has not seen
Nor ear heard, has not been
Nor has entered into man's heart
Things of God, no, no part

The things which he has prepared for
They that love Him, 'tis sure
But God has to us them revealed
By His Spirit, appealed [to us]

For the Spirit searches all things
Things of God to us brings
Even the deep things of God, we
By Him spiritual[ly] see

For what man knows things of a man
Except man's spirit can
Show him things of human life, so
By the Spirit we know

We know the things of God which He
Gives unto us freely
And also we them speak and share
In His wisdom here, there

Candle Continuing

Tune & Hymn: Gentle Jesus, meek and mild

Adapted with permission from 'Little Candle' poem by Frenia

Little candle burning bright
Casts shadows on golden light
With warm glow throughout the night
Bringing clearness, you our dight*
(* dight - make ready for a use or purpose; prepare)

Kissed by breeze, you gently flick
Burns slowly, your soul the wick
Unbowed, shine through thin and thick
Sturdy on your candlestick

Bringing comfort, memories too
Of days gone, when love was new
We were wed 'neath skies of blue
All this was observed by you

Love now gone, I alone, see
You bring peace and joy to me
Recall how life used to be
Yet your flame still bold and free

Thanks you, candle, shining bright
My companion through the night
Blessing me with golden light
All resplendent to the sight

Trumpet Triumph

Tune: Morning Star

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Revelation 11 v.15-19

Seventh angel trumpet blew
All heavenly hosts knew
For great voices they did say
'Tis even so this day
The kingdoms of the world are
Become, if near or far
The kingdoms of our Lord, too
And of His Christ, we view

And He shall reign for ever
And ever, cease never
Then, the twenty-four elders
Before God they do share
In worship, leaving their thrones
Around God, each one owns
Him as their Lord, they worship
Him, and praise Him with lips

Saying, We give you thanks free
O Lord God Almighty
Who is, and were, and shall be
You live eternally
You have taken to you your
Great power, have reigned sure
And he nations were angry
Time of your wrath they see

And time that dead should judged be
By you all righteously

And that you should reward give
To your servants who live
For you, and too saints, prophets
Each on you their heart sets
And they that do your name fear
Small, great, they you revere

And that you shall them destroy
They who by plan and ploy
Destroy the earth and revile
Creation, it defile
Then temple of God open
In heaven, and was seen
The ark of His covenant
Through clouds of the sky rent

An awesome sight to behold
And too, let it be told
There were voices and lightnings
And rumbling thunderings
An earthquake, and a great hail
These things they shall no fail
Come worship Him, Almighty
His power endless be

Safety Shielding

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Psalm 91 v.1-7

Courage, confidence, for they
That do dwell in their day
In secret place of most High
They shall know the LORD nigh
Resting under His shadow
He Almighty, they know
His wings outspread, abide here
Beneath His presence dear

I will say of the LORD, He
My refuge, fortress be
My God, in Him will I trust
Though I am man, mere dust
Surely he shall deliver
You from the bird's trapper
As if from snare of fowler
He shall save you that hour

And from pestilence, peril
Or deadly plague, come, call
Upon Him, He shall cover
You save with His feathers
Under His wings your refuge
Shall be, thus take courage
His truth your shield and buckler* (*small shield)
He to your help shall stir

You shall be afraid no time
Throughout life's way and rhyme

Whether it terror of night
Or in the daytime bright
Nor fear plague of the darkness
Nor of the day no less
Promise, it not come near you
The LORD shall keep you true

Shut Up Shutting Up?

Now - should I shut up?
But I can shut up shutting up?
Or will I start waffling again?
'Probably' is the answer!

Can this go on?
This nuttiness...
And this talking dog, Fido
Who don't even exist!

Make up yer mind Orchi
Singing or not?
And writing poems to sing
Must ya sing every one of them yourself
And torture everyone else?

Fido says 'I should give up singing lessons if I was you'
You've had 5,347 lessons - and no change
Though your tutor's a millionaire now
Paying him for them lessons
Don't ya know he's fooling ya
Saying 'You're improving greatly!'?

But onward with nuttiness.....
The Hastings Reunion for October
As Goldfinch and I say
'You can join us'
The only condition is
That you must have been there in person in 1066
Like we both were!

Heehee
And - Rofl

Why you rolling about on the floor laughing, Orchi?
Oohh, I can't tell ya
Ya might swoon! lol.

Evening And Everytime

Tune: North Coates

('O my Saviour, lifted')

Psalm 134

Behold, bless you the LORD
You who have His word
All you servants of His
Here contentment, bliss

You who on night duty
In the temple be
By night you stand to praise
And Him anthems raise

Lift up your hands, so be
In His sanctuary
Bless the LORD, and He bless
You, and nothing less

He give you protection
Through hours, each one
Lonely, dark, others sleep
The LORD shall all keep

So continuous praise
Through days and nights raise
He all times be worthy
To receive glory

Sufferings Sensed

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

John 16 v.1-4, and v.7

Jesus said, I do say
Things unto you this day
That when troubles do come, you may
Understand true my way

That you not fall away
I speak to you today
Forth telling they shall put you out
Of your churches, no doubt

Yes, and even the time
When committing the crime
Of killing believers they shall
Say, I do serve God well

And these things they shall do
Persecute, trouble you
Because they have not know me nor
The Father, it be sure

But these things I have told
You that you may be bold
In sufferings, afflictions days
What men may do or say [to you]

So that you may recall
I have said to you all
That troubles shall come, when they do
The Spirit shall help you

Troubles, Trials, Trusting

Tune: Laus Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Psalm 52 v.8

I am like a green olive tree
It be by God's mercy, see
His mercy I trust in ever
Nought from Him can me sever

Psalm 54 v.5

God is my helper, and the LORD
Is with them, true is His word
With them that do my soul uphold
So His graces thus be told

Psalm 55 v.6

Though sometimes I wish I had wings
To escape what trouble brings
Then I would fly away, and be
At rest, and from troubles free

Psalm 55 v.22

Yet I abide, cast my burden
On the LORD, He will help then
Shall sustain me, not allow me
To be moved, steadfast I be

Psalm 56 v.4

In God I will praise His word sure
It be truth for evermore
In God I will trust, will not fear
What men may do to me here

Psalm 57 v.1

Have mercy on me, O God, I

Shall trust you though troubles nigh

In shadow of your wings abide

'Til troubles o'er, there reside

Satisfying Supply

Tune: St James Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

Psalm 36 v.6-9

How excellent, O God, true this
Is your loving-kindness
Therefore children of men put their
Trust in you, peace they share

They trust under your wings shadow
There contentment they know
They shall be satisfied and full
With your abundance all

In your house, your temple, fullness
You shall share with them, bless
And you shall make them drink, treasures
River of your pleasures

For with you is the fount of life
Easing toil, calming strife
And in your light we shall see light
So banished darkness, night

Times To Trust

Tune: Marching

(one tune to: 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Psalm 56 parts

Have mercy upon me, LORD, for
People do oppress me sure
My enemies, they would daily
Trouble me without delay

When many do fight against me
O God, do my helper be
When I am afraid, I shall turn
To you, and my trust re-learn

In God I will here praise His word
He my help, my prayers He heard
I have in Him put my trust. so
Shall not fear what men can do

Though they trouble me, my help be
In the LORD God, 'tis true, see
Through fears and trials He shall sustain
Me, I praise Him here again

Now And Then....

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

1 Corinthians 13 v.12-13

Now we see through mirror darkly
All to our sight appears dimly
But when we see Christ face to face
We shall see clearly by His grace

Now we know in part, not known all
But when we hear Christ's final call
We shall know e'en as we are known
God's omniscience to us shown

And now abides faith, hope, and love
They from the Spirit, He the dove
But of these three the greatest be
Love, also named as charity

Jerusalem Journey

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me
Let us go, come now, see
Into the house of the LORD, for
We shall stand there, 'tis sure

His house at Jerusalem be
A city compactly
Built together, it firm and strong
We sing with joyful song

The people of the LORD there go
To His Temple, and show
Their praise to Him, and thanks Him give
The LORD, who e'er does live

For there are set thrones of judgement
Of justice, discernment
Pray for Jerusalem its peace
That conflicts, troubles cease

They shall prosper who the city
Do love, so shall it be
Peace be within your walls, and too
Your palaces anew

For sakes of brethren, companions
To human daughters, sons
I will now say, Peace be in you
I shall seek your good true

Just Judgement

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O God')

Psalm 129 parts

Save, Lord, from troubles sore
Those lowly, oppressed, poor
Displaced, troubled, distressed
Bring them your peace and rest

The LORD is righteous, He
A strong support shall be
Cuts in pieces the cords
Where enemy o'erlords

Let them be put to shame
That hate the LORD, His name
let them be as grass, so
Wither before full grown

Nor say to them, "God bless
And prosper you", no less
No "Good bye", no "God be
With you" in evil, see

But peace and harmony
True justice pray there be
Help vulnerable, free
Them from all tyranny

Restful Relationship

Tune and Hymn: 'Jesus is Lord'

Psalm 37 v.5-11

Rest in the LORD
Wait patient, trust in His word
Fret not yourself because of they
[Who are] Evil their way
Nor they who deal
In wicked devices ill
Cease from anger, wrath forsake
The LORD's comfort take

Chorus

Unto the LORD commit your way
Trust in Him, and in His day
Good He shall display

For such shall not
Continue, cut off their lot
Shall be, but they that on the LORD
Wait, true His word
Shall to them be
Then the wicked removed, see
Their place no longer shall be
From them they now free - Chorus

And the meek shall
Inherit the earth, fare well
And shall delight themselves therein
Not marred by sin
There abundance
Of peace, God's presence they sense
Harmony and righteousness

He shall them there bless - Chorus

The Person of the King - Revealing Series (1)

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Matthew 16 v.13-17

Jesus said to disciples, Who
Do men say I am? Do
Tell me, I be the Son of man
Men's replies tell [me] you can

They said, Some say that John you be
The Baptist, you be he
Or Elijah, Jeremiah
Or prophet of old sure

Jesus then said, But who ay you
I am? What think you true?
Simon Peter said, You the Christ be
Son of God completely

The Son of the living God here
Messiah, you appear
Anointed One, from God you sent
With message to repent

Jesus said, Blessed Simon you be
For this not humanly
Revealed to you, my Father, He
In heaven, showed you, see

Laudable Lordship

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Psalm 2 v.1-6 and v.12

Why do the heathen rage and rave?
O LORD, us from enemies save
Why do the people imagine
A vain thing? It worthless therein
The kings of the earth themselves set
To plot against the LORD e'en yet

And rulers they do take counsel
To cast the LORD far from them all
They speak against His anointed
One, Christ, and then these words they said
Let us break their bonds asunder
So folk shall at our power wonder

He that sits in the heavens shall
Laugh at them, the LORD, He knows well
Their plans, they shall be derided
Whate'er evil they decided
Then shall His in wrath to them speak
For they be haughty, proud, not meek

He shall distress them for He be
Deeply displeased, does their works see
Yet says He has set His King on
His holy hill, Zion, His Son
Come, pay Him homage, King of Kings
His name through eternity rings

Prayer Pointers

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Matthew 6 v.5-15

Your [heavenly] Father knows what you need
Before you ask, will you feed
But desires us each to pray
And know more His will and way

When praying do be sincere
Attitude of godly fear
Not as hypocrites, for they
For to be seen of men pray

Truly they have their reward
That with them does sure accord
Praise of men they seek, but we
Who pray true pray secretly

In our room, and close the door
There do pray, it be no chore
Pray to Father which is in
Secret, He will hear therein

And your Father which does see
In secret shall openly
Reward you, better than praise
Of men's laud that they can raise

Use not vain repetitions
Endlessly pleas one by one
Some think that they be heard for
Their much speaking more and more

But after this manner pray
As 'The Lord's Prayer'* day by day
He shall come, all your needs meet
From His throne, His mercy-seat

* 'Our Father, Who art in heaven', etc.

Prosperous Perusals

Tune: The Green Hills of Tyrol

('A Scottish soldier')

The Chorus is sung after every two verses.

Psalm 125 v.1

They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount
Zion, from whence does spring refreshment, blessing's fount
It cannot be removed, abides ever
And it shall be overcome, no, never

Psalm 125 v.2

And as the mountains are round about, see
Jerusalem, so the LORD roundabout is He
Around his people henceforth for ever
He will forsake, leave them never

Chorus

Psalm 126 v.1-2

When the LORD did turn our captivity
We were like them that do dream, whole, carefree
Laughter and joy was our state, for the LORD
Stood faithful e'er to His word

Psalm 126 v.3-4

The LORD has done great things for us, and we
Are glad in Him, for His salvation do we see
Turn us, O LORD, to flow as the streams do
To water the land, and to it renew

Psalm 126 v.5-6

They that go forth weeping, though sad they be
They bear precious seed, and whence does come harvestry
They shall doubtless then come again, and shall bring

Sheaves with them and with joy shall sing - Chorus

Psalm 127 v.1

Except the LORD build the house, they labour
In vain that build, and not knowing the LORD's favour
Except the LORD keep the city, they who do
Watch stay awake in vain, it sure be true

Psalm 127 v.3

A family is a heritage for
The LORD gives them, provides, and blesses them for sure
Worshipping, serving, in Him they prosper
Graces on them He does confer - Chorus

Pursuing Peace

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

1 Peter 3 v.10-12

They that will love life, see good days
Let them refrain tongue always
From evil, and lips no guile speak
No deceit, but humble, meek

Let them turn away from evil
And do good, on the Lord call
Let them seek peace, and it pursue
Blessed be peacemakers, 'tis true

For the eyes of the Lord they be
O'er the righteous, He does see
Them, and His ears are open to
Hear their prayers, praises anew

But the face of the Lord against
They that do evil, they sense
Of His displeasure, Lord, may we
Seek you will and ways humbly

From Darkness To Light

In memory of 9/11

O day of hell and misery!
O day of darkened gloom!
Day turns to night in smoke-filled fumes
A black death-flower comes to bloom

Towers and temples fall to dust
Man's warring madness seen
O woe, the skyline blotted out
Death strikes a blow, vicious and mean

O day of joyful triumph
And everlasting bliss
Hold to Him, the LORD the victorious One
Who meets the guilty world with a kiss

Forgive us, Lord, we know not what we do
Great evil, man rejoices to destroy man
Only you, Lord, can change our hearts
Before you come with winnowing fan

Look, Lord, with mercy on afflicted, bereaved
You who o'er Jerusalem grieved
Where we may not or cannot understand
Show us so we are not deceived

The Lord's great triumph soon shall be seen
Evil vanquished for ever
Love only eternally shall reign
Naught from Him our hearts can sever

O pale grim Hell-rider Death*

Sheathe your sword - this far, no more
O dark of night, give way to light
End of sin, evil, and war

Light of everlasting day dawn on us
Lift our hearts in joy and praise
Trusting in you, King of Kings, Lord of lords for ever
Eternal worship to you we shall raise

* One of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse in the book of Revelation.

Temple Times

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Matthew 21 v.12-16

Jesus went into the temple
Of God, there cast out all
That sold and bought there, overturned
Money-changers cash earned

And too the seats of them that sold
Doves there, and to them told
That His house shall be called, here see
The house of prayer it be

But they den of thieves had it made
They were paid for their trade
Jesus did restore he purpose
Of temple's proper use

The blind and lame unto Him came
In the temple, the same
He healed, then chief priests and scribes saw
His wondrous works for sure

And too they saw children praising
In temple, and saying
Hosanna, Son of David, save
To God they worship gave

They were displeased, said to Jesus
Hear what they say midst us?
Jesus said, Yes, have you ne'er read
What the Scriptures have said?

'Tis out of mouths of babes, infant
God has perfected thence
Praise to His name, their faith simple
As they do on Him call

Pleasant Praises

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 149 v.1-6

Praise you the LORD, sing a new song
Unto Him be it day, night long
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Make praise among His people here
In the congregation draw near
And worship Him with godly fear
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Rejoice in Him who has you made
His creation's great works displayed
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Let His people be joyful in
Their Lord and King, fresh praise begin
Holy Spirit, rise up within
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let them praise His name in the dance
Musical instruments enhance
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Of His glory, for the LORD takes
Pleasure in His people, He makes
Them joyful, each to Him awakes
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For the LORD He will beautify
The meek with salvation, no lie
Alleluia, Alleluia!
let people rejoice in glory
Sing aloud on their beds, so be

Or walking, sitting, standing free
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let the high praises of God be
In their mouths, and expressively
Alleluia, Alleluia!
A two-edged sword in their hand be
Word of God, defeats enemy
In the battle spiritually
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Serene Security

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 26 v.8

LORD, I have loved the place wherein
You inhabit, you dwell therein
In your house, there your honour be
I will worship reverently

Psalm 27 v.1

The LORD, my light, my salvation
And too He be to each nation
Whom shall I fear, the LORD He is
The strength of my life, true is this

Psalm 27 v.4

One thing I have of Him desired
I will seek it and be inspired
'Tis to dwell in His house always
To see His beauty, pray, all days

Psalm 27 v.14

Wait on the LORD, good courage take
And He your heart He strong will make
Wait on Him, and His time shall show
His ways and workings you shall know

Psalm 28 v.7

The LORD He be my strength and shield
To Him alone I safely yield
My heart trusted in Him, and I
Am helped, I praise Him by and by

Psalm 28 v.9

Save your people, O LORD, and bless

Your inheritance, us, no less

Feed them and lift them up ever

You will leave, forsake them never

Treasure Told

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Matthew 13 .52

Every scribe who is instructed
By the Lord, and by His word led
He/She called scholar of old, writing
Of the Lord's ways in each thing

Instructed unto the kingdom
Of heaven, and God's will be done
They are like people with rich store
Of treasure for evermore

Treasure old and new they have sure
Rich in the things of God, not poor
having things new and old to show
In prosperity they grow

Delve deeper into treasure chest
Though it all counted as the best
Or the top layers of the new
Things recently added too

Light Of Life

Tune: Albinus

('Jesus lives! thy terrors now')

1 Corinthians 15 v.55-58

O death, where it be, your sting?
Christ His victory does us bring
Where, O grave, your victory?
Christ has triumphed over death, see
Alleluia!

The sting of death, sin it is
Strength of sin it is the law, this
Is true, but thanks to God be
Through Christ He gives us victory
Alleluia!

'Tis through Him, our Lord Jesus
Christ, who suffered, died, rose for us
Therefore we can be steadfast
Doing good works that shall sure last
Alleluia!

Be unmoveable, always
Holding to this hope through all days
Abounding in the work here
Of the Lord, knowing He is near
Alleluia!

For this much you can know, your
Labour in him, it is ne'ermore
Lost nor vain, bur plan, purpose
He has in each detail for us
Alleluia!

Loving, Doing Good, Lending

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Luke 6 v.31-35

As you would that others should do
Unto you, even you
Do you also to them likewise
it is good in God's eyes

If you love only them that love
You, what good shall that prove?
For sinners also love those who
Love them repay as due

And if you do good only to
Them which do good to you
What thanks have you, no extra done
But equal one to one

And if you lend only to those
Who repay, who you choose
To lend to, what more have you done
Than expect shortage none?

So even love your enemies
And do good, lend to these
Hoping for nothing in return
So more of Christ's ways learn

Your reward then, it shall be great be
You children of God, see
He kind to the good and evil
To thankful, unthankful

Restoring Rejoicings

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 69 v.34-36

Let the heaven and the earth praise
The Lord, and to Him worship raise
The seas too praise Him, all the moves
Therein, He to us goodness proves

For God will save Zion, and will
Build the cities of Judah Still
That people may dwell there, and be
In possession of it, glad, free

The descendants also of His
Servants, they shall inherit this
They that do love His name shall dwell
There, and of His restoring tell

Hopeful Harvest

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Psalm 65 v.9-13

Last verse: Adapted with permission of Michael Edwards
from poem 'Construct'.

The LORD visits the earth, ensures
It receives plenty waters
And greatly He does enrich it
And satisfies it each whit
From the river of God it flows
It be full, no shortage knows
And He makes produce for to grow
Blessings on His land below

He provides grain to us sustain
His harvest graces seen plain
And waters hill and vale and field
They each prosperity yield
If heavy rain or showers light
Or sunshine bright to the sight
He crowns the year with His goodness
With His favour does us bless

The waters fall on the pastures
And too on the wilderness
The little hills rejoice, they know
Refreshment from the LORD so
The pastures, they with flocks are clothed
And valleys also bestowed
With grain, they shout for joy and sing
Abundance here, everything

The verdant rolling lands abut
Boundaries of man's construct
The mills and manufactories
Furnaces and potteries
As the steel stone, and brick degrade
Sediment and soot invade
The verdant rolling lands abut
Boundaries of man's construct

Star Seen

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Adapted from 'Starquest' poem by Accidental Poet,
with permission.

In the vast expanse of the skies darkened night
Beyond my reach there a twinkling of starlight
And for the sky now do I reach out my hand
To touch this beacon of light from where I stand

Within answers to questions I dare not ask
'Tis in a sea of love that I long to bask
And from my heart, I have so much for to give
Receiving is only half enough to live

A heart confined unto itself needs to share
To find another heart, someone for to care
Shine on now you bright, radiant shining star
Luminous starlight of love, I know you are

You seem to shine brighter throughout every night
In you my heart sees such a beautiful sight
Someday in person I'll hold you in my arms
For now I'm content being lost in your charms

It is in your starlight that I do invest
In my heart there is this vision of Starquest
Guide me in the way still, as wised men were led
Of old, to find Christ lain in low manger-bed

Communion Continuity

Tune: Salzburg

('At the Lamb's high feast we sing')

Based on various Gospel verses

Jesu shared at Last Supper
Graces there He did confer
On disciples gathered round
Table, in fellowship found
Bread, symbol of His body
Bread of life He ever be
Wine, a symbol of His blood
Poured out as a cleansing flood

Two disciples on their way
To Emmaus went one day
Jesus drew near, they not know
Yet, that it was Jesus so
But when He with them broke bread
They ate with Him and were fed
Then they did Him recognise
He vanished before their eyes

Lord, in each Communion
We remember of your Son
That he did it institute
Origins in Him its root
He said each time we partake
To recall that for our sake
he died for our sins, then rose
Inner witness each then knows

Though these symbols of his death
When He took His final breath

'Twas as He did prophesy
That He would suffer and die
And that He would rise again
Be the Saviour of all men* (*mankind)
In His Eucharistic* feast (*Thanksgiving)
He invites all, great to least

Faith Focus

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Look, heart, unto the LORD
And e'er hear His true word
Commit all to him in prayer here
He shall to you draw near

What it be that does fret
Or does trouble you yet
His peace He shall give, you shall know
It, His comfort shall flow

Peace, heart and mind be still
And trust to God's good will
His plan, timing for every thing
And forgetting nothing

Help us, Lord, where we can
In helping fellow-man
To show of you in word and deed
That you be seen and heard

There opportunities
Evangelism, see
In some shape or form, preach, teach, heal
For all neighbour's good weal* (*well-being)

What matters, Christ be seen
Not our plans swift or keen
But sharing something of Christ's love
The Spirit, holy dove

Seeking Sincerely

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Psalm 24 v.1-6

The earth is the LORD's, and all in
It, all contained therein
And too they that do in it dwell
They are the LORD's, we tell

He founded the earth on the seas
Made it as He did please
Established it on the waters
On all He life confers

Who shall ascend His holy hill?*

And who worship Him still?

Who shall stand in His holy place?

Whate'er nation or race

They that have clean hands and pure heart
They not from Him apart
They who not follow vanity
They not deceitful be

They shall receive from Him blessing
Prosper in each good thing
They shall receive His righteousness
Welcomed by Him no less

These are they that do seek His face
And they His mercies trace
They shall know Him, His salvation
Whate'er class or station

* Ascending the 'holy hill' in Jerusalem,
that leads up to God's Temple.

Favourable Farewell

Tune: Carlisle

('Stand up and bless the Lord')

2 Corinthians 13 v.11-14

Finally, farewell all
Says Paul unto them all
Bids them be perfect, full, complete
And worship at Christ's feet

Be of good comfort, be
Of one mind, constantly
Live in peace, and the God of love
Sends you the Spirit, dove

He too the God of peace
Whose mercies never cease
Greet each other with holy kiss
Loving family bliss

Grace of the Lord Jesus
And love of God to us
And the fellowship of the One
The Father, Spirit, Son

Healing Hopes

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Psalm 41 v.1-4 and v.10-11

Blessed they that consider the poor
The LORD will help them sure
Will save them in their own troubles
Will hear who to Him calls

The LORD will preserve them, will keep
Them alive, they His sheep
And on the earth they shall be blessed
in Him they find their rest

The LORD will not give them up to
Their enemies, but true
Will strengthen, restore when they be
Sick, in infirmity

He will raise them up from sick bed
By His Spirit they led
I said, LORD, be merciful to
Me, I sinned against you

Heal my soul, be merciful too
Raise me again anew
That I may repay enemies
They glad my pains to see

By this I know you favour me
Because my enemy
Does not triumph over me, they
O'ercome by you today

Creation Considerations

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields and scatter')

Psalm 104 v.10-19 and v.24

The LORD, the great Creator
Blessings He does confer
On His creation, and we
His creatures sure we be
He sends springs into valleys
They made by His decrees
And midst the hills they do flow
Animals thirsts quenched so

Chorus

O LORD, how manifold
Your works! Can all be told?
In wisdom you have all them made
Your full riches displayed

Birds of heaven inhabit
Tree branches, there they set
And nests do build, and they sing
Their joyful chirpings ring
He waters hills from His store
And the earth evermore
With the fruit of His works is
Satisfied, true is this - Chorus

He causes the grass to grow
For cattle to eat so
And herbs, vegetables for
Service of man, not poor
He be, for the LORD provides

And by His will decides
That man from the earth bring food
It all unto their good - Chorus

The wine and oil and bread here
And too the trees appear
They full of sap, they planted
By men, He has them led
To replenish, conserve land
Created by His hand
Birds make nests, such as the stork
Midst nature fly and walk - Chorus

High hills are refuge for wild
Goats, rock for conies* mild (*rock badgers)
The LORD appoints moon for seasons
And sun knows its reasons
For rising and for setting
Day, night cycle, each thing
All under the LORD's hand be
And all for His glory - Chorus

Monday Madness

...Or, whaddya know...

It could be Tuesday, Wednesday,.... madness

Choose a day - any day!

How do you mean, Orchi, you ask?

Well, it's nearing time for the 1066 Reunion again

You know - Battle Of Hastings in 1066 in UK

October 14th is the date to book

If you want to join us

Goldfinch and I always go....

But - do you know there's one condition

You have to have been there in person in 1066!

Even if not in the battle

And you only observed it

Just to have been around in Hastings then

You'll be very old now, of course

And - woof! - my (imaginary) dog, Fido

He will be there too

Keep them poems marked 18+if they need to be

He will read them all when he gets back

Oh yes, a talking, reading, barking dog!

He reads the newspaper by the fire

On dark evenings, in his carpet slippers

He says - if smoking wasn't bad for us

He would smoke a pipe too!

Call me eccentric if you will

Oh, it's barmy, it's nutty!

But don't be gloomy-doom always

Though there's real times of trouble in life

Meanwhile, he barks ferociously
Each time I sing
Not that he is fierce
(Except if you don't mark up them 18+ poems)
But it's to drown out my singing!

One tried to help me
They said 'Take a pill for it'
As in 'keep taking the tablets'
I took THE Pill instead -Swoon!

Enough nuttiness for one day - for one week?!
Plenty of time to be nutty tomorrow again -
Another whole day! heehee.

Faith-Full

Tune: St Leonard's

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Matthew 8 v.8-13

Speak the word only, one did say
Unto Jesus there one day
And my servant shall be healed when
You say the word then

He a centurion, person
Under authority, man
And had soldiers under him, they
Did as he did say

Whether 'Go', they go, or 'Come', they
Come, each do serve and obey
Or 'Do this', then true his servant
Does with no relent

Jesus marvelled, said, I have not
Found so great faith midst this lot
Of Israel, but faith here shown
So healing be known

Go your way, as you have believed
Jesus said, so be received
Healing, same hour it occurred
Wholeness there conferred

Bread Broken

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

John 6 v.47-51

Jesus, He said, Truly, truly
They that believe on me
have everlasting life, it true
E'en reaching unto you

i am the bread of life, 'tis so
Your ancestors did know
And in desert did manna eat
That was their food, their meat

Though they are dead, yet I the bread
By which you may be fed
This is the bread which comes down, see
From heaven origin be

'Tis so that you may eat of such
The supply avails much
May eat of it, and shall not die
But know my presence nigh

I am the living bread, and I
Shall be your full supply
I came down from heaven, true bread
Imparts life to the dead

For if anyone eat this bread
They shall live e'er, He said
And this bread He gives is himself
The source of our fine wealth

He gives Himself for all to live
His body does He give
Upon the cross, then rose again
The Saviour for all men* (*mankind)

Grateful Giving

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, they word abideth')

Luke 21 v.1-4

Jesus at treasury
In the Temple did see
Many rich giving money
Casting it in freely

And He did see also
A poor widow, {He} did know
That she cast in two mites
At treasury {she} alights

They did make a farthing
Though she did both them bring
Jesus said, Truly I say
She did give more this day

More than all the rich there
For they, abundant fare
Did give to offerings
The cos to them, small thing

But the poor widow, she
Gave all she had, so be
All she had utterly
Of her deep poverty

Help us, Lord, quality
In our giving there be
Not so much quantity
Yet give generously

Purposeful Persevering

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
('Glory to thee, my God, this night')
Philippians 3 .12-15

Not that I have the end attained
Nor yet unto perfection gained
But I do press on, for that, see
For which Christ has laid hold on me

One thing I do, forget those things
Which are past, look what each day brings
Reach forth to things which are before
Seeking to grow more Christ-like sure

I press towards the goal, the prize
The high calling of God, arise
I by His grace, this calling be
Of God in Christ Jesus fully

Let us mature be, have this mind
And if otherwise you do find
God shall reveal e'en this to you
And shall lead you in His way true

Exodus Exaltings

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Ye holy angels bright')

Exodus 15 v.1-6

Moses and Israel

This song they sang, did tell

Of their exodus, they

From Egypt were that day

Released, and sang, I will sing to

The LORD, give praises not a few

For He gloriously

Has triumphed, here now say

The horse and his rider

He has thrown in sea sure

The LORD is my strength and my song

He my salvation all life long

He my God, I will praise

Him, to Him worship raise

And God of our fathers

Still help on us confers

The LORD he be a man of war

Brings righteous judgements from His store

For Pharaoh's chariots

And army pursued us

But the LORD He did cast

Enemies there at last

Into Red Sea, there they be drowned

Not one remaining living found

The deeps did them cover

No chance of recover
They sank in the sea, they
Were defeated that day
The LORD did show His great power
Revealed His glory in that hour

Grace Greatness

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly light')

Psalm 113

Praise you the LORD, you His servants Him praise
And His name raise
Blessed be the name of the LORD from the time
And through life's rhyme
For evermore, for from rising of sun
To its going down, praise Him, holy One

So praise the LORD from sunrise to sunset
He faithful yet
The LORD is high above all nations, He
Glorious be
His glory is above the heavens, who
Is like unto the LORD our God great, true

He dwells on high, and Himself does humble
To see of all
Things that are in heaven, and on the earth
Whate'er their worth
he raises up out of the dust the poor
And lifts needy out of the ash heap sure

That He may set poor, needy with those, see
Who honoured be
Even with the princes of His people
They shall not fall
He makes the barren woman a home, then
She be a joyful mother of children

Return Readiness

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

2 Thessalonians 3 v.1-5

Pray for one another, so that the word
Of the Lord, the gospel, it may be heard
That it may have free course and run freely
The gospel shared, so be

Deliver us from unreasonable
And wicked ones, save us out from them all
For not everyone has faith, but some
Hinder his kingdom come

But the Lord is faithful, shall establish
Us, keep us from evil, their every wish
That they would plot and plan against us here
His help is to us near

So confident we can be, carry on
Seeking God's kingdom, and His will be one
Praying He the Lord would direct our hearts
He ne'er from us departs

Hearts that be directed into the love
Of God, through the Spirit, He be the dove
And too guide us into patient waiting
For Christ's return, great thing

Riches To Riches

C'mon now
Riches to Riches!

What do you mean, Orchi?
Well, I'm gonna be horrible... ...Oooohh!
There's poor people in the world
Could do with our charitable donations

But send them all to me!
That cheque/check in the post yet?!
But why? It's not for me
I gotta help Branson still
He's short of some millions

Or I gotta help a church
With their fund-raising
Not just a couple of thousand
But a million - each time!
So it's more than once
And for re-building
Not even for people directly
(It makes me sick, really)

Ohh, yes, seems fair to me
The rich get richer
The poor get poorer
This would be a fictional write
If some of it wasn't true!

Me middle name is Scrooge
You see them moths
When I opened me wallet?!
They fly out wearing tiny hats

Or carrying diamond rings
(From a 'Beano' sketch)

I gotta feed Fido too
He's very fussy
Only the most expensive food will do!

You'll soon be broke
Don't worry if ya got enough to live on
Ya soon won't have
When ya send it all to me
Woof! says Fido
How selfish!

Governing Graces

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Psalm 67

God to us show mercy
Bless us, shine on us free
Turn unto us your face
Grant to us your good grace
That your way on the earth be known
Your saving health and goodness shown

It be your salvation
Shown unto each nation
Let people, O God, praise
You, all people, and raise
Glad songs of worship to your name
Which be of all-enduring fame

O let the nations be
Glad in you joyously
For you shall judge people
With your righteousness all
And govern nations upon earth
All shall give you tribute and worth

Yes, let people praise you
O God, holy and true
E'en all peoples do praise
You throughout all their days
Then shall the earth yield her increase
And prospeiry never cease

And God, who our God be

Shall bless us, we shall see
That earth to farthest ends
Shall fear Him, each one rends
To Him their praise, in awe, humbly
God governs earth eternally

Daily Direction

Tune: Doncaster

(Put thou thy trust in God')

2 Thessalonians 3 v.11-16 parts

Be not disorderly
Nor be busybody
But work serving Christ, quietly
And in sincerity

In earning own living
Sincere be in each thing
And eat own food, the Lord will give
You strength to daily live

And do not be weary
In well-doing, but be
Alert and active, Christ's life show
To whate'er folk you go

The Lord of peace give you
Peace always, His peace true
By all means, he be with you all
Grow in Him, you not fall

Preserved People

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Psalm 33 v.18-21

Behold, the eye of the LORD be
On them that fear Him, He does
On them that hope in His mercy
And give Him praises gratefully

He shall deliver their soul sure
From death, and too from famine's door
He shall keep them alive, and they
Shall know His graces in those days

Our soul waits for the LORD, he is
Our help and our shield, true is this
For our heart shall in Hi rejoice
And give Him thanks here with one voice

We have trusted in His holy
Name, for holy it ever be
Let your mercy, O LORD, be on
Us, as we hope in Christ your Son

The Mad Day Approaches

Now, before I go any further...
What's that you say:
'The mad day is already here
It's every day with you and Fido!'

But I mean - the day of Hastings
The 1066 reunion on the famous 14th (October)
Goldfinch and I were there in person
Oh, and Fido too
Were you there too?

That's the only condition -
You have to have been there in person in 1066
To be able to join the Reunion
It's in Hastings, of course!

See ya in a few days, I hope
It'll be batty and barmy
'No change there then', you say. Doh!

You know the legend?
I turned up, and said to Harold
'Look up, Sire', and he did
Though Fido barked to warn him
Just when a pesky arrow passed by

And the rest is history.....

Creation Crowning

Tune: St George's, Windsor

('Come ye thankful people, come')

Psalm 8

O LORD our Lord, how great be
Your name in all the earth, see
How excellent, you have set
Your glory now, even yet
Above the heavens, and out
Of the mouths of babes no doubt
And infants, you have ordained
Praise, that victory be gained

For their praise it shall silence
Enemies, they quiet now hence
When I consider heavens
Work of your fingers I sense
Moon and stars which you have made
Sun and clouds to us displayed
What is man, that you do mind
Him, that he your grace may find?

You made him little lower
Than the angels, did endower
Him with glory, honour crowned
So his name shall be renowned
Made him to have dominion
O'er works of your hands, each one
Put all things under his feet
Gave him authority's seat

Creation under man's care
See, all sheep and oxen there

And too all beasts of the field
And whate'er the land shall yield
Birds of air, and fish of sea
All that in the oceans be
O LORD our lord how great be
You name in all the earth, see

Forget-Me-Not

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Psalm 25 v.6-10

Remember, O LORD, your tender
Mercies, render them to me sure
And too your loving-kindnesses
They are from of old, they me bless

Remember not my sins, forgive
Them from past, present, so I live
And according to your mercy
Remember me, so safe I be

For your goodness' sake, and so be
Good and upright is the LORD, He
Therefore will He teach sinners in
The way, and guide them true therein

The meek and humble He will guide
In right judgement, not from them hide
Will teach them His way, on daily
And they shall know His presence free

All the paths of the LORD, they be
Mercy and truth unto such, see
Who do keep His covenant sure
And His testimonies, His laws

Praise Perpetuated

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Psalm 95 v.1

O come, let us sing to the LORD
True His ways and true His words
Let us make a joyful noise to
The LORD, He our rock anew
The rock of our salvation He
Be now to eternity

Psalm 95 v.7-8

He our God, and we the people
Of His pasture, verdant all
We the sheep of His hand, safe we
For He the good Shepherd be
Today if you will hear His voice
Obey and make Him your choice

Psalm 96 v.10

Let all people say, The LORD reigns
With His host of angel trains
The world also is established
That it be not moved, sure this
And He shall judge people rightly
With justice and equity

Psalm 97 v.1-2

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice
And extol Him with fine voice
Let the many isles be glad, for
He is King for evermore
Righteousness and judgement they be

His throne's foundation, we see

Psalm 98 v.3-4

He has remembered His mercy

And His truth, to us it be

All the ends of the earth have seen

His salvation, fervent, keen

Make loud noise, rejoice and sing praise

Unto Him through endless days

Psalm 99 v.3-4

Let people praise your name awesome

O LORD, people to Him come

For He is holy, and He strong

Evil, it shall not prolong

For He loves judgement and justice

And righteousness, graciousness

Favourable Future

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

1 Peter 1 v.3-5

Blessed be the God and Father, He
Father of our Lord Jesus be
The Lord Jesus Christ, His true Son
Becomes here the atoning One

According to God's abundant
Mercy, He has His Son us sent
And has begotten us again
Salvation now unto all men* (*mankind)

Born again, or born from above
To a living hope by His love
It be by the resurrection
Of Jesus Christ, the risen Son

Begotten to inheritance
Which nothing can remove us thence
It be life incorruptible
And undefiled, spotless in all

And it fades not away, but be
Reserved in heaven for you, see
You who are kept by God's power
Unto salvation's final hour

Beware The Ides Of October

Now I'm mixing up historical events
But you need nor fear the Ides of March
Rather fear the Ides of October
It's today!

The mad day is here - the Reunion of 1066
We're in Hastings now
Those of us who were there in person in 1066
When I mucked it all up
Well - I turned up.... that was enough
You knows the rest, the legend
'The rest is history' as they say

Fido barked at me, not to tell Harold to look up
But I did not listen
I though Fido wanted a bone!
He knows everything of course
Well, 99%! lol.

See ya a bit later there
Hope so....
Day of Barminess and Battiness it is!

People Partaking

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Partaking Communion

Lord, you invite each one

Who in you does believe

Who gospel does receive

And all may come to know

The salvation you show

Give us courage that we

Witness to lost freely

That they come to your fold

Counted midst you sheep told

Your bread, wine we may share

Welcomed to your feast there

Shepherd, life gave for sheep

Will each one tender keep

Guard from sin and danger

Graces on them confer

Remembering, we do

Share Eucharist* anew (*Thanksgiving')

Strengthened by your Spirit

Our steps be by you lit

Shepherd of the Sheep

Tune: Divine Mysteries

('Sweet Sacrament divine')

Psalm 23 v.1-4

The LORD is my Shepherd
He listened to me, heard
I shall not want, for He
My sure provider be
He leads me over hill and dale
And too over each mount and vale
Secure, part of His fold
He shall His sheep still hold

He makes me to lie down
In green pastures, not brown
Pastures, tender grass green
Lush fields here are seen
He leads me beside still waters
Waters of rest, He me assures
Of His presence by grace
I view the Shepherd's face

He restores my soul, He
Leads me in the paths, see
Of righteousness, it for
His name's sake evermore
Paths good and right, not dangerous
His compassion, care unto us
Help us to follow on
Good Shepherd, God's own Son

Though I walk through valley
Of shadow of death, he

Is with me, I will fear
No evil, He is near
His rod and staff do me comfort
The sheep gone astray He has sought
Solace and strength He brings
To Him creation sings

Distress Discourse

Tune: Langran

('And now, my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Psalm 102 v.6-14

You birds, I am like you in my distress
And like a pelican in wilderness
Like an owl of the desert, there alone
Watching, as sparrow on housetop alone

My enemies reproach me all the day
They that deride me seek to spoil my way
For I have eaten ashes as like bread
My tears have been my drink, thus I be fed

Because of you dealings, LORD, you have been
Indignant and wrathful, so have I see
For you have lifted me up, and have cast
Me down, time of your favour it seems past

My days are like a shadow that declines
And I am withered like grass, no good signs
But you, O LORD, shall endure for ever
You all generations shall recall, share

You shall arise, on Zion have mercy
The set time to favour her has come, see
For your servants are pleased and do favour
Her stones and even dust of city sure

Shut Up Shutting Up?

Well, I've tried to shut up
But haven't shut up shutting up!
I go on and on -
No change there then?!

You know - at times
Endless waffle and drivel
Spouting like a volcano
Or rather, maybe like a burst sewage pipe

C'mon now, Orchi
Why say 5 words when 20 will do?
Let's hear them words
Though they may be like -
Verbal diarrhoea (swoon!)
Keeping the image of the sewage pipe there
An image I know you will want to keep in mind!

Fido's just as bad
Why 5 barks when 20 will do? he says....
You recovered from Hastings yet?
Were you there?!
Teehee
(A secretive sort of version of 'heehee')
Nothing to do with golf though
Notice the 'Tee'?

I'm going now, cos I'm rambling
'Where ya going on your ramble?'
Asks Fido!

Trials And Testing

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

1 Peter 1 v.5-9

You are kept by God's power
Through faith, through each hour
Unto salvation ready
In end time revealed [shall] be

Now you may rejoice greatly
Though for season my be
If need be, you are heavy
Many temptations see

It be that your faith, its trial
Be proved here for a while
It more precious than gold, though
That perishes, we know

Though faith endures, and so may
Be found so in that day
Of Christ's return, praiseworthy
Brings Him honour, glory

Christ you have not seen, but you
Although not yet Him view
You believe, rejoice with joy
Unspeakable, no cloy

And it joy full of glory
You receive the end, see
End of your faith, outcome whole
Salvation of your souls

The Unanswerable.....

Now, look, it may sound like -
Some deep, profound question
As if 'The Unanswerable'
Was some personalised being, or summat

But no!!
It's an unanswerable question in parts
No one can EVER complete both parts
(Well, only Fido!)

Part 1 - How many people in the world?
You answer - about 7.9 billion - I did a recent check

Part 2 - What are their names?!
You answer - Erm.....

Well, you could answer it -
All the men are 'Joe Bloggs'
All the women are 'Jane Doe'
(A female equivalent of 'Joe Bloggs') lol.

Lamb-like

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

1 Peter 1 v.17-21

You call on God the Father, He
Without partiality
Judges each ones work righteously
Serve Him humbly, reverently

Pass the time of our earthly days
In godly fear, in His ways
Knowing this your temporary home
Until Christ for His people come

For you know you were not redeemed
With worldly things, though they gleamed
Nor saved through silver and gold things
They perish, though they world's wealth bring

You were redeemed with precious blood
Of Christ, it a cleansing flood
He as a lamb, no blemish, spot
His atonement our perfect lot

He truly was ordained before
Foundation of the world sure
But was shown in these last days for
You, to bring you salvation pure

By Christ you do in God believe
He raised from dead, no deceive
God raised Him, and gave Him glory
That in God our faith, hope might be

Making Mansions

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

John 14 v.1-3

Jesus said, Let not your heart be
Troubled, believe in me
And believe in God too, have peace
My graces never cease

In my Father's house are many
Mansions, dwellings, freely
If it were not so, I would tell
You, this you may know well

I go to prepare place for you
That you may join me too
And where I go, the way you know
Though you are here below

I go to the Father, and He
Does wait expectantly
For me, and I myself the Way
To Him be, now, alway

Exodus Exaltings

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Ye holy angels bright')

Exodus 15 v.1-6

Moses and Israel

This song they sang, did tell

Of their exodus, they

From Egypt were that day

Released and sang, I will sing to

The LORD, give praises not a few

For He gloriously

Has triumphed here now see

The horse and his rider

He has thrown in sea sure

The LORD is my strength and my song

He my salvation all life long

He my God, I will praise

Him, to Him worship raise

And God of our fathers

Still help on us confers

The LORD He be a man of war

Brings righteous judgements from His store

For Pharaoh's chariots

And army pursued us

But the LORD He did cast

Enemies there at last

Into Red Sea, there they be drowned

Not one remaining living found

The deeps did them cover

No hope of recover
They sank in the sea, they
Were defeated that day
The LORD did show His great power
Revealed His glory in that hour

Witherless Word

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

1 Peter 1 v.22-25

Seeing you have purified
Your souls, obeyed, not denied
Obeying the truth, it through
The Spirit's help unto you
Unto unfeigned love and care
Fervent love with each one share

With pure heart, born from above
Of the Spirit, of His love
Not of perishable seed
[But] Imperishable indeed
By the word of God, which lives
Abide e'er, for life He gives

For all flesh is as the grass
It does wither and does pass
And all the glory of man
Not lasting, make it none can
'Tis like flower of the field
Gives only temporary yield

But word of the LORD endures
Ever faithful, ever pure
This word it be the gospel
preached to you, and it does tell
Of salvation through the Son
Of God, Jesus Christ the One

Safe And Sure

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 61 v.1-4 and v.7-8

Hear my prayer, O God, tend
To me, your ears do lend
Unto me, from end of earth I
Call to you, do draw nigh

When overwhelmed my heart
Is, confused in each part
Lead me to you, the rock that be
Higher than I, I see

For you have been shelter
For me, I do concur
And strong tower from enemy
When they would oppress me

I will abide in your
Tabernacle, tent sure
I will trust in over of your
Wings, there safety e'ermore

Grant us truth and mercy
Which may preserve us free
So will we sing praise to your name
Of endless worth and fame

Salvation Sure

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

1 Peter 2 v.6-10

You are a chosen generation
And too you a holy nation
A royal priesthood, God's own special
People, to show His praises all

The praises of Him who has called you
Out of darkness, and now to view
His marvellous light, eternal day
To grow in Christ, the Life, Truth, Way

In times past you were not a people
But now God's people, by His call
You had not obtained mercy, now though
His saving mercies you do know

You built upon the true foundation
Of Christ, in Him full salvation
He the corner-stone, we living stones
We His house, He for us atones

Excellent Example

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

1 Peter 2 v.21-25

Christ suffered for us, example
He did leave unto all
That we in His steps should follow
He did no sin, we know

When He was reviled, he did not
Reville, give equal lot
When He suffered, no threatenings
Made He, but in all things

In all He did Himself commit
To His Father, each whit
God, who does judgement righteously
With truth and equity

Christ in His own body did bare
Our sins on the cross there
That we, being dead to sins should
Live righteous as God would* (*wills)

By Christ's wounds we are healed, for we
As sheep astray were, see
But now are returned to God, He
Shepherd of your souls be

Life In The Lamb

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

1 Peter 1 v.18-21

You know that you were not redeemed
With earthly treasures, gleamed
They bright, but cannot save, they vain
And shall fail you again

But you were with the precious blood
Of Christ, a cleansing flood
Redeemed, he as a lamb without
Blemish or spot, no doubt

Who truly was ordained before
Foundation of world sure
But was revealed in these last days
For you, in God's plans, ways

By Him you do in God believe
And salvation receive
God raised Him from the dead, and gave
Him glory, all to save

So that your faith and hope might be
In God eternally
And trusting in Christ, he the Way
That leads to endless day

Wholesome Witness

Tune: St Bees

('Hark, my soul, it is the Lord')

1 Peter 3 v.15-17

Sanctify, do set apart
the Lord God here in your heart
Be ready always to give
Answer of the way you live

An answer to every one
Who asks you of Christ the Son
What the reason of the hope
In you, how through life you cope

Reply with meekness and fear
Godly awe, not terror here
And having a good conscience
You the Lord's presence do sense

That where they do speak evil
Of you, and false witness tell
As if evildoers you
Were, so they do accuse you

Seeking to distractions make
That you slippery paths take
They do sleight your good conduct
In Christ, truth they do deduct* (*ignore, disbelieve)

For it better if the will
Of God be so that you ill-
Suffer for well-doing than
For evil doing to man* (*mankind)

Halloween Horror

Why, yes, of course, barks Fido
Mark this one 18+
It's utterly scary!

Now, where them hymns, Orchi?
Why ya plunging into darkness
Of ghosts and goblins
And ghoulies? - oops, not THAT sort! heehee.

You knows hobgoblins...
Them nasty little things living at bottom of your garden
Otherwise know as mothers-in-laws!

I went to buy a Halloween mask
I saved money
The assistant said
'Ohh, ya don't need a mask
You're ugly enough already'
'Thanks very much', I said
And punched him on the nose! lol

And what's them 'satanic mills'
As in one rather eccentric hymn?
'Jerusalem' (And did those feet?) - good tune...
But dunno what the author is banging on about
In half of the words
What's evil about working in a mill? Doh!

And, nope, I doubt Jesus visited England and
'Walked upon England's mountain green'
There was no bus service from Israel to England then
The No.7 bus does this journey these days, I'm sure
Unless He swam across the Channel? Doh!

But the ultimate horrific scare
What can it be but four words
That ya never want to hear.....
'I will now sing!'
That's no surprise to ya really.

Well, here's that hymn
Make of it what ya will!

Multitudinous Marvellings

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

For All Saints Day - Nov 1st.

Revelation 7 v.9-17

John did behold, and lo, great multitude
No man could number them, he did them view
They of all nations, tribes, languages, true
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They stood before the Lamb, and there His throne
Clothed in white robes, palms in hands, to Him known
Their allegiance e'er be to Him alone
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They cried with loud voice, saying, Salvation
To our God, praise and worship from each one
He sits upon the throne, the Lamb His Son
Alleluia, Alleluia!

All angels round about the throne did stand
Elders, four beasts joined with all of each land
Fell on face, worshipped God, strong His hand* (*Spirit)
Alleluia, Alleluia!

They said, Amen, Blessing and glory be
Wisdom, thanksgiving, honour, power we
Give unto God ever, He Almighty
Alleluia, Alleluia!

One elder said to John, Who are these, Who?
John said, 'Tis true sir, that you know, you do
Elder said, They tribulation came through

Alleluia, Alleluia!

They have washed their robes in the cleansing flood
Of the Lamb, they made white now by His blood
They serve God e'er, salvation understood
Alleluia, Alleluia!

God on the throne shall dwell among them, see
No hunger, thirst, or harm shall to them be
The Lamb's presence they have eternally
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And He shall feed them, and shall lead them to
Living fountains of waters, there anew
Their thirst quenched, all tears be wiped away too
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Unity Utterance

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Ephesians 4 v.1-4

Do live worthy of the calling
Of the Lord, in each thing
Whate'er your gifts, howe'er you serve
From calling do not swerve

Have all lowliness and meekness
Gentleness, humbleness
Longsuffering, do patient be
Bear with all graciously

Forbearing each other in love
The Spirit, holy dove
Shall help you, and endeavour to
Keep His unity too

Aim to keep it in bond of peace
So unity ne'er cease
One together in Christ the Lord
And growing in His word

Oh woe!

An angle on All Souls Day: Nov 2nd

Oh woe! A 'cheery' pre-Christmas message I've read
The Vicar/Minister seems to get 'worse' at times!

It's a message about 'Another year is passing
It's another year closer to our death'
Argghh! Fancy that, for mainly elderly folk to hear
And at joyful Christmas season too

Yet it's a truth
Just don't remind us of it every five minutes or so
Yet you tell us of the resurrection hope too
But you do 'Bible-bash' us
You overdo the 'hell and damnation' side of it

Though people seem not to mind hearing it
Been at same church for donkey's years
Unless they nod off in sermons
Well, they are over 30 minutes long
'Oh yes, they must be long' it' said

Nothing to days of old
Reading an archive item of that church:
'The Vicar was getting tired
Having preached for 90 minutes' Doh!

But there's always:
'If you happen to find the perfect church
Don't join it - you'll spoil it!'
And that said by Charles Spurgeon
A famous preacher (1834 - 1892)

I'm a doom-and gloom merchant.....

By the time you've read this

Your earthly life will be

About 1 minute 23 seconds shorter!

Whoops!

I know we just had 25 hour day (in UK)

But that made up for the 23 hour day we had in March!

Serene Servers

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, they people bless')

Psalm 100

Make to the LORD a joyful sound
Let praises here abound
All you lands, all the earth worship
Serve Him in deed and lip* (*words)

Serve Him with gladness, come before
His presence assured, sure
Know you that the LORD He God be
Throughout eternity

It is He that has made us, we
Have not made ourselves, see
We are His people, we His sheep
In His fold He us keeps

Hope For All Souls

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

John 20 v.11-18 parts

Hope of resurrection, Mary
The risen Christ see did see
Stood there by the tomb-stone weeping
Looked inside, and saw great thing
Two angels were sitting there
But tomb of Jesus was bare

They said to her, Woman, why yu
Weep? She said, i grieve anew
For they have taken away my
Lord, i know not by and by
Where they have Him laid, and when
She turned round, saw Jesus then

But she did not know it was He
That Jesus before here be
He said to her, Woman, why do
You weep, cry with tears like dew?
Who do you seek? She not know
That it was He who did show

She supposed He the gardener be
Said to Him, Sir, if you He
Have taken Him away, tell me
Where His resting-place so be
Then I shall take him away
Find place to lay Him this day

Jesus said unto her, Mary

She with eyes of faith did see
And said 'Rabboni', 'tis 'Master'
She did view Him there for sure
Went then and disciples told
Of Christians hope true and bold

Return Readiness

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

1 Peter 4 v.7-11

The end of all things, it is near
Christ shall return, shall appear
Be you therefore sober, and be
In a state true prayerfully
And above all things have fervent
Love midst yourselves, heaven-sent

For love shall cover multitude
Of sins, grace to you endued
Be hospitable one unto
Another, no grudging, you
Not grumbling, and not complaining
Being thankful in each thing

As every one gifts have received
From the Lord, you have believed
So do share with one another
Each Christian sister, brother
As good stewards of the grace, see
Of God, manifold* it be (*many-sided)

If anyone speak, let them speak
As words of God, not to tweak
Them to human devisings for
They shall not be His words pure
And if any serve, let them do
It strengthened by God anew

Do all as of ability

Which God gives to each freely
That in He in all things, may He be
Glorified through His son, see
Jesus Christ, to whom praise, honour
And dominion be e'er sure

Marriage Marvellous

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Revelation 19 v.6-9

John heard as it were voice of great
Multitude in a splendid state
A voice of many waters, sound
As mighty thunderings redound

They said, Alleluia, the Lord
God omnipotent reigns, His word
Is ever sure, let us glad be
Rejoice, honour Him, He worthy

For marriage of the Lamb* is come (*Christ)
The time now to take His Bride** home (**the church)
His wife, she has made self ready
To share in marriage gloriously

And to her it was granted, see
Raiment arrayed, fine linen be
Clean, white, and bright, how is it made?
How so compiled, wondrous displayed?

'Tis made up of the righteous deeds
Of the saints, they did help meet needs
Of poor or hungry, ill or weak
Their hearts set, the Lord's will to seek

John was to write, Blessed are they
Called to marriage supper that day
Supper of the Lamb, God's own Son
These true, God's sayings, shall be done

Help Be Here

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 146

Praise, praise you the LORD, O my soul, while I
Live I will praise the LORD, 'til day I die
While I have any being Him will I praise
Put not trust in man, temporary his days

Man cannot help like the LORD, his breath goes
Forth, he returns to the earth, each life shows
In man no salvation, his days not e'er last
But for a lifetime, and then he is gone, past

Happy they be that the LORD God do have
For their help, they hope in Him, He does save
He made heaven, earth, sea, and all that therein
Is, keeps truth for ever, forgives us our sin

He works judgement, justice for the oppressed
Feeds, provides for hungry, in Him they blessed
He sets free prisoners, opens eyes of blind
Raises up those bowed down, in Him help they find

He loves the righteous, watches o'er strangers
Helps orphans, widows, on them grace confers
But way of the wicked He turns upside down
The LORD shall reign ever, o'er each country, town

Power, Presence, Prosperity

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Psalm 74 v.12

For God He is my King of old
His wondrous works, let them be told
He be working His salvation
In midst of earth, to each nation

Psalm 74 v.17

He has set borders of the earth
Bring each season again to birth
Summer, Autumn, Winter, and Spring
He made them all, let praises ring

Psalm 75 v.1

Unto you, O God, we thanks give
For your name endures e'er, you live
Your works do show your power, might
And they marvellous to our sight

Psalm 75 v.5

Lift not up your own strength on high
Recall the LORD, for He is nigh
Speak not in insolent pride, though
God's grace in humility show

Psalm 76 v.1-2

In Judah is God known, His Son
Descended from the tribe, that One
In Jerusalem, there God dwells
There be His Temple, each tongue tells

Psalm 76 v.8-9

The LORD caused judgement to be heard

It from Him, righteous be His word

Then the earth feared and was still for

He saved the meek, lowly, and poor

Trusting Times

Tune: Majestas

('Name of all majesty')

Psalm 118 v.1-9

Give thanks unto the LORD
He is good, it is true
His mercy endures
For e'er, it is sure
Let Israel now say
In their praises each day
His mercy endures e'er
And it fails ne'er

Let priests, house of Aaron
Now all say, every one
His mercy endures
Ever from His stores
And they that the LORD fear
Unto Him now draw near
And say the His mercy
Lasts e'er, so be

I did call on the LORD
In distress, He my word
Did hear, answered me
So secure I be
He set me in large place
His mercies true I trace
The LORD is on my side
It not denied

I will not fear, what can
Man do to me more than

The LORD allows, He
My help here shall be
It better Him to trust
Than man, who be mere dust
And than rulers, princes
Comfort is this

Musings

...Or is it rantings?
What do you think?

A church is going ahead
To rebuild it's Church Centre
Not yet 70 years old!

I enjoyed it there for a time
I met someone later who used to go there too
He said 'I left because of their money matters'

It's not everyone - there's good folk there
But some others are mean and greedy, I think
They've stopped a Friendship Group now
Don't know why
An online clip was shown of folk enjoying it

They stopped a Christians Against Poverty course too
Well - they are hardly against poverty
With their requests for a million or more

Some have committed to giving for up to 11 years
The figures work out.....
The congregation giving makes up about 8% of the total needed
Though that's over quarter of a million
They are going to borrow (again)
About 45% of the total

Not that we should suddenly think
As we many do in contrast
'But there's people starving in the world, etc, etc'
Whatever the 'etc's' may be

One main person is involved with Food Banks, etc
I don't see much other help there
Of course, the phrase is. 'The Lord will provide'
Yes, He will - from our pockets?!

It don't impress me
With a leader having strange hairstyle now
Trying to look like an Old Testament prophet?
He'll 'prophecy' of money matters - oh yes!

We should not say OMG
But it's enough to make us say it
If I hear that chorus again, I'll go mad
That's three weeks in a row they've had it!
And the Worship Group can be hit or miss
Depending on who turns up

Come and join that group.....
Got a lot of dosh?
You soon won't have
It'll cost ya
It'll be 10 quid to get into a service soon

I told ya - I can't support Branson now
I got none left over for him! Doh!
Rant over!

Prepared And Persevering

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Ephesians 6 v.10-17

An angle on Remembrance: Nov 11th.

Be strong in the Lord, power of His might
Put on whole armour of God for the fight
That you may be able to stand against
Devil's schemes, battle in spiritual sense

For we fight not against humans, but we
Fight against dominions and rulers, see
Against powers of darkness in this age
Enemies of Christ through history's each page

So take whole armour of God, that you may
Be able to stand in thee evil day
Stand therefore, having truth to clothe your loins
Breastplate of righteousness, no wrong purloins* (*e.g. stealing)

And have feet shod with the gospel of peace
The everlasting word, which ne'er shall cease
And take the shield of faith, wherewith you may
Quench all fiery darts wicked throw your way

And take helmet of salvation, and sword
Of the Spirit, it truly be God's word
Pray always with all prayer, supplication
In the Spirit, for saints of each nation

Sea Story

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Psalm 107 v.23-31

They that in ships who go to sea
That trade, do business there, so be
These see the works of the LORD, too
His wonders in the deeps anew
For He commands, and storm winds raise
Which lift waves in turbulent days

Waves mount up as to heaven high
Then down to depths they fall and ide
Those who sail, their souls troubled be
For they the storm, commotion see
They reel to and fro like drunken
Are taken to their wits end then

Then in their trouble they do call
On the LORD, that He save them all
To bring them out of their troubles
And their distress, which them appals
He make the storm a calm, brings peace
So that the waves turmoil does cease

Then they are glad, for be quiet
They praise the LORD with thankful heart
So He brings them to haven, hark
Place for which they did disembark
O that people the LORD would praise
His goodness, wondrous works upraise

Worship Worthies

Tune: Leoni

('The God of Abraham praise')

Psalm 99 v.1-5

The LORD reigns, let people
Stand in awe, even all
He sits between the cherubims
It sure be Him
Let all earth be shaken
He power He has taken
To rule reign o'er His creation
E'en each nation

The LORD in Zion great
He be, of royal state
It be His dwelling place, His choice
Let all rejoice
He high above people
Worship before Him all
And praise His great and awesome name
Of holy fame

He loves righteous judgement
Good laws He has us sent
He does establish equity
That fairness be
And does judgement, justice
In righteousness, true this
Exalt the LORD our God, people
Earth His footstool

Repentant Rememberings

Tune: Thaxted

('I vow to thee my country')

Lamentations 3 v.19-26, and v.31-32 {Old Testament}

Exiled Judah, Jerusalem. remember most solemn
In Babylon they recall their troubles, name them all
Affliction and misery and bitterness too, see
My soul has them in memory and I humbled in me
This I recall to mind, so fresh hope now I do know
It is of the LORD's mercies that He does bring us ease

We are not all consumed, for His compassions they sure
To us, they fail not, are new each morning like the dew
And great is His faithfulness, though sins brought us distress
The LORD is my portion here my soul says, holds Him dear
I will hope in Him therefore, He be good, righteous, pure
His help to those do wait for Him, not trust to fate

And good they shall find Him who do seek Him here anew
It is good that people should hope in Him, faith firm stood
And quietly wait, each one, for the LORD's salvation
He will not cast off ever, nor us from Him sever
But though He cause grief, He will show His compassion still
According to multitude of His mercies endured

Suffering Sensibility

Tune: Breslau

('Take up they cross, the Saviour said')

1 Peter 4 v.13-16

Rejoice, in that you do partake
Of Christ's sufferings for His sake
That when His glory be revealed
[Then] Gladness, and great joy unconcealed

If you be reproached for the name
Of Christ, know He suffered the same
Yet blessed are you, for the spirit
Of glory rests on you each whit

He the spirit of God, and though
Afflictions, insults you may know
From they who evil of Christ speak
But [He is] glorified in you, the meek

Let none suffer as murderer
Not thief, nor as evildoer
Nor as busybodies, meddlings
Interfering in other's things

Yet if any one as Christian
Suffers, no need for shame, no one
But glorify God through suffering
Trusting that He bring good, each thing

Teef Time

What on earth's this rubbish about?!

Well, I've done it again!

Another alliteration in the title....

Teddy has trouble with her teef (teeth)

In saying some of my poem-titles

Now there's a load of 't's.....

I've overdoing the alliter-wotsits now

That's a long word to be saying this time of day!

Do you have troubles with teef too?

Or maybe you got your teef in

And have had a gin - or three - instead?

Then you wouldsh slur your wordsh

And talksh summat like thish

(Good acting by me here, innit?!)

I don't suppose it would be the gin talking in my case

As I would add water to it, of course!

Fido suggests the title to me

Usually after I've written the poems

How about you?

At what point do you think up titles for your poems?

Now say this one, for example:

'The seventh sheikh's seventh sheep is sick'

Or 'She gathers sea-shells on the sea-shore'

Or - [insert own tongue-twister here]

And now a talking cat too in the clip

A friend of Fido's?!

He always bites KP! lol.

Prosperous Providings

Tune: Offertorium

(When Jesus came to Jordan')

Psalm 147 v.7-13

Sing to the LORD with thanks true
Make melodies anew
Sing praise upon the harp to
Our God, instruments too
Take up to give worship. praise
To Him of endless days
He covers heavens with clouds
Each they His glory shrouds

He makes rain to water land
It all made by His hand
And grass to grow on mountains
And forth break springs-fountains
He gives to creatures food sure
And feeds birds from His store
Delights not in strength of man
Nor match His power none can

The LORD takes pleasure in they
That fear Him in their day
In they that in His mercy
Do hope, they His grace see
Praise the LORD, O you people
He gives strength to you all
And guards His place of dwelling
All in it, and each thing

Majestic Might

Tune: Abbots Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

Psalm 76

In Judah is God known, His name
Great in Israel, e'er the same
In [Jeru]Salem His tabernacle
His dwelling in Zion all
There He breaks arrows of the bow
He great in power, we know
There He breaks shield, sword, and battle
Before Him enemies fall

He more glorious, excellent
Than mountains that here present
Stour-hearted are spoiled, are plundered
Sunk into sleep, we wondered
At them, an none of men of might
Worked with hands, but took their flight
At your rebuke, God of Israel
Egyptians were destroyed, we tell

You, even you, are to be feared
Godly fear, in awe revered
And who may stand in your sight when
You are angry, who once then?
You did cause judgement to be heard
From heaven, and at your word
The earth feared, and was still, for you
Did judge with justice anew

'Twas when God to judgement arose
To save all the meek, He knows

Them, and surely the wrath of man
Shall praise Him, and too He can
The remainder of wrath restrain
Arguings against Him vain
Vows make to Him, and gifts Him bring
Awesome Lord o'er everything

Narci-wotsit!

Ohh, this is sub-titled

The Mad Adventures of Orchi - Part 4753

Oh yes, I'm a narci-wotsit

Narcissist, that is

Though don't ask me to say the word

After I've had a gin - or five!

Unless I've added water to it

Any relation to narcissus?

Ohh, that's a plant!

Yep, I go for riverside strolls

I look into the river and say -

Who's that handsome beast there?

I've never seen anyone prettier

I shall swoon if I look much longer

Why it's me, of course!

The self-absorption is terrible

I'm oblivious to all else that's going on...

I'm all wrapped up in myself

Me, me, me is all that matters

If you were as famous as me

Could you cope with it?

The ego trips

The utter disregard for anyone else

It all makes sense to me

Then - argh! - walking Fido

I slipped on the riverbank and fell in the river

Woof! says Fido

That'll teach ya; that'll bring ya down a peg or two

And when we got home
Fido baked me a huge humble pie
It had dog food in it
But he made me eat it! heehee.

You need not have humble pie
Have Apple Strudel instead
Here's the clip on how to make it. Yummy!

Plodding A Path

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Lord, may we open to help be
And others wisdom see
Where seems confusion, frustration
You promise peace, each one

And ourselves to help others too
In matters old or new
That progress be made, each good thing
To us resources bring

If labouring with heavy load
Your words to us bestowed
Come unto me and find your rest
Your burdens eased, you blessed

With your guidance to find way through
Where we seem blocked anew
Show us your plans sure in your time
Throughout life's seasons, rhyme

And so along the path of life
With you, calming of strife
For you the Life, Truth, and Way be
E'en through eternity

Unworldly Wisdom

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

1 Corinthians 2 v.9-13

By human means eyes has not seen
Nor ear heard, has not been
Nor has entered into man's heart
Things of God, no, no part

The things which He has prepared for
They that love Him, 'tis sure
But God has to us them revealed
By His Spirit, appealed

For the Spirit searches all things
Things of God to us brings
Even the deep things of God, we
By him spiritual[ly] see

For what man knows things of a man
Except man's spirit can
Show him things of human life, so
By the Spirit we know

We know the things of God which He
Gives unto us freely
And also we them speak and share
In His wisdom here, [and] there

Rescue Recital

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 116 v.5-9

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous
His favour be to us
And too our god is merciful
Shall forgive our sins all

The LORD preserves the meek, lowly
I was low, he helped me
Return unto your rest, my soul
The LORD shall restore whole

For the LORD has dealt bounteously
With you my soul, here see
For He my soul from death did save
Clear way for me did pave

He dried my tears, made firm my steps
Lifted me from the depths
I will walk before the LORD in
Land of living therein

Practises Of The People

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Acts 2 v.42-47

The early church continued steadfastly
In the apostles doctrine, teaching, see
And fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayers
Godly fear came on each soul, sharing cares

And many signs and wonders were done by
The apostles, they knew God's presence nigh
And all that believed were there together
Had all things in common, sisters, brothers

For they did sell their goods and possessions
And shared them out as they had need, each one
They continued daily, all in one mind
A fellowship strong we would of them find

They met in temple. and they did break bread*
From house to house, were in communion fed
They ate their food with gladness, singleness
Of heart, knowing the LORD He did them bless

They praised God, had favour with all people
And more daily did come to hear His call
He added to the church who saved would be
His people, in His name His family

* This is Communion. It may also mean eating meals together.

Heed, Hope, Help

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 40 parts

O LORD God, many are
Your thoughts unto us, far
Above our counting, numberless
They be, come to us, bless

Withhold not your tender
Mercies from me, but sure
O LORD, let your loving-kindness
And truth keep me, no less

To save me, LORD, be pleased
So my troubles be eased
O LORD, make haste to help me, see
I in distresses be

Let all those that seek you
Rejoice and be glad too
In you, and who your salvation
Love, praise you, each nation

Thanksgiving Tale

Happy Thanksgiving to you all in America!
Or to 'ya'll' if you say it that way

Now us in the UK gotta wait another month for turkey
I never get much anyway
Fido eats most of it!
But the guinea pigs are vegetarian
But they could turn carnivore
And want turkey too
Usually they are gentle and placid
But you don't want a bite or nip from them, I'll tell ya
It's really painful!

We had an American boss once
We had to bear with things
Fourth of July and Thanksgiving
Like it or not
Smile sweetly and eat the goodies
That she always brought in
Whether we agreed with the history of it or not

Of course, Goldfinch and Fido and I
Were on the 'Mayflower' in 1620
We remember the journey well!
Same as we remember 1066!
Oh, and Fido was a sort of 'Ships Captain dog' too
Can you spot us in the video clip?!

It's all true this, ya know
Not the genre of 'fable'. lol.

Saving Scenes

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Psalm 106 v.43-48

Of old, the LORD, at many times
Thoroughout life's stages and rhymes
Did save His people, but they sure
Provoked Him, treated Him poor
With their deeds they di from Him turn
And from His words did not learn
They for their sins were brought down low
Was their own cause, they did know

Nevertheless He regarded
Their affliction, and instead
He left them not, but heard their cry
They called for Him to come nigh
To save them out of their distress
That He would again them bless
And for them He did remember
His covenant, grace confer

He relented from punishing
Them, and mercy did them bring
He made them to be pitied by
Their captors, none did deny
Save us, O LORD our God, and do
Gather us from nations too
To give thanks to your holy name
It everlasting the same

And we shall triumph in your praise
Your wondrous doings upraise

Blessed be you, you our LORD God too
Of Israel, you us view
From everlasting and unto
Everlasting you be true
Let all the people say, Amen
For ever it shall be then

Thankful Turning

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Luke 17 v.11-19

Jesus in a certain village
Met ten men, lepers their visage
They stood far off, lifted voice
And made Jesus their choices

They said, Jesus, Master, Look on
Us, have mercy, you be God's Son
When He saw them, He said, Go to
The priests, and show yourselves too

And as they did go, they cleansed were
They were healed, they all did concur
And one of them turned back, with loud
Voice glory to God endowed

He fell down on his face when he
Returned to Jesus, and so be
He gave Him thanks, Samaritan
And Jesus did say there then

Were not ten cleansed? Where other nine?
Only this one gives glory fine
To God, he a stranger, but he
Now obtains healing fully

Jesus said to Him, Arise, go
Your way, your faith has made, this know
Made you whole, Lord, may thankful we
Be, glorify you as [did] he

Kingdom of the King

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Psalm 72 v.1-8 parts

The reign of the Messiah, advent sure
O God, give Him your judgements evermore
And your righteousness, He your Son
He be the holy and the promised One
His name, His name, shall endure for always
He is the Dayspring true through endless days

His name Jesus, He shall judge people right
Shall be even as in His Father's sight
And shall bring justice to the poor
His reign shall increase, spread to farthest shore
His name, His name, shall endure for always
He is the Dayspring true through endless days

He shall bring peace, bring help to the needy
Shall release people from oppression, see
People shall worship, godly fear
Son of God in human flesh does appear
His name, His name, shall endure for always
He is the Dayspring true through endless days

He shall come down like rain upon grass mown
As showers that water the earth, it known
In His days shall righteous flourish
Abundance of peace, satisfy each wish
His name, His name, shall endure for always
He is the Dayspring through through endless day

He shall have dominion from sea to sea

And o'er each land His rulership shall be
Help us prepare for your coming
Again, when you your eternal reign bring
His name, His name, shall endure for always
He is the Dayspring true through endless days

Edge Of Eternity

Tune: Winchester New

('O splendour of God's glory bright')

2 Timothy 4 v.6-8

Paul, at end of his earthly life
Through all he knew through calm or strife
Was ready for expected end
The gospel he did sure defend

Time of his departure, it be
At hand, he says, Timothy see
I have fought a good fight, and I
Have finished my course, end is nigh

I have kept the faith too, therefore
There is laid up for me in store
A crown of righteousness, the Lord
Shall give me it, true be His word

The Lord, the righteous judge, He shall
Give Paul a crown, he served Him well
And not to him only, but to
They who love His return to view

Strength Surety

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 28 v.7-9

The LORD is my strength, shield
To Him I will yield
My heart in Him trusted
He guided me, led
And so I am helped sure
Therefore my heart shall more
Greatly rejoice, for He
Came to my aid free

With my song I will praise
Him, and worship raise
The LORD is our strength, He
The saving strength be
Of His anointed one
Christ Jesus, His own Son
Salvation He does bring
Let joyful sounds ring

Save your people, LORD, bless
Us here now, no less
We your inheritance
Are, and we you sense
Feed us also, and lift
Us up, give us your gift
Of your Spirit for e'er
In Him all may share

Restoring Rejoicings

Tune: Bristol

('Hark, the glad sound')

Zechariah 8 v.1-8 {Old Testament}

The LORD of hosts was zealous for
Zion, with great zeal sure
And was zealous with great fervour
Would come to restore her

He would return to His city
It Jerusalem be
Built on Mount Zion, it shall be
City of truth, mount free

The holy mountain of the LORD
It shall be as His word
For He said, Again shall be old [people]
In the streets, shall be told

And too there young, the boys and girls
God's purpose it unfurls
Streets shall be full of them playing
There, joyful in each thing

If it be marvellous to you
My people, should it too
Be marvellous to me? I will
Have mercy on you still

I will save my people from where
They exiled, in despair
Did call to me, I did draw nigh
And I did hear their cry

I will bring back my people to
Jerusalem anew
The yshall again dwell there, and be
My people constantly

And I will be their God, and they
Shall know me night and say
In truth and righteousness, and sense
My eternal presence

Ranting?

You'll see different angles to this maybe
Depending on your point of view
And your thoughts on 'religion'

In the Old Testament King David
Was instructed to build God's Temple
He said it must be 'exceeding magnificent'
It cost money - and gold!!

A Temple built, starting from scratch
But what about re-building
A Temple - or in this case, Church Centre
Not yet 65 years old
It ain't got no steeple even!
Not that churches have to have spires

We may suddenly thing things like
'But there's people starving in the world', etc
We may not have considered the starving, etc so much
If we had nothing to contrast them with

But it makes me sick....
Though I seem to be blowing hot and cold
With me hymn-poems
Then ranting on about a church
I suppose the hymns don't make a church 'a church' though

It's to get more people inside their doors, they say
Pew- fillers? If they had pews, that is!
'They' - some main ones
Keep swanning off to Conferences
They deserting the flock?
The flock seem to amble on

Same Choruses up to three weeks in a row
People turning a bit strange
On return from some Conferences
Music Group a bit ropey
Depending if one or six people turn up. Doh!
Some growing funny hair-styles
To look like old Testament prophets?

It's gone downhill ,I think...
Some left because of 'money matters'
People are giving thousands of pounds in total
But it's a pathetic 8% of the total needed

Ohh, we'll borrow again
45% this time
Give us your dough, so we can repay loans!

Fido says I can't support that AND Branson now
He is annoyed
He will bite the 'they' people!
Who say building should go ahead!

C'mon now, pass your money and gold to me
And I will give it to them
I know ya got stashes of gold there!

Rant over!!

Restoring And Reviving

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding')

(Or: 'Hark, a herald voice is calling')

Ezekiel 34 v.28-31 {Old Testament}

My people shall no more prey be
To their enemies, for see
I the LORD shall save them, restore
They shall be safe, fear no more

I will raise up for them garden
They shall plant and tend land then
Shall eat produce, and hunger not
Favourable be their lot

Nor shall they be ashamed, but they
Shall know me throughout their days
Shall know that I the LORD God be
With them now and lastingly

Even they, my people Israel
My presence they shall know, tell
And they are my flock, and I your
God keep you in pastures sure

Lost?

Subtitled:

'The Mad Adventures of Fido and Orchi No.3461'

I could be 'Lost in Space'

Nope, not that I'm watching the TV serial

Though I could be in that

Playing the robot

So ya can't see me!

But look, Fido and I fancied a trip to Saturn

To see them ring-thingys

I checked with a friend

'I think I need the No.7 bus there'

'No' said my friend

'The No. 7 bus goes to Mars

You need the No.11 bus to Saturn'!

The I took the car abroad

For a journey overseas

I didn't go by ship

The car 'walked' on water!

Well, Fido and I would go

But we can't get out of this building

There's a Fire Door Exit we're trying to get out of

But a notice says:

'This door must be kept closed at all times'

Even if there's a fire?!

I've not used that extra hour yet

Not put me clocks back yet

How to spend the hour?

Fido and I could, for example

Go round the world 4,756 times
Or sail to the Moon and back 2,643 times
Or we'll swim the Pacific/Atlantic Ocean 7,843 times!

Onwards - on to more nuttiness
On to adventure No. 3462!

Redeemer Revelation

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, He comes with clouds descending')

Revelation 5 v.4-14 parts

*The 5th syllable of the fourth line of each verse
is a 'longer note' as in **bold** type.*

Only the Lamb **of** God worthy
He Jesus, Son **of** God be
Worthy to un**loose** the sealed book
And upon it **there** to look
Praises, rejoicing
Praises, rejoicing
Praises, rejoicing
To the Lamb melodies ring

He did take the **book** from Him who
Sat on the throne, **did** Him view
He be God **Almighty** reigning
Beasts, elders round **throne** did bring
Prayers and praises
Prayers and praises
Prayers and praises
Gold incense bowls each raises

They sang a new **song**, and saying
You worthy, Lamb, **in** each thing
To open the **book**, seals undo
Have redeemed us **to** God true
Salvation now
Salvation now
Salvation now
You died and rose, this is how

John did hear voice, **many** angels
With elders and **beasts**, each tells
Of His glory, **great** millions
Joining with God's **daughters**, sons
Saying, loud voice
Saying, loud voice
Saying, loud voice
We praise you, make you our choice

Said, Worthy the **Lamb** that was slain
To receive from **us** again
Power, riches, **wisdom**, honour
Strength, glory, and **blessings** sure
Heaven's arches ringing
Heaven's arches ringing
Heaven's arches ringing
With the tributes that they bring

Every creature **in** heaven, earth
And under earth, **give** Him worth
And all in the **sea** do join in
Renewed praise to **Him** begin
All enraptured
All enraptured
All enraptured
By His presence they captured

Blessing, honour, **glory**, power
To God be, e'en **each** hour
And to His Son, **the** Lamb for ever
His kingdom shall **fail** never
Scene immortal
Scene immortal
Scene immortal
Come to worship, one and all

Kingdom Kindlings

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Micah 4 v.1-5 {Old Testament}

Micah did prophesy
Of the Lord's coming nigh
Said, In the last days see
Mountain of His house be
Established on the top of mounts
From there shall flow forth blessings founts

It shall be exalted
Above the hills, the head
People shall to it be
Led there, for graciously
The Lord shall guide them to His place
From every nation, class, and race

Many nations shall say
Come, let us go this day
To mountain of the Lord
To meet Him, hear His word
It too the house of God, they tell
He be the God of Israel

And He will teach us there
Of His ways, with us share
And we shall His paths take
Walk therein for His sake
For the law shall from Zion go
Spread from that mount, we shall it know

Mount Zion it sure be

In Jerusalem, see
And the Lord shall judge, bring
Healing [to] each warring thing
Swords shall be made into plough-shares
Spears into pruning-hooks, peace fares

Picture of peace, plenty
Each have own vine, fig tree
The Lord has so spoken
Will bring it to pass then
If people follow own gods, we
Shall follow our God constantly

Mercy Manifest

Tune: Winchester Old

('When God of old came down from heaven')

Romans 15 v.9-13

Jews and Gentiles both in God's plan
Salvation every man
Woman and child, all here below
That they might gospel know

For prophecies said, [For] His mercy
The Gentiles too shall, see
Glorify God, as shall the Jews
He brings us life, good news

They too unto His name shall sing
Shall rejoice in each thing
With praise and laud, e'en all people
He does call one and all

Isaiah, prophet said, There shall
Be a root*, we shall tell (*descendant)
Of family of Jesse, He
Christ, Son of God, so be

In Him shall the Gentiles trust still
Now the God of hope fill
You with all joy and with all peace
In believing, ne'er cease

That you may abound in hope through
His power, know it true
Power of the Holy Spirit
By Him your path be lit

Notable Need

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Luke 10 v.38-42

Jesus in a village
Martha did encourage
Him, welcomed Him and disciples
Hospitality calls

And her sister Mary
Did sit and learn, so be
At Jesu's feet, His word she heard
Grace to her was conferred

Martha was distracted
And with Jesus she pled
Said, Lord, do you not care, it known
That I do serve alone?

Bid my sister that she
help prepare meals with me
Jesus replied, Martha, Martha
There need not be this stir

You are worried, careful
Troubled, many things call
For your attention, but there one
Thing needful to be done

And Mary has chosen
That good part, it the one
Which shall not be taken away
Form her, there no dismay

Lord, help us though many
Daily matters here be
To take time to your word learn, here
A priority dear

Prosperity Plea

Tune and Hymn: 'Come ye that love the Lord'

Psalm 90 v.14-17

Satisfy us early
With your grace and mercy
That we may rejoice and be glad
That we may rejoice and be glad
All our days, not e'er sad
All our days, not e'er sad

Make us glad according
To where troubles did bring
Us affliction, and years evil
Us affliction, and years evil
Restore, that we do well
Restore, that we do well

Let you work, Lord, appear
To us your people here
We your children and your servants
We your children and your servants
Who sense true your presence
Who sense true your presence

And too let the beauty
Of the Lord on us be
You our Lord God, do establish
You our Lord God, do establish
Our works complete, finish
Our works complete, finish

Humility Honourable

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

1 Peter 5 v.5-7

Be subject to one another
To each Christian sister, brother
And be clothed with humility
Treating each other graciously

For God, He does resist the proud
Turns from the haughty, boastful, loud
And gives grace unto the humble
They do lovingly hear His call

Humble yourselves therefore under
The mighty hand of God for sure
That He may exalt you in due
Time which be suitable for you

Casting all you care on Him, for
He cares for you with concern pure
Trust to Him, live humble and meek
Daily His ways and will to seek

Prepared People

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come thou long-expected Jesus')

Isaiah 40 v.3-5

John Baptist, voice of him that cries
In wilderness, says, Arise
Prepare you the way of the Lord
Draw near to Him, hear His word

Make straight in desert a highway
For our God, His coming day
Every valley shall be lifted
Mounts, hills be made low instead

Crooked places shall be made straight
Rough places smooth, be not late
And the glory of the Lord shall
Be revealed, it we shall tell

And all flesh together shall see
It displayed radiantly
For mouth of the Lord has spoken
So it shall be to all men* (*mankind)

Messiah's Mission

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Matthew 11 v.2-6

Now when John Baptist in prison
Had heard of works of Christ, God's Son
He sent to Him two disciples
Of his to ask if true is this

They said to Jesus, are you He
That should come, or another be
The Promised One, the Messiah?
They did there with Him enquire sure

Jesus replied, said, Go and show
John again the things you hear, know
And that you see, the blind receive
Their sight, the lame walk, no deceive

The lepers are cleansed, the dead raised
The poor have the gospel appraised
It preached to them, and blessed are they
Not offended at me today

Sight And Sound

Tune: Highwood

('Hark, what a sound, and too divine for hearing')

Matthew 11 v.7-14

Jesus said, People, what went you out into
Wilderness to see? Was it unto you
As a reed shaken with the wind? But what went
You out there to see? My messenger sent?

Did you expect to see man in rich clothing?
Behold, they such into palaces bring
But what went you out for to see? A prophet?
Yes, John [Baptist] a prophet, and he be more yet

For this is he, of whom it is written, see
Behold, I send my messenger ready
Before your face, which shall prepare you way, he
Goes ahead of Christ, the forerunner be

Truly, I say to you, among then that are
Born of women, there not be one by far
Who is greater than Joh the Baptist, but see
Least in kingdom of God [is] greater than he

And from the days of John the Baptist until
Now the kingdom of God suffers ill-will
And the violent take it by force, though John be
Second Elijah, fulfills prophecy

From Unborn To Born

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Join all the glorious names'

OR 'Ye holy angels bright')

Psalm 139 v.9-16

If I take morning's wing
To flee from everything
And dwell out in the sea
The farthest I can be
Even there then, your Spirit, hand
Shall hold me, lead me to good land

If I say, dark surely
Shall cover, fall on me
Even the night shall be
As light round about me
For the darkness hides not from you
Lord, night shines as day to you true

The darkness and the light
Are alike in your sight
You made my inward parts
Weaved me right from the start
I will praise you, for I be made
By your awesome wondrous display

Marvellous your works be
My soul knows, does agree
My frame was from you not
Hid, you assigned my lot
When I was made in secret, bones
And all of me with skilful hones

You did see my substance
When still unformed, and thence
In your book my members
Were written, all concurs
You fashioned each one of them when
There were none, and gave me life then

Prophecy Proclaimed

Tune: Old Hundredth

('Before Jehovah's awful throne'

OR 'All people that on earth do dwell')

Daniel 12 v.2-4

An angel said to Daniel

Many that have died, even all

Shall arise, some to e'erlasting

Life, they shall so rejoicing sing

Some shall arise to contempt, shame

For their evil doings have blame

They that be wise shall shine as sun

And stars, righteous things they have done

No end there be of their brightness

The Lord shall prosper and them bless

They share in hope, resurrection

Shall be through Jesus, God's own Son

But in Daniel's time as book sealed

Until God's time prophecies yield

Even time of the end, many

Shall run here, there, more knowledge be

Praise Professions

Tune: Forest Green

('I sing the mighty power of God')

Psalm 118 v.25-29

This is the day the Lord had made
Has ordered and displayed
We will rejoice in it, be glad
Not staying always sad
Save now I beseech, O Lord
And help us by your word
I pray, send us prosperity
That we your good works see

Blessed be they that come in the name
Of the Lord, with no blame
We have blessed you, and this be how
Blessed you from His house now
The house of the Lord, His people
He does there with then dwell
God is the Lord, has shown us light
We worship in His sight

Let us bring Him gifts, praises true
And thankfulness renew
Ready to sacrifices make
Self deny for His sake
You are my God, I will you praise
Will exalt you, up raise
Thanks to the Lord, for He good be
His mercy lasting, see

Mind Motivations

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Philippians 2 v.1-5

Exhorting to humility

Paul, he asks if there be

Any consolation, intent

Any encouragement

If there any comfort of love

From the Spirit, the dove

And if there any fellowship

Of the Spirit, friendship

And if any warm affection

And mercies, any one

To fulfil his joy, that we be

Like-minded graciously

And that we have the same love for

Each brother, sister sure

In Christ, agreeing in one mind

Blessings for others find

Esteem others better than self

Not only our own wealth

Look not only on self's own things

But what each in Christ brings

Let this mind be in us, which is

In Christ Jesus, true this

Life of love and humility

His service freedom be

Heavenly Hope

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Revelation 21 v.1-5

John saw new heaven and new earth
He saw them brought to birth
First heaven and earth passed away
Gone were their night and day

John saw the holy city, new
Jerusalem, did view
From God out of heaven, descending
Perfection does He bring

City is prepared as a bride
In husband does confide
Great voice out of heaven then did say
God dwells with us today

For His home, His tabernacle
Shall e'er be with us all
He will dwell with us, and we shall
Be His people, here tell

And God Himself shall with us be
Shall be our God, thus see
God shall wipe all tears from our eyes
Now no more any dies

For there shall be no death, sorrow
Crying, pain, none shall know
For those shall be as former things
And life to us God brings

God sat on His throne said, Behold
Let it be seen and told
I make all things new, true, faithful
These words be, hear His call

Angelic Announcement

Tune: Antioch

('Joy to the world')

Luke 1 v.26-33 parts

The angle Gabriel appears
To Mary he draws near
At Nazareth he message gives
From God who ever lives
From God who ever lives
From God, from God who ever lives

He said, Greetings, highly favoured
You be, and graces shed
Upon you, for the Lord He be
With you, blessed you be, see
With you, blessed you be, see
With you, with you, blessed you be, see

Fear not, Mary, behold you shall
Conceive, I now you tell
In womb, by the Holy Spirit
By Him your way be lit
By Him your way be lit
By Him, by Him your way be lit

You shall bring forth a son, Jesus
A Saviour unto us
He shall be great, be called the Son
Of God by everyone
Of God by everyone
Of God, of God by everyone

The Lord God, He shall give the throne

To Him, and Him alone
He shall reign o'er Israel for e'er
His endless kingdom share
His endless kingdom share
His endless, His endless kingdom share

Emmanuel Expressed

Tune: Stille Nacht

('Silent Night', holy night')

Matthew 1 v.18-25 parts

The Son of God, here appears
On earth now, each reveres
Him, the Lord God breaks into
Human history, lowly and true
Jesus of virgin born
Jesus of virgin born

Born of the Spirit, Mary
His humble mother be
Joseph as His father earthly
Yet sinless nature Jesus has, see
His Father, God above
His Father, God above

And His name Emmanuel
God with us, let all tell
Mary bore the child, He Jesus
He comes to earth, a Saviour for us
Saves us from all our sins
Saves us from all our sins

Leaving heaven for earth
Lo, He comes, here new birth
All creation it joins to praise
And all heaven, worshipful arrays
Light of the world, shine bright
Light of the world, shine bright

I'm Horrible To Me.....

Note to self:

Or talking to oneself

Not always a sign of madness! lol.

Aww, now c'mon Orchi, why you be

So horrible to yourself?!

Why say you can't sing?

You've only had 8,546 singing lessons

And your tutor says

You'll only need another 5,634 lessons

He's laughing up his sleeve

The fees I'm paying him!

And why you keep insulting cats?

Saying your singing is like two cats fighting

It's much worse than that!

And why you keep torturing poets

By writing hymn-poems?

Why don't you let sleeping dogs lie?

Such as Fido!

Write them, yes

But why must you always sing each one

About 20 times each? (heehee)

Fido's noticed some 'hot' poems on here

And starts barking at 'em

But why?

Cos they're not helping global warming

It'll be a hot winter!

(Writing this, living in the U.K.)

Now, you say to me -
I suppose you'll be singing
About 6,738 Carols at this season
Won't you stop punishing us?
What we done wrong?!
Heehee :)

Examples Elicited

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many noble city')

2 Timothy Chapter 2 parts

Be strong in the grace that is in
Christ Jesus, who dwells within
Us by His Spirit residing
Grow more like Him in each thing

See examples shown naturally
In this world in which we be
Be as a discipling teacher
In word, deed, and as preacher

Be as single-minded soldier
Of Christ, let naught you deter
Seeking to please God who makes you
Of His army a part true

Be as husbandman* enduring (*farmer)
Planting, tending to each thing
Eating fruit of produce before
Labouring in duties sure

Be as a workman diligent
Study truth with good intent
And so teach wholesomely, wisely
Not ashamed, but share freely

Be as a vessel set apart
Seeking after Father's heart
Having value, honour, prepared
God's purposes with you shared

Be as gentle servant, lowly
Christ's life show expressively
He our Master, with Him all share
With everyone everywhere

Benedictus Bestowal

Tune: Yorkshire

('Christians awake, salute the happy morn')

Luke 1 v.67-80

Zacharias, John Baptist's father he
At his son's birth he did prophesy, see
Was filled with the Holy Spirit, and said
Blessed be the Lord God, He has visited
And redeemed His people, and for us raised
Up strength of salvation, His name be praised

'Tis in the house of His servant David
As he spake by holy prophets, not hid
These prophets have been since the world began
Now good tidings as Christ becomes human
Prophets said we should from our enemies
Be saved, from all that hate us, Christ us frees

The Lord God, He shall perform the mercy
Promised to forefathers, and to us, see
And remember His holy covenant
In this day and age He has Christ us sent
And recalls the oath to Abraham made
It now revealed, its fulfilment displayed

That He would grant unto us, that we be
Delivered from enemy's hand, set free
And so might serve Him without fear or dread
Our Lord God, He be e'er our living Head
Serving in holiness and righteousness
Before Him all our days, He shall us bless

And you, child, John, shall be called the prophet

Of the Lord, the prophet of the Highest
For you shall go before His face, prepare
His ways, knowledge of His salvation share
Unto His people, it by remission
Of their sins, forgiveness unto each one

This be through our God's tender mercies borne
To us, whereby the Dayspring now does dawn
For Christ the Messiah shall come, 'tis sure
To visit, abide with us evermore
To give light to them that sit in darkness
And in the shadow of death and oppressed

He shall guide our feet into way of peace
His kingdom shall come and shall ne'er decrease
John Baptist grew, in spirit became strong
Was in deserts until time yearned so long
That He would preach the coming of the Lord
Here be the 'Benedictus', here this word

Kingly Kindlings

Tune: Regent Square

('O'er the gloomy hills of darkness'

OR ' Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 47

O clap your hands, all you people
Shout to god with triumph all
For the LORD most high is awesome
Unto Him give worship, come
He a great King o'er all the earth
Bring him praises, sing His worth

He shall subdue people under
Us, help unto us confer
Nations shall be under our feet
God on His throne, mercy-seat
He shall choose our inheritance
For us, promised land from hence

God is gone up with a shout, He
Gone up with trumpet's sound be
Sing praises to God, sing praises
Each to Him voice up raises
For God the King of all earth be
Let all praise Him joyfully

Sing praises with understanding
He the Lord o'er everything
he reigns over the nations, He
Sits on His holy throne, see
All be gathered unto Him for
To give Him glory e'ermore

Believe This Birth

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night let Christians sing')

Come, let us with the shepherds go
The new-born Christ-child see and know
Come, let us with the shepherds go
The new-born Christ-child see and know
He be not in a palace bright
But in a manger, wondrous sight

All creation, heaven and earth
Now celebrate the Saviour's birth
All creation, heaven and earth
Now celebrate the Saviour's birth
Come, worship Him in Beth'lem's town
His name high, of endless renown

Glad tidings sound, let peace abound
Where His presence, there holy ground
Glad tidings sound, let peace abound
Where His presence, there holy ground
Son of God human and divine
Born of mankind of David's line

He shall bring in His rule of peace
It shall begin and never cease
He shall bring in His reign of peace
It shall begin and never cease
Light of the world darkness dispel
And longing hearts of this shall tell

That He comes human lives to save
Give them victory o'er the grave

That He comes human lives to save
Give them victory o'er the grave
Hasten the day when your kingdom
Of perfectness, Lord, full shall come

Lead us to witness, word and deed
That everyone this gospel heed
Lead us to witness, word and deed
That everyone this gospel heed
Dayspring dawns to eternity
Salvation, we from our sins freed

Stephen's Story

Tune: Tempus Adest Floridum

= *The time has come for flowers*

('Good King Wenceslas looked out')

Acts 6 v.5 & v.8; Acts 7 v.52-60 parts

For St Stephen's Day: Dec 26.

Holy Stephen, martyr strong
Followed Christ all along
Full of faith and full of power
And wisdom each hour
Among the people he did
Great wonders, they not hid
And miracles, he preached bold
Full gospel message told

But they would not hear, believe
The gospel not receive
They stubborn, impenitent
Stoned God's messenger sent
But he, full of the Spirit
His inwardly sight lit
Looked up steadfastly to heaven
Wondrous view he had them

For he did see God's glory
And Jesus standing, see
On God's right hand side, and said
I see Him in good stead
Behold, this I do see plain
It not be a view vain
But they cried out with loud voice
To destroy him made choice

They did then listen no more
Bur murderous intent sure
They pursued, all to him ran
To put to death this man
As they stoned him, Stephen called
On God, though scene appalled
Said, Lord Jesus, now receive
My spirit, I you believe

He kneeled down and cried out loud
Though the stoning him bowed
Said, Lord, lay not this sin to
Their charge, but forgive, do
When he said this he did die
Christian sleep by and by
As his Master too did pray
Forgive Lord, each this day

Life-Light

Tune: Cranham

('In the bleak midwinter')

1 John 2 v.7-11

For St John's Day: Dec 27.

John writes commandment old
To us it be told
Yet Jesus did say too
Did command renew
To love God, each other
Each sister, brother
So command old and new
Spoken unto you

Because darkness is past
Shall not ever last
The true light does now shine
Light of heaven divine
They that say they are in
The light, they do sin
If they hate their fellow
Humans, this do know

Such are in the darkness
E'en now, we confess
They that love their fellow
Humans, we can know
Such abide in the light
Not people of night
They live unoffensive
Helping others live

But they that live hating

Troubles do they bring
Live in darkness, they know
Not the way they go
The darkness has blinded
Them, they do not find
Jesus, light of the world
Now His love unfurled

Suffering Scene

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

Matthew 2 v.1-6 and v.16-21

For Holy Innocents Day: Dec 28.

Holy Innocents were slain
Horror, anguish, torment, pain
All the boys age under two
Massacred, dread sight to view

For King Herod troubled be
When herd of new-born King, see
In Bethlehem, it Jesus
Brings salvation unto us

There the little family
Joseph, Mary, Jesus be
Angel in a dream there warned
Not to turn where evil dawned

But unto Egypt escape
From where jaws of death did gape
Until Herod was dead they
Stayed, remained there night and day

Then was fulfilled prophecy
Of Jeremiah surely
Voices heard, weepings, laments
Hearts and lives with sorrows rent

They wept, would not comforted
Be, for their little boys dead
Lord, help us not complacent

Be, but pursue good intents

Sincere Serving

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Ephesians 6 v.5-9

Employees (or servants) , do obey
Employers (or masters) every day
With honour and respect, sincere
And too you serve Christ here

Not with eye-service, when
Employers watch you then
But as servants of Christ, doing
Will of God in each thing

Serving from your heart, do
Serve as to the Lord true
Not solely pleasing men, for you
have heavenly Master too

Know that whate'er good thing
Anyone does, serving
The same shall they receive, the Lord
Shall give them, true His word

And employees, act fair
To employees, good share
Forbear threats, knowing your Master
Is in heaven, He there

Birth Blessed

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched')

Luke Chapter 2 parts

Come now and see the Saviour's birth
And give Him praise and worth
He be found in a manger laid
The Son of God displayed

In Bethlehem, a little town
But now of great renown
The 'house 'of bread', Christ is born here
Bread of life does appear

And skies were filled with angel throng
They sang their joyful song
To lowly shepherds was revealed
Birth of Christ, not concealed

Seek Him not in a palace bright
Though He the world's true light
Creatures in stable join in joy
Here born a baby boy

He be full human, full divine
Does with God's glory shine
We too many be born from above
By the Spirit, the dove

Sing-Song Silliness

Tune: Branle de l'officiel

('Ding, dong, merrily on high')

A joint poem by Fido and I.

Woof, woof! hear now Fido sing
Joyful praises he does bring
Bark, bark! dog talking, singing
Can do almost anything

Chorus

How-ow-ow-ling! His master's voice he's drowning
How-ow-ow-ling! With woofs and barks abounding

He was there at manger-stall
The Saviour shown to us all
Was disguised as sheepdog, he
A crafty canine sure be - Chorus

He his master does advise
To give up singing, no prize
Does his master gain, though he
Has had singing lessons, see - Chorus

Fido says to master, Is
It enough to have had this?
Five thousand lessons, no less
But through all made no progress - Chorus

'Tis all right, master replies
My tutor say, no denies
Only three thousand and four
Lessons you shall need, no more - Chorus

Immanent Incarnation

Tune: Cradle Song

('Away in a manger')

John 1 v.14-18 parts

And the Word was flesh mane
To us is displayed
The Word is Christ, God's Son
To save everyone
He did dwell on this earth
A pure virgin's birth
We beheld His glory
Of God it is, see

Glory of the only
Begotten and free
Of the Father, he be
Full of grace, truth He
We have of His fullness
Received, he shall bless
His grace shown and here shared
With us, none compared

No one e'er has God seen
Never has it been
But Christ, God's only Son
Reveals Him, [Christ is] the One
Who us the Father shows
So each Him may know
Christ incarnate, human
Yet still divine then

Momentous Miracles

Tune: Carol (Willis)

('It came upon the midnight clear')

Luke 1 v.30-38

Angel said to Mary, Fear not
For favoured is your lot
And behold, for you shall conceive
The power of God receive
For by His Holy Spirit you
Shall be the mother true
Of His Son Jesus, He shall come
On earth shall have His home

He shall be great, and shall called be
Son of the Highest, see
The Lord God shall give Him the throne
He shall rule, He alone
O'er Israel and all nations
Mankind of all stations
Of His kingdom there shall be no
End, this revealed, this know

The holy child which shall be born
On that redemption morn
He shall the Son of God be called
God's promises not stalled
Elisabeth your cousin there
In Judah, too shall bare
A son*, with God no impossibles
Shall be, He fulfils all

* John the Baptist.

Well-Being Water

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Isaiah 12 v.2-3

Water of life you offer to us here
We come to drink of it, sparkling and clear
Your promise be that with joy we shall draw
Water out of wells of salvation sure

We shall rejoice and praise you with one voice
To quench our thirst your water is our choice
It flows a spring, an endless full supply
Who drinks of this resource, they ne'er shall die

To satisfy, to refresh, make us whole
To replenish and satiate each soul
For you the LORD JEHOVAH our strength be
Our song and salvation eternally

Help us so trust, not be afraid, you will
Come to us, grant us your refreshment still
Enough for all, wells deep enough to be
Fulfilling for us through eternity

Babe Born

Tune: Humility

('See amid the winter's snow')

Isaiah 9 v.6-7

For to us a child is born
Here be our redemption morn
And the government shall be
Upon His shoulder, now see

Chorus

His name Wondrous Counsellor
The mighty God, reigning sure
The Father everlasting
The Prince of Peace, good each thing

Of the increase of His reign
There shall be no end, but gain
His government, peace ne'er end
Justice and judgement shall blend - Chorus

The zeal of the LORD, He shall
Perform this, and do it well
Christ, He born in manger-stall
His the throne high over all - Chorus

Parable Points

Tune and Hymn: 'I've found the pearl'

Matthew 13 v.31-33 and v.44-46

Kingdom of heaven like mustard seed

It does start small indeed

It does start small indeed

It is taken and sown, and when

Grown, greatest of trees then

Alleluia!

Grown, greatest of trees then

Grown, greatest of trees then

Kingdom of heaven is like to yeast

Potential for increase

Potential for increase

Is taken, hidden in flour

Makes growth every hour

Alleluia!

Makes growth every hour

Makes growth every hour

Kingdom of heaven like hid treasure

Gives finders great pleasure

Gives finders great pleasure

When one finds, they it hide for joy

Sells all for it to buy

Alleluia!

Sells all for it to buy

Sells all for it to buy

Kingdom of heaven like a merchant

Who seeks pearls resplendent

Who seeks pearls resplendent

When finding one of greatest price

Buys it, none else suffice

Alleluia!

Buys it, none else suffice

Buys it, none else suffice

Star-Sign

Tune: Epiphany

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Matthew 2 v.1-6 parts

Jesus born in Bethlehem in Judea
In the days of Herod the King He here
Then there came unto Jerusalem wise men
Magi from the east, to worship Him then

They said, Where is He that is born King of Jews?
We have His star seen in the east, good news
To worship Him we have come from far country
Tell us, we pray, where such a King may be

Herod asked chief priests and scribes, Where Christ be born?
The said to him, In Bethlehem the dawn
Of salvation has come, so wrote the prophets
Small town in Judea, there it still sits

They said, Bethlehem, you not the least town be
For out of you comes a Governor, see
And He shall rule God's people of Israel
This comes to pass, hear it, and know it well

The first verse is traditionally repeated at the end.

Return And Restoration

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Hosea 5 v.14 and 6 v.1-3 {Old Testament Minor Prophet}

The LORD says, I will return, go
To my place, till my people know
And realise of their offence
Against me, and turn to me thence

In their affliction they will seek
My face, come to me humble, meek
Shall seek me early, say, Come, let
Us return to Him, there time yet

For He has torn and He will heal
His mercies shall be to us still
He has stricken us, he will bind
Us up, restoring we shall find

After two days he will revive
Us, we shall once again survive
In third day He will us up raise
We shall live in His sight, Him praise

Then we shall know, if we pursue
Him, follow on, and prosper too
His going forth is as the morn
After each night sure comes the dawn

And He shall come to us as rain
Falls on the earth, waters again
Seasons of rain latter, former
Shall be still, as in days past were

Vengeance Vindication

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Nahum 1 v.2-8 {Old Testament Minor Prophet}

God is jealous, and the LORD takes revenge
He is furious, and will take vengeance
On His adversaries and His enemies
Reserves of His wrath for them, each one it sees

The LORD slow to anger, and of great power
Will not acquit the wicked in His hour
They who unrepentant, not seek forgiveness
But merciful to penitent, will them bless

The LORD has His way in whirlwind and storm
Clouds are dust of His feet, He does them form
He rebukes to sea and rivers, makes them dry
Mounts quake, hills melt, earth burns at His presence nigh

Who can stand before His indignation?
Who can endure His anger, what nation?
It fierce, and His fury is poured out like fire
Rocks are thrown down by Him, in His vengeance dire

Yet the LORD is good to His people, He
A stronghold in the day of trouble be
He knows them that trust in Him, them will He keep
Guard, guide, and surround them, they e'er be His sheep

But with an overflowing flood will He
Make an utter end of the places, see
The places of His enemies, darkness shall
Pursue them, but His people shall know light well

Epiphany Enlightenings

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Matthew 2 v.7-12

When Herod met with wise men
He did send them, and said then
To Bethlehem, go and see
Where the young child Jesus be
Search diligently, and when
You find Him, bring me word then

So that I may visit too
Offer Him worship, Him view
When they had heard the king, they
Left, to then seek Him that day
And, lo, the star which they saw
In the east still led them sure

Until it came to the place
Where the child was, even pace
Did it guide the wise men there
Then they in great joy did share
As they saw the star shining
To Christ-child's house did gifts bring

In the house they saw young child
Jesus, Saviour, loving, mild
With Nary His mother, then
They fell down as humble men
And worshipped Him, treasures gave
To Him who would mankind save

Gifts of gold and frankincense

And myrrh they gave to Him thence
God in a dream did them warn
Not tell Herod of new-born
But to go another way
Back to own country that day

Goodness In Giving

Tune: Ode to Joy

('Joyful, joyful, we adore thee')

Malachi 3 v. 6-12 {Old Testament Minor Prophet}

For I am the LORD, I change not
You my people, this your lot
Return to me, and so I will
Return to you, do good still
But you say, How shall we return?
What the matter of concern?
You have robbed me, yet you do say
How have we robbed you these days?

It be in your tithes, offerings
You rob me, not me them bring
You are cursed with a curse, return
To me, be blessed, of me learn
Bring all tithes into the store house
That there be food in my house
And prove me now with this, the LORD
Says, see the truth of my word

See if I open the windows
Of heaven, that blessing flows
Shall pour it out, that there be not
Room to receive it, your lot
I will rebuke devourer
For your sakes I shall then stir
He shall not destroy fruits of your
Ground, nor vines be spoilt, 'tis sure

And all nations shall call you blessed
This by them shall be confessed

For you shall be a delightsome
Land, prosperity shall come
Says the LORD of hosts, Him obey
Continue in truthful ways
Justice, fairness, and righteousness
In such the LORD shall you bless

Wholesome Witness

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 119 v.105-112

Your word is a lamp to
My feet, and light to
My path, I have sworn that I will
Keep your good judgements still

I am much afflicted
Revive me, so I tread
Still in your ways, help by your word
You ever be my Lord

Accept, I do beseech
Freewill offerings, each
That I with my mouth make, teach too
Me your judgements to do

My life continually
Is in my hand, so be
Dangers surround me, yet do I
Keep and learn your laws nigh

Wicked have set for me
Traps, yet I strayed not, see
From your precepts, testimonies
They my heritage be

For ever do they last
If lift up or downcast
I may be, they the rejoicing
Of my heart, I do sing

I have inclined my heart
To perform, every part
Of your statutes always, e'en to
The end, so shall I do

Timeless Tribute

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Romans 11 v.33-36

O the depths of the riches, here see
Both of God wisdom, knowledge be!
How unsearchable be His judgements
Ways past finding out by human sense!

For who has known the mind of the Lord?
Who can give Him advising word?
Or who has been His counsellor wise
No humans have, e'en if one tries

Or who has given unto Him first
And He shall repay them? Who durst
Believe He be in our debt, owing
Us, when He to us gives each thing?

For of Him, and through Him, and unto
Him, are all things, He Lord, 'tis true
To whom be glory ever, ever
Amen, praises flow cease never

Hope of help

Tune: Carlisle

('Awake and sing the song

OR 'Stand up and bless the Lord')

Psalm 32 v.7

The Lord, our hiding place

Shall help us by His grace

Shall preserve us from troubles, see

Our Saviour He shall be

Psalm 32 v.11

Be glad in the Lord near

Rejoice, you righteous here

And shout for joy, upright in heart

he is your portion, part

Psalm 33 v.20

Our soul waits for the Lord

For faithful be His word

He is our help and our shield too

Will come to aid anew

Psalm 34 v.5

Look unto the Lord, be

Lightened radiantly

Be not ashamed, He your Lord be

Now and eternally

Hope Of Help (2)

Tune: Marching

(one tune to: 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Psalm 43

Judge me, O God, and plead my cause
Save me out of troubles, wars
And from the unjust, deceitful
Who stir up oppressions all

For you the God of my strength are
Attend, be not from me far
Why I seem as cast off? Why go
I mourning now here below?

O send out your truth and your light
Let them lead me, give me sight
Let them bring me to your holy
Hill, and tabernacles free

Then I will to God's altar go
And my praises to him show
He be God, my exceeding joy
Songs, music I shall employ

It be to praise Him, my God He
Be, Why cast down my soul? See
Hope in Him, I shall Him yet praise
He my help, shall me up raise

True Treasure

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

1 Corinthians 4 v.5-7

For we preach not ourselves, but we
Preach Jesus Christ the Lord, here see
And we ourselves* are your servants
For Jesus' sake, e'en now and hence

For God who commanded the light
To shine out of darkness, gave sight
He has shined in our hearts to give
Light of the knowledge, so we live

Light of the knowledge, it so be
Of the glory of God freely
In the face of Jesus Christ, true
Message of salvation to you

But we have this treasure, each in
Our earthly bodies, here within
As vessels, that excellency
Of God's power seen, not ours be

* Paul and his companions.

Servant Success

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Isaiah 49 v.6-12 parts

God's servant, He the Lord Jesus
Sent from heaven unto us
The Lord God said, It a light thing
That you to me the Jews bring

I will also give you as light
To the Gentiles in their night
That you may be my salvation
To each and every nation

Even unto earth's farthest end
I my salvation shall send
In an acceptable time I
Have heard you, to you drawn nigh

And in a day of salvation
I have heard you, each nation
Shall I gather to me , through you
Who fulfil my mission true

You shall give them light for darkness
Shall provide pasture and bless
Them, they shall not thirst nor hunger
You their satisfaction sure

Sing, O heavens, rejoice, O earth
Praise the Lord, give Him His worth
For He comfort, mercy has shown
Unto us, these we have known

Nations Named

Tune and Hymn: 'All for Jesus'

Acts 15 v. 13-18

At Jerusalem a meeting
To consider of this thing
Gentiles saved as well as the Jews?
Can it be so ,this good news?

James the leader said, You people
Hearken unto me, e'en all
For you have heard Perter saying
How God did the Gentiles bring

How He did bring them salvation
He does visit each nation
And does make Gentiles His people
They do join with the Jews all

For with this the prophets agree
Amos* did say of old, see
That the Lord will return, and will
Build again His dwelling still

It be David's** tabernacle
it is crumbled, it did fall
But the Lord will rebuild ruins
To set it up He begins

That the rest of mankind might seek
After the Lord, strong or weak
And all the Gentiles who called are
Who may come from near or far

They who are called by the Lord's name
For His glory, for His fame
The Lord who does all these things, He
God, knows all eternally

* Old Testament prophet.

** Old Testament King.

Revealing of the Church - Revealing Series (2)

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Matthew 16 v. 18-20

Jesus did say, You are Peter
A Stone, there no demur*
And upon this rock I shall build
My church, fruit shall it yield

And the gates of hell, they shall not
Prevail, no victory lot
And I will give to you the keys
Of heaven's kingdom these

And whatsoever you shall bind
On earth, realm of mankind
It shall be too in heaven bound
So thus it shall be found

And whatsoever you shall loose
It true, it not obtuse**
The same shall being heaven loosed
So thus these works produced

Then charged He His disciples wise
Not yet evangelise
Not tell He was Jesus the Christ
Until right time sufficed

* Demur = objection, hesitation

** Obtuse - annoying insensitive or slow to understand

Grace Gloryings

Tune: Aurelia

('O Father, all-creating'

OR 'The church's one foundation')

Ephesians 2 v.4-10

God, who is rich in mercy
For His great love, so be
Wherewith He loved us, e'en when
We were dead in sins then
He has made us alive, see
Together with Christ, we
By grace are saved, believing
Salvation receiving

Together with Christ He raised
Us up, His name be praised
Made us sit together in
heavenly realms therein
We be in Christ Jesus, so
In future we may know
The exceeding graces true
Shown by Him to me, you

This grace is in His kindness
In Christ Jesus, no less
For by grace are we save through
Faith, His mercies not few
It be not of ourselves, for
It is gift of God sure
Not of our doings, lest we
Should boast arrogantly

For we are His workmanship

We come to Him, worship
We are created in Christ
Jesus to deeds sufficed
Good works which God has prepared
Made ready, with us shared
That we should do these deeds, be
All unto His glory

Propitiation Provided

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

1 John 2 v.1-3

* propitiation - appeasing, atoning, turning away wrath of a god or God.

John does write, that we not sin

But if we sin, do look herein

See, we have an Advocate

Jesus Christ, He cares for our state

He to the Father represents

Us, and bears our guilty sentence

For He the righteous one, He

Stands in our place for our sins, see

He the propitiation

Atoning one for each nation

Not only for one here and there

But the whole world's sin He did bear

He reconciles us, forgives

Salvation unto us He gives

And hereby we do know so

That we know Him and in Him grow

'Tis by keeping His commandments

Strengthened with the Spirit's presence

Christ Crowned

Tune: Martyrdom

('As pants the hart for cooling streams')

Hebrews 1 v.1-3

God, who at sundry times did say
And in various ways
Spoke to our ancestors of old
By prophets them He told

in these last days now He speaks still
By His Son, that His will
Whom He has appointed the heir
Of all things, just and fair

By whom He also the worlds made
His creation displayed
His Son He is the brightness sure
Of God's glory e'ermore

And He is the express image
Of His person, the bridge
To lead mankind to God, the Way
The Truth, Life for our days

He upholds all things by the word
Of His power, assured
When He had by himself our sins
Forgave, cleansed us within

Then He sat down at God's right hand
He Lord of every land
He with the Majesty on high
Yet to His people nigh

Revival Requests

Tune: Cruger

('Hail to the Lord's Anointed')

Psalm 85

Lord, you have shown favour to
Your land, restored anew
Have brought back captivity
Of Israel, and set free
Your people, have forgiven
Their sins, wrong doings, then
Took away all your wrath. so
Your people your help know

And have turned from the fierceness
Of your anger, did bless
Turn us, O God, us restore
Grant salvation, whole, pure
And cause your anger to cease
Towards us, send us peace
Will you be angry always
With us, through all our days?

Will you not again revive
Us, so we in you thrive
And that your people in you
Rejoice again anew?
I will hear what God the Lord
Will speak, tend to His word
For He will speak peace unto
His people, even you

But let them not turn again
Unto foolishness then

Surely His salvation is
Near them that fear him, this
Be true, that glory may dwell
In our land, we shall tell
Mercy and truth they are met
Together, as one yet

Righteousness and peace have kissed
Each other, have not missed
Truth shall out of the earth spring
Righteousness, each good thing
Shall from the heaven look down
With grace, not darkened frown
The Lord shall give what good be
His favour shall we see

And our land shall yield increase
From curse shall know release
Righteousness shall go before
The Lord, He sets paths sure
And He shall His footsteps make
A way for us to take
To follow on firm, steadfast
From first step unto last

Reigning Revelation

Tune: Es ist Ein Ross

('A great and mighty wonder')

Revelation 1 v.5-8 parts

John given revelation

It be to each nation

From Jesus Christ the faithful

Witness, Saviour of all

Chorus

He Alpha, Omega* (* the 'A to Z')

Beginning and the end sure

Now lives for evermore

He first begotten of dead

Now reigns, our living Head

He ruler o'er kings (and queens) of earth

Sing praises, give Him worth - Chorus

He has loved us, and us cleansed

The Father did Him send

Washed from our sins in His blood

Here be a sparkling flood - Chorus

He has made us priests (and priestesses) and kings (and queens)

To God the Father, brings

Each Him offering, service

It be true freedom this - Chorus

To God be glory ever

Dominion ends never

He the Lord God Almighty

Was, is, ever shall be - Chorus

Mercy In Mourning

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Psalm 30 v. 5, 8-12

I called unto you, O Lord, made
My requests to you, them laid
Before you, said, Save me, hear me
Have mercy, my helper be

You did hear, answer, and me save
Turned my mourning, and you gave
me dancing, clothed me with gladness
Gone now sackcloth*, I confess
*(*worn as a symbol of mourning)*

'Tis so that my tongue shall praise you
In you I my strength renew
I shall not be silent, but sing
Thanks for ever to you bring

His anger it endures but for
A short while and then for sure
In His favour is life, weeping
A night, but joy in morning

Sheltering Security

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 32 v.7-11

You are my hiding place, you shall
Preserve me, I know well
Lord, from trouble, you me surround
In you my refuge found

You shall give me songs of safety
Of deliverance free
You will instruct me and teach me
In the way you go, see

You will guide me, will look upon
Me with your eye, may none
Be as horse or as mule, for they
Are not tame, so we say

For they have no understanding
But true 'tis in each thing
Must be restrained, bit and bridle
They need, to be curbed all

Many sorrows to the wicked
Shall be, but they who led
By the Lord, and do in Him trust
Find help, though they mere dust

Mercy shall surround them, they be
Joyful in the Lord free
They righteous and upright in heart
serve the Lord in each part [of their lives]

Un-timid Timothy

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

2 Timothy 1 v.6-8

St Timothy and St Titus Day: Jan 26.

Paul reminds Timothy
That he stir up gift free
The gift of God, the Spirit who
Abides in us, 'tis true

For Paul said, God has not
Given us as our lot
The spirit of fear, but He be
The Spirit of power, see

And the Spirit of love
Tender as is the dove
And the Spirit of a sound mind
Wisdom in Him we find

This same Spirit, all three
Of these gives us, so be
Power and love and a sound mind
All from His graces kind

Paul says, Not be ashamed
Gospel to share, Christ named
Take part in gospel's afflictions
By His power, His sons (and daughters)

Hopeful Of Help

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Psalm 146 v.5-10

Happy they who the Lord, they
Have Him for their help each day
He their God, their hope is in
Him, forgiven be their sin

He made heaven, earth, and sea
And all that within them be
He keeps the truth for ever
Falsity and lies never

He brings justice to oppressed
Gives food to hungry, they blessed
Sets prisoners free, they be
Captive now unto Him, see

He opens eyes of the blind
Clarity of sight they find
Raises up those that bowed down
That fall, as if 'neath life's frown

He loves the righteous, preserves
Strangers, orphans He conserves
And widows and widowers
But wicked no aid confers

He turns upside down their way
They not know Him in their day
But He shall reign for ever
The Lord's rule ceases never

Thirst And Trust

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

Psalm 63 v.1-5

O God, you true my God are
Early I seek you, not far
Be from me, I thirst and long
For you, you my song

My soul and flesh thirst for you
In dry and thirsty land too
Where no water is, but you
Refresh me, so do

I long your power to see
As have seen in sanctuary
And your glory, do appear
To me, you I fear

Because your loving-kindness
Is better than life, I bless
You with my voice while I live
Praises to you give

My soul shall be satisfied
You will still for me provide
Abundance, I shall rejoice
In you, this my choice

The Good Way

Tune: Richmond

(one tune to 'Praise to the holiest in the height')

Psalm 1 v.1-3

Blessed they that walk not in counsel
Of wicked, they not fall
Nor do they in sinners ways stand
But guided by God's hand

Nor in seat of scornful do sit
The Lord their path has lit
Their delight is in His law true
They keep it e'er in view

In His law do they meditate
Day and night, early, late
They shall be like trees planted by
Rivers of water nigh

They bring forth fruit in their seasons
They be productive ones
Leaves shall not fall, and whatsoe'er
They do shall prosper fair

Judgement And Justice

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

Psalm 9 v.7-13

The Lord He shall endure for evermore
'Tis a truth sure
He has prepared His throne
For judgement, He alone
Shall judge world righteously
And too shall justice be
The Lord also will be a refuge strong
All day, night long

A refuge for the oppressed in their times
Throughout life's rhymes
Their times of trouble, they
That know His name, His way
Shall in Him put their trust
Though man be made of dust
For the Lord, He has not forsaken meek
Who do Him seek

Sing praises to the Lord, to Him who swells
In Zion, tells
Each one, and they declare
His doings, they them share
He forgets not the cry
Of humble, does draw nigh
To them, and shows them His mercy, and keeps
Them as His sheep

Devotional Ditty

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all nations
All you His daughters, sons
Praise, O praise Him all you people
And on him humbly call

For He merciful, kind
And loving, we shall find
His mercy great towards us be
And grace to us freely

And the truth of the Lord
Endures e'er , pure His word
Praise Him, the Lord, you be His sheep
He Shepherd, does you keep

Swoon!

Swoon!

Well, stop reading Katie's
And other's 'hot' poems, says Fido
He always advises me well

Does he swoon too?
I mean, he usually reads the poems before I do
To check out any 'hotness' and other stuff
Sometimes I beat him to it
And read the poems first! heehee.

Woof! Woof! Quiet, now Fido!
Though I know you're only barking
To help me avoid these swoons
You know I'm very snow-flakey!

Well, anyway, at least I'm glad
That some one - or ones - in these poems
Are having fun!
Should I try some slap and tickle?

Which will be best
The slap or the tickle?!
Oh go on, Orchi, Fido says
He's in a different mood now -
Be a dark horse - try both!

Don't overdo it though, says Fido
Don't search every hour on the hour
For the 'erotic' genre
It will be too much for you! Heehee.
And mark this one '18+' he says
Or I will bark at you too!

And don't put this one in the 'hymn-book'! Oooh!

Peace Presentation

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Luke 2 v.25-38 parts

Christ presented in the Temple, age 40 days.

A sort of Dedication ceremony

Candlemas Day - February 2.

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace

You have shown him your mercies, they ne'er cease

So said Simeon in the Temple there

Prophecy with Mary, Joseph, did share

It was according to the Lord's word, he

Promised Simeon before he died, see

He would the Lord's Christ, presented, young babe

This favour the Lord unto him He gave

For he said, My eyes have the salvation

Seen, which you have prepared for each nation

A light to lighten the Gentiles, non-Jews

[The] Glory of Jews, people you first did choose

Mary and Joseph marvelled at those words

Of their Christ-child, the message they had heard

And Anna too, a prophetess was there

She gave thanks, and of redemption did share

Salvation Shown

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Jesus, your life did give
For me, that I might live
For me and for many
Your salvation it be

You could then do no more
had given all for sure
Your very life, down laid
Price for our sins have paid

Your death it not the end
Tombs opened, rocks did rend
You rose up from the dead
Our true and living bread

Offering, sacrifice
You made, it did suffice
For your Father, you stood
In our place, shed your blood

Help us to love you more
In you our health, our cure
Lamb of God, slain, arose
To all salvation shows

Awesome Associations

Tune: All Saints

('Let us sing and love and wonder'

OR 'Who are these like stars appearing?')

Psalm 66 v.1-8

Make joyful noise to God, all lands
Sing and praise and clap your hands
Tell the honour of His name, make
His praise glorious for His sake
Say to God, How awesome* are
You in your works! reaching far

Through the greatness of your power
Shall your enemies each hour
Submit themselves unto you, say
You are Lord and King today
All the earth shall worship you
Shall sing songs to you, 'tis true

They shall sing unto your name, so
Come, see the works of God, know
He is awesome in His doings
To mankind, tributes Him bring
He turned [Red] sea into dry land
They were kept safe by His hand

For they passed through there, the ground dry
They did sense His presence night
And rejoiced, for He does rule by
His power, none can deny
He rules ever, Him do bless
With voice of praise Him confess

* 'awesome' in traditional Bible versions is
in an older meaning of 'terrible'.

Hope Never Hopeless

Tune: Song 34

('Amidst us our Belovéd stands'

OR 'Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go')

Habakkuk 3 v.17-19 {Old Testament Prophet}

Although the fig tree not blossom
Nor produce figs, not even some
Neither if no fruit in the vines
Or seems no blessings there no signs

And if labour of olive fails
If meaning so poor crop entails
And if the fields no produce yield
Or seems heavens as brass and sealed

If the flock cut off from the fold
And the stalls they no herd do hold
yet through all these things I will still
Rejoice in the Lord, and hope feel

Yes, I will joy in Him, He be
The God of my salvation, see
He my strength, e'en though all else may
Wither, decay in trouble's day

Sign Shown

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Matthew 12 v.38-42

Some scribes and Pharisees did say
Jesus, show us today
A sign, it we wold see, do show
It to us, so we know
You can do signs, but Jesus said
This unwise path not tread
Of seeking signs only, there none
I give, but only one

It sign of the prophet Jonah
You may know it for sure
That as he was three days, three nights
In whale's belly, no sights
Of him were seen then, yet so shall
The Son of man, know well
Be three days and three nights in heart
Of the earth, that His part

They of Nineveh shall up rise
With you, it be surprise
For they shall condemn you, for they
Repented in their day
When they heard Jonah's preaching they
Turned from their sinful way
Behold, one greater than Jonah
Be here, to Him hearts stir

The queen of Sheba shall rise too
With you, condemn you true

For she came from earth's farthest end
Ears to Solomon lend
To hear his wisdom, and behold
The news, let it be told
One greater than Solomon be
Here amidst you freely

Blessings Brought

Tune: Abridge

('My God, my Father, blissful name'

OR' 'Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 33 v.8-12

Let all the earth fear the Lord, let
Them all stand in awe yet
For He spoke, and it was done, He
Commands, it stands fast, see

The Lord brings counsel of heathen
To nought, thoughts, plans of men* (*mankind)
He makes their devices not stand
But works by His own hand* (*Spirit)

The counsel of the Lord stands for
Ever, it firm, strong, sure
And the thoughts of his heart are to
All generations true

Blessed is the nation whose God is
The Lord, e'en so is this
The people He has chosen hence
For His inheritance

Sheep Service

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Matthew 25 v.31-40 parts

When Christ shall come in glory
There justice, judgement be
And then a separation
Of they in each nation
The sheep and goats divided
And to the sheep, Christ said
Come, you by my Father blessed
To kingdom's promised rest

Now this kingdom inherit
It has been prepared yet
From foundation of the world
Now to you it unfurled
But how? What did the sheep do
To obtain blessings true?
They served Christ in the least ones
Among His daughters, sons

They gave food to the hungry
And drink to the thirsty
They too did welcome strangers
Moved by compassion's stirs
And they did supply clothing
To poor, did garments bring
Did visit sick and prisoner
Comforts on them confer

For in each of these things they
Did serve Christ in their day

No one too mean or small, for
They showed love to Christ sure
In tending to each person
Now their reward, each one
To share His kingdom ever
His presence leaves them ne'er

Disciples Decisions

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

John 1 v.35-47 parts

Jesus called the first disciples
They responded, heard His calls
And with others shared the good news
That He was pleased them to choose

Andrew was one who heard Him speak
He first His brother did seek
Simon Peter, said to him, We
Have found Messiah, so be

And he brought him unto Jesus
Who did prophesy and bless
Said to Peter, Cephas you shall
Be called, rock, stone, this know well

Jesus called Philip, said, Follow
Me, experience life so
Philip found Nathanael, had sought
Him, and to Jesus him brought

Help Is At Hand

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Psalm 54

Save me, O Lord, by your name
It remains faithful, the same
Judge me by your strength, it be
Not corrupt, but perfect, see

Hear my prayer, O God, give ear
To the words of my mouth here
For enemies are around
Their taunts to my soul resound

Behold, God is my helper
And the Lord with them that stir
To uphold, sustain my soul
He shall restore, make me whole

He shall deal with enemies
From each one of them He frees
Me, I will praise Him, for He
Saves me from them constantly

Remembering Realisation

Tune: Ellers

('Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise')

Psalm 77 v.10-15

I will remember years of the most high
Years of the Lord, He to me ever nigh
Will remember His works, wonders of old
He our Shepherd, we sheep within His fold

I will meditate of all His workings
And talk and share of all His wise doings
Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary
In your temple your holiness we see

Who is so great as you? You our God be
Out from the start and through eternity
You are the God that does wonders, and you
Have declared your strength midst people anew

You have by your strength redeemed your people
Your nation Israel, who on you do call
Greatness and mercy shown, you God alone
Guiding us true, you as the Lord are known

Spirit Satiation

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Ephesians 5 v.18-21

Be you not drunk with wine
It be a state not fine
For therein is excess
A state that will not bless
But do be filled with the Spirit
Your path by him be daily lit

Speak to yourselves in psalms
Do good, and do give alms
And hymns, spiritual songs
Keep singing all along
make melody in your heart to
The Lord, with praises old and new

Giving thanks too always
For always through the days
Thanks to God the Father
Blessings He does confer
On us, so giving thanks in name
Of the Lord Jesus Christ thus frame

Yield to one another
Each sister and brother
Met in God's family
You His daughters, sons be
Let it be done within the fear
Of God, knowing He always near

Whate'er our feelings be

Not rely on these, see
Nor letting outward things
Dictate the praise each brings
Bu always for all things do aim
To praise God, glorify His name

Pursuing Praises

Tune: Lydia

('Jesus the name high over all')

Psalm 92 .12

The righteous shall flourish like palm
Tree, the Lord keeps them from harm
They shall grow like a cedar tree
Tall in Lebanon, see
Tall in Lebanon, see

Psalm 92 v.13

Those that in the Lord's house planted
They shall live in good stead
And shall still flourish in His courts
They the Lord have besought
They the Lord have besought

Psalm 92 v.14

They shall still bring forth fruit, old age
Shall not be unfruitful stage
For they shall flourish, and be green
Their prosperity seen
Their prosperity seen

Psalm 92 v.15

The Lord shall show He is upright
Helps righteous in His sight
He my rock and my firm base be
Not unrighteous is He
Not unrighteous is He

Psalm 93 v.1

The Lord reigns, clothed in majesty

Praise, honour, and glory
He clothed with strength, He has girded
Himself, His people led
Himself, His people led

Psalm 93 v.2

The world is established, cannot
Be moved, its ordained lot
The Lord's throne is everlasting
Let all creation sing
Let all creation sing

You know Val?

You know Val - St Valentine?
He lived in the 3rd Century AD.

But woe is me - Fido won't let me
Have any 'fun' or 'excitement'
It's always a gloomy day for me
Cos he never lets me get 'hot'
But chucks buckets of ice over me
To cool me down
At the least sign of 'hotness'!

Yes, he has to read all the poems before I do
He's working overtime
With the Valentine poems!

Why don't you put Fido out the back yard a while, Orchi?
And be a dark horse
Fido won't know
Give him a bone to chew or something
He'll be happy!

Cheers to you all, this Valentines' Day
With whisky, sherry, wine, or whatever
All with water added, specially by me, of course

Dunno why ya complain
I only try to save ya from hangovers! heehee

Walking In The Way

Tune: Marching

(faster tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Psalm 86 v.12-17

O Lord my God, I will you praise
Songs, melodies to you raise
And I will your name glorify
Even more, until I die

For your mercy great toward me
You delivered my soul, see
From the lowest hell, I rise strong
Give you thanks now all day long

O God, the proud against me stand
Violent men by their hand
Seek to trouble and devour
But you still my high tower

And you are God of compassion
Graces you do not ration
Longsuffering, merciful too
In your truth you us renew

O turn to me, and have mercy
Look on where I oppressed be
Give your strength unto your servant
To know your way, penitent

Show me for good a sign, token
Your love to me unbroken
That those which hate me ashamed be
For you help and comfort me

Defend Us From Dangers

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Based partly on some Collects = Formal Prayers

Lord, you do see us to be set
Among many troubles yet
Praise is still sung, you are worthy
You our help and refuge be
come to aid us, your power show
That you are Lord all may know

Defend us, we have no power
Of our own for any hour
To save ourselves, we may know not
What to do, that be our lot
But we look to you, have mercy
Look on us, our frame dust be

Lord, there be none other that do
Fight for us, it be thus true
But you, who support and defend
Keep your people to the end
Grant us peace, your lasting presence
Your Spirit with us we sense

You our Father, we your children
We in relationship then
With you, and so may we humbly
Grow more Christ-like, others see
You in us, be led to follow
You, that they too may you know

Deliverance Dawnings

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Psalm 18 v.1-3

You, O Lord, are my strength true
I trust whole-hearted in you
You my rock and my fortress
You come to my aid and bless

Yes, you are my God, my strength
Have helped me soon and at length
You my buckler, my shield sure
Shall defend me evermore

You, strength of my salvation
You rescue from each nation
You my high tower, stronghold
Keep me safe within your fold

I will call upon the Lord
Trusting in His living word
He is worthy to be praised
Saved by you, I am amazed

22 Today?

Now c'mon Orchi
You must be 22 today
You can't be 21 for ever!

But in fact, I'm about 5 million and 1 years old today
Or may a year or two more
I'm so old, ya know
Maybe you are too?
You remember seeing the dinosaurs in person?

And the battles we saw?
Hastings in 1066
Bannockburn in 1314
Thermopylae in Greece in 480AD
And so on

And the people we've met?
Aristotle around 350BC
King Harold at Hastings in 1066
(When I mucked it all up
It's retold in legendary stories)
Napoleon around 1800
And so on

Were you there?!
Fido is very old too
He was there, of course
Not letting me have any 'hotness' or 'excitement'
All my life I feel I been living in Greenland
Or Siberia, or somewhere
Cos of him!

I know ya won't wish me Happy Birthday

Cos I keep tormenting ya
With me singing
Adding water to your whisky, wine, etc
Setting Fido on ya
But that's your own fault
I told ya to mark poems 18+ when needed
But ya didn't!

I'll have a drink or two with ya - Cheers!
With water added of course

Go have a pancake or three, Orchi and Fido
I was born on a Pancake Day
(Work out a year from calendars. heehee)
Meanwhile I'm 22 today!

Assisting Aspirings

Tune: Holton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Psalms 54 to 59 parts

Save me, O God, now by your name
Name of endless worth and fame
Judge me by your strength, you righteous
So your people will you bless

Behold, God, He is my help sure
He is with me evermore
And He is with them that uphold
My soul, His people, His fold

Upon the Lord cast your burden
And He will sustain you then
He will never allow righteous
To be moved, but shall them bless

In God I will praise His word here
I will trust in Him, not fear
What man may do to me, whate'er
I in His protection share

For you have kept me from falling
Worship unto you I bring
Will you not still help me, so I
Shall walk in your light here nigh

My heart is fixed, steadfast to you
O God, you shall me renew
I will sing and to you give praise
My heart fixed on you always

Truly there a reward, there be
For the righteous, let them see
Truly God in the earth judges
He does help, delivers us

Enemies a net have prepared
For my steps, but I ill-fared
Shall not be, and the pit for me
That they dig they fall in, see

I will sing of your great power
Aloud will sing every hour
For you, God, my defence have been
And my refuge, I have seen

So to you my strength I will sing
And to you my tribute bring
You God, my defence in trouble
Your mercies cover me all

Living Out Love

Tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

Matthew 5 v.43-48

Jesus said, You of old
Have heard this word be told
Love neighbour, hate enemy
Tis how you should be
But I say you your enemies
Love too, my heart with this agrees

Bless them that do curse you
Do good unto them too
Which hate you, and pray for
Them that mistreat you sure
Which spitefully use you, and who
Do persecute you, it is true

That you may be children
Of your Father e'en then
He be in heaven, sun
He makes rise on each one
Shines on the evil and the good
Displaying its beams as it would* (*i.e. wills)

And He sends rain on just
And too on the unjust
For if you love only
They who love you, what be
The difference to sinners who
Love only those who love them true?

And if you greet only

Friends, family, what be
It more than sinners who
Welcome own kind anew?
Be you therefore perfect* as your (* i.e. whole, mature, etc)
Father is in heaven e'ermore

Hearing And Doing

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

James 1 v.22-25; Matthew 7 v.24-27

Be you doers of the word
Of God, for you it have heard
But do not mere only hear
If so, you deceive self here

If hearing only, one be
As in mirror self does see
Beholds a few moments, when
Goes away forgets view then

But who looks into the law
Perfect law of liberty sure
And continues in it, shows
Actions, such true blessing knows

If hearing and not doing
Recall this, and to mind bring
I like man who built on sand
No progress made on his land

But if hearing and doing
We shall know the Lord's blessing
Be like man who on rock built
In storms stood firm, did not wilt

Persevering Purpose

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Romans 8 v.28-30

We know all things work together
For good to those who love God, share
We in this assurance, 'tis they
Called in His purpose, e'en today

For whom He did foreknow, He too
Predestined them, it in His view
To be conformed to the image
Of His Son, He the way did bridge

The way for us of salvation
His people from every nation
That Christ be as first-born* among
Many, from each kindred, tribe, tongue

And whom He did predestinate
He also called, in His plans great
And them He also justified
And also them He glorified

* 'first-born' here is not meaning literally, as an eldest child in a family,
but more in the sense of 'an heir whose position is unique',
or 'one who is pre-eminent', or 'first in rank'.

Healing Wholeness

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Mark 7 v.31-37

Christ the healer in Galilee
They did bring to Him one who, see
Was deaf, and with impediment
In his speech, they to Jesus went

They beseeched Him to put His hand
On the man, they did understand
That Christ could heal by gracious touch
They for infirm one sought Him much

Jesus took man aside, and He
Put fingers in His ears, so be
And spat* , and touched his tongue, looked to
Heaven, for He His Father knew

He sighed, said to man, 'Eph-pha-tha'
'Tis 'Be opened', this does concur
And straightway man's ears were open
And also he did speak plain them

Jesus did command them not to
Tell anyone, but they anew
So much more a great deal did tell
Saying, he has done all things well

They beyond measure astonished
He did more than they asked or wished
Making deaf to hear, dumb** to speak
His healings to the humble, meek

* Saliva was thought to have healing properties.

** It does not say the man was dumb, but that he had
an impediment in his speech.

Expectant Eyes

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 123

To you I lift my eyes
From the earth to the skies
To where you dwell, Lord, there on high
In heaven, yet here nigh

Behold, as the eyes, see
Of servants, they keenly
Look to hand of their masters true
So maids to mistress[es] do

Our eyes look to the Lord
We wait, trust in His word
The Lord our God, until that He
Has mercy on us free

Lord, on us have mercy
And see our enemies
For we are scorned by them, contempt
From them we not exempt

But save us from their hand
You, Lord, of every land
By your grace we shall mercy know
You shall again it show

I remember when....

Ohno, spare us please, Orchi!
Peerrr-lleeeee- aaassee!!
Cos we suspect this poem
Wil go on for about 4,583 verses
(Picking out a random number there)

Once you start your reminiscing Orchi
You go on an on, you never stop
Endless waffling
Always using 20 words when 5 will do

We care not to hear of your adventures
When you met the dinosaurs
Or 'later', comparatively
When you mucked it up at Hastings
And your intolerable photo albums
Covering 5 million years
With a blow-by-blow account of each photo!
(Don't ya just love it really?!)

And memories of your singing are worse
I remember.....the first song I sang
No please - no recitals!! lol
I will tell you this though
It all began when....
I heard two cats fighting, and copied them
A melodious sound they made

But, aww, why do they say to me
'I wish you would stop insulting cats
Your singing's much worse than that!' heehee

Ohhh, ya gotta laugh at your own jokes

Cos maybe no one else will
Though it might be an ego-trip
Boasting and showing off
Getting too big for your boots

No-one's listening anyway Orchi
They've all got ear plugs!
Says Fido. He knows! lol.

Communion Comforts

Tune: Laudes Domini

('When morning gilds the skies')

Lord, you do still invite
Though some may do you spite
Yet you e'er good and right
Invite to Communion
You our Saviour, the one
Redeeming work have done

The message stays the same
Salvation in your name
From heaven to earth you came
Blessings here we recall
Your death for one and all
Trusting you, we not fall

Grace of your forgiveness
Gave your life, nothing less
We humbly here confess
That you have made the way
To God, the price did pay
Thanks be to you alway

For 'tis our life, our health
Treasures of endless wealth
All faithful, true, no stealth
Bread, your body broken
Wine, your blood, the token
For us, you words spoken

Grant we regularly
Partake sacrament free

Though not compelled we be
But from our heart's desire
Our love for you, warm fire
You our true light and star

Some blessing may be seek
Open to humble, meek
Strength to the poor and weak
And sharing in this fare
'Tis for all, everywhere
Eternal life to share

Crumbs of Comfort

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Matthew 15 v.21-28

Help us, Lord, humbly to approach
You, you will not reproach
They who unto you sincere come
Find you their hearth hand home

As Syro-Phoenician woman
Came to you one day then
Meekly as little dog* did count
Herself, found blessings fount

She asked you to have mercy on
Her, you God's only Son
For her daughter was afflicted
Devil drove her to bed

But you, Lord, said, It is not good
Bread cast to dogs, We should
First feed my people Israel
In that we shall do well

And she replied, Yes, Lord, yet e'en
The dogs, it is sure seen
Under the table they do eat
Crumbs at your people's feet

It was great faith shown, the Lord said
He with that bread her fed
Said, It will be even as you
Will, daughter was healed true

* Jesus' words to the woman of being a 'dog' are not as harsh as may first seem. Some references say that he meant a little pet dog.

Heavenly Help

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Possibly adapted from an MPS poet

(mislaidd original poem)

Help me, Lord, to understand me
That I see what our Father sees
And do help me make the changes
That improves and rearranges

Do Lord, take my inventory
Help me truly know my story
It be my own biography
Of all the things that make up me

Help me Lord here to get better
And stay dry in life's rough weather
And please don't let me strong rage storm
Nor to rain* down in any form (*i.e. rain down in anger, etc)

Help me Lord here to put you first
So come, quench my terrific thirst
And help me assist the others
That they truly be my brothers/sisters

And help me Lord not to stumble
Or be less than honest, humble
And help me daily to walk on
Whole leaning on you, keep me strong

Covenant Concerns

Tune: Bleanwern

*('Lord, who in they perfect wisdom'
= 'Love divine, all loves excelling')*

Hebrews 8 v.7-12

For St David's Day: March 1.

The Lord God a new covenant
Did He make, was His intent
He said, Behold, not according
To old, but new I shall bring
For they of past times continued
Not in it, though I them led
But a new thing I will bring sure
To all folk of every shore

This is the covenant that I
Will make with my people, nigh
To them I shall be, e'en within
By my spirit, he from sin
Will them cleanse and will too forgive
In my presence they shall live
I will put my laws in their minds
[And] Wrote on their hearts each shall find

And I to them a God shall be
They shall be my people, see
Not always knowing me through man
But direct approach they can
To me, for they all show know me
From least to great, serve me free
I will be to them merciful
To their unrighteousness all

And their sins and their lawless deeds
I will forgive, not them heed
I will remember them no more
Put them from my sight for sure
Lord, by your grace we sanctified* (*saint-ified)
Way to life you do provide
Through salvation in your Son, He
Jesus, Saviour of world be

Vindication Valued

Tune: Picardy

('Let all mortal flesh keep silent')

Psalm 74 v.18-23

Remember, Lord, the enemy
Has reproached you sleightingly
And that foolish ones have blasphemed
Your name, unholy it deemed
O deliver me, I your turtle-dove
'Tis my soul, I trust your love

Give me not over to wicked
So I not deceived, misled
Forget not the congregation
Of the poor of each nation
Have respect unto your covenant
Root our enemy's intent

For in the earth's secret places
There be violence, disgraces
O let not oppressed be ashamed
But praise you, they have you named
Let poor and needy worship you
Arise, O God, righteous, true

Plead you own cause, O God, recall
How the foolish, taunts and all
With revilings, reproach daily
Your name, they despise it, see
Forget not your enemies, they
Oppose you continually

Chosen, Redeemed, Sealed

Tune: Ode To Joy

('Joyful, joyful, we adore thee')

Ephesians 1 v.3-14

Blessed be the God and Father, He
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, see
Who has blessed us with all blessings
Spiritual, to Him each sings
Blessed in heavenly places we
Are in Christ eternally
Chosen in Christ by God before
Foundation of the world sure

Chosen that we should be holy
And without blame, now made free
Before God the Father in love
sealed by the Spirit, the dove
We by God predestinated
Unto Him we adopted
As His children, by Christ His Son
This His desire for each one

It be so, to praise His glory
In His Son we are made free
Redeemed, our sins are forgiven
In Him, children, women, men
'Tis in accord with His grace sure
Which does abound evermore
In all wisdom and all prudence
Not foolish, not wasted hence

In Christ we an inheritance
Have obtained, by His good sense

And are by His Spirit here sealed
'Til the fulness be revealed
For the Spirit, He the promise
That we shall not blessings miss
The deposit, the down payment
By God through His Son is sent

Trusting Times

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 31 v.15-24

My times are in your hand
You Lord of every land
Deliver me (us) I pray
From enemies alway
And from them that persecute me (us)
Save me (us), and my (our) protection be

Make your face shine on me (us)
I (we) true your servant be
Save me (us) for your mercy
Is great, faithful, I (we) see
Let me (us) not be ashamed in you
O Lord you will help, (us) renew

Let lying lips silent
Be, for they no relent
Speak grievous things proudly
Against the righteous, see
They contemptuous are, not care
For good, but ill-fate they shall share

O how great your goodness
Laid up for us, you bless
Us who do fear you here
Help to them does appear
They trust in you, as men they face
They assisted by your sure grace

For you shall such them hide

In you they shall reside
In your secret place known
To you and them alone
You shall hide them from man's proud boasts
You e'er the Lord over all coasts

O love the Lord, you saints
Holy, free from sin's taints
He preserves the faithful
Rewards proud doers all [in justice]
Be of good courage, and He shall
Strengthen you heart, hope in Him well

Professing People

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

1 Peter 2 v.6-10

Build your life upon Christ the Lord
He is the living Word
He the chief corner stone, solid
Build on me, He does bid

It is a chosen stone, precious
In mercy given to us
Believing on Him, we not be
Shamed nor confounded, see

We a chosen generation
Made up from each nation
A royal priesthood, Christ our King
We praise Him to Him sing

And too a holy nation we
Peculiar people be
God's own special people to show
His praises, Him we know

The praises of God, he the one
Who saves us through His Son
He has called us out of darkness
To His light, we confess

A marvellous light, for great things
He does, salvation brings
We once were not a people, see
Now people of God we [are]

And too once we had not obtained
Mercy, but now unfeigned
We have obtained mercy 'tis sure
By God's grace evermore

Rejoice In His Reign

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 97 v.1-6

The Lord reigns, let earth rejoice
Praise him with one voice
Let the many isles be glad
Not be downcast, sad
Clouds and darkness they be
All round about Him, see
Swells high above, yet near
By His Spirit here

Judgement and righteousness
They sure be, no less
The foundation of His throne
He reigns, He alone
A fire before Him goes
His strong vengeance He shows
Burns up His enemies
The oppressed He frees

Lightnings lighten the world
His judgement unfurled
Earth tremble, mountains shake
His presence does make
Them fear, Lord of the whole
Earth, worship, Him extol
Heavens say, He righteous
His glory shown us

How can I here rejoice
And add too my voice

To your praise? Lord, forgive
By mercy we live
Look on your world, evil
You see, but too good all
Help us true servants be
With grace, harmony

Faithful Friendship

Tune: Unter Herrschen

('Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Lord, do not me your sheep forsake
For your child you do me take
On through life, its daily pages
In its seasons and stages
Abide with me, ever faithful
Help me hear your loving call

If there be troubles and sorrows
You Lord of all, each one knows
Give me courage, hope and strength for
To face trials confident, sure
In you, you our Father, we be
Your children, your people, see

You shall show mercy on us still
This be in your plan, your will
Help us know your way ahead here
Trusting in your presence dear
Man proposing, God disposing*
Omniscient in each thing

Guide us, O fount of wisdom, you
Know all things, their value true
Here on earth, as if heaven's porch**
You give light, no need of torch
To prosper on in your way may
We find grace, salvation's day

* Proverbs 19 v.21 (some Bible versions)

** I read a book describing earth as 'heaven's porch'.

Akathistos - opening lines

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Akathistos means 'not sitting'.

It is a type of Byzantine hymn,
so it is sung standing up.

Unto you, O Theotokos*, you be
Invincible champion to us, we
Of your city in thanksgiving ascribe
The victory to you, for we survive

Victory for the deliverance, sight
We, from sufferings, and having your might
Unassailable, free us here we pray
From all dangers, bring us salvation's days

So that we may cry unto you, Mary
Hail, O bride, ever-virgin you sure be**
Mother of Our Lord, bore Him us to save
Jesus, who rose from dead, His life He gave

* Theotokos = A title of Mary, mother of Jesus.

** - The opening lines of the Akathistos end here.

Restoring Requests

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ, whose glory fills the skies')

Psalm 60 v.10-12 & 61 v.1-3

Will not you, O God, restore
Us again? We you implore
You who seemed to us off cast
Your presence with us be past
But return, O God, we pray
Help us now in troubles day

For vain is help of mankind
Lasting strength we there not find
But through you our God we shall
Do valiantly, fare well
For you shall our enemies
Tread down, you power all sees

Hear me, O God, do attend
To my prayers, your ears do lend
From ends of the earth I will
Call upon you, not be still
When overwhelmed my heart be
Your mercies shall comfort me

Lead me to the rock that is
Higher than I am, true this
For you have a shelter been
Unto me, my eyes have seen
And a strong tower, you keep
From the enemy your sheep

Priestly Possibilities

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Hebrews 4 v.14-16

Seeing we have a great high priest
Helping least to greatest
Who has into the heavens passed
His salvation shall last

Jesus the Son of God He be
He is a high priest, see
Who can sympathise with us, weak
Though we are, we Him seek

Our weaknesses where prone to sin
He was tempted therein
In all ways that we are, human
He became as us men* (*mankind)

Though He full human, full divine
With Father did align
Not sin through temptation, not fall
In them, but conquered all

Let us therefore come boldly to
The throne of grace anew
That we may obtain mercy, find
Grace in needs-time, He kind

Care For Creation

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

Psalm 104 v.1-3

Lord, you have made everything
Praises to you we bring
Bless the Lord, O my soul, for
He very great for sure
For He with honour is clothed
And majesty bestowed
Worship Him, Lord over all
Held by Him we not fall

He covers Himself with light
As with a garment bright
The heavens He outstretches
And the world's far reaches
Like a great curtain the skies
Where sun, moon, set, arise
He has formed waters depths, seas
Rivers, and ocean's breeze

He makes the clouds His chariot
He in the skies them put
He walks upon the wind's wings
Creations glory sings
Unto Him, He humans makes
And in His world partakes
Too the fauna and flora
Ordained from His good store

Wedding Wonders

Tune: Sagina

('And can it be')

John 2 v.1-12

Marriage in Cana, Galilee
Jesus, Mary His mother, see
Were there invited, disciples too
He would provide for them wine new
Supplies ran out, calamity
But a miracle, sign would be
Supplies ran out, calamity
But a miracle, sign would be

There filled six water-pots of stone
Jesus' word spoken, it was known
To fill with water vessels at hand
They set to it, obedient band
Then Jesus said, Draw out now, bear
It to governor of feast, share
Then Jesus said, Draw out now, bear
It to governor of feast, share

The governor had tasted sure
The wine that was water before
He not knowing from whence it was
But servants who drew knew the cause
He said to Jesus, Every one
Sets forth good wine first, what this done?
He said to Jesus, Every one
Sets forth good wine first, what this done?

For You Jesus have kept good wine
Until later, 'tis best and fine

So this miracle done, glory shown
By Jesus, it was seen and known
And His disciples there believed
On Him, and His blessings received
And His disciples there believed
On Him, and His blessings received

Sincere Seeking

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Inspire me, Lord, where dull or dry
I look to you, to you I cry
Revive me, heal me, bring me light
Refresh me, I in you delight

Show your ways, plan, what be your hand
Your guide your people in each land
Help me the fallow ground to turn
Ignite flame in me, and bright burh

And too your Spirit, waters flow
From well within me, may I know
Your presence close, and e'en within
To guard and bless and cleanse from sin

Whate'er the season help me look
Unto you, you not me forsook
Not mere resolve of man it be
But leading of your Spirit, see

I be not aimless, not forgot
You have for me a pleasant lot
And plans, purposed for us all
Help us to seek you, on you call

This from my heart and mind I pray
Guide us all in your light of day
Leaving the darkness, no profit
But you the way through life have lit

Taking measure of faith, each one
Given to us by you, the Son
To do our part, here none worthless
In your love and grace each you bless

Sheep Security

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

John 10 v.7-14

Jesus, the door of the sheep
He His flock He still does keep
All that came before Him thieves
And robbers with their deceives

But the sheep did not them hear
The true Shepherd did they fear
Worshipped Him in humbleness
He did guard, protect them, bless

Jesus the door, if we do
By Him enter sheepfold true
We shall be saved, and shall find
Pasture, for He good and kind

Thieves do come not but to steal
Kill and destroy with ill-will
But Jesus true Shepherd He
Comes that life my to us be

That we may have life to full
Abundant, embracing all
Of his blessings, favours, grace
Help in troubles we may face

He the good Shepherd who gives
His life for the sheep, each lives
But hirelings do run away
When they see wolf come their way

For the hireling does not care
For the sheep, no welfare share
But good Shepherd knows His sheep
And they know Him, He them keeps

Persisting Praises

Tune: All through the night
('God that madest earth and heaven')

Psalm 46 v.1

God is our refuge and our strength
Wide is the length
Of His mercies to us daily
Here them now see
A very present help He be
In troubles we turn to Him, He
Will help, come guide and us support
Him we have sought

Psalm 46 v.10-11

Be still, for I am God, this know
It be true so
I will midst heathen exalted
Be, and not hid
In the earth my name shall be raised
For my glory it shall be praised
God the Lord of hosts with us sure
For evermore

Psalm 47 v.7-8

Sing praises to God, sing praises
Through life's phases
Sing praises with understanding
Him worship bring
For God He reigns o'er the nations
O'er all people of all stations
He sits upon His throne holy
Ever will be

Psalm 48 v.12-13

Walk about Zion and rejoice

It is God's choice

City of His habitation

He loves each one

Tell the towers there, the strongholds

Where He gathers sheep to His folds

Consider His palaces there

They beauty share

Vengeance Verities

Tune: St Asaph

('Through the night of doubt and sorrow')

Psalm 94 v.1-15 parts

O Lord God, unto whom vengeance
Belongs, show yourself, so sense
We your presence, shine forth brightly
Rise up, judge of the earth, we
Then shall see you render reward
To the proud who take up sword
You shall repay with punishment
The wicked who not repent

Lord, how long, how long shall it be
That the wicked triumph? We
Ask how long shall they, insolent
Speak hard things, impenitent
How long workers of wicked deeds
Boast themselves, and none you heed?
They break in pieces the people
Bring misery, afflict all

They slay widows, orphans, needy
Murdering inhumanly
Yet they say, the Lord shall not see
We shall carry on, so be
The Lord God, He does not regard
His creation, though we marred
It, he shall pay no attention
He in heaven, cares for no one

Understand you brutish, senseless
And you fools*, I you address (* wickedly blind)

When will you be wise, and listen?
It shall be your souls health then
He that made the ear, He does hear
He that made the eye, it clear
That He does see, with enemies
Shall deal, He knows, He all sees

The Lord knows thoughts of the wicked
Are vain, they deceived, misled
He will not forsake us, not leave
Us to always sorrow, grieve
O'er the wicked's cruel oppression
Judgement unto each nation
Shall come in His righteousness, know
Good-hearted ones Him follow

Multitudinous Mercies

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Psalm 106 v.43-48

Many times the Lord delivered
His sheep of old, He them fed
Though they with their counsel provoked
Him, and then His wrath awaked
And they for their sins were brought low
Did not faithfully Him know

Nevertheless He regarded
Their affliction, still them led
heard them when they did to Him turn
And again of Him did learn
Heard their cry, attended their prayers
Then again each one well fares

He remembered His covenant
Promises unto them sent
He repented as according
To His mercies and did bring
Help unto them, they were pitied
When captives they were amid

Save us, O Lord, our God, gather
Us from heathen, grace confer
So shall we give thanks to your name
Holy, it remains the same
And too we shall in you true praise
Triumph, worship to you raise

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel

He e'erlasting without fail
And to everlasting He be
Lord of all, let all agree
Let all the people say, Amen
Praise Him children, women, men

Prosperous People

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 37 parts

The meek shall the earth inherit
Their path with joy be lit
They shall in abundance of peace
Delight, pleasures ne'er cease

A little that a righteous one
Has, is better than none
'Tis greater than the riches, yes
That wicked do possess

Steps of good men and women, see
They be the Lord sure be
Established and ordered, and He
Delights in their way free

The Lord loves judgement, He does keep
His people as His sheep
Forsakes them not, preserved they are
But wicked cast off far

The salvation of the righteous
Is of the Lord, e'en us
He helps, gives strength in troubles times
His aid through all life's rhymes

Babe of Bethlehem

Tune: Carol (Willis)

('It came upon the midnight clear')

Micah 5 v.2-5

Micah, prophet of Bethlehem
Did speak, from thence would stem
A ruler who in Israel
Would reign, let all tongues tell
Though little town midst many towns
On you God has no frowns
For He shall come, the promised one
Jesus the Father's Son

He shall stand and feed in the strength
Of he Lord, e'en at length
In the majesty of His God
Earthly path shall be trod
For He shall be great over all
Welcome who on Him call
He shall make peace 'tween God and man
Peace as no other can

Lord, help us trust, for prophesied
It cannot be denied
That your Son born in a town small
Manger did not appal
For it sufficed His birth lowly
Light of the world we see
Shine through all darkness, Lord we pray
'Til dawns eternal day

Praise Professions

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 146 v.8-10 and 147 v.1-5

The Lord opens eyes of blind that they see
Helps us physically, spiritually
He raises up them that are bowed down, He
Loves the righteous, pleasant their lives shall be

The Lord preserves the strangers, fatherless
And too the orphans and the motherless
Gives aid to widows and to widowers
But unto wicked confusion confers

The Lord shall reign for e'er, e'en your God, He
O Zion, to all generations, see
Praise you the Lord, for it is good to sing
Praises o Him, pleasant to praise Him bring

For praise is comely and is beautiful
The Lord does build up Jerusalem all
His city, and His people Israel
Gathers together outcasts, they fare well

He heals the broken in heart, their wounds bind
Comfort and solace they in Him sure find
he tells the number of the stars, He calls
Them all by their names, none without Him falls

Great is our Lord, and He of great power
None can compare with Him, not e'en one hour
His understanding it be infinite
He all in heaven, earth has ordained, set

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (1)

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Based on a Formal Prayer

Merciful Lord, Father of life
You bring comfort in death and strife
We praise you that all people are
Made in your image, near or far

We too reflect your truth and light
We each known to you in your sight
Thanks we give for departed ones
They shine bright now as glorious sons (/daughters)

They from you love, mercy received
They trusted in you and believed
And showed your love and mercy sure
We remember them evermore

Above all we do here rejoice
We your servants, we are your choice
Your gracious promise to us made
For you redemption price have paid

Promise the we shall rise gain
At coming of Christ, that be when
It shall be, so clear vision we
Ask, that we too your face shall see

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (2)

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Based on a Formal Prayer

O God, you the maker of all
You hear us when we call
You redeemer of all mankind
The lost sheep you do find

Grant us with those now departed
We the faithful path tread
Bring to us your Son's benefits
He our sins them remits

The benefits of His passion
Make sure unto each one
The glorious resurrection
Hope, in your one true Son

That in the last days, confident
We sure that you have sent
Your Son, to gather in Him all
Things, so we shall not fall

So with those departed shall be
Gathered up with them we
Enjoy your promises fullness
through Christ, we Him do bless

Boldness Beseeching

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Acts 4 v.23-31 parts

Chief priests and elders they did say
To Peter, John, that day
With threats, saying, Do speak no more
Of Jesus, and make sure
You obey us, but they did go
To the church, and did show
What they had said tot them, they would
Stop witness if they could

When the church heard, then all did pray
Agreed, said, Lord alway
you are God which have heaven made
And too the earth displayed
And the sea, all that in them is
You Creator, sure this
They said, By David's prophecy
We do enquire here, see

For David said, Why did heathen
Rage, and the people, men
Imagine and then plot vain things
When none them success brings?
Kings, rulers of the earth took stand
And gathered, a whole band
Against the Lord, and His Christ too
You see it all, you view

For they were gathered for to do
All that was known to you

Whate'er your hand, your Spirit deigned
And purpose of your reign
You determined all before they
Had done it in their day
Behold now, Lord, their threatenings
Healings by your hand bring

And that signs and wonders may be
Done by your servant, see
Your Son Jesus, through the Spirit
Then was shaken each whit
The place where they were gathered, they
Were filled when they had prayed
With the Sprit, and they all spake
God's word bold for His sake

Woof Woof!

Now here's some words from Fido
In a departure from me normal
From the sublime to the ridiculous
Or to the..... completely nutty?!

Now c'mon Orchi, says Fido
You talk some rot sometimes
I wish you'd stop reading Katie's poems too
Obsessed with Kitty! (heehee)
I keep warning you not to read them
To save you from swooning
But you still read 'em

Now look, Orchi
Are you the world's worst singer?
So you say - or can ya sing any good?
If not, I wish you'd stop tormenting us
Insisting on singing your own poems
At least 20 times each!
I'm OK, I got me ear-plugs in
Can't hear a thing you sing!

How's the brain cells now? Fido asks me
He wants to know -
Have they come back from holiday yet?
If not, when will they be back?
All three of them, that is!

Goodbye now from Fido
He has to check all the poems
And bark fiercely at ya
If ya 'forgot' to mark them 18+
If they need to be!

Ohh, it's barmy! lol.

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (3)

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Based on a Formal Prayer

Hear, Lord, the prayers of your people

As we unto you call

And as we departed recall

Come bless us, one and all

Grant that we who do here confess

Your name on earth, no less

Than your name, great God, high above

Come fill us with your love

So grant that we living be made

Perfect in you, you paid

The price that we, and departed

Be joined to you, our Head

Made perfect in your kingdom sure

Share glory evermore

Through Christ the Lord, the risen one

The Father's only Son

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (4)

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord thy word abideth')

Based on a Collect = Formal Prayer

Remember, O Lord, here
Your servants to you dear
Who have us gone before
With the sign of faith sure

Now they rest in peace, sleep
'Til rising day you keep
And in your promises
Grant them comforts, true bliss

Grant all who in Christ rest
Refreshment, light, they blest
We ask through Christ your Son
He our Lord, only one

Communion Compendium

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Lie a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 117 v.1-2

O praise the Lord, all you nations
All you people of all stations
For His merciful kindness is
Great toward us, prosperous

Psalm 117 v.1-2

And the truth of the Lord endures
For ever, His grace us assures
That His help is near, he worthy
Of our praise and worship be

Psalm 134 v.1-2

Behold, bless the Lord, you servants
Which stand by night in the house hence
Of the Lord, and your hands uplift
Praise Him for each gracious gift

Psalm 134 v.2-3

Lift hands in the sanctuary
And bless the Lord, praises freely
The Lord that made heaven and earth
Bless you from Zion, His hearth

Psalm 131 v.1

Lord, my heart not proud, nor my eyes
Conceited, meek I not despise
In great matters I have not been
Concerned, but lowly have seen

Psalm 131 v.1-2

Nor things too difficult, profound
Nor where complexities abound
Surely I have behaved, quieted
My soul, as small child is fed

Psalm 131 v.2-3

For my soul is e'en as weaned child
Close to its mother, loving, mild
Let your people, Lord, hope in you
For ever, our trust renew

Formal Funerary Prayers (5)

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Based on a Formal Prayer = Collect

Eternal Lord God, you hold all
Souls in life, they not fall
On your whole church shed forth we pray
Bright beams of your light's day

Your church in paradise, on earth
Your people of new birth
Send us the heavenly comfort strong
Sustain us all along

Grant we follow good example
Of those who loved you full
And served you here, and now at rest
They with you now are blest

May we at the last enter in
To fullness, free from sin
Fullness of your eternal joy
Through Christ, none can destroy

Formal Funerary Prayers (6)

Tune: St James' Air

('How lovely is your dwelling place')

Based on a Formal Prayer = Collect

Father in heaven, you gave your Son
Jesus Christ, the only one
To suffer for us, death on cross
Raid price, redeemed our loss

And too raised Him to life again
You glorified Him then
As He fulfilled your will, mission
Salvation's work has done

Grant us a patient faith in time
Of darkness, through life's rhyme
And too we pray, strengthen our hearts
To know your love, all parts

We ask through Jesus Christ your Son
He our atoning one
Has made the way to you open
Come to Him humbly then

Giving Gracefully

Tune: North Coates

('O my Saviour, lifted')

2 Corinthians 9 v.6-7

They which sow sparingly

Shap reap meagrely

They which sow bountiful

Reap large harvest all

Every one do their part

As purposed in heart

So give, not grudgingly

But wholesome, freely

Not of necessity

Nor compulsion, see

But give willingly, for

God shall bless such sure

God loves they who cheerful

Give, and who joyful

Know that God, He alone

Gives all they have, [and] own

Praise, Perusal, Penitence

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Jehovah/Redeemer')

Psalm 24 v.7

Lift up your heads, gates to city
For Jerusalem it be
And be lift up, open you doors
E'erlasting from shore to shore
And the King of glory He shall
Come in, you shall prosper well
Come in, you shall prosper well

Psalm 24 v.8-10

Who is this, this King of glory?
The Lord, strong, mighty He be
Mighty in battle, His foes He
Defeats, none o'ercome Him, see
Be opened you doors and you gates
His procession great awaits
His procession great awaits

Psalm 25 v.10-11

All the paths of the Lord they be
Mercy and truth to such, see
Who keep His covenant, laws sure
They shall gain His favour pure
For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon
My sins, forgive every one
My sins, forgive every one

Psalm 26 v.20-21

O keep my soul, deliver me
My Saviour, Redeemer be

Let me not be ashamed, for I
Put my trust in you, be nigh
To me, integrated, upright
Accepted so in your sight
Accepted so in your sight

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (7)

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Based on a Formal Prayer = Collect

Father of all, by whose mercy
And grace yours we now be
Kept by you here we do remain
In your light once again

That light 'tis everlasting bright
Consoling to our sight
And too e'erlasting peace we know
You have ordained it so

We here remember with thanks true
Those we not see, but know
For they have gone ahead, glory
To share, it they e'er see

We pray that in them your good will
You perfectly fulfil
And bring all to our final rest
With Christ, we ever blest

Safety, Stability, Security

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the Lord
Shall find Him true to His word
They shall be as the mount
Zion, whence springs blessings fount
Which cannot be removed
Through troubles it has proved
That it remains, abides
Here each in God confides

As the mountains are round
About Jerusalem, found
Is the Lord's true presence
Round about His people, sense
We, from henceforth even
For ever, it is seen
By faith that He is here
His safe-keeping, it near

For wicked's deeds shall not
Rest upon the righteous' lot
Lest the righteous do sin
From godly path do begin
To turn, but the Lord shall
Keep them, they shall do well
Do good, Lord, unto they
That be good, know your way

And He shall bless upright
They who do right in His sight

As for such as do turn
To wicked ways, they shall learn
From the Lord, He shall lead
Them away they not heed
Him, but on His people
Peace shall be on them all

Peter's Preparation

Tune: St Botolph

('For Mary, mother of our Lord'

= 'I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Acts 10 v.9-16

Called to Caesarea to go
Disciples they did know
And Peter, they to that city
Did draw nigh, there they be

Peter went to house-top to pray
About noon, 'twas one day
And he became very hungry
He did a vision see

Heaven opened, certain vessel
He fixed eyes on it all
It descended as a great sheet
Tied at four corners neat

It was let down to earth, and he
Within the sheet did she
All sorts of four-footed beasts, too
Wild beasts there he did view

And creeping things, and birds of air
He did see them all there
A voice came to him, Peter, rise
Kill, eat, what sees your eyes

But Peter said, Not so, Lord, I
Have not eaten, no lie
Anything common or unclean

No, not once has it been

The voice did speak to him again
Said, Peter, what God then
Has cleansed, call not unclean, common
Not anything, not one

He did see this vision times three
And then all was, this see
Received up back into heaven
End of the vision then

But it was to prepare him (a Jew) for
Mission to Gentiles sure
That they with Jews should salvation
Share, e'en every nation

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (8)

Tune: Dundee

(one tune to: 'God moves in a mysterious way')

Based on a Formal Prayer = Collect.

Almighty God, Father, you care
All your mercies you share
And give to us all comfort dear
We feel your presence near

Deal graciously, we pray with those
Who mourn where there a close
Of chapter, season, come to end
Protect such, them defend

End of a time, a loved one gone
Their earthly life all done
May they who mourn cast all their care
On you, your comforts share

May they know in their sorrows here
Consoling of love near
'Tis your own love, love of your Son
The compassionate one

Good Grain

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

John 12 v.23-25

Jesus said, The hour come is
That the Son of man should be , this
Is true, that He be glorified
The time is now, it not denied

Truly. truly, I say to you
Except a grain of wheat so do
Fall into the ground and too die
It does remain alone, no lie

But if it die, it brings froth much
Fruit, though they who now be of such
Who love their own life selfishly
Shall lose it, hear, no doubt there be

And they that live self-denying
lives, live for their God and their king
Shall keep their lives to eternal
Life, happy in God's presence all

Standing Still

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

1 Samuel 12 v.7

Samuel the prophet said
To people that he led
Stand still, that I may here reason
With you for a season

Reason with you before
The Lord of His deeds sure
Which He has done in times past, He
Helped you ancestors, see

Brought them out of the land
Of Egypt by His hand* (*Spirit)
And He will too guide you this day
Reveal to you His way

In busyness of life
Activity and strife
Help us, Lord, to stand still to hear
Your messages plain, clear

So strengthened in your way
Trusting in you, our stay
Communing with you in spirit
Hearts, minds, lives by you lit

Little Life

Tune: heathlands

('God of mercy, God of grace')

Psalm 39 v.4-8

Little me, Lord, make me know
How brief my days, them me show
So I see how frail I be
Compared to you, Almighty
I humble self 'neath your hand
Meek shall inherit the land

Behold, my days a a span
Be, and no one surely can
Prolong them, man as vapour
Be, which passes as mist, see
Yet such you, Lord, look upon
And save through Jesus your Son

People stir in vanity
And their lives they troubled be
If pursuing worldly gain
Causes them distress and pain
True riches be found in you
Only good and only true

And now Lord what wait I for?
You are my hope evermore
Save me from all my sins, take
Them away for mercies' sake
Hoping in you make me not
Prone to reproach, shameful lot

A Matter of Belief

Jesus' words paraphrased:

'Have faith in God.... If you say to a mountain

'Be you removed and cast into the sea, and do not doubt

in your heart, but *believe that what you say shall come to pass*,
you shall have whatsoever you say.'

'What things soever you desire, when you pray, *believe that you receive them*, and you shall have them.' (Mark 11 v.22-24 parts)

A matter of belief -

Believing that what we pray for shall come to pass.

And believing that we shall receive what we ask for in prayer.

A sort of - picturing the answers to prayers in front of us, as it were

And also, at the same time -

Receiving the answers invisibly, as it were (i.e. by faith).

Yet Jesus goes on to speak of the need for forgiveness

That can be a blockage to answers to prayer

Sometimes? Always?

Do we believe? Do I believe?

Never mind me judging anyone else

Whether I think they not have enough faith

No faith at all; or should 'believe harder', etc.

Something will happen, sometime, somewhen

Jesus does not say it's all instant

Or when and how exactly the answers will come

But we can try moving a molehill

If a mountain seems too much

And really, it is 'Have *the* faith of God'

What can, what does He believe
(and including She, if you will).
Surely it can be anything possible
In His Almightyness
Of ability and power
Nothing being impossible for Him....

Gem of Grace

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

1 Peter 4 v.10

As each one has received
Gifts of God, have believed
So serve one another
Each sister and brother

Giving and receiving
Comforting, relieving
Sharing joys and sorrows
Each the peace of God knows

Be here as good stewards
God grant righteous rewards
Stewarding the manifold
Grace of God, it here told

It multi-faceted
Of God, our living Head
As sparkling gem it be
Reflecting His beauty

Praise Procession

Tune: St Thedolph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Mark 11 v.7-10 parts

Chorus

Sweet donkey, pass on your way

Your load be fair this day

The Lord of all you carry

Displayed for all to see

The one you bare, 'tis confessed

Name above all names blessed

Jesus Christ, He has you chose

To ride, the whole world knows - Chorus

Triumphant entry of peace

That wars and conflicts cease

Into Jerusalem He

Comes, there no war-horse be - Chorus

Many their garments did spread

And some branches instead

Laid in the way, the road where

They celebration share - Chorus

Palms waving, praise, 'Hosanna'

'Save now, Lord', was the stir

Of voices, saying, Blessed be

He, His kingdom come, free - Chorus

Come pay Him too your homage

To follow, pray courage

Jesus would suffer and die

Then rise again, no lie - Chorus

Judas' Journeying

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Luke 22 v.1-6; and v.17-20

Feast of unleavened bread drew nigh
Passover, Jesus was to die
But shared first of the bread and wine
The Lamb of God, the Life Divine

Chief priests and scribes sought how they may
Kill Christ, they feared people that day
They looked for secret, subtle way
Judas did His Master betray

Stepped into darkness, Satan filled
His heart, mind, his passions unhealed
Judas Iscariot did go
Unto chief priests, scribes, he did show

Evil rejoiced, money promised
To Judas, he did not resist
But thirty silver coins price
Of betrayal did him suffice

Then time came, he did with a kiss
Betray Jesus, pretence of bliss
Help us, Lord, from selfishness turn
Does our love for you so slight burn?

Will we value you so little
That we turn, do deeds that appal?
Give us grace faithful for to be
Your followers whole-heartedly

Gethsemane Gathering

Tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

Luke 22 v.39-46

Chorus

Gethsemane, the way unto the cross

Jesus would suffer to redeem man's loss

Disciples with Him in the garden stayed

Spirits willing, yet flesh tiredness displayed - Chorus

Jesus said, Pray here, so that you not fall

Into temptation, nor your journey stall - Chorus

He went little way from them and did pray

Father, remove this cup [of suffering] if it be your way - Chorus

Nevertheless not what I will, but your

Will be done, grant me strength to obey sure - Chorus

An angel strengthened Him, He did sweat blood

In agony, yet for us a cleansing flood - Chorus

Lord, help us pray, that sleep us not o'ercome

Progressing each day to our heavenly home - Chorus

Road To Redemption

Tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

Luke 23 v.26-31

They led away Jesus
He gave His life for us
Simon of Cyrene
They laid upon him, see
The cross of Jesus, he did bear
It, and carried it for Him there

And a great company
Along the journey be
They wept and wailed, but He
Said, Women, not for me
Weep, but for yourselves and children
For the days that shall follow then

Days in which barren blesses
Shall be, and so confesses
Happy they that ne'er bore
Children, descendants sure
For they shall be saved misery
Of troubles and calamity

In those days they shall say
Mounts, fall on us, we pray
And hills cover us, hide
Us, we 'neath you reside
For now as green tree with turmoil
What shall be done when dry tree all*?

* The metaphor thought here is that it is a 'green tree' time.

Bad enough things happen now, but in the 'dry tree' time
they will be worse.

Supper Scene

Tune: St Botolph

('I come with joy, a child of God')

John 13 v.1-17 parts

At Last Supper we gather round
Where you Jesus are found
With your disciples, washed their feet
Loved to the end complete

They had shared with you wine and bread
By you they watered, fed
You set to do your Father's will
It was the cross-way still

But you by humble tasks did serve
None of which we deserve
You our Lord and Master showed there
Your example did share

That we as your servants should too
Wash others feet anew
In deeds and words simple and plain
Sincerely and unfeign

It a living memorial
You died to save us all
And rose again, forgiven we
Eternal life have free

Coming To Calvary

Tune: Horsley

('There is a green hill far away')

Luke 23 v.33-43 parts

Green hill though far, we not forget
But we remember yet
Of Calvary's days, where Jesus
Was crucified for us

He prayed, Father, forgive, for they
Know not their deeds this day
What they do, putting Christ to death
'Til he drew final breath

But a thief penitent there too
Said, Jesus, Lord, please do
Remember me when you do come
To your kingdom, your home

Jesus said, Truly this day you
Shall be so, it is true
With me in paradise, saved sure
Set free for evermore

He suffered, died, then rose again
The Saviour of all men* (*mankind)
May we journey with him, some sort
E'en if a passing thought

Eve Of Easter

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, sore wounded')

Matthew 27 v.57-66 parts

Jesus was in new tomb laid
Price of our sins had paid
Joseph, see from the town he
Arimathea be
And with Nicodemus too
Came to Pilate, 'tis true
Asked that he make take, bury
Jesus, body meekly

Two Marys, they were witness
To see the scene, e'en this
Joseph laid body to rest
Rolled stone to tomb's door, lest
Any do come for to steal
Pilate said, Soldiers, seal
The entrance, make the guard sure
Safe from the thief's allure

Quiet interval there be
Sorrow and anguish see
Yet Jesus His promise kept
To rise, though there they wept
Soon Easter morning dawning
O'ercomes the dark, each thing
The cross before the crown be
Then lasting victory

Resurrection Revealed

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia!')

Luke 24 v.1-12 parts

On Sunday, early morning - Alleluia!
Some came to tomb, day dawning - Alleluia!
To bind body with spices - Alleluia!
As the Jewish custom this - Alleluia!

They found the stone rolled away - Alleluia!
Jesus' body not seen, they - Alleluia!
Perplexed, then two men stood by - Alleluia!
They gave message, and drew nigh - Alleluia!

Saying, Why seek you living - Alleluia!
Among the dead? True this thing - Alleluia!
That He is not here, but He - Alleluia!
Suffered, died, now risen be - Alleluia!

Mary Magdalene was there - Alleluia!
And Joanna she did share - Alleluia!
In the good news, and Mary - Alleluia!
Mother of James midst them there - Alleluia!

They and other women told - Alleluia!
The apostles, witness bold - Alleluia!
What they had heard and had seen - Alleluia!
Just what events there had been - Alleluia!

Christ now risen from the dead - Alleluia!
Now He ever lives our Head - Alleluia!
Our hope of life eternal - Alleluia!
Salvation now unto all - Alleluia!

Emmaus Encounter

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.25-32

The risen Christ, He did reveal
Did not Himself conceal
To two disciples on the road
To Emmaus they trode

Grant us faith to believe, not slow
Your prophecies to know
And all that your prophets did speak
That we may you true seek

You said to them, Ought not Christ to
Have suffered, rise anew
And to enter in His glory?
Defeating death, so be

They desired him to stay a while
As food they did compile
He broke bread, their eyes were open
Thy recognised Him then

Though He then vanished from their sight
They received inward light
Said, Did not our hearts in us burn
When we from Him did learn?

He opened to us the scriptures
That each to Him refers
Hope rises within, Christ alive
Ever does prosper, thrive

Breath Bestowed

Tune: Vulpius - Gelobt Sei Gott

('Christ is the King, O friends rejoice')

John 20 v.19-23 parts

Evening of resurrection's day
Jesus to disciples did say
Peace be unto you now. always
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He showed them His wounded hands, side
The did Him see, it not denied
The risen Christ and none beside
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He did say, Peace be unto you
As my Father has sent me true
E'en so I send you out anew
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

When He had said this He breathed on
The disciples, unto each one
Said, Receive the Spirit, it done
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Whose sins they forgive, forgiven
Were they e'en in that moment when
They proclaimed forgiving word then
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Incorruptibility and Immortality

Tune: Judas Maccabaeus

('Thine be the glory')

1 Corinthians 15 v.51-58

Behold, a mystery, we shall not all sleep
In death, but shall be changed, the Lord shall us keep
At the last trumpet's sound, twinkling of an eye
We shall be raised with Christ, hence no more to die

Chorus

In a moment, in twinkling of an eye
At last trumpet we shall be changed, no more die

The dead shall be raised incorruptible
We shall be changed unto beings immortal
For this corruptible state it must put on
The incorruption of Jesus, God's own Son - Chorus

And mortal must its immortality
Put on, then death be swallowed in victory
Then comes fully true, O death, where is your sting?
O grave, where your victory? Let praises ring - Chorus

The sting of death is sin, and strength of sin
Is the law, we have not kept all that therein
But thanks be to God, who gives us victory
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, ever shall it be - Chorus

Therefore, beloved, be steadfast, unmoving
Always in the work of the Lord abounding
Forasmuch as you know your labour not be
In vain, but in all things you serve the Lord, see - Chorus

Galilee Gathering

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven...')

Matthew 28 v.1-10

On Sunday, first day of the week
Two Marys came for to seek
The tomb of Jesus, for to wrap
Body-spices, but their hap
Was to observe a great earthquake
Rocks did rend and ground did shake
For from heaven the Lord's angel
Descended, message to tell

He did roll back stone, the tomb's door
His countenance bright and pure
For fear of him the guard there they
Became as dead men that day
The angel to the women said
Fear not, Christ has from the dead
Risen now, though was crucified
See place where He did reside

But He not here, so go quickly
Tell His disciples, so be
That He is risen from the dead
Now alive our living Head
Behold, He does go before you
Into Galilee, 'tis true
There you shall see Him, I have told
You, here witness to Him bold

They left quickly with great joy, fear
Unto disciples did near

Told them the message, and on way
Jesus did meet them that day
Saying, Greetings, they Him worshipped
With the words they were equipped
Not to be afraid, tell others
Human race, sisters, brothers

Lord Over Life

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Psalm 102 v.25-28

Of old, Lord, you have foundation
Of the world laid, each nation
Earth and heavens you have all made
In your wisdom they arrayed

They shall perish, but you endure
You who live for evermore
All shall wax old as a garment
None remaining permanent

As a cloak you shall change them, they
Shall not ever stay alway
And they shall be changed, but you not
Change from your eternal lot

You are the same, and your years shall
Have no end, this we know well
Your servants and your descendants
Shall abide with confidence

KP Days

Oh woe is me
And ten thousand time ten thousand woes!
What genre is this poem?
Sadness; horror; terror; fantasy....?
It's non-fiction, I'll tell ya that! (Is it?)

A terrible day for me
When I married KP
'Twas one Halloween - when else could it be?
Now I only have Fido for company
99% of the time
Things have gone downhill since

But why? Cos KP is hardly ever here
I see her always of course though
On TV, in newspapers, in magazines.....
She's in the 'Me, me, me' section

Oh, and in a special weekly section too
Of 'Ye Local Times'
Called 'Notes from The Old Trout Club'
Mainly all about botox! heehee

I'm horrible to her - lol
You knows who she is!
No difference if I divorces her
i wouldn't see her in person
Any more or less! lol. :)

Thomas' Tale

Tune: St Albinus

('Jesus lives! Thy terrors now....')

John 20 v.24-29 parts

Jesus to disciples shown
But first time not to Thomas known
Eight days later shows again
Thomas among disciples then
Alleluia!

Jesus said, peace be to you
To Thomas said, Reach here and view
Place finger in my hands, see
Too my side, where I wounded be
Alleluia!

Be not faithless but believe
Thomas said, was with no deceive
My Lord and my God you are
I worship you near, not afar
Alleluia!

Jesus said to Thomas, You
Have seen me, so you believe true
Blessed are they that have seen not
Me, but believe, favoured their lot
Alleluia!

Help Us To Hear

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

1 Samuel 3 v.1-10 parts

Lord, help us listen and to hear
And sense your presence near
What you will speak in word or sign
Help us to you align

We hear our fellow men, but more
Important it is sure
To hear your word, your call obey
As Samuel in his day

For young he was, in temple stayed
With priest Eli and prayed
Your night-call to him, 'Samuel'
You knew his name right well

Eli did say to him, 'If He
Call you again, so be
Say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant hears
Give me grace, calm my fears"

For you Lord say, 'Man does not live
On bread alone', you give
The life-giving words, more import
Than all men's worldly thought

Keep And Kept

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Jude 1 v.20-21 and v.24-25

Beloved, build up yourselves on
Your most holy faith, Christ the Son
Faith shall you give, with hope and love
And the Spirit, the heavenly dove

Praying in the Spirit, and keep
Yourselves in love of God, His sheep
You are, and look for the mercy
Of the Lord Jesus Christ, so be

Mercy e'en to life eternal
When His people be gathered all
Into His fold, He be able
To keep safe they who on Him call

And to present you there faultless
Before His own throne all sinless
Before presence of His glory
With praise and joy exceedingly

To the only wise God, He be
Our Saviour now, eternally
Glory, majesty, dominion
Power to Him, the three in one

Living Bread

Tune: St Michael
('The Lord is risen indeed')

Christ, He the living bread
By Him we still are fed
We partake spiritually
In bread and wine, so be

For body, spirit, soul
His food does make us whole
Manna of old days provided
Daily, God His flock led

But now in days, our time
Of life's pages and rhymes
To eat of Christ, feed on Him in
Our hearts, fresh praise begin

'Tis life and health and peace
Supply shall never cease
Uphold us, empower us still
For so is your good will

Double-Sided Decisions

Tune: Angel Voices

('Come to us, creative Spirit'

= 'Angel voices ever singing')

Man proposes, God disposes
All He wills and says
Yet works in co-operation
With every nation
That will seek Him, for they shall find
Of His mercies they are kind

And work out your own salvation
Men of each station
For it is God that works in you
By His graces true
He inspires to deed and action
Of His people, e'en each one

Whosoever, they may saved be
If come to Christ, see
And also there pre-destiny
In God's wisdom be
Here free offer, no compulsion
To become God's daughter, son

And yet there no other name for
Our salvation sure
But the name of Jesus Christ can
Save each woman, man
Children too, a universal
Salvation be unto all

Jesus, He the Life, the Truth, Way

For us night and day
Enter through the strait gate, follow
Him on life's path, know
It a narrow way, persevere
Fear only with godly fear

Platinum Peace

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Psalm 21 v.1-7

Blessed people of platinum year
Of seventy years past and dear
Elizabeth your servant reigns
Christ-like her life with no unfeigns

The Queen shall joy in your strength, Lord
Rejoice in your salvation, word
You have, Lord, given her what she
Desired in heart, and heard each plea

For you meet her with the blessings
Of goodness, each her honour brings
You set crown of gold on her head
Faithful the peoples she has led

She asked life of you, and you gave
Her life, and salvation to save
Even length of days for ever
Her witness to you fades never

Her glory is great in your deeds
In your salvation, it she heeds
Honour and majesty have you
Laid on her, as King David true

For she trusts in you as did he
Of old. now so these days does she
Through the mercy of the most High
She be not moved, knows you are nigh

Calm Considerations

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Luke 12 v.22-28

Jesus said, Be not anxious, for
Food, drink, clothes, earthly store
For the life is more than food worth
And more than clothes of earth

Consider the birds, for they sow
Not, nor reap, here this know
They have not barns, places to store
But God feeds them e'ermore

And which of by worrying
Can grow in anything?
Can you add one inch to stature?
You shall be same measure

if you not able to least do
Why are you anxious, you
About the rest? you shall not be
Able to do them, see

Consider lilies, how they grow
They toil not, spin not, know
That Solomon in his glory
Was not clothed like them, see

if God so the daily grass clothe
Shall He not you bestow
What you need, you of faith little
He will you provide all

Risen Realisation

Tune: Wurtemberg

('Christ the Lord is risen again')

Ephesians 3 v.19-23

The exceeding greatness be
Of the Lord's great power, see
Towards us who do believe
We His Spirit do receive
Alleluia!

It the same mighty power
Which He wrought in the hour
When He raised His Son from death
Gave Him life and vital breath
Alleluia!

He has seated Christ above
He be the Son of His love
Far above all power and might
Near us, yet out of our sight
Alleluia!

He the name o'er every name
Christ arisen, e'er the same
God has put all things under
Christ's feet, with this we concur
Alleluia!

He the head over all things
To the church, praise each one brings
Body of Christ the church be
He fills all things completely
Alleluia!

Daily Deeds

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Help us, Lord, know your will
Our troubled hearts, minds still
Enough to know that we serve you
Our gracious God and true

Help us, Lord, strength to take
From you, serve for your sake
Not overdo nor pressurise
Ourselves, but with grace rise

To balance out the plans
Each woman, child, and man
The good works you have prepared sure
From your wise treasure-store

Not strain to do it all
But what be in your call
To us, each one to share the load
Along life's daily road

If busy or if calm
If safe, or danger' harm
Guide us to go on, each step take
And us more Christ-like make

Yet deeds they do follow
Salvation, this we know
For we cannot merit it, earn
But unto you we turn

Salvation in your Son

Open to every one

Help us to know you, Life, Truth, Way

You our Friend night and day

Easter Excellings

Tune: Noel Nouvelet

('Now the green blade riseth')

Sing a song of Easter, Christ rose from the dead
He our Lord and Saviour, He our living bread
As grain of wheat that fell in ground and died
But now by His Spirit does in hearts reside

Carried load of man's sins unto Calvary
That we from the should be whole, forgiven free
We were lost, but now in Christ we are found
Let us give thanks to Him, let praises resound

Rooted, built up in Him, more Christ-like we grow
More of Him daily know, by His grace 'tis so
Not left bereft, His Spirit us to guide
His own presence, there no greater one beside

Easter joy and victory, lasting through all days
Teach us your will, Lord, and keep us in your way
That fruitful unto you we shall endure
Till we come to your promised rest evermore

Hope Of Help

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Psalm 25 v.15-22

My eyes are ever to the Lord
For He shall save me, true His word
Shall untangle my feet from net
Which enemies lay for me yeat

Turn unto me. and have mercy
I desolate, afflicted be
Lonely, and troubles of my heart
They seem enlarged in every part

O bring me out of distresses
My affliction, pains do not miss
And forgive all my sin, restore
Me, and grant me your peace e'ermore

Consider my enemies, they
Hate me, are violent in their day
O keep my soul, deliver me
Trusting, let me not ashamed be

Let integrity, uprightness
Preserve me, by your grace me bless
For I here wait in faith on you
Redeem us from all troubles do

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (9)

Tune: Capetown

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

O Lord, support us all day
And e'en through each night we pray
All through this troublous life here
Hold us to you dear

Until shades do lengthen out
Evening comes without a doubt
And the busy world hushed is
Give us rest, true bliss

And when fever of life o'er
Our work done here then for sure
Then Lord in your mercy give
Good things, that we live

Grant us safe lodging, abode
A holy rest, your love showed
Unto us, and peace at last
When earth's troubles past

Christ the Friend of Sinners

Tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

John 8 v.1-11 parts

Woman caught in adultery
They brought to Jesus, see
Wanting her to be stoned were they
With no mercy

But Jesus, Friend of sinners, he
Said, who without sin be
Let him cast first stone at her, they
Did leave that day

Convicted by their own conscience
Their own sins they did sense
They went away, and none remained
Stoning not gained

Jesus said to woman, Where are
Your accusers? They far
From you now, has no one condemned
You to death's end?

She said, No one, Lord, and Jesus
As He does say t ous
Said, Neither I condemn you, go
My pardon know

Go, and sin no more, I forgive
You, through my power live
May we, Lord, accept you our Friend
E'en to our end

Formal Funerary Prayers Series (10)

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Let us now pray with confidence
To God, Father, for hence
Christ He has raised up from the dead
He is our living Head

Raised for the salvation of all
Of all who on Him call
Grant those here departed now know
Fullness of life, them show

For eternal life promised to
Those who trust and love you
Be close to those who mourn, increase
Faith in your love, ne'er cease

And may the living strengthened be
In faith, live for you, see
Following your Son, Christ our Lord
He e'er the living Word

Help us be ready when you call
Come to you, and not fall
Called unto your eternal life
Whole peace, no toil or strife

Show your mercy to dying here
That they trust you, not fear
Strengthen them with hope, fill with peace
Your joy in them release

Lord we commend all those now left
This earth, and those bereft
Commend them to your loving care
Which all peoples may share

We pray that with them we may share
In your good kingdom's fare
You reign eternal over death
Your life-imparting breath

Shepherd Scene

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

John 10 v.13-18

I am the good shepherd, Christ said
The sheep's pastures I tread
And I know them, and they know me
They from my voice not flee

But false prophets and hirelings
They deceit, falsehood bring
But as the Father, he knows me
So I do know Him, see

And I lay down my life for sheep
To the end faithful keep
Them, and other sheep I must bring
To the fold's safe keeping

And here shall be one fold, and one
Shepherd, it shall be done
Therefore does my Father love me
To His will I agree

He loves me, because I down lay
My life at Calvary's day
I lay it down that it I might
Take again, so 'tis right

No man takes my life from me for
I have power for sure
To lay it down, take it again
Purpose to save all men* (*mankind)

This commandment have I received
From my Father, believed
That it is His good will that I
Shall rise after I die

Simplicity Serenity

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 131

Here meditate a while, and sense
The Lord God, His peaceful presence
Come to Him in simplicity
As [King] David let this your prayer be

Lord, my heart it not haughty be
It not proud nor conceited, see
Nor my eyes lofty looking down
On others, no condemning frown

Nor have I myself here concerned
With great matters or highly-learned
Not caught up in profundities
Nor things of great difficulties

Surely I have behaved and calmed
Myself received your comforts balm
Have quieted myself as a child
That is weaned of its mother mild

Thus is my soul, it not complex
With great problems, I not it vex
But hope in you, Lord, as all may
Do so henceforth and for always

Relationship Renewed

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 54 v.4

Behold, God my help is

A truth sure it be this

And He is with them that uphold

My soul, let it be told

Psalm 55 v.22

Cast your burden upon

The Lord, let it be done

And He shall sustain you, He shall

Not let you fall, know well

Psalm 56 v.3-4

What time I am afraid

I shall, it not delayed

Put my trust in God, will Him praise

Melodies to Him raise

Psalm 57 v.1

In shadow of His wings

I stay, still my soul sings

Until these troubles be o'erpast

They shall not ever last

Psalm 57 v.7-8

On you is fixed my heart

O God, my every part

I will awake, and praise you give

You bring me help, I live

Doom And Gloom - KP Days

'What do you mean by this title?' asks Fido
Read on and see....

Nope, not even an alliteration in the title
You won't need your teef in (teeth)for this one
(Teddy knows! lol)

Just some mindless ramblings
It won't take me long to do this 'poem'
No time at all really
'Does it take much time to write waffle?' you ask
'Nope, no time at all', I reply

I'm in seventh heaven
KP gone on holiday on her own for 6 months
Probably at a Botox Clinic (heehee)
She been gone 1 month
Another 5 months of bliss for me
Just Fido and I

Yet it don't make much difference
I don't see her 95% of the time
When she's not on holiday
Well, I don't see her in person
But only on television or in the papers
Again and again and again

I'm sure she's getting uglier
The mutton dressed as lamb
Is going mouldy! lol

'Twas a mad moment I married her
One Hallowe'en (when else could it have been?)

In a moment when she hid the water from my whisky
I drank it neat - a glass or three.....
It caused me to reply to her
'Yes, I will marry you!'
Now I've never been the same again
Doh!!

I'm horrible to her! lol.

Heavenly Help

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

2 Chronicles 20 v.10-17 parts [Old Testament]

In time of Jehoshaphat's day
He King, and people they did pray
For help against the enemy
Ammonites, Moabites they be

O God, they said, will you not judge
Them? They make our lives daily drudge
Help us, for we have no might here
To o'ercome them when they appear

It be a great company that
Comes against us, we know not what
To do, but our eyes are on you
Men, women, and all children too

Jahaziel, prophet replied
The Lord shall help, in Him confide
For He shall fight battle for you
You shall know His salvation true

That's too Weird!

I'll give ya Friday the 13th.....

A bit of battiness

Though I don't believe in 'luck'

Or various spookiness

Now, c'mon Orchi

What's all this rubbish ya spout?

A talking, reading, barking dog, named Fido?

Who checks all the poems

And barks fiercely if people 'forgot'

To mark 'em 18+!

And married to KP?

Why, you hardly see her now

She's either in the papers or on telly

Or at The Botox Clinic

Or at The Old Trout Club

And the World's Worst Singer?

Well, you started it Orchi

You said you were a bad singer!

And ya keeps writing poems to sing

Sing 'em in a sound-proof room, ya tell me!

They are horrible to me

They say 'Go sing....

Over the hills and far away'

Preferably as far away as possible

On the Moon!

And my pic

It's two GUINEA PIGS

Not rats or gerbils
Nor mutant giant hamsters!
Now that would be scary for Friday the 13th

Oh, and this whisky-watering.....
Well, I'm only trying to help
You'll not use so much whisky (gin, sherry, etc)
If ya add water to it

Pop round for a gin or three
With plenty of water
See ya soon!
heehee.

Omniscient Observings

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 33 v.13-22 parts

The Lord looks from heaven, He beholds all
Great and small, and they who do on Him call
From the place of His habitation He looks
On all earth's inhabitants, none are forsook

He fashions their hearts individually
He considers their works, does all them see
He understands ways of mankind, He is Lord
Upholding all things by His powerful word

Our souls waits for the Lord, He our helper
And our shield and strength He is constantly
For our heart shall rejoice in Him, He we trust
His name holy, though we mere men made of dust

Let your mercy, O Lord, upon us be
According as we hope confidently
In you, we rejoice here with heart, voice, and mind
Find you Lord to us accepting and kind

Onwards And Upwards

Tune: Anima Christi

('Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast')

2 Thessalonians 2 v.13-17

God has from the beginning chosen you
To salvation, shall sanctify you true
Set you apart from evil and misdeeds
By His Spirit, as day by day He leads

And too through belief in the truth, where to
He called you by the gospel, even you
To the obtaining of the glory, see
Of our Lord Jesus Christ eternally

Therefore, stand fast, and hold to the teachings
Which you have been taught, they the traditions
Whether you were taught in word or have read
What things that be, what our Lord did and said

No our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and too
God, even our Father, who loves anew
And who has given us everlasting
Consolation, food hope, grace in each thing

May He comfort your hearts, and establish
You in every good word and work and wish
So growing in Him, awaiting the day
Of His return, then ever with Him stay

Just Judgement

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Acts 17 v.29-31

Think not the Godhead made of gold
Nor can by silver, stone be told
He not an idol, not man-made
He living God, heaven, earth outlaid

In the times past of ignorance
When men not know Him nor Him sense
He did overlook, but now He
Commands each one to repent, see

Because He has appointed so
A day He will judge, all shall know
Will judge the world in righteousness
By Christ, ordained by Him, no less

Of this He has the assurance [given]
Unto all people, that day hence
Shall come, in that he has Christ raised
From the dead, worthy to be praised

Give us grace, Lord, to ready be
For His return expectantly
Saved by Him, we may enter in
To eternal life, free from sin

Transfiguration Time

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

2 Peter 1 v.16-19

Peter, James, and John they saw
Jesus transfigured for sure
On the holy mount that day
Was true, not to led away
In fables or man-made tales
Power of the Lord ne'er fails

For they saw Him there displayed
His inner glory arrayed
With Elijah and Moses
Speaking of the plans no less
That He would accomplish when
He came to Jerusalem

He would suffer and would die
But rise again by and by
At that mount there came God's voice
This my beloved Son, His choice
And will is to follow me
In Him I am well pleased, see

We too have a word certain
Word of prophecy, so then
We prosper if we take heed
To it, as light it shall lead
Us through dark, the day shall dawn
Day star rise in hearts at morn

Dwelling Delights

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 84 v.4-7, and v.11-12

Blesséd are they that dwell
In your house, Lord, the tell
Of your greatness, goodness
Still with praises you bless
Blesséd are they whose strength is in
You, they do find comfort therein

And blessed too are they whose
heart is in your ways, choose
They sure to follow you
Even through valley too
Of Baca, Weeping, they do make
It as a well and solace take

The rain it also fills
The pools, land there it heals
Each one they stronger grow
The Lord they daily know
Every one there does appear
Before God, is presence is near

They of Zion, city
Jerusalem it be
The Lord, He is a sun
And shield, the holy
He will give grace and glory, no
Good thing withhold, but will it show

Will show to them that live

Righteously, His help give
O Lord of hosts, of power
Blesséd they through each hour
That trust in you and your great name
Your gracious presence e'er the same

Sincere Seeking

Tune: Angel voices

('Angel voices ever singing')

Psalm 27 v.8-14

When you said, Lord, Seek you my face
My heart by your grace
I said unto you, Lord, your face
Will I seek, will trace
It, for it my satisfaction
You Lord, over each nation

Do not hide your face far from me
By faith may I see
It, and put not me your servant
Away, penitent
I be, in anger cast me not
Out of sight, thus good my lot

You have been my help, do not leave
Me, or I shall grieve
Nor forsake me, O God of my
Salvation, no lie
E'en if parents may me forsake
The Lord He will me uptake

Teach me, O Lord, your way, lead me
That I see clearly
Lead me in plain path, because my
Enemies are nigh
Save me from them, I had fainted
Lest I saw you me had led

I believed to see your goodness

In this land no less
It be the land of the living
Life you give each thing
Wait on the Lord, good courage take
He your heart shall strong it make

Charity To Children

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Mark 10 v.13-16

They brought young children to Jesus
That He would touch them, and them bless
But His disciples did rebuke
And gave them disapproving look

But when Jesus saw it, He be
Much displeased and He said, Here see
Allow the little children to
come unto me, and to me view

And forbid them not, for of such
Is sure the kingdom of god much
Truly, He said, Whoso shall not
Receive them do frustrate [their] own lot

For if we not kingdom receive
As the little children believe
We shall not enter therein, He
Blessed the children there then, so be

Spirit and spirit

Tune: Detroit

('Forgive our sins as we forgive')

1 Corinthians 2 v.9-11

Eye has not seen, nor ear has heard
Nor known by human word
Neither has entered into heart
All things of God to chart

The things which God He has prepared
For those, none be compared
Those who love Him, but they are shown
By His Spirit made known

Revealed unto us, His Spirit
Searches all things each whit
Even the things of god that deep
Be, He shows to His sheep

For who knows human things without
Human spirit, no doubt
That the Holy Spirit the things
Of God knows, us them brings

Peaceful Progress

Tune & Hymn: 'O perfect love, all human thought transcending'

Still now my soul, and hear what your Lord may say
To you in many matters if the day
Human thoughts hush, amid the noise and clamour
The Lord in His still small voice shall speak sure

What may or may not be, in the multitude
Of things that trouble, let mind be renewed
Christ-like in mind, so lead to Christ-like action
Growing more, ever, into Christ, God's Son

What the Lord's plans and will and purpose be
Shall surely come to pass, and all shall see
As we pray, His kingdom come, and His will be done
On earth as in heaven unto each one

Trust Through Troubles

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Based on a prayer by Thomas á Kempis, 15th Century monk.

O Lord my God, do not be far
From me, my guiding sun and star
My God, have regard to help me
Companion constant to me be

I have many thoughts and great fears
Afflicting my soul, and flow tears
How will I unhurt through them pass
Except I troubles on you cast?

How will I break them to pieces?
In this I rest, hope releases
My only one consolation
Flee to you [in] each tribulation

To trust in you, to call on you
From my inmost heart, this I do
Wait patiently, pray you console
Make me whole, body, spirit, soul

Neglect Not The Gift

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

1 Timothy 4 v.11-16

Paul says to Timothy, Let none
Despise you, let work be done
Be example to believers
That there be no deceivers

An example in conduct, word
Your way of life be seen, heard
In love, true in spirit, so be
In faith, and in purity

Attend to reading, exhorting
Encouraging each good thing
Wise teaching, and not neglecting
The gift in you professing

The gift given by prophecy
When elders laid hands, so be
On you, meditate, meletao*
Aligned in the Spirit's flow

Give yourself wholly to these things
Thus your life profiting brings
To you and to all, take heed to
Yourself, and the teaching too

Continue in them, for doing
So you shall salvation bring
To yourself and to them that hear
Your, Christ' image more appear

* meletao (mel-le-toe) = Greek for 'meditate'.

Trusting Thoughts

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Based on a prayer by Soren Kierkegaard (1813-1855)

Father in heaven, when thought
Of you to my mind is brought
When it wakes within my heart
Let it wake peaceful, each part

Not wake like a frightened bird
That sound of danger has heard
Not fly about in dismay
But to hear you calm today

Let it be like child who wakes
Knowing parents ne'er forsakes
Waking with a heavenly smile
Know you present all the while

Ascension Acclaimings

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Acts 1 v.5-14 parts

Hail the great Ascension day - Alleluia!
Praise, honour to Christ alway - Alleluia!
Now returns to Father's throne - Alleluia!
But leaves us never alone - Alleluia!

Promised the Spirit to send - Alleluia!
To help spread gospel, He tends - Alleluia!
To us, He our constant guide - Alleluia!
In believer's hearts resides - Alleluia!

No marvel impossible - Alleluia!
He defies gravity's call - Alleluia!
Yet it not incredible - Alleluia!
He did rise from dead for all - Alleluia!

While the people did behold - Alleluia!
Christ ascended, be it told - Alleluia!
Taken up, a cloud received - Alleluia!
Him, they now by faith believed - Alleluia!

Two men said to them there nigh - Alleluia!
Why you still gaze to the sky? - Alleluia!
This same Jesus which is gone - Alleluia!
Shall return same way, God's Son - Alleluia!

They the Spirit awaited - Alleluia!
He not delayed, abated - Alleluia!
Few days hence, Pentecost came - Alleluia!
They did witness of His name - Alleluia!

Prayer Possibles

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

John 16 v.23-24

Jesus said, Truly, truly unto you
I say, Whatsoever you shall ask true
What you shall ask the Father in my name
He will give it to you, the very same

Hitherto it is as you asked nothing
In my name, but your prayers now Father bring
Ask, and you shall receive, so that your joy
May be full, and that which none can destroy

It is not said, the how or where or when
Prayers shall be answered, but we trusting then
In Jesus' word to us, it still abides
And His Spirit within us still us guides

The Spirit's help to us, to through us pray
Having done all we leave things to God's way
What may or may not be in all life's rhyme
Trusting all comes to pass in God's good time

The Sharing Spirit

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

John 16 v.13-15

When the Spirit of truth, He
Is come He will guide you here, see
Into all truth, for He shall
Not speak of Himself, this know well
Not of His own authority
But what He hears of Christ, so be

Whatsoever He shall hear
Of Christ, that shall he speak, not fear
And He shall show you things to
Come, reveal them to your mind's view
He shall glorify Christ, for He
Shall show us of His things freely

For He shall receive the things
Of Christ, and to each one them brings
All things the Father has, see
Are Christ's, therefore He said, so be
The Spirit shall of Christ's things take
And show them to us for His sake

Portion Of Peace

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 73 v.23-28

I am continual with you
O holy God and true
You have upheld me, did take
My hand, me not forsake
You shall guide me with counsel
I shall prosper, fare well
Then receive me to glory
Forever with you be

Whom have I in heaven, Lord
But you, and too your word
And there is none upon earth
Can compare to your worth
None that I desire but you
By faith I do you view
My flesh and heart may fail me
But you e'er constant be

For God is strength of my heart
My rock, shall not depart
He my portion for ever
Shall desert me never
For look, they that are afar
From you, our guiding star
Shall perish, the unfaithful
Yet faithful be made whole

It is good for me to draw
Near to God, know Him sure

I have put my trust here in
The Lord, God, and from sin
He shall save me, that I may
Declare all His works, ways
Abiding in Him, He in me
Bear fruit for His glory

A Day at A Time

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Based on a prayer by Reinhold Neibuhr.

The first two verses are called 'The Serenity Prayer'.

God, grant me the serenity
That I accept the things, so be
That I cannot change, and grant too
Courage to change things, what [I can] to do

And wisdom to know the difference
Guidance of your Spirit sense
Living here one day at a time
Enjoying moments of life's rhyme

Accepting hardship as pathway
To peace, and light see each day
Taking as Jesus did this world
As it sinful to Him unfurled

To take he world, be as it is
Not my own will, my that an this
Trusting you will make all things right
As you wish them be in your sight

I surrender unto your will
So that my heart and mind be still
In you in this life, then above
Forever blessed in you, your love

Persevering Plea

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Psalm 119 v.169-176

Let my prayer come near before
You, O Lord, and hear me sure
And give me understanding
Of your wisdom in each thing
It according to your word
Which lasts ever, you are Lord

Let my prayer come unto you
Save me by your mercies true
And my lips shall utter praise
Grateful songs unto you raise
When you have taught me your ways
They shall sustain me all days

My tongue shall speak your word for
Your commands are righteous, pure
Let your Spirit come, help me
I have chose your precepts, see
Have longed for your salvation
Your laws my delight, each one

Let my soul live, it shall praise
You, and too through all my days
Let your judgements help me, say
I like lost sheep gone astray
Seek me your servant, for yet
I your commands not forget

Salvation Security

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 34 v.17-22

The righteous call, and the Lord hears
Them, and them saves, to them He nears
Saves them out of their troubles all
And lifts them up when they do fall

The Lord is nigh to them that be
Of broken heart, and contrite, see
In spirit, and too from many
Afflictions the Lord does them free

He keeps the righteous, they be
But the evil desolately
Shall live, the Lord redeems the soul
Of His servants, they trust Him whole

Platinum Prosperity

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 72 parts - Originally written for King Solomon.

Give the Queen your judgements
O God, wisdom and sense
You have upheld year seventy
All by your good grace be
And give your righteousness
To royalty, them bless
So shall they judge your people free
With righteousness, so be

And the poor of the land
They shall assist, good hand
Of justice, judgement shall be shown
And your ways shall be known
Help unto the needy
Freedom from tyranny
As they do your justice dispense
O God, from now and hence

Grant they be like the rain
Which showers earth again
Bringing refreshment in their days
Righteous flourish in ways
Of the Lord, and too peace
Abundant, ne'er shall cease
Shall endure long as moon and sun
Their nature courses run

Their name shall endure e'er
In blessings we do share

All people, nations, give Him praise
For many gracious days
Silver, gold, and diamond
A rich heritage fund
Platinum, three score years and ten
You favour us again

Heart Healing

Tune: Morning Hymn

('New every morning is the love')

Based on a prayer by St Ambrose (337-397AD)

O Lord, who has mercy on all
Forgive me my sins, I not fall
Mercifully kindle in me
The fire of your Spirit brightly

Take away from me heart of stone
Give me a heart of flesh alone
To love and adore you, a heart
To delight in you every part

And too follow you constantly
And too enjoy you thankfully
Holy Spirit, who in hearts live
Of believers, you us grace give

Fixing Focus

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Lord, you know what we need
Our hearts and minds you read
Know what we need before we ask
If great or small the task

Lord, help us to you trust
Though we mere mortals, dust
Yet we your creations, we made
By you, your grace displayed

Quieten us in our strife
You the Way, Truth, and Life
Bringing all under your Lordship
'Tis you we praise, worship

With you we many commune
O God, sing joyful tune
Come to you through Jesus your Son
He the atoning One

Be still, know you God are
God over all, day-star
We shall come to you, praises give
Through your Son we shall live

Promised Pentecost

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

Acts 2 v.16-21 parts

Pentecost, your Spirit
You promised Lord, lives lit
With your living presence, we here now you sense
He comes to empower
Us daily, each hour
And in human hearts pleased to make residence

This is that prophesied
By Joel (Old Testament), 'tis none beside
Than Scripture's fulfilment, the Spirit you sent
Tongues, dreams, and prophecy
These things now sure shall be
To show God's glory, He works His good intent

And too wonders above
The Spirit, holy dove
And signs beneath, blood, fire, and vapour of smoke
Sun shall be turned to dark
Moon be turned to blood, hark
Before great day of the Lord come, no revoke

It shall come to pass so
That they the Lord shall know
Whosoever calls on His name shall saved be
Trusting your life within
Us, cleanse us her from sin
To go witness, that all the Saviour shall see

Commendable Character

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Colossians 3 v.12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones
Who be His daughters, sons
Holy and beloved, show tender
Mercies, kindness render

And humbleness of mind do show
In longsuffering grow
Forbear one another, forgive
Each other, in peace live

If any one has a quarrel
As Christ forgave you all
So also do you the same, so
Harmony you shall know

And above all these things put on
Charity, love, each one
It be the bond of perfectness
Brings wholeness, completeness

Let peace of God rule in your hearts
Calmness in all life's parts
To this you are called, one body
The church of Christ it be

Let the word of Christ dwell richly
In you, in wisdom, see
Teach, admonish one another
Each sister and brother

Speak in psalms, hymns, spiritual songs
Seek to reconcile wrongs
Singing with grace unto the Lord
For ever true His word

Whate'er you do in word and deed
This motto, do it heed
Do all in the name of Jesus
Thankful to God, Him bless

Righteous Reign

Tune: Lubeck (or Riley)

('Songs of praise the angels sang')

Psalm 96 v.9-13

Worship God in the beauty
Of holiness, the Lord He
Fear before Him all the earth
Revere, honour, give Him worth

Say among the heathen, say
The Lord reigns, e'en every day
The world also shall still stand
And unshaken be the land

The Lord shall judge the people
Righteously, e'en one and all
Let the heavens rejoice, sing
For equity He shall bring

Let the earth be glad and raise
Songs, and let the seas Him praise
Let fields be joyful anew
Trees of wood celebrate too

For the Lord He comes, judgement
To bring, shall not e'er relent
Shall judge with truth, righteousness
Justice, fairness, shall us bless

Prayer Persevering

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Persevere on here in prayer
Bringing to your Lord each care
Not looking to outward sight
But in faith view inward light

Not give up, not let feelings
Be final say in each thing
But believe we receiving
What we pray for, Him trusting

Whether it be later, now
What time-scale, the Lord knows how
To bring it about, He will
Work His will, His plans fulfil

What we troubled, heart and mind
In our Lord we peace may find
Nothing out of His control
He knows all, entire and whole

Praise Professions

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 145 v.3-4

Great is the Lord, and He
To be praised greatly
His greatness cannot be
Full searched out, see
One generation shall
Another one tell
Of His works, shall them praise
To Him glory raise

Psalm 145 v.18-19

The Lord, He is nigh all
That do on Him call
In truth, He will them hear
Will to them draw near
He will desire fulfil
They who seek His will
Who do fear, are in awe
Of Him, He saves sure

Psalm 146 v.5-6

Happy they whose God is
The Lord, they find this
That He is their help, He
Great Creator be
Of heaven, earth, sea, sky
His truth dies ne'er die
He keeps it ever
Unfaithful never

Psalm 147 v.1-2

Praise the Lord, for it be
Good to praise Him free
For it is pleasant, sweet
Worship at His feet
And to praise is comely
Fitting, beautifully
He helps poor and needy
Thus favoured are we

Psalm 147 v.5-6

Great our Lord, great power
He has every hour
His understanding, see
It infinite be
Humans cannot all things
Know, but praise Him brings
He lifts up the humble
Proud know their downfall

Considerations of Comfort

Tune: Lauds

('There's a spirit in the air')

2 Corinthians 1 v.3-5

Blessed be God, the Father He
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, see
The Father of mercies He
And God of all comfort be

He does comfort us in our
Tribulations, in their hour
That we may be able to
Comfort those in trouble too

It shall be with the comfort
That we from our God have sought
And which He gives us, so we
Share that comfort gratefully

For 'tis as the sufferings
Of Christ abound in us, [the] things
That trouble, consolations
Too abound, God us them brings

What You Will

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Based on a prayer by Charles de Foucauld,
a 19th Century monk (1858-1916).

Father, I myself abandon
To you and to your Son
Myself into your hands, do what
You will with me, my lot

I thank you, whate'er you may do
It shall be my good true
I ready for all, accept all
Help me now hear your call

Let only your will be done in
Me, and forgive my sin
And let your will be done in all
Your creatures great and small

I wish no more than this, O Lord
O guide me by your word
Your way to go, your voice to heed
And hear the prayers I plead

Throne Trinity

Tune: Nicaea

('Holy, holy, holy')

Revelation 4 v.8-11

Four creatures round God's throne, worshipping Him alone
They joining their songs there in harmonious tone
They each having six wings, flying free and flowing
To the Lord God Almighty they do sing

They full of eyes, symbolising their all-seeing
Endless praise and worship to the Lord they e'er bring
Singing, Holy, holy, holy, God three in one
He be the Father, Spirit, and the Son

He the ever-living, uncreated Being
He was, and in, and is to come, Lord o'er each thing
Past, present, and future, all in Him do combine
Ruling by His power, perfection fine

Elders round the throne, they twenty four in number
Fall down before God on His throne to worship stir
Cast down their crowns before Him Him who lives for ever
Unceasing, unbroken, none can sever

They say and sing, Worthy, O Lord, you to receive
Glory and honour and power, we true believe
For you have created all things, and they be for your
Pleasure, past, present, future evermore

Not now, Fido!

This was inspired partly by a headline:

'Not now, poisonous spiders:

Ain't we got enough troubles already?'

Oh, come on, Fido

Let me have some 'passion' and 'excitement'

Just a bit - now and again!

Why you always bark at me fiercely

If I even contemplate it?!

I know you're only trying to save me from swoons

But you're a real pest sometimes, Fido

You'll have to go out the back garden for a while

And I will let me hair down

You won't see it -

What you don't see, won't hurt ya!

If ya don't see it

It may save YOU from swooning!

KP, me wife, is back soon

From her six months holiday alone

Of course, she was never alone

Being in the newspapers (with pics of course)

Or at The Botox Clinic

Or with friends at The Old Trout Club

You can bark at her all you like, Fido

Tune up those woofs and yaps

Don't let her in the front door even

Scare her off when she returns!

But gimme some peace, Fido

Lemme have some passion

If just a little.....

Heehee.

Lord Of Life

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Based on a prayer by Mother Teresa

Dear Jesus, help me to spread
Your fragrance, by you led
Everywhere I go, pray
Fill me with you each day
Flood my soul with your Spirit
And life, my path be lit
By you, and possess my whole
Being, e'en all my soul

Utterly, that my life be
Radiance of yours, see
Shine through me and be in me
That every soul freely
I meet may feel your presence
And go forth refreshed hence
having sensed of you living
Your graces us giving

Let them look up and see no
Longer me, but you know
You only, Jesus Saviour
Be the influence sure
That I share, witnessing to
Your mercies ever new
Others be brought into your
Kingdom for evermore

Through Thorny Troubles

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

2 Corinthians 12 v.7-10

If thorn in flesh you know
God may appoint it so
Though we may pray, full mind and heart
It may not full depart

But finding, as did Paul
God's grace therein it all
Finding that grace sufficient be
Imparted to us free

For the Lord's strength is made
Perfect in weakness, staid
Be your soul on Him, e'en glory
In each infirmity

So that Christ's power may
Rest on you each night, day
Through infirmities, reproaches
Distress, necessities

And in persecutions
As His true daughters, sons
All for Christ's sake, for when weak we
Are strong in Christ, we see

Prosperous Path

Tune: Christchurch

('The atoning work is done' = 'Now is eternal life')

Psalm 112 v.1-6

Praise you the Lord, blessed is
The man/woman that fears Him, this
Be true, and who delight
Greatly to do the right
To follow His commandments, their
Children in prosperity share

Their generation blessed
Be, this is sure confessed
Wealth and riches shall be
In his house steadfastly
His righteousness ever endures
The Lord provides him from His stores

Unto the upright there
Arises anywhere
Light in the darkness, he
Is gracious, and kind be
Full of compassion, and righteous
The Lord with graces does him bless

A good man/woman shows favour
And lends, his mercies stir
He will guide his affairs
Discreetly, with good shares
Surely he shall not be moved e'er
Shall be remembered, forgot ne'er

Passover Perusal

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear Sacrament')

Exodus 12 v.1-13 parts

In days of old the Passover
Lambs were sacrificed sure
Blood out on the door frames, lintels
For a witness, it tells

Tells that a lamb is slain therein
That when plague did begin
To kill first-born of all the hand
By angel's judging hand

That when the Lord the blood did see
He passed over, did He
Those houses, and no death there found
They safe on secure ground

And in these days the Lamb of God
Jesus, this earth He trod
Offered Himself a sacrifice
To God it did suffice

Suffice to atone for our sins
And then new life begins
Forgive us, O God, have mercy
The blood of the Lamb see

It see, and graciously pass o'er
Our sins, though we for sure
Your judgements did deserve, but He
Christ, our atonement be

So we may live and give you praise
You save us all our days
Gospel, good news for all mankind
We pray all may you find

Sincere Service

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

1 Timothy 6 v.11-12

Follow after righteousness
Taking the strait way, no less
And too pursue godliness
The Lord prosper you and bless

And faith, love, patience, meekness
The gospel truths bold confess
Fight the good fight of faith, lay
Hold on eternal life, pray

For to this life you are called
Not ashamed and not appalled
Witness of salvation's plan
Unto each child, woman, man

Creation Comfort

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Saviour, ever-living
Kind and forgiving
Merciful and gracious
He comes unto us
Offer of salvation
Unto each nation
Through sun, rain, wind, whate'er
Conditions be there

He sahl sty unchanging
Good things to us bring
Ups and downs of life's rhymes
Through varying times
No shadow of turning
Praises we Him bring
Gospel message to share
With folks everywhere

All His creation too
Praises Him anew
Hills, mounts, valleys and fields
Each their produce yields
And in His image, see
Man* created be (*mankind)
In His plan and purpose
Reaching e'en to us

Bounteous Blessings

Tune: Lyons

('Ye servants of God')

Psalm 103 v.1-10

Bless the Lord, my soul, all that in me be
Bless His holy name, faithful constantly
Bless the Lord, my soul, and do not forget all
His benefits, He shall hear who on Him call

He forgives all your sins, forgets them too
heals all your diseases, restores anew
Redeems your life from destruction, and you crowns
With loving kindness, mercies, His high renowns

He satisfies you with good things, provides
For you, His people, in Him each confides
Renewed as the eagle, which flies strong and free
He work righteousness, judgement for oppressed, see

He made known His ways to Moses of old
Acted for them, and His commands them told
The Lord, He merciful, and gracious, and slow
To anger, plenteous in mercy, 'tis so

He will not always chide, neither will keep
His anger for ever, but tend His sheep
He has not dealt with us here after our sins
But forgives, in him eternal life begins

Shadow Of Safety

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 17 parts

Keep me as apple of your eye

I to you for help fly

Hide me 'neath shadow of your wings

My soul there to you sings

Hold up my goings in your ways

And guide me all my days

That my footsteps slips not, steady

Sure, on your path I be

I have called on you, you will hear

Hold my prayers to you dear

And hear my words, to you I speak

With heart humble and meek

Show your marvellous love, kindness

To us, save us, and bless

you who save by your strong hand free

From our foes enemies

A slight slip....

Arrgghhh! nearly posted from the wrong note-book
My note-book of poems sitting there
Inviting - threatening(?) - another song from me
On me ego trip
I must sing each of my hymn-poems
At least 20 times
Though everyone else has ear-plugs in!

But, nearly a major disaster
I nearly inflicted it on ya
Nearly an extract from.....
The World's Most Boring Book
No one can ever reach the end of it

They either rage in frustration
Or break down in boredom of tears
Or doze off to sleep apart-way through

But Woof! What are you on about? says Fido
What is this book?
Of horrors, of boredom, of being unbearable to read?

Well, Fido, It's my job-searching book
'Anoraks' might read it
Very dull or 'sad' people, that is!

I retire before too long anyway
I'm in a sort of limbo at the moment
Not to wish my life away until pension

It's deffo worse reading that
Than it is hearing me sing
The same song 20 times

And worse than watching a week of 'Neighbours'

[or insert name of a ghastly soap series of your own country]

Is Bouncer still in 'Neighbours'? asks Fido

They are friends!

heehee

Prophetic Piece

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Luke 3 v.3-6

John [Baptist] preaching at Jordan's shore
He proclaimed repentance sure
Baptism of repentance
Forgiveness and penitence
Sins remitted, Christ would pay
Price of them on His cross-day

John the Baptist prophesied
By Isaiah*, not denied (*Old Testament prophet)
John the voice of one crying
In the wilderness, each thing
Prepare for the Lord, His way
Make all His paths straight today

Every valley shall be filled
Mounts, hills be brought low, God-willed
Crooked places shall be made
Straight, rough ways smooth, not delayed
And all flesh shall truly see
Salvation of God, so be

Positive Prayer

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Philippians 1 v.9-11

*****]

Paul prays for those at Philippi

And prayer for you and I

That our love may abound yet more

And more in knowledge sure

And in all judgement, discernment

In good gifts from God sent

That we may approve things that are

Excellent, fine by far

That we may be sincere, without

Offence, but true, no doubt

Until the day of Christ's return

Ever more of Him learn

Being filled with the fruits that be

Of righteousness, here see

They are by Jesus Christ unto

God's glory, praise anew

Led By The Light

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Ephesians 4 v.13-17

Be living as children of light
Doing that pleasing in God's sight
All things are manifest, are shown
By the light, it makes all things known

So it is said, Awake, sleepers
Arise from the dead, each one stirs
And Christ shall give you light each day
To follow Him, the Truth, Life, Way

See then that ye do live wisely
And mindfully, not foolishly
Redeem the time, and waste it not
For days are evil, this our lot

Be not unwise, but understand
What the Lord's will is, His good hand
Shall guide us through, so we shall live
To serve Him and His glory give

Heavenly Help

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Psalm 60 v.10-12 and Psalm 61 v.1-2

Will you go with us, Lord? We plead
To you in our time of need
Though it seemed you did not go whence
We called on you time past thence

Give us help from trouble, for vain
To turn to man's help again
It be for us, yet through you we
Our God, shall gain victory

For through you we shall do wisely
Pursue on valiantly
With you leading, we shall down tread
Our enemies, none them dread

Hear our prayers, O God, do attend
Unto us your help now tend
From end of earth we shall call to
You, give grace, save us anew

Search Me, See me, Save Me

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 139 parts

Where shall I go from your Spirit?
Each corner, it be lit
By your light revealing, and where
Is your presence not there?

For you be everywhere, no place
Where I cannot you trace
From highest heaven to deepest
Hell*, from greatest to least

Darkness shall no hide me from you
For dark and light, 'tis true
Are both alike to you, you see
All omnisciently**

You did make me when I was not
Yet born, favoured my lot
And more than grains of sand there be
Your precious thoughts to me

Search me, O God, and know my heart
Illumine every part
Try me and know my thoughts, and see
If any sins in me

And if there be so, me forgive
So through your grace I live
And lead me in way e'erlasting
Fulfilment this shall bring

* 'Hell' here is 'Sheol', the Old Testament shadowy land of the dead.

** 'Omnisciently' - 'all-knowingly'

Tears And Joy

Tune: Saffron Walden

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 126 v.4-6

Though you may sow in tears, you shall
Reap produce in joy, this know well
They that do go forth with hearts sad
Shall joy again, be glad

They that sow precious seed, weeping
A bounteous harvest shall they bring
They shall return, their fields to reap
With consolations deep

They shall bring their sheaves, and rejoice
Offer their praises with their voice
Turn again, Lord, our captive state
Come to our aid not late

Let it be as streams that do flow
From your provision, we shall know
Again refresh, water the land
So we see your good hand* (*Spirit)

Persisting Prayer

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Luke 11 v.5-10 parts

Persist in prayer, as asking friend
That he three loaves you lend
For a visitor has to me
Come, and I have not, see
Any food to give him, and he
Tired from his journey be
Though it midnight, you friend, I ask
Do for me this fine task

Yet his friend and his family
They all gone to bed be
His friend answers him from within
Be gone, till day begin
But trouble me not now, for door
Is all locked up for sure
And we are settling for the night
Come back in morning light

But if his friend will not give to
Him, he persist anew
So if it not for friendship's sake
His persistence will make
His friend arise and give him bread
That the needy be fed
So ask and seek and knock in prayer
You shall find welcome there

Hours, Days, Years....

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Psalm 71 v.16-19

I will go in strength of the Lord
God, an will heed His word
Make mention of His righteousness
Only His I confess

God, you have from my youth me taught
Me guided and me sought
Hitherto have I declared your
Wondrous works true and pure

Now when I am old, grey-headed
'Tis still you Lord have led
Me, forsake me not, may I show
That others you may know

May I declare your strength, power
We need such every hour
Proclaim, so each generation
Shall know it, each nation

Your righteousness, O God, is high
Great things, there no deny
That you have done and still shall do
O God, there none like you!

Revealing of Jesus' Death - Revealing Series 3(4)

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Matthew 16 v.21-23

Then Jesus did begin to show
To His disciples, they would know
How unto Jerusalem He
Must go in His destiny, see

That He would suffer many things
But his work it salvation brings
Suffer of elder and chief priests
And scribes, and be set as the least

And be killed, and be raised third day
These things He did unto them say
But Peter did Him then rebuke
Said, No, Lord, this is mere a fluke

Be it far from you, this shall not
Be so unto you, not your lot
But Jesus said to Peter, Get
Behind me, Satan, for not yet

Not yet have you understood here
Your thoughts to human ways do steer
You are an offence unto me
Saying the cross-way shall not be

You are not mindful of the things
That God in His plan, wisdom brings
Bu you think on things of men, they
No compatible with God's way

Prayer Promise

Tune: St James Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

1 John 5 v.14-15

This is the confidence that we
Have in our Lord, here see
That if according to His will
We ask, He hears us still

And if we know He does us hear
Whatever we ask here
We know [that] we have the petitions
We asked Him for, each one

So coming to His throne of grace
Steady and even pace
He will not deny or refuse
If His good will we choose

Give us wisdom, teach us to pray
That we follow your way
Your 'Or Father' prayer be our guide
And with us e'er abide

Wise Ways

Tune: Highwood

('Hark, what a sound,.....')

Psalm 119 v.1-10

Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk
In the law of the Lord, of His way talk
Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, they
Seek Him with the whole heart, and to Him pray

They also do no sin, they walk in His ways
The Lord has commanded us in our days
To keep His precepts diligently and sure
My ways direct to keep your law e'ermore!

Then shall I not be ashamed, when I respect
All your commandments, Lord, here me direct
I will praise you with uprightness of my heart
When I have learned your good judgements, each part

I will keep your statutes, Lord, do not forsake
Me, wherewith shall a young man his way make?
How be clean? 'Tis by unto your word heeding
With my whole heart I seek you in each thing

Typos Beware!

Eeek! Check your poems for typos
Even if you have your spell-checker on

Apparently I called Gold - Goldfinch - God
Well, he might be, on his good days!
I know we're all made in His image
(including 'Her' aspects too)
But that's going to far

Ye mighty and all-powerful Goldfinch
Ye fount of all wisdom
Flattery will get me everywhere, I hope!

Now I know Fido will come to my help
But some typos may make us swoon
Such as..... oh, I can't repeat them!
It will bring on a swoon
With no one to save me -
Fido's popped off for his brekkie

I wish you would stop reading Kitty's poems
And similar poems, says Fido
I always have to be on guard in case you faint!
I've not got time to sit down
And read the papers even

He's a talking, reading dog, ya know
But they'll take me away soon
The men in white coats
Heehee.

Fixing Focus

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 62 parts

Truly my soul on God does wait
He shall help me not late
From Him come my salvation sure
Lasting for evermore

Help us, O Lord, where distracted
Where away from you led
Matters of life, in everything
May we them to you bring

Prayer and practical action go
Together, this we know
But putting you first, not worry
What the outcome shall be

In God is my salvation, He
Too sure be my glory
Rock of my strength and refuge, so
His upholding I know

Trust in Him at all times, people
Pour out your hearts and call
On Him, lay burdens at His feet
Find consolations sweet

Surrendering Selflessly

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus, I have promised')

Based on a prayer by Richard Foster, Christian author

Today, O Lord, to you I yield
Myself, your power wield
May your will be my delight
May I keep you in sight
O'er all my life have perfect sway
May your love day by day
Be my pattern of living
My life to you giving

I surrender to you my
Hopes, dreams, plans, by and by
Do with them what you will, when
You will, as you will, then
I shall know freedom, and grace
To your love's care I place
My friends, family, future
Commit them to you sure

Care for them, Lord, with a care
Of your sweet presence there
A care that I ne'er can give
But in your care we live
Into your hands I release
My need to control, cease
My craving for status, my
Desire for praises high

Eradicate the evil
Purify the good still

And establish on earth your
Kingdom for evermore
All for the sake of your Son
I ask, He be the one
Who has served us and does serve
Grants more than we deserve

Prosperous Path

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Psalm 86 v. 8-12

Among the gods there is none to
Compare to the Lord, good, true
Neither are there any works to
Compare of to match to you
Lord of all, reigns high above
Yet draws near to us in love

All nations who you have made shall
Come, worship you, this we tell
And the day shall come when we see
It for sure, Amen, so be
All shall your name glorify
Shall proclaim you, not deny

For you are great, and wonders do
You are God alone, our view
Is of you by faith, all else be
Idols, gods of vanity
Guide us to our hearts set on
You Lord, and Christ, He your Son

Teach me your way, O Lord, I will
By your grace follow you still
Will walk in your truth, unite me
Heart to fear you by and by
With that heart I will you praise
Glorify your name all days

Sincere Servants

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 34 v.15-22

Eyes of the Lord are on
The righteous, each one
His ears open to their
Prayers, does for them care
But His face is against
Evil, impenitence
Memory of evil
He destroys it all

Righteous call, the Lord hears
Saves them from their fears
Brings them out of troubles
E'en through stumbles, falls
The Lord is nigh to they
Broken-hearted today
Saves such as be lowly
Of spirit wholly

Many the afflictions
Of the righteous ones
But he Lord saves them, He
Their keeper, guard be
Brings them out of them all
Answers their needy call
They shall again Him praise
And thanks to him raise

Evil shall slay wicked
They shall fear and dread

They who do righteous hate
Their downfall not late
Shall be, but the Lord He
Redeems souls of they, see
Who Him trust and Him serve
He shall them preserve

True Treasure

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu, lover of my soul')

Luke 12 v.16-21

Ground of a rich man brought forth
Plenty produce, gave its worth
He did say, What shall I do
All this before me I view
I have no room where to store
My crops, I have even more
He did think only of self
He not sharing of his wealth

He said, This will I do, I
Will pull down barns by and by
And will build greater ones, so
There all my fruits, crops bestow
And i will say to my soul
Soul, you now satisfied, whole
Goods laid up for many years
Of lacking I have no fears

Take it easy, eat and drink
Of poor, needy do not think
Be merry, do what you will
Your goods protect you from ill
But God said to him, You fool
This night required be your soul
Of you, then whose shall these things
Be, which you false comfort brings?

So are they that lay up store
Treasure for self, more and more

And are not unto God rich
But rely on their goods, which
They keep and store to provide
For themselves, in good confide
Lord, may our true treasure be
In you now, eternally

Bearing Burdens

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Galatians 6 v.1-10 parts

Bear burdens of one another
Each sister and each brother
And so the law of Christ fulfil
Love to all, holding no ill
Keeping humble view of oneself
Yet having spiritual wealth

For if one thinks their self something
When truth is they are nothing
They deceive themselves, but here see
Let each prove who thy true be
So rejoicing in self alone
Of skills, gifts, all that [be] their own

For also each one shall bear their
Own burden, while too they share
In bearing burdens of others
Pastoral compassion stirs
Not be weary of well-doing
But to prosper in each thing

As we have opportunity
Let us doers of good be
Sowing to the Spirit, thus reap
Fine produce that will last, keep
Serve especially faith's household
True believers in God's fold

Healing Hope

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Mark 1 v.32-35

In peace and quietude of evening
People gathered round you did bring
Those afflicted, Galilee's region
Seeking healing for every one

In calm of evening, or whate'er time
Of day or night throughout life's rhyme
Help us bring our needs to you, solace
To find, each need before you place

Doing what we can, prayer and action
Sometimes wait, or meditation
Taking our part, and where we can do
No more, leave outcomes up to you

Where many things may take natural course
Yet still we pray, but cannot force
Your hand, whether some pain, grief follow
Or comfort, in all your peace know

It it draw us nearer to you, may
We be strengthened, our trust firm stay
In you, each human situation
You know, Lord of every nation

Self-Denial Service

Tune: Heathlands

('God of mercy, God of grace')

Luke 9 v.23-26

Jesus said, If any one
Will come after me, the Son
Let him deny himself, see
And take up his cross daily
And follow me, I the Way
That leads to eternal day

For whosoever will save
His own life, his own way pave
Such shall lose their life, but who
Lose it for Christ's sake, they new
In Him shall save it, shall find
That they be with Him aligned

For what is one advantaged
If gain whole world, such misled
For they lose themselves, or be
Cast away, and truth not see
But in Christ true life we may
Find, and His presence alway

For who of Christ be ashamed
Of Him, fear that He be named
And too ashamed of His words
Keeping silent, they not heard
Of such shall Christ ashamed be
When He comes in His glory

Great revealing it shall be

Christ comes in His own glory
And glory of His Father
And holy angels, each star
They surpass in shining bright
Radiant, a glorious sight

Goodbye Furry Friend

Goodbye Furry Friend Minnie!
Fido gives a howl in sorrow too
One guinea pig poorly
Best to put her to sleep, we decided

Fido tells me about guinea pigs -
He says they live about 5 to 7 years
We had that piggy, Minnie Marmalade
For over 3 and half years

They run about their cage
Even hours after giving birth
But they can get lumps and bumps
Outside and inside
And usually go downhill quickly then
All of a sudden sometimes

Such a pity, as one could not tell Minnie was poorly
Except for a lump on her back
Patient piggy too
A vets - cheap - but 'nasty'
Messing us about somewhat
Cancelling an appointment
Prolonging the agony -
Operate, or put to sleep?

Had to go to a better vets
Of course, no one WANTS to lose a pet
Or put them to sleep
As if they were unwanted
And true pet-lovers
Would NEVER leave a pet at the vets as unwanted
They would always collect them

Goodbye furry friend Minnie
R.I.P.

Cutting Up

It's a 'pet horror' for me
Hearing stores of 'cutting up'
Though I can understand why people do it

Some emotional pain, taken out on oneself
Out with the razor or knife, or whatever
Finding a release
A 'letting off of steam' as a pressure cooker
It shakes me inside to read it
An emotional shuddering

Heard one tale of one who sliced to the bone
But since passed away, unrelated to this
RIP, troubled soul

It's not for genteel people to know every detail
It's too much for them
It could unbalance their delicate mind

Yet hoping, praying
Such cutters-up find healing and peace
Of body, and of soul and spirit
An acceptance and love of self
Being 'good enough'
Or 'as good as anybody else'
Not meaning, go on ego trips though
Of selfishness and greed

A person or pet, or both as a companion
Can really help
A belief and faith can come to help most of all
In my view

Don't do it - think about the outcome if you do it

In one sense, don't even think about it

Saint Swithin

Arrgghhh! St Swithin
You cad, you bounder, you.....

Steady on, Orchi, says Fido
Why all this outburst?

Well, if it rains on his day today (15th July)
It may rain for 40 days after
We've had it if it does!!

But, says Fido, no worries
You don't believe in superstitions anyway, Orchi
So it won't affect you

Phew, good job you reminded me of that, Fido
And I really must not stay in all day
When it's a Friday the 13th
Not that I do
Cos Fido always needs his daily walk

We need the rain though
Erm, just some - not 40 days of it
Just some of the 'soft refreshing rain'
As a Harvest hymn says
(We plough the fields and scatter)
In the time of Noah's Ark it rained for a year - argghhh!

Doh! I got it wrong
Fido was driving the tractor one year
Another talent of his
But I scattered them seeds first
Then ploughed them all up
Mucked up the whole thing!

Some mad musings here
Come meet Fido one day
He's imaginary though! lol.

Inclusive Incorporation

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Romans 9 v.24-29 parts

Jews and Gentiles, they sure both be
Reckoned as God's people, see
Hosea, the Old Testament
Prophet, message to them sent

Saying, I will call them herby
My people, which were not my
People, and call them beloved, they
Which were not beloved, I say

And it shall come to pass, that where
they not with my people share
That they there shall be my people
Gentiles along with Jews all

There they shall be called the children
Of the living God, e'en then
Though there seem left a remnant small
God shall save them, they not fall

From Blindness To Sight

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Mark 10 v.46-52

As Jesus out of Jericho
With crowd of people did go
And disciples too on the road
Graces He on them bestowed

Blind Bartimaeus by road sat
And when he heard the word that
It was Jesus there passing by
He did call out, this his cry

Jesus, you Son of David, see
And have mercy upon me
Many did warn him, Keep silent
But louder cry his intent

Persisting, Jesus, you the Son
Of David, the Holy One
Have mercy upon me, then so
Jesus' call he did sure know

Then crowd did say, Be of good cheer
Know Jesus does call you here
He cast away his coat, and rose
Came to Jesus, mercy flows

Jesus said, what will you that I
Should do to you by and by?
Blind man said, Lord, that now I might
By your mercy receive sight

Jesus said to him, Go your way
Your faith makes you whole today
And straightway he received his sight
Followed Jesus, the true Light

King Of His Kingdom

Tune: Church Triumphant

('The Lord is King, lift up thy voice')

Psalm 47

O clap your hands, all you people
Shout unto God in triumph all
For the Lord most high, terrible* (*awesome)
Awesome, come now, unto Him call

He o'er all the earth a great King
Bring praises, worship to Him sing
He shall subdue peoples, nations
They shall be servants unto us

He shall choose our inheritance
Israel His people, not mere chance
God is gone up with a shout loud
With sound of trumpet, cloud's enshroud

Sing praises to our God and king
Let all their honours, tributes bring
Sing praises with understanding
And thankful too for each good thing

God reigns o'er heathen, sits on throne
His is the Lordship, His alone
Throne of His holiness, He great
Does tend to men* in their estate (*mankind)

Refreshing Rains

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Is heart dry as an arid land?
Need showers from God's hand?
Come, hot and tired and weary, rest
Be in God's presence blessed

Showers upon the thirst ground
He shall scatter around
The parched grass shall be green again
He shall refresh it then

And too, water of life he be
To quench our dry souls, see
Inspire us with His Spirit, so
His graces we shall know

O leave us, Lord, not desolate
As if in desert set
May streams abound, your healing balm
Protect us from all harm

Reigning Ruler

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 96 v.10-13 and Psalm 97 v.1-2

Say among the nations
To their daughters, sons
That the Lord reigns, the world
Is to us unfurled
It be firm established
Just as he has wished
Shall not be moved, firm stands
To the farthest lands

He shall judge the people
With righteousness all
Let the heavens rejoice
Praise Him with one voice
And let the earth be glad
Hearts no longer sad
Let the sea roar, fulness
Therein shall He bless

Let the fields be joyful
That within them, all
Then shall all the trees praise
Him, woods worship raise
All creations joins to
Extol Him anew
He comes to judge rightly
With truth, equity

The Lord reigns, let the earth
Give to Him His worth

And rejoice, let many
Isles be glad, so be
Clouds and darkness are round
About him, there found
Righteousness, judgement, they
From His throne alway

Temporal And Timeless

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Hebrews 1 v.10-14

Lord, from the beginning
You created each thing
Laid foundations of Earth
Brought every thing to birth
And heavens are works of your hands
Above, below, to farthest lands

They shall perish, but you
Lord e'er remain, 'tis true
And they shall all wax old
Through life, let it be told
Wear out as a garment does fade
When over time it has decayed

And as a coat you shall
Lord, fold them up, we tell
And they shall be changed, though
You shall remain, we know
For you are the same, and your years
Shall not fail, nor shall disappear

To angels you did not
Say, Sit here, this your lot
Next to me, till I make
Enemies for your sake
Your footstool, but to Christ your Son
You made these promises, each one

For your angels they be

Your messengers, we see
Sent forth to help and serve
Though we do none deserve
They said those who from every race
Are salvation's heirs by your grace

One Thing

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

Psalm 27 v.4

If one wish, one desire, one thing
Amongst life's everything
What shall we choose, what shall it be
We wish to have and see?

The Psalmist his one thing desired
It his intentions fired
He desired of the Lord, did seek
Him with soul humble, meek

It was that he may dwell within
The Lord's house, free from sin
All the days of his life to view
The Lord's beauty anew

For him it be delightfulness
The Lord would prosper, bless
Him as he in temple enquired
Of the Lord, so [he] desired

Recalled, Remembered, Redeemed

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Psalm 77 v.11-15

I will remember the lord's deeds
And my soul His works heeds
I shall sure His wonders recall
Of old, not forget all

And I will meditate also
Of all His work, and so
Shall talk of all His doings, they
Comfort me night and day

Your way, O God, in the temple
Be, you do hear our call
In your sanctuary we find
Revealed your heart and mind

You are the god that does wonders
And grace on us confers
You have declared your strength among
The people, praise be sung

You have with your power redeemed
Us, though hopeless it seemed
But you have acted, salvation
You bring to each nation

Peace Possible

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Romans 5 v.1

By faith we can be justified
Through our Lord Jesus, none beside
And so have peace with God, Christ made
The way, and for our sins has paid

Taking our sins upon the cross
Suffering to redeem our loss
Trusting in Him, counted righteous
By God, for Christ atones for us

Peace, not to strive to earn our way
By good words and deeds we display
Self-righteousness shall save us not
But saved by Christ our happy lot

Restored to God by Jesus, see
He died, then rose for you and me
His sacrifice acceptable
Offering Himself for us all

So welcomed, not refused, outcast
Whate'er our present or our past
Salvation in Christ we may find
He reconciles us, loving, kind

Thus can mankind have peace with God
For Christ came to us, this earth trod
His work of salvation does show
That sins forgiven we may know

Growing In Graces

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

1 Thessalonians 1 v.3-10 parts

Continue work of faith, and do
Serve God daily anew
And do labours of love, for you
Live for your Lord, He true
And go on patient in hope for
He shall sustain you sure
So faith and love and hope agree
For His children you be

Hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, He
You trusted Saviour be
It is in the sight of God, He
Our God and Father be
Knowing that God He did choose you
His mercies they not few
Share the gospel in word and power
And the Spirit each hour

Having assurance, this the word
Of salvation, we heard
It, and so preach and teach it, though
There afflictions we know
Yet in these joy of the Spirit
We can have, lives be lit
By His presence, guiding light
Living by faith, not sight

The gospel be that we may turn
From idols and not learn

Their ways, but turn to God, for He
The living, true God be
Waiting for His Son to return
Jesus, of Him we learn
Who God did raise from dead, he saved
Us, salvation's way paved

Life In The Light

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Romans 13 v.11-14

Know now it high time to awake
And gospel message to uptake
For now it be our salvation
Nearer to us, for every one

It nearer than when we believed
Firstly, and gospel we received
Night is far spent, day is at hand
Go spread Christ's light through every land

Let us therefore cast off what be
Works of darkness, and put on, see
Armour of light, live honestly
In moderation, properly

Living as in the day clearly
Not in rioting, revelry
Not in chambering, licentious
Nor wantonness nor in lewdness

Nor in strife nor in envying
But putting on Christ in each thing
His life, His love, His nature full
By His grace live up to His call

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, make
No provision for the flesh sake
Not fulfilling the lust and greed
Of self, but Christ's selfless way heed

Pleasant Prospects

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 16 v.1-6 parts

Preserve me, O God, keep
Watch over me, your sheep
For in you do I trust
Though I mere man of dust
Yet made in your image, likeness
Look on me, comfort me, and bless

O may soul, to the Lord
You have said, this your word
That you are my Lord, my
Goodness here by and by
Is nothing apart from you for
You the sole good one evermore

And to believers here
Your goodness does appear
You made them excellent
Salvation you them sent
My soul in you and them delights
Bring us light, banish darkness nights

The Lord my portion be
Shall satisfy for me
My inheritance too
He upholds me anew
The lines are fallen unto me
Within pleasant boundaries, see

A goodly heritage

I have, God's Son, the bridge
The way that man may come
To God, their heavenly home
Help us, Lord, spread the gospel free
So mankind saved eternally

Welcome Worship

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 95 v.1-6

O come, and let us sing unto the Lord
And make a joyful noise, true is His word
praises to the rock of our salvation
He Lord and ruler of every nation

Come before His presence with thanksgiving
Your worship worthily unto Him bring
And make a joyful noise to Him with songs
In psalms and hymns join with the heavenly throngs

For the Lord god is a great god indeed
And a great King above all gods, we heed
In His hands are the deep places of earth
He the creator who brings all to birth

The heights and strength of hills are His also
The sea is His, and made it, we know
And His hands formed the dry land, O come, let
Us worship before Him, He faithful yet

As His creatures let us before Him bow
And kneel before Him in humbleness now
For He is our Maker, breath to us gave
Sent His Son Jesus for to us all save

Salvation Sure

Tune: Trentham

(one tune to 'Breathe on me, breath of God')

Ephesians 2 v.4-9 parts

Because of His love great
For us, not left to fate
Are we, but God who is rich in
Mercy, forgave our sins

He did make us alive
In Christ, in Him we thrive
Even when we were spiritually
In dead state, in sins all

It is by grace that we
have been saved by faith, see
Not of our own doings, we can
Not save ourselves, no man

It is gift of God to
Us, in Christ we made new
So that no one in self can boast
But sole in Christ our host

Storm Stilled

Tune: Marching

(faster tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Luke 8 v.22-25

Jesus and the disciples they
Crossed Lake Galilee one day
They set out, but He was weary
As they sailed became sleepy

Storm of wind on lake descended
They to the boat attended
For it was with water filling
Great jeopardy did it bring

They came to Jesus, did awake
Him, said, Weather change did make
We are perishing, Master, see
Come and help us speedily

He arose, rebuked the raging
Of the waves, and calm did bring
For winds and waves ceased at His word
So disciples were assured

He said to them, Where your faith be?
They wondered, and said, Look, see
What manner of man is this, for
He commands nature too, sure

For even the winds and waves they
Obey His commands, so be
At His word, order when chaos
In the storms He helps e'en us

Sheep Security

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Hebrews 13 v.20-21

Good Shepherd, tend and keep your sheep
Whether they rejoice or weep
Your constant presence by their side
There be no better beside

Now the God of peace, He that brought
Again from the dead, He wrought
His mighty power, raised His Son
Our Lord Jesus, He the one

Through the blood of the e'erlasting
Covenant, cleanses each thing
May He make you perfect, complete
In every good work replete

Make you complete to do His will
Working in you His grace still
That which in His sight well-pleasing
Be through Jesus, praises ring

Time And Trust

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Psalm 31 v.15-19

My times, O Lord, are in your hand
You reign o'er folk of every land
save me from hand of enemies
And persecutors, these my pleas

Make you face to shine upon me
For I here your servant still be
Save me for your sure mercies sake
So praises shall I to you make

Let me, O Lord, be not ashamed
But the wicked, let them be blamed
Let lying lips now silent be
Which have spoken false against me

O how great is your goodness, you
Have laid it up for fearers true
Who do fear you, you reverence
And do your keeping presence sense

Your goodness you have wrought for they
That trust you throughout night and day
Their witness, they in you do trust
Before mankind, though made from dust

Excellent Exhortings

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

Psalm 36 v.7-12

How excellent is your loving kindness
God, we confess
Therefore we mankind do
Put our full trust in you
'Neath shadow of your wings
We reside, each you brings
Praise worthy of your greatness, mercy
Your grace we see

We shall be abundantly satisfied
It not denied
With your fulness, you give
Salvation, so we live
And you shall make us drink
Of your river, we think
On you, partake river of your pleasures
They sure treasures

For with you Lord is the fountain of life
No human strife
And in your light we see
True light, shining clearly
Our way ahead, O guide
Us daily, do not hide
O continue your loving kindness to
Your people, do

And continue your righteousness to they
Who seek your way

To the upright in heart
Who follow you, each part
Let not pride nor wicked
Come to me, so misled
I would be, but you shall with evil deal
But work our weal* (*well-being)

Seeds Scene

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Luke 8 v.4-15 parts

Lord, teach me, heart and mind
Humble may you me find
To sow your seed, your word, on ground
Which suitable be found

Though some seeds by way side
The devil does not hide
But like birds snatches seed away
No growth, progress today

And some seeds fell on rock
Such not last troubles, shock
But believe a while, but no roots
Produce, so no fine shoots

And seeds that fell midst thorns
When pleasures, riches dawn
And cares of this life, distracted
They bear poor fruit, 'tis said

But the seeds on good ground
Where honest, good heart found
Such having heard the word it keep
They rooted in soil deep

And they do good fruit bring
Forth, pleasing in each thing
With patience, e'en to hundred fold
Or sixty [fold], thirty [fold] told

Led By The Light

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Ephesians 5 v.8-12

At one time you were as darkness
Without the light, no less
But now you are light in the Lord
He guides you by His word

So live as children of the light
And pleasing in God's sight
For the fruit of the Spirit be
In good, right, true things, see

Prove what is acceptable to
The Lord, as servants, do
Have no fellowship with the dark
Unto their ways not hark

For they be unfruitful, and shame
Comes to them, that their blame
Doing secret evils, the light
Shall expose all to sight

Protection Place

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Psalm 17 v.5-7

In your paths, Lord, my steps uphold
May your wings me enfold
So shall I not slip, but constant
Remain, and repentant

I have called on you, Lord, you will
Hear me, O God, and still
Incline your ears, and shall me aid
I shall trust unafraid

Hear my words, and do show to me
Your works marvellously
Your loving-kindness, you that save
Me, and your grace me gave

You save by your good hand they who
Do trust you in anew
You save them from them that up rise
They who your name defies

Times Of Trials

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

1 Peter 1 v.5-9

You are kept by the power
Of God through every hour
Kept through faith unto salvation
Ready for each nation

In the day of the Lord
Christ shall return, His word
is sure, so we rejoice greatly
Trusting confidently

Though now at some seasons
You distressed, the reasons
Your manifold temptations, trials
Yet lasting for their whiles

You may no be heavy
In heart and mind, so be
But is so that your faith be tried
Shown real and not denied

Your faith more precious be
Than gold which fades out, see
Though your faith be tried as with fire
Naught can destroy or mar

So you faith may be found
To praise, honour, redound
With glory when Christ does return
Thus daily here we learn

Christ we have not seen, though
You love Him and Him know
Believing, you rejoice greatly
With joy unspeakably

It joy full of glory
Your faith's outcome shall be
Even the salvation of your
Souls, life for evermore

Transfiguration Time

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Luke 9 v.27-36 parts

How often are we like Peter?
When mouth open and words do stir
To say something, when we should be
Listening to our Lord quietly

On the holy mount Jesus there
Did with Moses, Elijah share
In transfiguration revealed
His inner glory unconcealed

They spoke of His decease which He
Would make at Jerusalem, see
And a voice out of cloud did say
This my beloved Son, hear today

Hear him, my messages He brings
And not caught up with other things
Some that would distract, draw away
As He does, so do, watch and pray

Peter, James, and John, then they saw
Jesus only, and saw no more
Moses or Elijah, they gone
Disciples followed Christ, God's Son

Woof - cats!

Aww, now no need to be jealous Fido
On this International Cat Day
You need not bark at cats
Only at people not marking poems 18+
When they should do!

You know they don't conveniently 'forget'
To mark up such poems

Now, c'mon Fido, be nice to our two cats
Brother and sister
Both 6 years old, born on the same day
Big black Tom cat
And tabby Queen cat (lady cat)

Fido likes cats really
As long as they don't pinch his bone
Ever seen a cat with a bone?!
We gotta have cats, Fido, don't you know?
To screech when they fight (they don't fight really)
And drown out my singing
As well as your barking!

You'll have your 'day' too, Fido
Every dog has his day, as they say
It's just that I dunno at the moment
When that day is!

Your day, Fido, Day For Dogs
Might be Christmas Eve for all we know
Now I've done it!
They will shoot me down
Mentioning Ch..... in August! lol.

Meaningful Moments

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Spending time with you, you our Lord
Faithful and constant be your word
Help us to hear, pray, meditate
By grace we shall reach heaven's gate

If free time, or time we need make
To choose, put you first, for your sake
Seeking your will and kingdom first
You shall quench our spiritual thirst

Our daily bread you will provide
As we do pray, you shall not hide
it from us, but you know all things
Even before our prayer begins

But you do bid us come and pray
To know your will and know your way
Spending time with you, and growing
More in Christ's image through each thing

Restoration Rejoicings

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

Psalm 69 v.29-36 parts

When I poor and in sorrow
My state, Lord, do you know
O God, let your salvation
Raise poor, needy, each one
And I will praise His name here
A song with godly fear
His name great, I will thanks give
And in His presence live

The humble shall see, be glad
Not e'er be mournful, sad
Your heart shall live that do seek
God, the lowly and meek
The Lord hears the poor people
Attends the prisoners calls
Despises them not, so we
Worship Him here truly

Let heaven and earth Him praise
Through all their nights and days
And the seas, each living thing
Therein their praise Him bring
Joining with all creation
They of every nation
For He will save His city
On mount Zion it be

They shall repair where ruins
Are, new building begins

And shall dwell there, the Lord He
Their keeper, helper be
Descendants of His servants
Shall inherit, shall sense
The Lord God there, they His name
Do love, of worthy fame

Hear, Help, Hope

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 31 parts

In you, O Lord, do I put my
Trust, my prayer into you does fly
Alleluia, Alleluia!
O let me never be ashamed
What things enemies me have blamed
Save me, so I be not defamed
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Bow down you ear to hear me swift
And my downcast spirit uplift
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Be you my strong rock and shelter
You my house, fortress, I concur
Help me speedily, not defer
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

I will be glad, rejoice in your
Mercies, for they are lasting sure
Alleluia, Alleluia!
For you have my troubles known here
Through my adversities did steer
Me, and i sense your presence near
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

My times are in your hands, save me
Come, from my enemies me free
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Make your face here to shine upon
Me your servant, you be the one

Bringing salvation through your Son
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O love the Lord, you saints of His
He keeps the faithful, true is this
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Be of good courage, and He shall
Strengthen your heart, so thus you tell
All you that hope in the Lord well
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Trusting Times

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 140 v.7-8

O God the Lord, my strength you
Of my salvation true
Sure be, and you have guarded
And me through troubles led
Grant not desire of wicked
Schemes where they be misled
Lest they do boast and prosper
Against their plans do stir

Psalm 141 v.8-9

My eyes, O God, look to you
God the Lord, me renew
In you is my trust, leave me
Not destitute, but see
Snares that wicked do set to trap
So I fall in their lap
But save me, free me from their ways
And I shall give you praise

Psalm 143 v.8

Cause me to hear your mercy
And loving kindness see
For in you do I trust, show
Me your way for to know
And lead me wherein I should walk
My daily life and talk
Be guided by you, I may soul
Lift to you, make me whole

Psalm 144 v.2

You my goodness, my fortress

Safe in you I confess

You my high tower, Saviour

Who do defend me sure

My shield, and in you my t rust

Be, though I man, and dust

You rescue me from enemies

And you are Lord, each sees

Mad Musings With Fido

Oohh, something from Fido today
Here he is again!

Woof, woof! he says to me
The only danger of any 'hotness' for you my lad
Is that of the hot weather

There won't be any 'excitement' for you
And I will have to check out
Every reference to 'love' in any poems
In case you get too frisky
Frisky? Swoon!

I'm standing by
With buckets of cold water
To chuck over you
They've allowed me buckets
In area of drought
Cos they say's it vital
I chuck 'em over ya
In case ya get too 'hot'
And I don't mean Summer heat in this case!

Oh, do shut up sometimes, Fido (lol)
I will put you out the back garden
And have all the 'hotness' I want
For a while anyway
Though it may not do me much good
Will I only swoon?!
Heehee

Spirit Satiation

Tune: Merton

('Hark a herald voice is sounding')

Ephesians 5 v.18-21

Be not drunk with wine, there excess
But filled with the Spirit, bless
Your Lord, speaking in psalms, hymns, songs
Spiritual, join heavenly throngs

Singing and making melody
In you heart with praises free
To the Lord, giving thanks always
To God now, through nights and days

Thanks always for all things unto
God, and He our Father too
Thanks give in the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ, true be His word

Submit selves to one another
Unto each sister, brother
In the fear of God let it be
Revering, respectfully

Worship, Works, Words

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Psalm 111 v.7-10

The works of the Lord's hands they be
Verity, truth, and judgement, see
All His commandments thy are sure
The words of the Lord stand e'ermore

His works done in truth, uprightness
He sent redemption, we confess
Sent to us, His people, and He
Has commanded His covenant free

It stands for ever and ever
And loses its power never
Holy and reverend His name
To endless years He be the same

The fear of the Lord, and awe-filled
Reverence to Him, conflicts stilled
It so be the beginning true
Of wisdom, and too minds renew

A good understanding have all
They that do His commands, they call
On Him for aid, His grace assists
His praise endures e'er, ne'er desists

Think On These Things

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Philippians 4 v.7-9

What things daily think upon?
Grow more Christ-like as God's Son
Think on things true and honest
Noble, so you shall be blest

Things just and pure and lovely
These shall be satisfactory
Things of good report, and see
If there things virtuous be

And if any praiseworthy
Think of these delightfully
And things which we have here learned
From believers, be not spurned

What we have received and heard
From them, even each good word
And what we have in them seen
Of Christ, freely do, not mean

So the God of peace shall be
With you here e'erlastingly
His peace keeping hearts and minds
Through Christ Jesus, each one finds

Refreshing Rest

Tune: St Margaret

('O love that wilt not let me go')

Psalm 37 v.7-11

Rest in the Lord, wait patiently
For Him, fret not, nor troubled be
At those who prosper in their ways
With evil plans they spend their days
They shall not last always

Cease from anger, and wrath forsake
They only more troubles do make
Fret not yourself to do evil
But continue, serve God, do well
And of His goodness tell

For evildoers shall have end
Shall not e'er to wicked works tend
But they that upon the Lord wait
Shall inherit the earth not late
By God's grace, not by fate

A little while, and then the wicked
Shall not be, and then it be said
They not here, though you them may seek
They gone, and so it be, the meek
Shall thrive and not be weak

And they shall then themselves delight
In abundance of peace, and light
Of the Lord it shall on them shine
With His heavenly rays divine
All be clear, bright, and fine

Pursuing The Prize

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ, whose glory fills the skies')

Philippians 2 v.12-16 and 3 v.14

Work out your own salvation
Believers of each nation
For it is God who works in
You, empowers from within
To will and to do of His
Good pleasure, prosperous this

Do all things without grumbles
Not let be heard murmurings
Nor disputings, contentions
But serve the Lord, others bless
That you may be blameless here
Your witness to Christ appear

And harmless, as God's children
Without fault, innocent then
In the midst of a crooked
And perverse land, folk misled
Among whom you shine as lights
In the world, as radiant sights

Hold fast to God's word of life
Clarity through human strife
So to share, evangelise
Pressing onwards to high prize
Of the high calling of God
In Christ, He our path has trod

Progressing Prosperously

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 52 v.8-9

I am like a green olive tree
In the house of God freely
I trust in God's mercy ever
It shall decline, fail never
I will praise Him, He my prayers heard
He be faithful to His word

Psalm 54 v.4

Behold God, He be my helper
He my strength and refuge sure
The Lord is with them that uphold
My soul, I sheep of His fold
Those who are for me sustain me
I shall press on, constant be

Psalm 55 v.22

Cast upon the Lord your burden
He shall help you even then
He shall sustain and shall you keep
Joys give for times when you weep
He shall not allow the righteous
To be moved, but shall them bless

Psalm 56 v.1-3

Be merciful, Lord, to me, defend
Me your servant to the end
Though enemies seek to swallow
Me up, your hand they shall know
In judgement, but when I afraid

Be, I will trust you firm, staid

Ohhhh Ch.....

Oh no! A gremlin!

I had 'forbidden' message at first attempt to post this

It's just as well

As Fido says 'Don't you dare mention the Ch..... word yet'

You know it - that day in December, number 25 in the month

And now a Carol

But what's her surname?

And why does she only appear at Ch.....?

I'm gonna mention it in full, Fido.....

'Happy Birthday Ch..... Charlie'

That's one of Fido's friends

Having his birthday the same day!

Ohh, Jingle Bells, and all that stuff

Happy Ch..... to ya all

Well , I might forget to say it near the time!

You better add some water to that whisky

Says Fido

And stop wishing the year away! lol.

Cross Commitment

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Matthew 16 v.21-23

Jesus did His disciples show
They of Him then did know
How unto Jerusalem He
Must go, so would it be

And suffer many things when there
Chief priests, elders would share
Even in killing him, but He
Raised the third day would be

Then Peter took Him aside, said
No, no, you be misled
He rebuked Jesus, saying, Be
This far from you, now see

Lord, this shall not be unto you
Take less suffering path, do
But Jess turned to Peter, He
Said, Get you behind me

For Satan seeks to me distract
To make a comfort-pact
But it is an offence to me
Your words human thoughts be

Of the things of God be mindful
They not be meek, mild all
In His plan I the way of cross
Must go, redeem man's loss

Flourishing Favourably

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 107 v.31-38

Peoples, come praise the Lord for His goodness
And for His wonderful works, He does bless
Let all exalt Him in the congregation
And all assembled out of every nation

He turns the rivers to a wilderness
And water-springs into dry ground, no less
Turns a fruitful land into waste, barrenness
For the wickedness of those there, we confess

But also turns wilderness into pools
And dry ground into water-springs, He calls
The hungry, that there they may dwell and prepare
A city to inhabit under His care

And that they may sow the fields, and plant there
Vineyards which may yield fruits so for to share
He blesses them greatly and they multiply
Prosper them so they then have ample supply

Doubtless Deliverance

Tune: Dundee

('God in a mysterious way')

Psalm 60 v.9-12

Who will bring me to strong city?
To fight the enemy
Will not you, O God, as in past
Though now you us off cast?

For so it seems, and you did not
Go with us, poor our lot
Give help we pray in trouble's day
And guide us in your way

For vain is the help of man, we
We not trust in him, see
Through God we shall prosperously
Succeed valiantly

For He it is that shall tread own
Our enemies, renown
Shall be to His name, for He shall
Help again, us fare well

Awesome Alightings

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 66 v.1-9

Make joyful noise to God, all lands
He does hold all in His hands
Sing forth the honour of His name
Worthy of all endless fame
Make His praise to be heard, glorious
Salvation He brings to us

Say to God, how awesome are you
In your works, they good and true
Through the greatness of your power
Enemies submit each hour
Unto you, you great, resplendent
Your Son to us you have sent

All the earth shall surely worship
You in all their deeds and lips
Shall sing unto you songs old, new
With your Spirit us endue
Fresh inspirings, activations
Sing His name to all nations

Come see the works of God here now
And before His presence bow
He is terrible, He awesome
Towards mankind, to Him come
He did turn the se to dry land
Passed through there all Israel's band

He rules by His power for ever

And loses His reign never
His eyes the nations do behold
Knows them all, needs not be told
Of their doings, for he knows all
Let them humbly on Him call

O bless our God, all you people
Trusting Him you shall not fall
Make praise joyful, not be silent
He forgives the penitent
Holds our soul in life, allows not
Us to be moved, nor forgot

Musing Missive

Tune: St James (Courteville)

('Thou art the way, by thee alone')

Psalm 19 v.14

Let the words of my mouth, I pray
O Lord, to you this day
Be acceptable in your sight
Lead us on in your light

And too the meditation, see
Of my heart, let it be
Pleasing to you, on what I muse
Lead us your way to choose

For you are our Lord, our strength be
You grant us grace freely
And you are our redeemer, let
Your mercies keep us yet

We your creatures, you Creator
You have made all for sure
So may we loving, humble be
This be our prayer, our plea

Sharing Service

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

John 13 v.5, 13-15

Jesus did wash disciples feet
They dusty in the heat
Of path they trod, He humbly there
Did show them service, care

He said, If I your Lord, Master
Have washed your feet for sure
You ought also to follow me
Lowly foot-washers be

Sharing, serving one another
To loving actions stir
Following Jesus' example
Living up to His call

Lord, give us grace, in word and deed
To be servants indeed
And at times open to be served
By others, love observed

Service Shown

Tune: Laudes Domini

('When morning gilds the sky')

Each day, Lord, do you give
To us, and so we live
You give us all good things
So worship each one brings
Trusting you for today
To show us your will, way

Help us your time to wait
You shall not act too late
But when it be ready
Your time shall surely be
May we not judge before
Each thing comes to pass sure

To live in serving you
As your true servants do
If called early or late
To tend your vineyard's state
When last shall be first paid
To first last payments made

Thankful we have any
Blessings, few or many
'Tis all to us by grace
Throughout the human race
You bring salvation near
By Christ our Saviour dear

Thirsty Times

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 63 v.1-5

O God, you are my God, early
Will I seek you, my soul thirsty
Be for you, and I for you long
In dry, thirsty land you my song

Bring to me hope and refreshment
As streams of water to me sent
To quench my thirst, my soul revive
So shall I in you prosper, thrive

I long to see your power again
As I did see in temple then
When I went there, and your glory
It too was shown, revealed to me

Because your loving kindness be
Better than life, it is to me
So shall I praise you, and you bless
Lift my hands to you, true confess

Confess that my soul it shall be
Satisfied with your graces free
I shall be glad in you, rejoice
Praise you here with my heart and voice

Responsibility Reminder

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

2 Timothy 1 v.6-11

Stir up the gift of God, which be in you
Be filled with the Spirit each day anew
For God has not given unto us here
The spirit of fear, but His Spirit dear

He be the Spirit of power and love
And of a sound mind, He the holy dove
Be not ashamed therefore of the witness
Of Christ, God's Son, who comes to you to bless

But be partakers of the afflictions
Of the gospel, as faithful Christian sons (/daughters)
With the power of God to see you through
His life within you strengthens you anew

He has saved us, and called us with holy
Calling, not according to our works, see
But by His own purpose and grace it was
Ere time began given us in Jesus

But now our salvation is manifest
By our Saviour's appearing, ever blest
He has abolished death, and has brought life
And immortality to light, now rife

Light Leading

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of the sheep')

John 8 v.12; Proverbs 4 v.18

Jesus said, I am the light
Of the world, I to your sight
Here clear revealed, and they who
Follow me have the light true

They shall not walk in darkness
But shall have, shall sure confess
They that have the light of life
E'en through whate'er troubles, strife

They shall see the way ahead
Promise of life from the dead
Way of righteous, it shines more
Until perfect day whole, pure

Lead us, Lord, to follow on
In the footsteps of your Son
Here firm ground, we shall not slip
Serving you in deed and lip* (*words)

Salvation Surety

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, it belongs not to my care')

Psalm 3

Lord, how are they that increased do
Trouble me, it is true
Many do rise up against me
And speak against me free

They say, for him there no help be
In God, they do agree
But you, Lord, to me are a shield
To your ways I shall yield

You my glory, you lift my head
When all seems lost and dead
Your raise me up from downcast state
Your help to me not late

I cried to the Lord with my voice
For help, He be my choice
he heard me from His holy hill
And came to my aid still

I slept peacefully, then awaked
Of sweet rest had partaked
For the Lord sustained me, my head
Was not with fear-thoughts fed

I will not fear, though many may
Surround me in my day
I shall say, Arise, Lord, save me
From every enemy

For the Lord, He shall with them deal
Who seek my peace to steal
Salvation to the Lord belongs
His blessings our theme-songs

Light-Life

Tune: Song 46

('Drop, drop, slow tears')

1 John 1 v.5-7

This is the message, that God be all light
No darkness in Him, but all clear and bright

If we say we have fellowship with Him
But live in darkness, sin, our life is grim

For then we do lie, and not the truth do
But living in the light, restored anew

Then we have fellowship, one another
With each believing sister and brother

And the blood of Jesus cleanses from sin
Brings us forgiveness, washes us within

Servant Scenarios

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

Mark 10 v.42-45

Jesus unto disciples said
In the gospel it be read
Spoke of the way of His service
They did learn, attend to this

He said, You know they which are here
So appointed, it be clear
Accounted as rulers, they lord
It o'er others, deed and word

And their great ones do exercise
Authority then, no lies
But shall not be so among you
Learn my way of service true

Who desires to be great midst you
Shall be your minister too
Serving others, and who will be
chief, let them be servants, see

To be servants unto all, for
I the Son of Man for sure
Came not to be ministered to
But to minister to you

To minister, serve, and to give
His life, that through Him we live
Give his life [a] ransom for many
Saviour for all folk He be

Faithful Followers

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Help us, O Lord, to know your way
Your will for every day
Forgive where we [act] too early, [or too] late
Or [where we] forget, [or get] distressed state

Give us wisdom, your promise be
That you will give freely
What things we need to follow you
And what we say and do

The help of your Spirit, He sent
To us, this your intent
To remind us of all your Son
Has said, and what [He] has done

He shall teach us all that we need
Shall spiritually feed
Us, so sustained, your life-giving
Sprit in us living

Salvation Shown

Tune: Abridge

('My God, my Father, blissful name')

1 Timothy 1 v.15-17

For this cause I obtained mercy
Says Paul. and so it be
That in him first Jesus Christ might
Show long-suffering, 'tis right

To be a pattern, example
To those who also, all
Should after believe on Him to
Life everlasting, new

Now to the King, eternal He
Immortal surely be
Invisible, the only true
God, praise to Him be due

Honour and glory for ever
And ever, ends never
So we too saved, in us He shows
His mercy, each one knows

Durable Days

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 71 v.1-7

Lord, I do put in you
My trust, me here renew
Let me not ashamed be
But my state now do see
O save me in your righteousness
Make my escape, so I you bless

Incline your ear to me
My prayers hear, troubles see
Be my strong refuge where
You be my rock firm there
My habitation where I may
Resort, your fortress, there I stay

Save me from the wicked
That I not be misled
In their ways, they are cruel
Work unrighteousness all
For you, Lord God, my hope, my trust
From my youth, though I be man, dust

By you Lord I have been
Upheld since birth, have seen
Your keeping hand, I praise
You, and remember days
That from old you have me sustained
Prosperity in you have gained

I be as a wonder

To many, they confer
And marvel at my state
Though it not be mere fate
For you are my refuge, you keep
Me, through life-long still as your sheep

Proclaiming Promises

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Psalm 3, 4, 5 - various verses

You, O Lord, are a shield round me
And you lift up my head, so be
When I am downcast, Help I see
From you, who my true glory be

Salvation to the Lord belongs
Let us now praise Him with our sings
His blessing is on His people
They who believe and hear His call

Stand in awe, and sin not, commune
With your own heart on your bed, soon
You shall again His presence sense
Be still and His strength take up thence

Let all those that put their trust in
The Lord rejoice, e'en from within
Because He defends them too let
They that love His name rejoice yet

For the Lord will bless the righteous
And be favourable to us
His favour as a shield surrounds
Them, and his protection abounds

Creaturely Celebration

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Psalm 100

Make joyful noise to the Lord, all lands
He has made all things by His hands
Serve the Lord with gladness, come before
His presence with singing, praise sure

Know you that the Lord He is God who
Has made us, and us does renew
We have not made ourselves, but we are
His people, sheep, from near and far

Enter in His gates with thanksgiving
And in His courts your praises bring
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name
It be worthy of endless fame

For the Lord is good, and His mercy
Is everlasting, so shall be
And His truth endures through all ages
All generations, all stages

Royal Rulership

Tune: Gopsal

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Psalm 103 v.17-22

The mercy of the Lord
Is for e'er, true His word
Even from e'erlasting
To they that fear Him, sing
They unto Him, His righteousness
To generations, He does bless

To such as Him obey
Keep His covenant way
And remember to do
His commands, strength anew
He gives to us to enable
Us to be pleasing to Him all

The Lord He has His throne
He rules, and He alone
His kingdom rules o'er all
Shall not collapse or fall
Bless the Lord, you His angles who
Excel in strength, serve Him anew

For you His commands do
And you hear His words true
Bless the Lord, all His hosts
And peoples to far coasts
Bless the Lord, all works, all places
Dominion His o'er all races

Musings

Sometimes I compare things
Like - should people, believers
Be jumping up and down, enjoying themselves
In church services?

Though it's not for their own pleasure
But in worship of God
Yes - it can be right for the time
A 'Service of Worship'
Means people are going to worship
In their various ways of expressions

I'm not a fan of 'happy clappy' much
But they will surely restrain it in some way
As the country is in mourning now
For our dear Departed Queen

But I wouldn't be surprised
If they slipped in an appeal for their building funds
They never stop!

And there are other things like that
When people are 'enjoying themselves'
When it may seem inappropriate.....
Not that we should cancel trips, leisure
Or holidays to friends or other places, etc

But I was taken aback at one church
A sort of informal funeral
More a Thanksgiving Service
But they seem to bumble through it
One 'remembrance' for a departed person

There is the joy of the Christian resurrection hope
But they seemed too casual
As if to say
'Well, he's popped his clogs now
He was old anyway - tatty bye!'

The remembrance was a 45 minute 'drop in'
To see memories of his Scrap Book, photos, etc
A bit of a disgusting tribute
I thought - 'Is that all?'
Poor 'H' - he deserved more than that

But I told you before
They hardly know what a hymn book is
It's endless 'Choruses'
And two or three weeks repeats - like the BBC!

Yet life goes on
Everyday things, and so on.....

Crowned Comforter

Tune: Marching

(one tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Christ says, I am with you always
Through your living, nights and days
Will never us leave or forsake
For His sheep He does us take

Constant presence, calm and guiding
Giving wisdom in each thing
Sos supported, never alone
Saviour for us does atone

Present with us by His Spirit
In our hearts, illumined, lit
By Him, the Light of the world true
By eye of faith Him we view

Kings of Kings pleased with us to dwell
His gracious mercies we tell
Yet also omnipresent He
Reigns o'er all eternally

Love, Do Good, Lend

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Luke 6 v.31-35

What you would people do
Unto you, so do true
Unto them, this the golden rule
Living up to God's call

For if you love only
They that which love you, see
That sinners also love those, they
That love them, [and] for them pray

And if you do good to
They that do good to you
If only they, sinners do same
That promote their own name

And if you lend to they
Only who can repay
Sinners even do lend to have
Back everything they gave

But love e'en enemies
Do good, lend, seek to please
Hoping of no repayment, so
Your witness folk shall know

For your reward shall be
Great, last eternally
Children of God you shall be, He
Kind, acts impartially

Losing And Finding

Tune:

Message

Hello - I'm missing you poets!

I'm logging in from a different PC (not my home one)

I can't access this site from my usual PC

Hope to be with you again soon!

Keep writing poems

Sorry I can't reply to comments or e-mails much

Until I can get access again on my own PC.

Cooeee - oh no!

The bad news is...

I may have returned permanently now!

Hallelujah! heehee.

I was cut orf for about 2 weeks before

Another time when it happened

I been taking Fido for extra walks

Well he not had much to do

Not needed to save me from swoons

I been on a rather complicated site

Sometimes replying about 3 times

To the same people

Ohh, but I had some spare time

Sailed round the world 3,467 times

Swam the channel and back 5,843 times

Went to the Co-op 7,486 times

And Fido's extra 8,438 walks

And that was just one day! heehee.

Times for singing again, no doubt

Interspersed with days of nuttiness

No change there then?!

Greetings again friends!

Earthly Ending

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour, lifted')
2 Timothy 4 v.6-8

May this testimony
Of us true sure be
That we fought the good fight
Of faith, lived in light

Having finished the course
Christ who was our source
He shall e'en the end be
When mortal lives flee

And too the faith may we
Have kept steadfastly
So promise of a crown
Granted right to own

Crown of righteousness, see
Which the Lord, so be
Has laid up for all they
That serve Him, the Way

It be given unto
Those, pray not a few
That love His appearing
His presence sharing

So our earthly life done
Salvation the Son
Does give to all people
Come each, hear His call

Praise Proclaimings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Parts of Psalms 95, 96, 97, 98

O come and let us sing unto the Lord
Make joyful noise to Him, true is His word
Sing praise to the rock of our salvation
He the Lord God, He rules every nation

Honour and majesty they be before
Him, strength and beauty are in His place sure
In His sanctuary, give Him glory
And strength, He the Lord God for ever be

Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness
For the upright in heart, the Lord does bless
Them, rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, do
Give thanks, recall His holiness anew

Say among the nations that the Lord reigns
The world shall be established, firmness gains
So it shall not be moved, nor be shaken
The Lord shall judge righteously, e'en all men

The Lord has made known His salvation sure
His righteousness unto all does appear
He has revealed it unto all nations
Whate'er their situations or stations

Let all creation join with all mankind
To praise and sing, righteous they shall Him find
He shall judge the world with truth, equity
The Lord Almighty He shall ever be

Water-Ways

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Jeremiah 2 v.13

My people, they have committed
Two evils, by them they misled
They have forsaken me, the Lord
And listened to deceiving words

For I, the fountain of living
Waters, true refreshment giving
But my people have from me turned
And other ways have tried and learned

For they have hewn out cisterns that
Are broken, and no matter what
They can no water hold, supply
They cannot give, people shall die

But turn to me and find again
An endless quench for your thirst then
Bread and water of life I be
And can sustain you completely

Word Worthies

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Psalm 119 v.41-48

Let your mercies, Lord, come to me
They my salvation be
So shall I have an answer for
They who reproach me sure

And take not your word utterly
From my mouth, let it be
The word I speak, for I trust in
That word e'en from within

For I have hoped in your judgements
And I your law do sense
I shall it keep continual
For ever it my all

And I will walk at liberty
Your precepts do I see
I speak of your testimonies
With them my heart agrees

I will delight myself in your
Commands, for they are sure
I have them loved, and my hands too
I lift in praise to you

I reach out unto your commands
They set unto all lands
I do them love, will meditate
In your statutes not late

Wholesome Healing

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Mark 5 v.25-34 parts

As Jesus went, many people
Followed and thronged Him all
A woman with issue of blood
Got to Him as she could
She had her trouble for twelve years
No healing did appear
Though many physicians she saw
Spent all but changed no more

For she did touch Jesus' garment
And power from Him went
For she did say, If I touch may
Hem of His cloak this day
I shall be whole, and straight away
Answered as she did pray
Was her prayer, for fount of blood ceased
Healing in her released

Jesus said, Who has touched my clothes?
Power has gone I know
From me, and the woman fearing
Came and told of each thing
Jesus He did her comfort there
Said, Daughter, have no care
Your faith has made you whole, now go
In peace be whole, be so

Harvest Health

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Genesis 1 v.31

God di look on all He had made
In heaven and earth displayed
And saw that it was very goo
It was all made as He would* (*willed)
Seas, lands, and skies, and all therein
It did with Him all begin
Creator God, who made each thing
To you we our praises bring

Grant blessings on our harvest-tide
No forgetting those beside
The poor and needy, hungry too
That you in your mercy view
Give grace that we good stewards be
Of your creation, and see
We together are co-creatures
All life to you trusts, refers

So caring for our fellow-man
And woman, do what we can
To aid them poverty restrict
In each city, town, district
Giving and receiving that we
Share in an equality
Not too much nor too little, for
Then fair distribution sure

Forgive where we greedy become
Or where we do favour some

For our own advantage, profit
Help only as we see fit
But in your love and compassion
Harvest-hearts unto each one
May we have, and so each shall be
Provided sufficiently

Zeal For Zion

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 48 v.1-3 and v.8-14

Great is the Lord, and He
Greatly to be praised be
In His own city, in
Jerusalem therein
It built upon Mount Zion strong
His mount of holiness, raise song

It beautifully places
Situated and graced
Teh joy of the whole earth
Mount Zion of great worth
It the city of the great King
Our God, let praises to Him ring

For He is known there for
A refuge safe, 'tis sure
Her palaces here bright
There dwells the Lord of light
His special place, though everywhere
By His Spirit He does dwell fair

As we have heard, so we
Now with our eyes do see
The city of the Lord
Is true unto His word
He will establish it for e'er
For it His residency there

We have thought of your love

And kindness, Spirit, dove
In midst of your temple
O God, we on you call
As is your name, so is your praise
To ends of earth, to endless days

For righteous you be, let
Mount Zion rejoice yet
Let those therein be glad
Not e'er oppressed or sad
Because your judgements, justice you
Work from there, they for ever true

Walk about Zion, go
Roundabout her and know
Her towers, bulwarks, they
Provide defence alway
And tell too of her palaces
To future people, good is this

For this God is our God
Round His mount, temple trod
We, and entered therein
To praises fresh begin
He will be our guide unto death
E'en beyond final earthly breath

Creation Carers

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

St Francis of Assisi Day - Oct 4. (1181 - 1226)

Help us, Lord, for your creation
To care, people of each nation
Alleluia, Alleluia!
As Saint Francis did humble show
That all are your creatures, so
Peace and prosperity may grow
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Each animal it has a voice
As you ordained, Lord, it your choice
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Not dumb nor senseless, but feeling
Sentient, aware of each thing
That each day of life does them bring
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Though not worshipping the things made
Yet they in your glory displayed
Alleluia, Alleluia!
But worship you, Lord, Creator
All life comes from you, we concur
And from us to you praises stir
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Bless those who work and serve for good
Tending to nature as you would* (*will)
Alleluia, Alleluia!
So all to live in harmony
Taking our part diligently

That your kingdom come may we see
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Following Faithfully

Tune: Carlisle

('Stand up and bless the Lord')

Psalm 119 v.33-40

Teach me, O Lord, the way
Of your statutes each day
And I shall keep it to the end
If you will me defend

Give me understanding
To keep your law, each thing
And I shall observe it, whole heart
Commit, not just a part

Make me go in the path
Of your commands, not wrath
I incur, but I do delight
In your word, it gives light

Incline my heart unto
Your testimonies, do
That I shall not covetous be
Burt your servant-way see

Turn my eyes, that they not
See of vanity's lot
And revive me in your way, too
Establish your word true

I your servant still here
Devoted to your fear
Turn away my reproach for your
Judgements are good, 'tis sure

Behold, I have longed for
Your precepts evermore
Revive me in your righteousness
By your grace do me bless

The Age of Gold

The age of Gold
Goldfinch on here, I mean
And 'another' birthday?!
And what about my own age too?

Who can know it? Who can guess it?
We're millions of years old (oh, and Fido too!)

We woz there
At Hastings in 1066
Bannockburn in 1314
The Boer Wars, if 'classically' old now

Ohh, and events B.C. too
We know the first day of Earth, us two
Sssh! We're not telling you when it was

And 1969, yes - men on the moon
Goldie and I were there first
We popped round from the other side of the moon
To greet the astronauts when they arrived
Pity I sang to them
And frightened them back to earth

They could have stayed longer
For Goldie's fine coffee
Or a couple of Fido's bones
That's all I had to give them
I hadn't been to the Co-op lately!

It's miniscule by comparison
Being '21 today'
Or saying we must be 22 by now

Compared to us two oldies

I reckon it's Gold's 7,456,865th birthday today
Summat like that! lol.

Well, he done more poems than me
Seeing as I was cut orf for two weeks
Unaccustomed as I am to being cut orf!

These are not our ancestors in the video!
I don't believe in evolution
Though we started on MPS the same day, I think.

Firm In Faith

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Philippians 1 v.3-6

Paul thanks God for Philippians
They be His true daughters and sons
Give thanks each time he remembers
Them, joyful memory concurs

Prays for the with joy, for the ybe
Christ-like examples, others see
Their witness, and fellowship they
Have had with Paul from the first day

First day they met, till present time
Through the ups and downs of life's rhyme
He confident that God would so
Work in them, they His graces know

Sure that God, He who had begun
A good work in them through His Son
Would bring it to completion, they
Stay firm unto Christ's return day

Ready For His Return

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Luke 12 v.35-40

Be girded, ready be
For the Lord's return, see
And let your lamps be burning bright
Not obscured by the night

And do be like unto
Men, who their lord to view
Do wait, that when He returns they
May be ready that day

Blesse those servants who be
Watching diligently
For their lord's return, for he shall
Sit them down, serve them well

Whate'er hour, day or night
it may be, their lord might
Return, they blessed if he them finds
Ready with willing minds

If master of house knew
When thief would come, 'tis true
He would have watched, not allowed, sure
His house to be robbed poor

Be you ready also
For time you do not know
When Son of man returns, it be
Hour unexpectedly

Simple Service

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Mark 9 v.32-41 parts

If one is not against us, he
Or she for us shall be
Serving the Lord, doing His will
Abiding in Him still

But if one is not for us, he
Or she against us be
Not promoting God's kingdom, will
Not working good but ill

Yet if for us, the smallest thing
That our co-workers bring
To us shall have worth and value
Shall benefit e'en you

For if it be whome'er shall give
You cup of water, live
Shall you, and so your thirst be quenched
And the Lord's presence sensed

In great or small, whate'er service
One does, it true is this
That in serving you they the Lord
Serve, shall not lose reward

Kingdom Come

Tune: St George's, Windsor

('Come, ye thankful people, come')

Luke 12 v.22-31

Jesus said, Do not worry
For your life, but at peace be
Not anxious what you shall eat
For the life is more than meat* (*food)
Not troubled what you shall wear
Not consumed by daily care
For the body it sure be
More than clothing, here do see

Consider the birds, for they
Sow not nor reap in their day
They have neither barn, and nor
Do they have houses for store
God feeds them, and how much more
Are you better than birds sure
he for each will so provide
Daily bread He will not hide

And which of you worrying
Can grow taller in each thing?
Who can make their stature more
Than it was in time before?
Consider the flowers how
They do toil not nor spin now
Yet Solomon, His glory
Was not arrayed like one be

If then God so clothe the grass
Today here, then comes to pass

Tomorrow cast in oven
How much more will He clothe then
O you, you of little faith?
This His word, 'tis what He saith
That He will attend, meet needs
His creation He tends, feeds

Seek not what to et or drink
What to wear, not on these think
For the nations of the world
Seek these things to be unfurled
And your Father knows that you
Have need of these things, but view
And seek kingdom of God true
He shall provide here for you

Prayers In Perils

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Psalm 57 v.1-5

Ber merciful, O God, to me
And all my troubles see
For my soul trusts in you, I will
Abide 'neath your wings still

There shall I make my refuge so
Under your wings shadow
Until my troubles be o'erpast
They shall not ever last

For the Lord God most high He shall
Perform, do all things well
For me, shall help from heaven send
To my oppressions tend

He shall save me from enemies
And from them me He frees
Sends forth His truth and His mercy
His graces to me be

Be exalted, O God above
The heavens, truth and love
We see, and too let your glory
Be above earth, sky, sea

Hope Of Help

Tune: Saffron Waldon

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your great name
It e'er remains faithful, the same
And judge me by your strength, justice
Fair outcome will be this

Hear my prayer, O God, and give ear
Unto my words, and each one hear
For strangers rise, oppressors seek
My soul, though it be meek

They have not you, God, set before
Them, but you are my helper sure
The Lord is with them that uphold
My soul, let it be told

He shall reward my enemies
And cut them off, the righteous sees
I will praise His name, for it be
Salvation unto me

Exalting Encouragement

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 99

The Lord reigns, let people tremble
In reverential fear all
He sits between the cherubims
Let us praise Him with our hymns
Let the earth be moved, responsive
Unto Him our worship give

The Lord He in Zion is great
He be of royal estate
He is high above all people
Let them praise Him, one and all
Praise His great and terrible* name (*awesome)
Holy, awesome, He the same

And godly rulers love justice
The Lord does establish this
Equity, judgement, righteousness
He His people shall He bless
Exalt you the Lord your God here
Worship Him, for He is near

Worship here on earth, His footstool
He is holy, on Him call
Among His priests Moses, Aaron
They His servants true each one
And Samuel among them that call
On the Lord, He does hear all

He did speak through cloudy pillar

They kept His laws, did endure
You, O Lord God, did them answer
And did forgive them for sure
Though on their evil deeds you took
Vengeance, you them not forsook

Exalt the Lord our God, worship
Him now by our deeds and lips* (*words)
Come to His holy hill, for He
Everlasting holy be
Hill of Zion, Here Temple be
God's special residency

Haste To Hastings

Haste to Hastings!
For the 1066 reunion today
Goldfinch and I, and Fido will be there
Nip on the No.7 bus - it goes there

But there's one condition
You're only invited
if you were there in person in 1066
As Goldie and I were
Fido was there too

You'll meet us, and other eccentrics
You'll see us - millions of years old, we are
Me middle name is 'Fossil'
Old as them sea fossils that they find

I've not to bring any water
Not to dilute the whisky
Or whatever tippie you're having

See ya there
Expect a mad Hatter's Tea Party atmosphere
Don't write or say anything 'hot'
While you are there
Or Fido will bark at ya!
Heehee.

Continuing Commitment

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Pslam 138 v.6-8

Though the Lord be high, yet He
Has respect to lowly, see
But the proud He knows afar
Off, as though as distant star

Though I walk in the midst here
Of trouble, He shall appear
And revive me, show His hand
I Hs ways shall understand

He shall from my enemies
Wrath save me, and my soul sees
That the Lord will complete sure
His work in me, true and pure

Your mercy, Lord, endures e'er
You do it with mortals share
Forsake me not, I be made
By your hands, your work displayed

A poem a Day?

Orchi's small challenge to ya

A poem a day....

Keeps the doctor away?

Ohh - I mean an apple!

Or it could be

One pear, one peach, one whatever fruit

One cucumber if ya like!

But can you do a poem a day?

A new one each day, I mean

Short, medium, or long?

Or a Tanka or Haiku thingy?

I thought it was someone sneezing at first

"Hai-choo!"

Or someoen saying thank you

"Tank-oo"

(Do shut up Orchi, with corny jokes! lol).

I mean NEW poems

Not ones written in the past

Though we (and I) draw on those too

Orchi won't overload ya

Just one poem/write/ode/whatever per day

Fido likes me hymn-poems best

He howls to them and drowns out me singing

Good thing he does!

Or is it me howling, and him singing?

But remember that 18+ if you write 'hot'

At any suspicion of 'hot'

And ya 'forget' to mark poems 18+
It will start off Fido barking! heehee.

Ya can even 'like' your own poems
Who's to know?!
But only once per poem
But don't go mad on an ego trip
I mean - don't like hundreds of ya own poems
Well, ya can do if u wish!
(Not that old chestnut again, Orchi!).

If all else fails
Just write any old rubbish!
I might even write 50 poems about KP
You'll find them in the 'Horror' genre
(Can't see it in the list on here though)

You already do write rubbish sometimes, says Fido
Fido - you're horrible to me sometimes. lol.

Nature Nurtured

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields and scatter')

Psalm 65 v.6-12

By your strength you do set fast
The mountains, they do last
Being girded with power
They established each hour
You still the noise of the seas
For storms give quiet breeze
And tumult of the people
To them you bring calm all

Chorus

You crown year with goodness
Provisions, Lord, you bless
You give enough, e'en abundant
All from heaven sent

For unto ends of the earth
We praise you, give you worth
In godly fear, reverence
As we your presence sense
You make each day, night rejoice
You give us life, your choice
And visit the earth, rains send
They with the sunshine blend - Chorus

You water the earth, so give
Crops, food that we may live
Such as the corn, not parched be
But drinks the raindrops free
With showers you make ground soft

Sent from above, aloft
And cause growth, land to prosper
For blessings you confer - Chorus

The rain falls, sun shines, each place
Enabled by your grace
The pastures with flocks are clothed
Your faithfulness bestowed
The valley covered with corn
Then reaped at harvest morn
'Tis as if they shout for joy
They sing, voices employ - Chorus

A Look At Luke

Tune: Darwall

('Ye holy angels bright')

St Luke's Day - Oct 18.

Luke, doctor. physician
Of the gospels wrote one
Reporting Jesus' love
The Holy Spirit, dove
With care, compassion, tending need
He does each of His sheep sure feed

Teaching, preaching, healing
The show, reveal, each thing
Of God's kingdom and how
It comes to grow right now
The gospel spread, good news to all
Who turn to Him and on Him call

Gracious gifts he does give
Medicine, health, so live
They who are thus made well
And they proclaim and tell
Of God's healing power, He nigh
And Him they so do glorify

Grant wisdom, healing here
Still to needy appear
In this our day and age
Each day turning a page
Of life until final day, see
Hope of healing eternally

Peace Possible

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God I love thee, not because')

Romans 5 v.1-2

Jesus gave His life for our sins
In Him new life begins
And He was from death raised again
'Tis our atonement them

Therefore we being justified
By faith, no way beside
Than faith in our Lord Jesus Christ
His offering sufficed

Offering of Himself to bring
Us to God in each thing
Thus we have peace with God, Jesus
The way, Truth, Life to us

In Christ we also have access
By faith to grace, no less
In this grace we stand. rejoice, see
In hope of God's glory

What can be done?

Here followeth the first 'lesson' maybe
On aspects of nuttiness!

What can be done
To stop, or reduce, my swooniness?
Is that even a word?!

Well, Fido helps with his fans
And feather dusters
And he has buckets of cold water standing by
To chuck over me
To revive me if I get too 'hot'

But any poetry about 'tickling my fancy'
Or 'slap and tickle'
Sends me into another swoon

I muse on - which is best, which will help me more
The slap or the tickle?
But Fido don't let me have either!
He says I best not have them

Fido says, Buck up, man
Have a less sheltered life
Pull ya socks up
Get ya coat, and get out more, as they say
And having got ya coat
Take me for more walks!
Lol.

Wondrous Works

Tune: Langran

('Here now, O Lord, we see thee face to face')

Psalm 19 v.1-6

The heavens they do declare the glory
Of God, and the firmament, sky, so be
Shows His handiwork, all them He has made
They all witness, His great power displayed

Day unto day utters speech, and night to
Night shows, reveals, knowledge, them may we view
There is no speech nor language where their voice
Is not heard, let us hear, that be our choice

Their measure is gone throughout all the earth
Thier words to the end world tell His worth
In them He has set a tent for the sun
Who as a strong man rejoices to run

The sun is as a bridegroom coming out
Of his chamber, and all prepare, no doubt
Its going forth is from end of heaven
Its circuit unto the other end then

Regeneration And Renewal

Tune: Erie

('What a friend we have in Jesus')

Titus 3 v.3-7

We ourselves were sometimes foolish
Disobedient, selfish
Serving diverse lusts and pleasures
Sated with earthly treasures
Living in malice and envy
Hateful, and hating were, see
But after that grace to us shown
We God's salvation have known

For the kindness and love appeared
Of God, Our Saviour, He neared
To us in our state, he our Lord
He came unto us, toward
Not by our works of righteousness
Not our own efforts to bless
Not what we have done, but what He
Has done for us in mercy

For He saved us by the washing
Of new birth, He did us bring
We regenerated, renewed
By His Spirit He endued
Which he shed on us, not meanly
But poured out abundantly
All through Jesus Christ our Saviour
Share everlasting life here

This, so we being justified
By His grace, was not denied

To us, but that we should heirs be
Made, His promise does agree
Heirs according to the hope sure
Of eternal life, the door
God has opened through His Son for
Us to be saved evermore

Delights Described

Tune: Lyngham

(one tune to 'O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Parts of Psalms 121 to 126

The Lord is your keeper, protector He
Shall keep you here daily
Shall keep you here daily
He be your shade, defend from harm
Gives peace, comfort, and calm
Gives peace, comfort, and calm
Gives peace, gives peace, comfort, and calm

We pray for peace of His city
Jerusalem it be
Jerusalem it be
They shall prosper who love the place
Where He dwells by His grace
Where He dwells by His grace
Where He dwells, where He dwells by His grace

Our soul is escaped from enemies
Snares, traps set as they please
Snares, traps set as they please
But they are broken, we fly free
As birds fly gracefully
As birds fly gracefully
As birds, as birds fly gracefully

They that trust in the Lord are so
As Mount Zion, they know
As Mount Zion, they know
That they cannot be removed for
They abide evermore

They abide evermore
They abide, they abide evermore

As mountains round His city be
So the Lord He is, see
So the Lord he is, see
Round about His people for e'er
Departing from them ne'er
Departing from them ne'er
Departing, departing from them ne'er

The Lord has done for us great things
Make music, each one sings
Make music, each one sings
Of His salvation to us, we
Are glad and thankful be
Are glad and thankful be
Are glad, are glad and thankful be

Expected End

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Jeremiah 29 v.11-14

For I know the thoughts that I
Think towards you, I am nigh
Says the Lord, thoughts of peace, not
Of evil, that not your lot
Shall give expected end
A future, hope, to you tend

Then you shall call upon me
And shall go, pray unto me
And I will hearken to you
And you will seek me, 'tis true
You shall find me when you shall
Search for me with whole heart well

And I will be found of you
I will turn, help you anew
Bring you from captivity
Restored to own land shall be
I the Lord these things shall do
Bring my comfort unto you

Fruitful Freedom

Tune: St Botolph

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Romans 6 v.22-23

Christ Jesus makes us free from sin
He cleanses us within
Will forgive us, His salvation
Reaches to each nation

And now we are become servants
To God, His people hence
And have our fruit to holiness
Are sanctified, no less

The outcome is life e'erlasting
But sin its wage does bring
Death, but the gift of God here see
Eternal life it be

Life through His Son Jesus our Lord
We trust him at His word
Come now accept Him, His gospel
A welcome awaits all

Mercifully Maintained

Tune: Cwm Rhondda

('Guide me, O thou great Redeemer')

Psalm 145 v.13-21

Your kingdom, Lord, everlasting
Be, now let all peoples sing
Your dominion endures e'er
Through all generations fair
The Lord upholds all they that fall
He is gracious unto all
He is gracious unto all

He raises up those that bowed down
Be, and gives to them renown
Teh eyes of all look unto you
Waiting expectantly, true
And you give them their food in time
Throughout earthly days life's rhyme
Throughout earthly days life's rhyme

You open your hand, satisfy
the desire here by and by
Of every living thing, sustained
By you we be, mercy gained
Your, Lord, righteous in all your ways
Holy in His works always
Holy in His works always

He will fulfil desire of they
That do call on Him this day
They that fear Him, show reverence
For they do His presence sense
And will save them, keep from evil

They that love Him, keep them all
They that love Him, keep them all

But the wicked He will destroy
Each subtle plot and each ploy
My mouth shall speak praise of the Lord
He be faithful to His word
And let all flesh praise His holy
Name for evermore, so be
Name for evermore, so be

Going On In Grace

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalm 17 v.1-5

Hear a just cause, O Lord, attend
To my prayer, me defend
I pray unfeigned, my plea it true
I bring it now to you

Let my vindication come, for
I trust in you here sure
Look on the things that upright be
Justice, equality

You have tested my heart, and me
Have searched and it do see
That there no evil way in me
My mouth speaks faithfully

Concerning the works of people
Your word is my guide all
To keep me from wrong paths, and true
I shall e'er follow you

Hold up my steps in your paths, so
Your right ways I shall know
Keep me, that my footsteps not slip
To serve you deed and lip* (*words)

Salvation Surety

Tune: Holton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Romans 10 v.8-11

If you shall with your mouth confess
The Lord Jesus Christ, no less
And shall believe in your heart true
God raised Him from dead anew

So you shall be saved, for 'tis so
Of heart and mind we may know
That with the heart man does believe
Thus God's righteousness receives

And with the mouth confession is
Made unto salvation, this
Word is not far from us, but be
In our mouth and our heart, see

For the Scripture says, Whoever
Believes on Him shall never
Be ashamed, but bright witness shine
Saved by Him, His grace diving

Not Today, Thank You!

Not today, thank you!
Not any day in fact
Halloween tales, I mean
With ghostliness and spookiness

Don't ya now?
It's me in disguise at Halloween
And having a bad hair say
Creeping about with me syphon
That's full of water
Ready to add water to ya tippie

And Fido in his cape and mask
As 'The Masked Avenger'
Checking them poems
In case ya 'forget' conveniently
To mark 'em 18+ when they should be!

He don't bite
But his bark is worse than his bite - if he did bite!

Give me the next day anytime
Hallowmas - All Saints Day
I'll probably sing on that day
As on every day

Aww, why they say it's a Halloween 'trick'
Orchi singing to ya, that is
Cos I tricks ya into thinking
That I can really sing!
What could be worse?
More terrifying? more scary?

Only - having to watch a week of 'Eastenders'

If not in UK - don't ask

It's too ghastly to explain that TV soap!

Don;t find it online

You'll never recover

Never be the same again! lol.

Heehee.

Promises Preserved

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Galatians 3 v.15-18

If people do make covenant
'Tis set with firm intent
If confirmed, no one disannuls
It, nor adds, no loopholes

To Abraham and descendant
Promises were made, sent
By God to one, not to many
Christ the descendant be

The covenant was confirmed sure
Of God in Christ, [and] the law
Four hundred and forty years thence
Cancels not promise hence

The law does not make promises
Of no effect, their sense
And worth they ever do retain
Inheritance we gain

For if inheritance of law
Be, it promise no more
But God gave it to Abraham
We saved though Christ the Lamb [of God]

Availing Armour

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Romans 13 v.10-14

Knowing now 'tis he time
High time in life's rhyme
To awake out of sleep
Slumber not e'er keep
For now our salvation
nearer for each nation
Is, then when we believed
First day we received

Received gospel of grace
Open to each race
Message of saving love
Holy Spirit, dove
This to our hears reveals
And to minds, no conceals
Night is far spent, the day
Dawns, soon on its way

Let us therefore off cast
The works that not last
Works of darkness, and let
Us not to forget
To put on the armour
Of light, each piece, true, sure
Let us live honestly
Deport properly

Live as people of day
Follow Christ the Way

Not in revels, riots
Nor drunkenness, sots
Not any chambering
Licentious in nothing
Nor wantonness, lewdness
But do things that bless

Not strife or envying
But do in each thing
Put on the Lord Jesus
Christ, His life to us
Given, and not provide
For flesh lusts to abide
But living holy, right
Pleasing in God's sight

Saints Salvation

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Revelation 11 v.15-19

For All Saints Day - Nov 1.

The seventh [and final] angel did his trumpet blow
Great voices in heaven did say, This know
The Lord Almighty reigns o'er all, 'tis so
Alleluia, Alleluia!

The kingdoms of this world, they are become
The kingdoms of our Lord, all, not just some
Our Lord and His Christ, they now e'er his home
Alleluia, Alleluia!

The twenty four elders around God's throne
Rose from their seats, and worshipped Him alone
Sasing, We praise, all kingdoms are your own
Alleluia, Alleluia!

You Lord God Almighty, which are, and were
And are to come, none can this stop, deter
You take your great power, reign, we concur
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Though nations angry, for you judge rightly
Wrath to the sinful, evil, there shall be
But reward to saints for eternity
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Whether small or great, saints who have believed
have salvation from Jesus sure received
They shall share in God's glory thus perceived

Alleluia, Alleluia!

But He shall destroy them which do destroy
The earth, defile, deface, with evil ploy
Though His servants shall share His lasting joy
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Temple of God opened in heaven, seen
Ark of His covenant there espied keen
Tumultuous sights, they have rarely been
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lightnings and voices, mighty thunderings
Throughout the skies their awesomeness sounding
Earthquake and great hail this even too brings
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Speaking To Our Soul

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 42 v.5

Why are you cast down, O my soul?

Why disquieted in me, not whole?

Hope you in God, for I shall yet

Praise Him, I shall Him not forget

Psalm 42 v.5

And He shall not forget me, He

Shall help me in my troubles, see

Shall turn His face, His countenance

To me, I shall His presence sense

Psalm 42 v.11

And hope you in God, my soul here

He your health, shall to you appear

Bring you His salvation, and you

Shall praise Him yet again anew

Psalm 43 v.5

Yes, I shall praise Him, my help He

And constant companion shall be

My health and my salvation sure

O God, you my God evermore

Collective Communion

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Your people gather, Communion
To partake, open to each one
You, Lord, did institute and command
We follow that set by your hand

For at your Last Supper you did take
Simple gifts, bread and wine did make
Symbols of your body and your blood
Life given, brings a cleansing flood

And we may come, each remembers sure
You salvation it lasts e'ermore
Believing, it be our spiritual
Food and drink, invite unto all

Exhorting To Endurance

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Hebrews 12 v.1-4

Seeing that we are surrounded
By many witnesses, 'tis said
With fellow believers to cheer
Us on, let us make progress here

Let us lay aside every weight
That hinders us, each sinful state
That does beset us, does ensnare
And seek to trouble us, ill-fare

Let us run with patience the race
Set before us, with even pace
Continuing, persevering
Looking to Jesus in each thing

He the author of our faith be
It all is from Him completely
The originator, and He
The finisher of our faith be

He shall perfect us, make us whole
In body, spirit, and in soul
Who for the joy that lay ahead
Endured the cross, rose from the dead

And now is seated at right hand
Of God's throne, He Lord of each land
Consider Him who did endure
Hostility from sinners sure

Lest you be weary, faint in mind
Discouraged, tempted then to find
You have not in struggles shed blood
As Christ did, and gave cleansing flood

Majestic Musings

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 93

The Lord reigns, He is clothed
With majesty bestowed
He is clothed with strength, wherewith He
Has girded self, so be

The world also is set
Established, not moved yet
Your throne, Lord. is established too
From old, e'erlasting you

Th floods have raised their voice
Though we do here rejoice
That you the Lord are mightier
Than them, e'en though they stir

Your testimonies sure
Lord are, and evermore
Holiness does your house adorn
Evening, night, day, and morn

Praises Prepared

Tune: Margaret

('Thou didst leave thy throne')

Psalm 92 v.1-5 and v.12-15

It is a good thing to give thanks unto
The Lord, we bring praises to you
To your name, O most High
Sensing that you are nigh
And it is to you we ally
Showing forth your loving kindness
And faithfulness, day, night, you bless

Singing with instruments, making joyful sound
So praises to you do redound
For you have made me glad
Through your works, I not sad
All of them they be good, none bad
O Lord, how great sure your works be!
And your thoughts very deep, I see

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree
Grows like cedars productively
They that are so planted
In the Lord's house, good stead
They shall know, shall flourish, be fed
Shall still bring forth fruit in old age
Or whatever their life's stage

This shall show that the Lord He is upright
Does what is pleasing in His sight
He is my rock firm here
I shall stand and not fear
And it is to Him I draw near

In Him no unrighteousness be
I come and worship Him freely

Dwelling Delights

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 84 v.1-5

How amiable the places
Where you dwell by your grace
O Lord in your tabernacles
As tents, or as temples with walls
Here may abide our souls
Here may abide our souls

My soul longs there to e'er abide
In the place you reside
My heart and flesh cry out to you
For you, the living God and true
And to you praise renew
And to you praise renew

Even the sparrow has found there
A house beyond compare
And the swallow a nest where she
May lay her young, in safety be
And find prosperity
And find prosperity

Here nest is your altars, O Lord
Of hosts, sure is your word
And too you be my God and King
Blessed they that dwell in your house, sing
They of your each good thing
They of your each good thing

And they will still be praising you

With praises not a few
Their strength shall be in you, and they
Shall incline their heart to your way
You who turn night to day
You who turn night to day

Gospel Givers

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Colossians 4 v.2-6

Continue in prayer, and watch in
The same with thanks therein
Praying for spread of the gospel
Each witness of it tell

That doors be opened, and ways made
To preach bold, unafraid
To share the mystery, open
Secret of Christ still yet

Live wisely midst non-believers
You who as receivers
have believed sure the gospel news
So many more may choose

Choose to accept the salvation
Christ offers each nation
Redeem the time, it not wasting
Be fruitful in each thing

Let your speech be always with grace
To peoples, every race
And seasoned with salt, that you may
Answer each in right way

Presence Perceived

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Psalm 46 v.7-11

The Lord of hosts He with us be
His presence constantly
And He sure strong our refuge be
Shall save from enemy

Come, behold the works of the Lord
He destroys battle sword
Makes desolations in the earth
Silences evil's mirth

He makes wars to cease to the end
Of the earth, and does tend
To enemy, breaks bow, cuts spear
They know His judgements near

He burns chariot in the fire
Weapons of war that mar
Know that He is God, here be still
He shall work His good will

He will be exalted among
Heathen, let praise be sung
In earth He will be exalted
Will be as He has said

[Repeat of Verse 1, as a Refrain in the Psalm]

The Lord of hosts He with us be
His presence constantly
And He sure strong our refuge be

Shall save from enemy

Big Foot

Big foot in it, that is - me sometimes!
Nope, not a poem about a yeti or monster
But about being too cynical sometimes

I preach it to myself
'Woof! practise it then' says Fido

It only ends up that we are embarrassed
Or thinking 'I shouldn't have said or done that'
It seems clowning can go too far
But not to be a misery guts!

I discovered 'playboy/girl' description
(No, not that! swoon!)
'Woof! says Fido, in case it was that
And I got too 'hot'
Barking to save me from a swoon!

But it's someone who just mucks about
Similar to a 'clown or 'joker'
An example is: I said
'Oh, I can't stand [name] much'
Then it turned out a person said
'Oh, I know him/her; he/she is a lovely person'

Then I leave red-faced and downcast
Taking Fido with me
He barked to warn me
I didn't listen. Doh!

Fido is revealed as my 'watchdog'
He must be my conscience!
But he is an imaginary talking, reading, barking dog too

He sits with me on dark evenings by the fire
Reading these poems
With his pipe (no tobacco in it) and carpet slippers on
Oh, and checking I don't add too much water
To the whisky!

Heavenly Help

Tune: Dambusters March

('God is our strength and refuge')

Psalm 18 v.16-24 and v.28

The Lord sent help from above
To me, saved me in His love
I was as in waters deep
He did me safe keep
Save me from strong enemy
They hated me, too strong be
For me, but He supported me constantly

The Lord was my stay, helped me
Brought me to large place, so be
Saved me, for He did delight
In me, my path bright
The Lord He did me reward
Righteous I was Him toward
He rescued me through toil, strife, and battle's sword

For I have kept the Lord's ways
Not led by evil astray
From my God, not departed
But firm, whole-hearted
have I pressed on to Him know
His judgement to learn and show
Retaining His statutes I did onward go

Therefore the Lord recompensed
Me, His presence I have sensed
Blessed me, for He me upright
Saw me in His sight
The Lord will light my candle

My lamp, I shall not here fall
The Lord God will enlighten my darkness all

Sea Story

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Psalm 107 v.21-29

O that people would praise the Lord
For His goodness and for His word
And for His wonderful works known
They here to humankind are shown
Let people give thanks and rejoice
In joyful singing with one voice

They that in ships do go to sea
That where their trade and commerce be
They see the Lord's works, His wonders
In the deep, and when water stirs
For He commands, raises stormy
Winds, which lifts up the waves flurry

The waves mount up to the heaven
Then go down to the depths even
Those out at sea, their soul does melt
Because of their trouble so felt
They reel to and fro, and stagger
Like the drunken, scene does concur

They are at their wit's end, and their
Wisdom is gone. there none to share
They know not what to do, but they
Cry to the Lord in troubles, say
Lord, save us, and He does them bring
Out of their distresses, each thing

He makes the storm a calm, and so

The waves are still, the ysee and know
The Lord's working, and then they be
Glad, for sea is quiet, peacefully
So He brings them unto the place
Their desired haven, by His grace

Old To New

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Hebrews 10 v.9-10

Jesus said, Lo, I come to do your will
O God, to save humankind from their ills
In this He takes away Old Covenant
Establishes the New, from heaven sent

By this will we are sanctified, whole made
Ongoing, not immediate displayed
But it is through the offering, so be
Of the body of Jesus Christ freely

Freely given on the cross, once for all
Once in time for whome'er shall hear His call
To salvation, forgiveness of our sins
'Tis where eternal life in Him begins

Yes, valiant hearts, yet none more valiant
Than Christ, Son of God, from the Father sent
He would always do what His Father said
Saves us, makes possible life from the dead

Remembering, we give you thanks for they
Who serve, and served in battle in their day
Departed, living, memories ne'er cease
Our prayers unto Christ, He the Prince of Peace

Christ Is Preeminent in Creation - Series (1)

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Colossians 1 v.15-18

Christ, who is the image He
Of the invisible God, see
First in rank o'er each creature
Howe'er they appear or feature
For by Him all things created
Were, it all as He has stated

All things in heaven, on earth
He assigned them, gave them their worth
Visible, invisible
He the Creator made them all
Whether they dominions, powers
Rulers, He reigns o'er them all hours

All things were by Him sure made
His created works here displayed
And by Him all things consist
He sees all, not one thing has missed
And He the head of the body
The church, which His people so be

He is the beginning, He
The firstborn of the dead is, see
That in all things it may be
He may have pre-eminency
Christ the Lord now ever living
The Creator of everything

Christ Pre-eminent in Redemption - Series (2)

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Colossians 1 v.19-23

It pleased God that Father that in Christ should dwell
All fulness, and having made peace through Him well
Peace through the blood of His cross, that He did shed
By him to reconcile all things, life from dead

God reconciles all things to Himself, we see
'Tis through Christ, all things that in heaven, earth be
And you that were sometimes alienated
And enemies in your mind, unto sins led

Yet now you He has reconciled by body
Of Christ, through His death, to present you holy
And unblameable and unreprouable
In His sight, to salvation He does you call

If you continue in the faith here grounded
And settled, steadfast, on the hope true founded
The hope of the gospel, which is to all preached
Until unto ends of the earth it has reached

Potential Possibilities

Tune: Webb

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Jeremiah 32 v.15-19

Jeremiah did buy land
Directed by God's hand* (*Spirit)
A sign that God His people
Would them restore, recall
And bring back to Israel
They would know His works well
So Jeremiah's praises
To the Lord he raises

Ah Lord God! behold here you
Have made heaven, earth true
By your great power and stretched
Out arm, life you have fetched
Called each thing into being
Nothing too hard, nothing
For you is too difficult
You do all without fault

You show loving kindness to
Thousands, mercies renew
But also repay those who
Continual evil do
The Great, the Mighty God, you
Lord of hosts ever true
Is His name, great in counsel
Mighty in deed, we tell

Your eyes are open, you see
What each person's ways be

You give to each one duly
Even as their ways be
And according to what they
Do in each night and day
Rewards unto the faithful
You keep them, they not fall

Readiness Responsibility

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus bids us o'er the tumult')

Matthew 25 v.1-13 parts

Be you ready as wise bridesmaids
Were in their fine dress displayed
Awaiting the bridegroom's visit
Making sure their lamps are lit

May we have oil for our lamp-light
To see clearly in our sight
When Christ the Bridegroom does return
Having lamps that brightly burn

Ready at any hour for
His return will come, 'tis sure
We cannot others place prepare
They cannot our oil lamp share

When bridegroom returned, the wise they
Went unto marriage that day
With Him, but when foolish supplied
With more oil, they were denied

For the door was shut, they could not
It open, sad was their lot
The too late, Christ them did not know
But wise were blessed, it be so*

* Re-arranging 'so be it' = 'Amen'.

Happy House

Tune: Carlisle

('Stand up and bless the Lord')

Psalm 127 v.1-2

Except the Lord does build
The house, it does not yield
Any profit, but labour vain
Of man be, toil and pain

Except the Lord does keep
The city, and His sheep
The watchman in vain stays awake
For wolves the sheep may take

'Tis vain for you to rise
Ealy, sleep self-deny
And to sit up late, eat the bread
Of sorrows, fear, and dread

For so He gives unto
His beloved sleep anew
Built on rock your house, life is, true
If you His words hear, [and] do

A lickle one...

Keep a lickle one (little one) at hand
When you've not got a lot of time to type
Or pull one out from reserves:
'Here's a shortie I wrote earlier!'
No need to be
About 5 million verses/stanzas EVERY day

But woof! let's be hearin' from ya daily
Get ya stream of consciousness goin'
And ya can waffle on with no difficulty
Says Fido
Does he only say it
Cos he likes barkin'
At naughty poets forgetting the 18+
When it should be included?

But that's mostly to save me from swoonin'
Anything remotely hot
He reads all them poems before I do, ya know!
Heehee

Graces Of The Good

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 37 v.22-27

For such as be blessed of the Lord
Shall inherit the earth, true word
And they that of Him curséd be
Shall be cut off, no goodness see

The steps of a good person be
Ordered by the Lord here freely
And good people they do delight
In His way and live in His light

Though they fall they shall not be cast
Down utterly, those times be past
When the Lord shall uphold them by
His hand, His Spirit, He them nigh

I have been young, and no am old
Yet have not seen, let it be told
The righteous forsaken, and nor
Their descendants as begging poor

The righteous are e'er merciful
And lend, and they do ddeds good full
Their descendants are blessed ,adn they
Too follow in in the Lord's way

Depart from evil, and good do
And dwell for evermore anew
In the earth, the land inherit
Serve the Lord whole-hearted each whit

Christ is Preeminent in the Church - (Series 3A)

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Colossians 1 v.24-29

Paul rejoices in sufferings
For the church, benefits they bring
Afflictions of Christ he does share
To profit the church's welfare

To the church he a minister
Is made, steward of God conferred
Upon him of God, to fulfil
God's word, to prosper people still

It is even the mystery
The open secret of God, see
Which has been hid from ages past
But now revealed to us at last

To us God would make known what is
The riches of the glory, this
Glory of the mystery here
It does to Jews, Gentiles appear

It be Christ in us, the hope He
Of glory, and He known freely
By preaching, warning to each one
Showing salvation in the Son

Teaching in all wisdom each one
Till evangelism be done
That each one may presented be
Perfect in Christ Jesus wholly

So Paul and all who the gospel
Preach, teach, Christ unto others tell
Such labour on with God's strength, true
Works in them mightily, e'en you

Christ Is Preeminent in the Church - (Series 3B)

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Colossians 2 v.1-3

May hearts be comforted, and they
Be encouraged each day
People knit together in love
By the Spirit, the dove

And attaining e'en unto all
The riches of the full
Assurance of understanding
Which the true gospel brings

So that people may have knowledge
And may see, envisage
The mystery of God, open
Secret unto all men* (*mankind)

Mystery of God, Father, Son
Christ is the Son, the One
Sent from above that people know
Salvation, in Him grow

In Him are hid all the treasures
Of wisdom, true pleasures
And all the treasures of knowledge
He the Way to God, [the] bridge

Early Encouragings

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Psalm 108

O God, my heart is fixed, steadfast
I will sing and praise, now past
Is the night, my tongue I employ
Waking early, songs of joy
To give to you, with instruments
You give all wisdom, good sense

I will praise you, O Lord, among
The people, let songs be sung
To you among the nations, for
Your mercy is great, 'tis sure
It reaches above the skies, roused
And your truth reaches to clouds

Be exalted, O God, above
The heavens, reign in your love
Your glory be above all here
Of the earth, I worship, fear
And that I from enemy be
Saved, come help me graciously

God has spoken in holiness
His the nations, we confess
Shechem, Succoth, Gilead too
Manasseh and Ephraim true
Judah, Moab, Edom, and all
Philistia, all people

Who will bring me to strong city?

Who then will my helper be?
Will not you, O God, though off cast
It seems you have us o'er passed
Will you not, O God, with us go
Forth with our hosts? you we know

Give us help from trouble, for vain
Is man's help, we shall not gain
But through God we shall valiant
Do, He be our help present
For He shall our enemies tread
Down, they shall from us be fled

Freedom From Enticing Words - Series (4)

Tune: Ach Gott Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Colossians 2 v.4-7 parts

In Christ hid all the treasures sure
Of wisdom, knowledge e'ermore
Beware lest any should deceive
You, and no false words receive

As you have therefore true received
Christ Jesus the Lord, believed
In Him, so walk and live, follow
Him the Way, Truth, Life more know

Be rooted and built up in Him
Not fancies of human whim
Be established in the faith, so
Your life His true witness show

Follow His teachings, what is taught
By gossellers to you brought
Abounding therein with giving
Thanks for a faith e'er living

Beholding The Baptist

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Matthew 3 v.7-10

When John the Baptist he baptised
He did behold before his eyes
The Pharisees and Sadducees
Come to him, for that did them please

But he said, You brood of vipers
Who has warned you? What caused your stirs?
To come to me, who has warned you
To flee from the wrath to come true?

Bring forth therefore fruits that worthy
Be, that your repentance we see
And think not to say within you
Our ancestors Abraham knew

Rely not on him, though he be
Your spiritual father, so we
Are his children, for I say to
You God is able more to do

For He is able from stones here
To raise Abraham's children clear
And now also the axe is laid
To root of trees, and blade sharp made

Therefore each tree which does bring not
Forth good fruit, it shall be its lot
To be hewn down, into fire cast
Days of grace, mercy for it past

Freedom From Vain Philosophy - Series(5)

Tune: Tallis' Evening Hymn
('Glory to thee, my God this night')

Colossians 2 v.8-10

Beware lest you be captive by
By all man-made philosophy
And vain deceit, man's traditions
Which unto human wisdom runs

And too the basic principles
Of the world, what each to you calls
They be not the ways spiritual
They do not follow Christ at all

For in Christ dwells all the fulness
Of the Godhead, it so, not less
And you are complete in Him who
Gives eternal life to you new

He is the head, He the chief one
Over all earthly rule, the Son
Of God, and over all He be
Of all power, authority

Advent Anticipation

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Isaiah 52 v.7-10

Emmanuel, God with us, come to earth
Glad tidings of a Saviour's birth
How beautiful on Zion's mounts
Messenger from whence springs blessings founts

Chorus

Prepare, prepare! The advent of the Lord
Is near, His second coming, true His word

There be proclaiming of the peace
Which the Lord brings without a cease
Good tidings of good things, mankind
Salvation in Christ all may find - Chorus

The word in Zion, God's city
Is, Your God reigns! for e'er, so be
Break forth into joy waste places
Of Israel and of all races - Chorus

For the Lord has comforted His people
Redeemed them and they shall not fall
He has made bare His holy arm
His strength which does save them from harm - Chorus

'Tis seen among all nations, he
The omnipotent God e'er be
All the ends of the earth shall see
His salvation, His victory - Chorus

Wheat And Chaff

Tune: Bristol

('Hark, the glad sound, the Saviour comes')

Matthew 3 v.11-12

John Baptist he did baptise hence
With water, repentance
Did people show and forgiveness
Received, he did them bless

John said, He that comes after me
Mightier than I be
I not worthy to His shoes bear
Though He does for all care

He, the Christ, He shall baptise you
With the Holy Ghost* true (*Spirit)
And with fire, His fan in His hand
To winnow all the land

The land of people's lives, He will
Thoroughly purge all ill
In His threshing floor, and His wheat
Will gather to barn's seat

And He will burn up chaff, the dross
Evil shall suffer loss
Burn up with fire unquenchable
Yet grace to His wheat all

Freedom From The Judgement Of People - Series(6)

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Colossians 2 v.11-17

Cut off from old life of sin
By Christ, made new within
Living out His life, power
He gives to us each hour
Baptised with Him, and old life be
Buried with Him we see
And also risen with Him we
Are, by God's workings free

Dead in sins, that our old state
Yet God does work things great
With Christ He brings us to life
Without our effort, strife
Forgiving us our sins, blotting
Out our debts, e'en each thing
The laws which we cannot obey
By human will today

As the sets of laws written
He took out of way then
And nailed them unto Christ's cross
With things that caused our loss
He spoiled spiritual powers
He triumphed in those hours
Through Christ His Son, victory
O'er sin and death, so be

Let no one therefore judge you
In food, drink, what you do

Or do not do, what observed
Or what is not preserved
Man's laws if holy days, seasons
Or sabbath's restrictions
Which are a shadow of things
Christ the true substance brings

All Praise!

Tune: Gopsal

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Psalm 150

Praise, praise you now the Lord
True, faithful is His word
Praise God in sanctuary
His holy temple free
Praise him in the firmament, see
Of His power, the skies they be

Praise Him for His mighty
Acts, that all folk may see
Praise Him for His greatness
'Tis excellent, Him bless
Praise him with sound of trumpet clear
With psaltery, harp, praise Him here

Praise Him with timbrel, dance
Instruments to enhance
His worship, lute and lyre
Together all conspire
To praise Him, and on loud cymbals
Make high sound, song, His deeds recall

Let everything with life
Praise Him and without strife
Each thing that does have breath
Praise Him e'en unto death
Praise the Lord, great paeon* ascend
He Lord of all, God without end

* paeon - a hymn or poem of thanksgiving, triumph, victory, etc.

Attentive To Advent

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come, thou long-expected Jesus')

1 Thessalonians 5 v.2-8

Day of Lord comes as thief in night
His return revealed to sight
When the world says 'Peace and safety'
Sudden destruction shall be

It shall be as woman birthing
Pain and toil for them it brings
But believers, not in darkness
They have light of Christ no less

And that day shall not overtake
Them, nor surprised, troubled make
The ychildren of the light, the day
Follow Christ the Life, Truth, Way

Not of darkness, nor of the night
But of day, having clear sight
Let us not sleep, but be ready
For Christ, holding faith steady

For they that sleep sleep in the night
And be drunken, have not light
But let us who are of the day
Be sober, prepared alway

Put on breastplate of faith and love
Help of the Spirit, the dove
Put on helmet of salvation
Which avails to each nation

Freedom From Improper Worship - Series (7)

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Colossians 2 v.18-19

Let no person here you beguile
Or chet you with their style
Nor rob you of your reward when
They live false humbly then

And too in worshipping angels
Come with us, each oen tells
They intrude into these things they
Have not seen e'en one day

They vainly puffed up and proud be
Live by fleshly mind, see
They hold not to Christ, He the Head
Our Saviour from the dead

The Head, from which all the body
By joints, ligaments, see
have nourishment ministered to
Them, fed by Christ anew

And from Christ the Head, the body
Is knit together, he
Enables it, His church, to grow
With increase of God so

Prepared People

Tune: Merton

('Hark a thrilling [or herald] voice is sounding')

Luke 3 v.4-6

John Baptist fulfilled prophecy
Of Isaiah, here now see
For he be the voice of one who
Cries, Repentant deeds now do

Voice of one in the wilderness
He a prophet we confess
Saying, Prepare way of the Lord
Attend to Him, hear His word

Make His path straight, every valley
Shall be filled, every hill be
With every mountain be brought low
Crooked made straight, shall be so

And the rough places shall be made
Smooth, all ready, all displayed
And all flesh shall see in the time
God's salvation in life's rhyme

Messengers Mission

Tune: St Stephen

('The Lord will come and not be slow')

Malachi 3 v.1-5

The Lord His messenger will send
He shall prepare way, tend
Unto the coming of the Lord
Who shall come, true His word

The Lord whom you seek, suddenly
Shall come to you, so be
And unto His temple, even
Cov'nant messenger* then (*John Baptist)

The messenger in whom you do
Delight, He comes to you
But who may abide the day when
The Lord Himself comes then?

And who shall stand when He appears?
When He to people nears
He is like a refiner's fire
Lauderer* with soap's bar (*fuller)

He shall sit, refine, purify
As if silver, no lie
Purify the sons of Levi* (*Old Testament priest's assistants)
That they then by and by

By and by shall offer unto
Him righteous offerings new
They shall be unto Him pleasant
As olden days content

The Lord will swiftly judge evil
Against sorcerers tell
Adulterers, liars, cheats too
And those who oppress do

And they that exploit widows*, poor (*and widowers)
He shall judge them for sure
They that who neglect the orphans
The vulnerable ones

Returning Reality

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, He comes with clouds descending')

Luke 21 v.25-28

Hint: Words in italics have longer musical notes,
usually the 5th syllable of lines 1 and 3 of each Verse.

Jesus said, There be *signs* appearing
When His return is nearing
Signs in sun, and *moon*, and stars too
Which we humans here shall view
On earth distress
On earth distress
On earth distress
There be troubles, we confess

Distress of nations, *they* perplexed
Sea and the waves roaring vexed
people's hearts failing *them* for fear
Christ's second coming draws near
Look, observe things
Look, observe things
Look, observe things
That this great Day* to each brings (*The Day of the Christ's return)

Powers of heaven *shall* be shaken
Son of man shall be seen then
Coming in cloud *with* great glory
Majestic scene it shall be
Faith turned to sight
Faith turned to sight
Faith turned to sight
He the believers delight

And when these things *begin* to happen
Look up, lift up your heads then
For your redemption, *it* draws nigh
God's promise kept, no deny
Christ and His people
Christ and His people
Christ and His people
Fly to Rapture eternal

Advent Awareness

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Matthew 24 v.27-31

As the lightning flashes
From east, no abashes* (*reserves, shyness)
And even unto west
Let earth now be addressed
For so shall coming of the Son
Of man be, Jesus He the One

For it shall be as though
Where dead bodies are, know
That there vultures gather
Amid troublous stirs
And straight after tribulation
Christ shall be seen by each nation

Then shall sun be darkened
Moon shall not her light lend
Stars from heaven shall fall
Cosmic upheaval all
Powers of heaven they shall shake
Let us not sleep, but be awake

Then shall appear the sign
Of the Son of man fine
Then shall all peoples mourn
At Christ's return, then torn
Shall skies of heaven be, for He
Comes in clouds, power, great glory

He shall His angels send

Great trumpet sound shall blend
They shall gather the ones
Who believe in the Son [of man]
From the four winds, north, east, and west
And south, all with Him ever blessed

Care And Compassion

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 111

Praise you the Lord, I will praise with my whole
Heart midst congregation, and Him extol
The works of the Lord are great, sought out by they
That have pleasure in them, in salvation's day

His work is honourable, glorious
His righteousness endures e'er unto us
He has made His wonderful works that they be
Remembered, that all the nations may them see

The Lord is gracious, full of compassion
He feeds them that fear him, even each one
He will ever be mindful of covenant
Which He has made with us, He shall not relent

He has showed His people the power sage* (*wise)
Of His works that He may give heritage
To them, the works of His hands are verity* (*truth)
And judgement, and all His commands they sure be

They stand fast for ever and for ever
Done in truth, uprightness, they fail never
he has sent redemption unto His people
Has commanded His covenant for time all

Holy and reverend is His name, sing
The fear of the Lord is the beginning
Of wisdom, a good understanding have they
That keep His commands, His praise endures alway

Freedom From The Doctrine Of Men - Series (8)

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Colossians 2 v.20-23

If you be dead with Christ, your [old sinful] state
Why do you contemplate
Follow man-made rules, rudiments
That give no godly sense?

Why as living as of the world
These principles unfurled
Why subject to them, as if they
Bring salvation your way?

Examples are, 'Touch not', 'Taste not'
'Handle not', that your lot
They are all to perish when used
Even when they abused

They be commands, doctrines of men
If you follow them then
They have a show, an appearance
Of wisdom, [but] no use hence

No use of gaining salvation
Will-worshipping is done
Self-imposed religion it be
Seemingly shown humbly

And too neglecting the body
Ascetic practice be
But cannot improve in what we
Have, life through Christ here, see

Bethlehem Birth - Carol Series (1)

Tune: Forest Green

('O little town of Bethlehem')

Matthew 1 v.18-25

When Mary to Joseph, she be
Espoused, betrothed, we see
To Joseph, before they marry
A child she did carry
With child by the Holy Spirit
In His purposes fit
Then Joseph being good, upright
Sought to hide her from sight

But while he upon these things thought
And angel to him brought
A message to him in a dream
Who said, Let not it seem
Wrong for you to take Mary here
To be your true wife dear
Fear not, for her child conceived be
'Tis by the Spirit, see

A she shall bring forth a son, name
Shall be JESUS, the same
He shall be Saviour, His people
Shall save from their sins all
Now all this was done to fulfil
The prophecy, God's will
Spoken by Isaiah, Behold
The words now here be told

That a virgin shall be with child
Mary His mother mild

For she shall bring forth a son, He
Emmanuel shall be
This is 'God with us', Joseph woke
Did as angel had spoke
Took Mary for his wife, she bore
JESUS, Saviour e'ermore

Living Light

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

Psalm 36 v.9-12

For with you, Lord, is the fountain
Of light, we shall see clearly then
For in your light we see true light
What you pleased to show to our sight

O continue your loving kindness
Unto them that know you, them bless
And continue your righteousness
To those upright in heart no less

Let not pride come against me, lest
Enemies oppress, cause me fret
Let not the wicked drive away
Me, I hold, trust to you today

For their state it a poor lot be
They are cast down and light not see
And shall be fallen, but good, right
Shall walk, live daily in God's sight

Birth Blessings - Carol Series (2)

Tune: Calypso Carol

('See Him lying on a bed of straw')

Luke 1 v.26-33

Sent from God the angel Gabriel
To Nazareth, good tidings to tell
To a virgin betrothed to man there
Angel did them the message share

Chorus

Virgin's name was Mary, the angel
Said to her, 'Rejoice, to you, Hail!'
The Lord is with you, and blessed you be
High favoured among women, see

The man's name was Joseph, he did care
For his betrothed one tender and fair
When Mary saw angel, she troubled
Wondered unto what she was called - Chorus

The angel said to her, Mary, Fear
Not, for I do bring you tidings dear
For you have with God found sure favour
Here now this promise true savour - Chorus

And, behold, you shall conceive in your
Womb, and bring forth a son, holy, pure
And you shall call His name JESUS, for
He shall be Saviour evermore - Chorus

He shall be great, called Son of Most High
Yet He shall come unto humans nigh
The Lord God shall give to Him the throne

Of David, He shall true it own - Chorus

And He shall reign o'er House of Israel

For ever and ever, ruling well

Of His kingdom there shall be no end

All nations shall Him homage tend - Chorus

Can Ya Help?

Oh woe, not feeling like a song today
But why? asks Fido
Well, I got no dough (money) left
To buy anyone any Christmas presents

KP's had it all, ya see
For her botox, or to spend on herself
I see her so little these days
That I often forget I'm married to her Doh!
Can ya help me?
All contributions gratefully received, as they say!

She never takes Fido for walkies
It's me that takes him every time
What to do? Her botox melts after a while
Then she wants more money for it

She's an established member now, ya know
Of 'The Old Trouts Club'
She'll be managing that Club soon. lol.

Aww, why so horrible to her? Asks Fido
Got no peace and goodwill to her?
Nope, I reply! Not now, not any season! heehee

Pass me today's poems, says Fido
So I can check the 18+ thingys
And bark fiercely at anyone
'Forgetting' to mark them 18+ where they should be!

It's me and Fido this Christmas
KP's off to see some of her 5,836 relations
So she says

No change there then

I only see her 1% of the time in person

Otherwise on telly or in the newspapers

Heehee.

Mission Impossible? - Carol Series (3)

Tune: Es Ist Ein Ross / St Germanus

('A great and mighty wonder')

Luke 1 v.34-38

Gabriel's word to Mary

She would bear a son, see

While still a virgin, His name

Would be Jesus, the same

Chorus

Mary the Lord's handmaid

Through her God's works be displayed

His word be firm, sure, staid

Mary said, How shall this be?

The angel said, Here, see

The Holy Ghost you shadows

His power you shall know - Chorus

Therefore also that holy

Child to be born shall be

Called the Son of God Most High

This true with no deny - Chorus

And behold your cousin she

Elisabeth, name be

Has conceived son in old age

E'en in her advanced stage - Chorus

She was barren, but shall bear

A son, motherhood share

For with God nothing shall be

Impossible, grace free - Chorus

Mary said, look, I humbly
Handmaid of the Lord be
And it shall be as you say
Angel showing God's way - Chorus

Incarnation Impartation - Carol Series (4)

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched')

John 1 v.14-18

The Word, Jesus, was made flesh, dwelt
Midst us, His presence felt
He full human and full divine
With God's glory did shine

They who beheld Him in person
Did see Him, Christ the one
Saw His glory, sole begotten
Of the Father, [is] the Son

He full of truth and full of grace
John Baptist saw His face
And said, This is He, it sure be
He be greater than me

And of His fulness we all may
Receive of Him today
And of His grace, for see, the law
Was given by Moses sure

But grace and truth came by Jesus
Christ, He comes unto us
No one has seen God any time
Through life's ways and rhymes

But Christ, the only begotten
Son of the Father, one
He in and from the Father's heart
[The] Father to us imparts

Holiness In Family Life - Series 9 (11)

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

Colossians 3 v.18-21

Wives, submit yourselves unto
Your own husbands, it be true
That in the Lord, 'tis fitting
To be yielded in this thing

Husbands, love your wives, and be
Not bitter against them, see
Living in peace, harmony
So you witness to Christ free

Children, your parents obey
In all things through every day
For this is well pleasing to
The Lord, [He] will bless you anew

Fathers, provoke not children
To anger, for it be then
That they may discouraged be
But tend them supportively

Light Limitless - Carol Series (5)

Tune: Gloria (Iris)

('Angels from the realms of glory')

Isaiah 9 v.2-4

The people that walked in darkness
Have seen a great light, no loess
Than the light of Christ it be true
Son of God mankind may view

Chorus

A--lle---luya! Christ descends to earth
A--lle---luya! Appears now by human birth

They that dwell in land of shadow
Of death, on them light shines, know
They the coming of Messiah
To welcome Him they do stir- Chorus

You, Lord, the nation have increased
Joys return, though they had ceased
Now joyful as with harvest's yield
Or spoil of enemies field - Chorus

Yoke of burden you have broken
Where they were oppressed by men
And weapons of foes he removed
His faithfulness he has proved - Chorus

Nobly Named - Carol Series (6)

Tune: Carol (Willis) / Noel

('It came upon the midnight clear')

Isaiah 9 v.6-7

For unto us a child is born
Revealed on Christmas morn
Unto us is given a son
Jesus Christ, He the one
The government shall be upon
His shoulders, compare none
And here we do His name express
The Son of God no less

His name shall be called Wonderful
Showing great deeds to all
And too His name be Counsellor
To Him we may refer
For wisdom, guidance through each day
He be the Life, Truth, Way
The Mighty God, the e'erlasting
Father, salvation brings

He be the Prince of Peace, increase
Of His kingdom ne'er cease
No end of His government, peace
His throne shall ne'er decrease
He shall it order, establish
As be His Father's wish
Rule with justice and judgement e'er
Zeal of the Lord seen there

New Nature - Carol Series (7)

Tune: Stille Nacht

('Silent Night')

Mary, virgin holy
Mother of our Lord be
As Isaiah's prophecy sure
She was favoured for evermore
There that little family
Low at the manger-stall, see

She not just a young maid
But through her was displayed
God's power, Jesus He did not
Share sin of human nature's lot
Yet full human He be
And too divine fully

God in His plan to man* (*mankind)
Works as only He can
Breaks the human ancestry line
Birth of His Son, it be the sign
That man born from above
May be now, in God's love

Our descent natural
It from Adam, Eve all
Since they sinned there, garden Eden
So we did all inherit then
Sinful nature, but see
We can be born again free

Heavenly Hailings - Carol Series (8)

Tune: Mendelssohn

('Hark, the herald angels sing')

Luke 2 v.4-14

Mary, Joseph, they did rest
At Bethlehem, there birth blessed
For Mary brough forth first-born
Son, Jesus, first Christmas morn
Wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, laid
Him in manger, babe arrayed
In animals feeding trough
It sufficed, it was enough

Chorus

Christ our Saviour born on earth
Men and angels sing His worth

For there was no room in inn
So they without, not within
In stables creatures wondered
At birth of this King and Lord
Born in such a lowly state
Yet Son of God, high and great
Welcomed in that humble place
Full of truth and full of grace - Chorus

There were in the same country
Shepherds abiding, they be
In the field, keeping watch o'er
Their flock by night, safe and sure
And, lo, angle of the Lord
Came to them, gave them a word
The glory of the Lord shone

On them, lightened every one - Chorus

The shepherds greatly afraid
Were at this bright scene displayed
Angel said to them, fear not
Behold, happy be your lot
For I bring you glad tidings
Of great joy, heaven, earth sings
Which shall be to all people
This word it shall not fail, fall - Chorus

For to you is born this day
In city of David, way
There you know, and you may see
Him, a Saviour, Christ He be
He Christ the Lord, and this shall
Be a sign, so you may tell
That it is He, you shall find
Him wrapped in swaddling-clothes bind - Chorus

Laying in a manger He
Shall be, and then suddenly
With angel a multitude
Of the heavenly host viewed
Praising God, and saying best
Glory to God in th' highest
And on earth peace, good will to
Mankind, Christ comes unto you - Chorus

Seeing The Saviour - Carol Series (9)

Tune: Yorkshire

('Christians wake, salute the happy morn')

Luke 2 v.15-20

When angels to the shepherds they had been
Shepherds glorious night scene they had seen
They said to one another, Let us go
Now unto Bethlehem, then we shall know
And see this thing that is sure come to pass
Which the Lord wondrous has told unto us

And they came with haste, found Joseph, Mary
With the babe Jesus, in manger He be
And when they had seen, they did then make known
All that the angel host had to them shown
The saying concerning the child Jesus
That He is born a Saviour unto us

And that they would find Him in manger laid
There wrapped up, laying, and humble displayed
They shared the tidings of great joy to men
And all that heard these things did wonder then
But Mry kept all these things, and pondered
Them in her heart, each event and each word

Then the shepherds returned, glorifying
And praising God, rejoicing in each things
That they had heard, and what too they had seen
As the angel's word to them it had been
Telling of Christ, His birth into this world
God's will and plan to mankind here unfurled

Herald Of Hope - Carol Series (10)

Tune: Cranham

('In the bleak midwinter')

Luke 1 v.57-66 parts

Elisabeth's full time
In life's seasons, rhyme
Came for her to bear son
John Baptist the one
Her neighbours, relatives
Did acknowledge this
That the Lord great mercy
Had shown her, so be

And with her they rejoiced
Praises there were voiced
When eight days old his name
Zacharias, same
Name as his father, they
Said would be that day
But his mother said, No
Unto me hear, know

For he shall be called John
John Baptist the one
They aid, There none of your
Kin named this for sure
They then his father asked
How this should be tasked
Though he could not then speak
To write he did seek

For angel had revealed
To him as God willed

That his wife a son should
Bear, she surely would
He did not believe, so
For a while would know
Loss of speech, then restored
By grace of the Lord

So he wrote, his name shall
Be John, hear this well
Then his speech did return
The people did learn
That John would wondrously
Jesus' herald be
Before Him prepare ways
For His coming days

A Tale Of Woe And Misery

Oh woe! A break from Carols
But news of my forthcoming Christmas

It won't be merry, and it won't be happy!
But why? asks Fido
Well, I gotta spend it with KP for one thing
What could be worse?

She is home for a whole week
I will go mad!
She got no Botox sessions
Nor meetings of 'The Old Trout' Club
And they don't want her yet
For any more photo-shoots
Though - she loves' em, don't ya know
As long as they can all see -
Me, me, me!!!
(Not me writing this - I mean KP).

And you're no help, Fido
You never let me have any 'ardour'
And certainly no 'excitement'
"It's for the best," you say
"Saves ya from extra swoons
Dunno why ya complain"

You're going out the back garden Fido
While I enjoy myself
I'm gonna put the water away too
And have neat tipples! Oohh!

"Lemme in," says Fido
"I gotta 'police' the 18+ poems!!

"You'll know you'll only faint
If I don't check 'em first"
I hear ya barking out the back garden, Fido
Can't let ya in just yet
But in a while - I need ya to check them poems!
Heehee

Blessed Bells - Carol Series (11)

Tune: Personent Hodie

('Long ago, prophets knew')

Jesus Christ comes to earth
Here behold, Saviour's birth
Comes midst mankind to dwell
The glad tidings now tell
Sound joyful Christmas bells

Chorus

He light of the world
God's plan here unfurled
Scatters darkness of night
Bring's salvation's day bright

In His love and His grace
God comes to human race
In person of the Son
Messiah, Promised One
Our Advent preps* now done (*preparations) - Chorus

He the Word of God true
Though as babe Him we view
At His birth welcome we
Him, and His glory see
Lasting eternally - Chorus

Promised Purpose - Carol Series (12)

Hymn & Tune: 'God rest ye merry, gentlemen'

Luke 1 v.67-76

Part of the 'Benedictus' for Christmas Eve

Zacharias, his prophecy

At son John's birth it be

He filled with the Holy Spirit

His way by the Lord lit

He said, Blessed be the Lord God, He

Comes to His people, see

Chorus

Message of John Baptist's mission known

His mission known

Unto his father it was shown

For the Lord God has visitéd

His people redeeméd

And has raised up His strength this hour

Of salvation, His power

For His people, as He did speak

By prophets humble, meek - Chorus

It is that we should be saved so

From enemies, this know

And from hand of all that us hate

Who would spoil our estate

To perform the mercy promised

To ancestors, not missed - Chorus

Adn to remember His holy

Covenant, firm it be

The oath which He did sware unto

Our father Abraham true
That He would grant unto us, we
Be redeemed by Him free - Chorus

That we from enemies be freed
Might serve Him whole indeed
Without fear*, and in holiness
And too in righteousness
All the days of our life, and you
John are His prophet true - Chorus

* 'fear' here means: without 'afraid' type of fear.
There is 'godly fear' though, in serving our Lord.

Dayspring Dawning - Carol Series (13)

Tune & Hymn 'The First Nowell'

Luke 1 v.76-79

Announcing news of glad tidings
Message of joy heaven's host brings
Christ, in Bethlehem true His birth
The Son of God come down to earth

Chorus

John, the prophet of the Highest
The Christ-child, He for ever blest

Zacharias, John's father he
Prophesied of how it would be
John would go before the Lord' face
To prepare His ways, truth and grace - Chorus

To give knowledge of salvation
To His people of each nation
By the remission, forgiveness
Of their sins, great comfort is this - Chorus

It be through the tender mercy
Of our God, whereby Dayspring free
From on high has visited here
The Dawn, Messiah does appear - Chorus

He gives light to them that do sit
In darkness, and too path be lit
For those in the shadow of death
Who, as it were, near final breath - Chorus

And to guide our feet into way

Of peace, and give us light each day
Let earth Him praise, rejoice and sing
Welcome, our Lord, Saviour, and King - Chorus

Sentiments Of Stephen - Carol Series (14)

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

Acts 7 v.51-60

St Stephen's Day - Dec. 26.

O holy Stephen, bold and strong
Did follow his Lord all life long
O holy Stephen, bold and strong
Did follow his Lord all life long
He followed Him unto the end
To preach the gospel he did tend

Though he suffered a martyr's death
He served his Lord to final breath
Though he suffered a martyr's death
He served his Lord to final breath
What makes you people rage and spite
When he brings you the world's true Light?

Your sins they have darkened your mind
Else you would true salvation find
Your sins they have darkened your mind
Else you would true salvation find
So off to death they Stephen led
And stoned him until he was dead

But his words were, O Lord, forgive
Them, and let them in your sight live
But his words were, O Lord, forgive
Them, and let them in your sight live
Though they me kill, Lord, your light still
Shines and prevails, to men good will

Loving sinners but not their sin
We by you can be cleansed within
Loving sinners but not their sin
We by you can be cleansed within
And this a witness to young Paul
Who standing by did see this all

A seeming loss, a tragic waste
But the Lord's purpose not effaced
A seeming loss, a tragic waste
But the Lord's purpose not effaced
Paul a believer he would too
Become, be made in Christ anew

Love Limitless - Carol Series (15)

Tune: 'Born is a baby, gentle as may be'

('Past three o'clock')

1 John 4 v.7-11, and v.16

St John's Day - Dec 27.

Belovéd, let us love one another

John says, each one, as sister and brother

Chorus

Friends, we may God's love here now know and believe

His love to us, we may accept, receive

For love is of God, and true, every one

That loves is born of God and knows His Son - Chorus

They that love not, they know not God, for see

God is love, and He shows us love freely - Chorus

Love in salvation, unto each nation

God's love in His Son, redeeming each one - Chorus

Herein is love, not that we first God loved

But His love to us, forgiveness encoved* (*encovenanted)

If God so loved us, we ought also to

Love one another, be made in Christ new - Chorus

Innocent Infants - Carol Series (16)

Tune: Divinum Mysterium

('Of the Father's love begotten')

Matthew 2 v.13-17

Holy Innocents Day - Dec. 28.

Joseph and Mary in dream warned
When King Herod's wrath it stormed
They with young child Jesus to flee
To Egypt for safety, see
For Herod would seek to destroy
Him midst massacre of boys
In murderous evil ploys

For Herod sent out the decree
When deceived by wise men, he
Did not get to see child Jeus
Who is Saviour unto us
But saying all boys under two
Should be slain, terrible due
In Beth'lem and districts too

Then was fulfilled the prophecy
Jeremiah did foresee
In Israel there was a voice heard
Lamentation, every word
And there weeping and great mourning
Rachel* weeping for offspring
Finding comfort in no thing

Why comfortless? Here the scene see
Young children have ceased to be
They are not, they be the Holy
Innocents, were killed cruelly

Remembering their suffering
That such great evil did bring
All for supposed rival King

* Rachel - mother-figure of Israel.

Heavenly Home

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Revelation 22 v.1-5

In new Jerusalem, John saw
He could not ask for more
A pure river, water of life
There be God's peace, without a strife
Clear as crystal, and rife
Clear as crystal, and rife

It proceeded out of the throne
Of God, so was it known
And also it be the Lamb's throne
He Jesus, the Lamb of God be
Saviour of the world He
Saviour of the world He

In midst of street, and river's sides
Teh tree of life resides
It bears twelve manner of fruits, see
And yields it fruit each month, so be
A whole variety
A whole variety

Leaves of the tree were for healing
Of the nations, they bring
Comfort, and there be curse no more
But throne of God and the Lamb sure
Do the city adorn
Do the city adorn

And God's servants they shall Him serve

His grace them does preserve
And they shall see His face, His name
shall be in their foreheads, the same
Abide there, no guilt, blame
Abide there, no guilt, blame

And there shall be no night there, they
Live in perpetual day
No need of lamp or of candle
Nor sun, the Lord God their light all
They reign for e'er, no fall
They reign for e'er, no fall

Humility And Highness - Carol Series (17)

Tune: Cradle Song

('Away in a manger')

Sleep, sweet babe, rest your head
On low manger bed
Descended from greatness
To meek humbleness
From heaven you di come
To make earth your home
Live midst people a while
Know each human style

Came sinners to redeem
Light of world, bright beam
Though not all would accept
You paid their sin's debt
But inspire believers
Gospel-receivers
To evangelise, go
That others may know

Not now a babe, but Lord
Adn true still your word
Saviour ever-reigning
Forgiveness you bring
And eternal life to
Who will believe true
In you, Son of God who
Comes, makes mankind new

Holiness in Work Life - Series (10)

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Colossians 3 v.22-25 and 4 v.1

Servants (employees) in all things do
Obey your masters (employers) true
No with eye-service, only when
They see you working then

But to please men not be
You aim, but the Lord, see
Work in singleness of heart, free
Serve Him here sincerely

And whatsoe'er you do
Do it heartily, true
As to the Lord, not to people
For He does see hearts all

And know that of the Lord
We shall receive, His word
Says [thus] the reward inheriting
The good He does us bring

For you the Lord Christ serve
And wrong deeds they deserve
Recompence, the Lord impartial
He shall, righteous, judge all

Masters (employers) give unto your
Servants (employees) now from your store
That which is just, equal, knowing
Your Master, Lord, is King

Carol Community - Carol Series (18)

Tune: Tempus Adeste Fidelis

('Good King Wenceslas')

Light and life and salvation
Christ brings every nation
Hear again the joyful tale
Repeated, shall ne'er fail
God so loved the world, he gave
Christ to us, to us save
One born to redeem mankind
Other Son we ne'er shall find

Come, join lowly manger scene
Shepherds there, they had seen
Baba amidst the cattle laid
In manger there displayed
Animals in wonderment
Gazed on Him, the Son sent
From the Father, he the Light
Of the world to banish night

Look, Lord, on our poverty
You born low and humbly
With poor you identify
To vulnerable nigh
Justice and equality
Change our hearts, so there be
Loving, sharing, helping free
Each reach full destiny

For a while on earth you stayed
In person you displayed
God the Father, Him revealed

Was not to us concealed
Now you send your Spirit, He
Person of God too be
In redeemed hearts He does dwell
That we others gospel tell

A Melody For Mercy

Tune: Contemplation

("When all they mercies, O my God")

Psalm 123

Unto you I lift up my eyes
You who rule earth, seas, skies
You who dwell in heavens above
Look on us in your love

Behold, as eyes of servants look
To masters, not forsook
And as eyes of maid to mistress
Look, to desire they bless [them]

So our wytes look unto the Lord
Wait for Him and His word
The Lord our God, until that He
Merciful to us be

Have mercy on us, O Lord, plain
This sure be our refrain
In prayer to you, for we are low
And great oppressions know

For we are filled exceedingly
With contempt, our state be
Scorned of those who now be at ease
[The] Proud sleight us as they please

Memorable Messiah - Carol Series (19)

Tune: Irby

('Once in royal David's city')

Isaiah 11 v.1-4

And there shall come forth a rod, shoot
From stem of David, from roots
Shall grow a Branch, the Promised One
The Messiah, God's own Son
Shall come, Spirit of the Lord
Be upon Him, speak true words

The Spirit shall then on Him rest
And indwell Him, He be blessed
The Spirit of wisdom, [in] each thing
And of right understanding
Spirit of counsel and might
Always pleasing in God's sight

And too the Spirit of knowledge
And fear of the Lord, courage
Shall be of quick understanding
In fear of God, discerning
Not judging by sight of eyes
Nor worldly hearing applies

Btu with righteousness judge shall He
Tend to poor and serve them well
Bring equity for meek of earth
Fulfil their destiny, worth
Shall smite earth with His mouth's rod
Speaking true the words of God

Spirit Scenes - Carol Series (20)

Tune: Antioch

('Joy to the world')

Isaiah 61 v.1,3,10

The Spirit of the Lord is on
Me, I Jesus, God's Son
Because the Lord has anointed
Me, by Him I am led
Me, by Him I am led
Me by, Me by Him I am led

I bring comfort to they who mourn
Now is their lightened dawn
I give them beauty for ashes
They consoled, true is this
They consoled, true is this
They consoled, Consoled, true is this

I give oil of joy for mourning
Whate'er life's troubles bring
My people may have joy in me
Express it flowing, free
Express it flowing, free
Express, Express it flowing, free

And I give them garment of praise
I lift them, them upraise
Instead of a spirit heavy
They full of life, now see
They full of life, now see
They full, They full of life now see

Let us greatly rejoice, the Lord

Has clothed us, sure His word
In the garments of salvation
Righteous robe for each one
Righteous robe for each one
Righteous, Righteous robe for each one

Veritable Voice

Tune: Saffron Waldon

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 95 v. 6-8

Veritable meaning 'true'

O come let us worship and bow
Down, kneel before the Lord God now
For He is our God, our maker
Worthy of praises sure

And we are the people, so be
Of His pasture, secure and free
And the sheep of His hand, His care
His presence always there

Today if you will hear His voice
Choose to obey, that be your choice
Help us to listen above all
To you Lord, hear your call

Not to harden our hearts as they
In the wilderness in the days
Of old, a generation they
Did not follow His way

Epiphany Expectations

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Matthew 2 v.1-6

Epiphany - Jan 6.

Now when Jesus, He was born
In Beth'lem on Christmas morn
In days of Herod the King
Wise men made their way, did wing
From east to Jerusalem
To view scene serene, solemn

They said, Where is he that is
Born King of Jews? True is this
For we have seen His star in
The east, and we did begin
Our journey from there, and we
Come to worship Him, so be

When Herod these things had heard
He was troubled by their word
As was Jerusalem all
Wondered meaning of this call
That the wise men had known, they
Made their announcement that day

Herod gathered chief priests, scribes
Demanded that they describe
Where Christ should be born, they said
In Beth'lem there be His stead
As Micah, prophet of old
Declaration had foretold

He said, Bethlehem in land
Of Judah, by God's good hand
You are not the least among
Judah's princes, praise be sung
For from you a Governor
Shall come, my people's Ruler

Wholesome Worshipping

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Matthew 2 v.8-12

Herod he did send the wise men
To Bethlehem, pretence then
That he would worship child Jesus
Born a Saviour unto us

Wise men left and followed the star
Seen in the east, they came far
On their journey, till star did rest
O'er home of Christ-child e'er blest

When they saw the star, exceeding
Joy unto them did it bring
For it be the Epiphany
Revealed Son of God, so be

They saw Him with mother Mary
Fell down before Him freely
And worshipped him, treasures they gave
He came His people to save

They presented gifts to Him there
Gold and frankincense did share
And myrrh, then they planned their return
To Herod, but they did learn

Learnt of God in a dream not to
Go to Herod, he not view
Jesus, for they to own country
Went back by other way, see

Star Seen

Tune: Was Lebet

('O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness')

O ye wise men three, what has caused you to journey far?
We in the East did see the Saviour's star
Travelling over moors, mountains, fields, we have been
Now the blessed one, the Christ-child we have seen

In homage to Him our gifts we Him presented
They welcomed by Him, and none rejected
Precious gold offered, it honouring to a King
We bow before Him and our worship bring

Frankincense which as a cloud up to God ascends
Our prayers unto Him, He faithful attends
Seeking His will, that His kingdom on earth may come
All holy, righteous, be His hearth* and home

Myrrh, its bitter perfume prophesies sacrifice
The Lamb of God whose offering will suffice
For our salvation, people of every nation
And risen Saviour, He Jesus, God's Son

[The last verse in the hymn in sometimes repeated - and so here also]

O ye wise men three, what has caused you to journey far?
We in the East did see the Saviour's star
Travelling over moors, mountains, fields, we have been
Now the blessed one, the Christ-child we have seen

* Verse 3 - this is 'hearth', not a typo of 'earth'.

Ascending Aspirings

Tune: Unter Herrschen

('Come ye faithful, raise the anthem')

Psalm 24 parts

The earth is the Lord's, its fulness
And all therein, He does bless
He founded it upon the seas
Formed each thing as He did please
Who shall ascend to the Lord's hill
To worship Him with good will?

Ascend His hill to His temple
Contained within temple wall
Who shall stand in His holy place?
Nations, folk of every race
They that have clean hands and pure heart
Who from His ways not depart

And they who have not been vain to
Worship idols, them not view
And they who have not deceit done
But they be honest, each one
They shall receive the Lord's blessing
Righteousness, and each good thing

The God of their salvation shall
Give them good things, they fare well
This the generation of they
That do seek His face alway
Open gates of temple, welcome
King of glory to His home

Pentecost Preaching

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

Acts 2 v.14-21

Peter at Pentecost did preach
To all nations did reach
When the Spirit came then there
They all in Him did share
It was prophecy fulfilled
Of Joel, as God has willed
That He would pour out freely
His Spirit on us, see

And your sons and daughter
Prophecy, this know well
And young men, women, visons
Shall see, smoothly each run
And old men, women, dream dreams
Enlightened by light's beams
Even to servants, handmaids
The Spirit poured, displayed

And they too shall prophesy
High and low, no deny
And the Lord will show wonders
Heaven, earth, active stirs
Wonders in heaven, and signs
In the earth, all aligns
With His purposes, vapour
Of smoke, blood, fire concur

The sun shall turn to darkness
And moon shine blood-red, yes

Before that great, notable
Day of the Lord to all
Shall appear, yet they who call
On Him be saved, not fall
The coming of the Spirit sure
Abides now evermore

Through Troubles And Trials

Tune: Heinlein

('40 days and 40 nights')

Psalm 77 v.5-9

I call to remembrance my
Song in the night, as there nigh
Me various troubles, trials
In their different aspects, styles

I commune with my own heart
When things seem to fall apart
My spirit with diligence
Searches out why distress vents

Will the Lord cast off for e'er?
Favour with us no more share?
is His mercy gone e'ermore?
His promise failed, is this sure?

Has God forgotten to be
Gracious? Is He angry? See
Has He shut up His tender
Mercies, not to our help stir?

But many troubles can be
Of our own making freely
Yet come to us Lord we pray
From our night times led to day

Capturing Communion

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us heavenly Father, lead us')

Here in silence, meditating
Sense of your presence you bring
To us, wait a while, what word will
You bring us when hearts are still?
And minds open, your influence
Renew them with wisdom hence

Though it not a voice audible
To human ears common all
Yet it your voice from within us
By your Spirit, true is this
We children of your family
You our heavenly Father be

Midst many voices may we hear
You above the clamour clear
What you say shall come to pass true
Your words be as morning dew
And as showers the earth water
They refresh it evermore

Closer to you we draw, and so
You draw closer to us, know
We, leave us not, but do remain
Cleanse us from every sin's stain
Onwards, upwards, daily growing
More Christ-like in every thing

Grace Given

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 113

Praise the Lord, O you praise
Him, His servants, and songs raise
Praise His name, lift it high
And sense too His presence nigh
Blesséd be the Lord's name
It ever be the same
From this time forth and sure
Shall be for evermore

From rising of the sun
To its going down, be done
Praise to the Lord, He reigns
Over all nations and deigns
What things shall daily be
His glory above, see
Who is like to the Lord
Who dwells on high? true word

He humbles himself to
All things in heaven to view
And things in the earth, He
Tends to poor, lonely, we see
Raises them from the dust
Who bare afford a crust
Lifts needy from ash heap
Provides, and does them keep

He sets the low among
The princes of earth, so sung

Praises to Him, He makes
Barren fruitful, not forsakes
So they have family
Enjoy prosperity
'Tis all from His grace store
Avails from shore to shore

Spirit Showings

Tuen: Bread of heaven

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

John 16 v.13-15

When He, Spirit of truth comes
He will reside in the homes
Of human hearts, and souls be
Filled by Him internally
He will into all truth guide
Truth of Jesus, none beside

He shall not speak of Himself
But whate'er He hears, the wealth
Of things that be of God's will
And to guide us daily still
Whate'er He hears he shall speak
Into ears, hearts, lowly, meek

And He shall show to you things
The future and what it brings
He shall glorify Christ for
He shall receive Christ's things sure
And shall unto us them show
We shall be wise, we shall know

All things that the Father's are
They be Christ's, on the same par
Therefore Christ does to us say
The Spirit shall take, each day
Thie things of Christ, and shall show
Them to us, a steady flow

Inclusive Invite

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Matthew 11 v.28-30

Come to me, who weary
And heavy laden be
Says Jesus, this His invite be
And He will give rest, see

Take my yoke upon you
And learn of me plain, true
For I am meek, lowly in heart
Of gentle, humble part

And you shall find rest for
Your souls from my grace-store
For my yoke is easy, and too
My burden light for you

Not a hard yoke, but be
Easy yoke to take, see
Not a heavy burden to bear
Bur Ligh, with Christ we share

Good Government

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 67

God be merciful to us, bless
Us, we His praises here confess
Cause His face to upon us shine
E'en His countenance divine

That His ways may on earth be known
His saving health unto us shown
Unto all nations, so all praise
Him, and to Him anthems raise

Let the people, O God, praise you
Let the nations joy in you true
For you shall judge all righteously
Your governance fair shall be

Then shall the earth yield her increase
God shall bless us, there no decrease
And all ends of earth shall Him fear
Reverence His presence near

[This refrain is repeated in the Psalm.

It fits in here as a repeat of Verse 3].

Let the people, O God, praise you
Let the nations joy in you true
For you shall judge all righteously
Your governance fair shall be

Presence, Power, Peace

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Ephesians 3 v.14-21 parts

Based on a prayer from the Syrian Clementine Liturgy,
circa 4th Century AD

O God, the unsearchable abyss of peace
The ineffable sea of love, does ne'er cease
The fountain of blessings, and the bestower
Of affection, with your riches you us shower

You who send peace to those who do it receive
They trust in your mercy, and in you believe
Open to us this day the sea of your love
Guide us, teach us, by your Spirit, holy dove

And water us with your plenteous streams here
From the riches of your grace, to us draw near
Even as your Spirit does us dwell within
Strengthens us with power, and cleanses from sin

And so refreshed by the sweet springs from your store
They ever flow freely, supply evermore
From your benignity, no ill-will bearing
Salvation, eternal life with all sharing

Mercy Missive

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 80 v.3-7

Turn us again, O Lord, and cause
Your face to shine on us, no pause
And we shall be saved by your grace
And too your mercies we shall trace

O Lord of hosts, how long will you
Be angry and our prayers not view?
But hear them now, we do beseech
And your help so give unto each

You feed us with the bread of tears
And increased here have been our fears
Times of weeping sore we have known
Until your comforts to us shown

You make us a strife to neighbours
Our enemies grief us confers
They laugh and mock at our poor state
O come to our aid Lord not late

[Repeat verse 1, as a refrain in the Psalm]

Turn us again, O Lord, and cause
Your face to shine on us, no pause
And we shall be saved by your grace
And too your mercies we shall trace

Prayer Possibles

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Good Lord, our Shepherd, Saviour, King
Our prayers unto you we bring
Even though you know all that we
Need before we ask, so be

Yet we with you, we may commune
By day, night, midnight, or noon
You our heavenly Father, we
Your sons and daughter true be

Inspired by prayers of old and new
Set words, and in free-style too
Your Spirit to teach and to guide
In believers hearts resides

Seeking the things that be your will
And persevering on still
If prayers be answered soon, later
May outcomes cause thanks to stir

Guard Against Grieving

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Ephesians 4 v.30-32

*****!

Grieve not the Holy Spirit, see
In believers hearts resides He
By Him we are sealed to the day
Of redemption, where no sins stay

Grieve Him not through anger, let all
Bitterness and wrath from you fall
And clamour, and evil speaking
Malice, cast off each ill-willed thing

And be kind to one another
Tender hearted, sister, brother
Forgiving one another e'en
As you have so forgiven been

For God in Christ does you forgive
In this gracious state you may live
Forgiven for Christ's sake, He paid
Price for your sins, His life down laid

Quest Against Quenching

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

1 Thessalonians 5 v.19

Quench not the Spirit, let not fear
Rule your hearts, minds, lives here
So He not suppressed nor repressed
But active, and you blessed

Be yielded to Him, and not damp
Him down as a dimmed lamp
Nor that flow of His oil be blocked
But faculties unlocked

As dove that flies, so inwardly
You find liberty free
Confessing sins, what displeasing
To Him, them to Him bring

And forgiveness and peace there find
Restored and renewed mind
Allow Him to possess you more
With Christ's perfect life sure

Wise Worship

Tune: Morning Star

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Wise men they journeyed, followed the star of night
It would lead them unto glorious sight
Of the Christ-child, He the light of life e'er be
Revealed to wise men, and even to me

It shall too be our wisdom if we follow
Christ, and persevere Him more for to know
For the fear of the Lord is the beginning
Of true wisdom, we His praises may sing

Fear that is of godly awe and reverence
As the wise men came into His presence
So offering Him our lives in His service
Life and breath He gives to all, true is this

Their hopes fulfilled, wise men, the culmination
They saw Him, called Desire of each nation
Coming to earth to bring the world salvation
To high, low, rich, poor, whoever, each one

[The first verse is sometimes repeated at the end]

Wise men they journeyed, followed the star of night
It would lead them unto glorious sight
Of the Christ-child, He the light of life e'er be
Revealed to wise men, and even to me

Wisdom And Knowledge

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Only you, Lord God, know all things
Whate'er life daily brings
Humans you have made, but they not
Know all, that not their lot

But you give wisdom and knowledge
We may your presence sense
Spiritual knowledge be the best
Compares not with the rest

Yet you give wisdom for each day
Practicalities' way
Common sense, not to foolish be
But you the time wisely

In you are hid all the treasures
Of wisdom, fine pleasures
All the treasures of knowledge too
You do our minds renew

Be pleased to reveal treasures hid
In prayer we beseech, bid
You, that humbly what we do know
Use for good, and live so

Good Graces

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Philippians 4 v.8-9

Think on things that are true, honest
Noble, so you be blessed
And things that are just, pure, lovely
Whatever they may be

And things that be of good report
What causes pleasant thought
And if any virtue and praise
Consider them these days

Think on these things, and meditate
The things of the Lord great
Imitate good in believers
And be faithful givers

Those things that you have from them learned
And received, and discerned
And have heard and seen in them, do
So Christ displayed through you

And minds renewed daily, and clear
Sound, sane, and staid shall be
Christ-like minds with His peace assured
He our Saviour and Lord

Devotional Desires

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Part of Syrian Clementine Liturgy Prayer

Make us children of quietness
With us your graces bless
And heirs of peace, make strife to cease
Your healing balm in us release
Your life in us increase
Your life in us increase

Enkindle in us the fire bright
Illumined by your light
May we be, and too in us sow
Your concern, that we it may know
In your will and ways grow
In your will and ways grow

Strengthen our weakness by your power
Which we need every hour
And bind us closely unto you
And to each other, us renew
In unity's bond too
In unity's bond too

Liberty To Love

Tune: Song 34

('Forth in thy name, O Lord I go')

1 Thessalonians 4 v.9-12

Be as the Thessalonians
To them Paul wrote, and of them owns
As concerning loving each one
Unto each other it is done

They do so, for God does them teach
To love each other, each one reach
And fellow believers elsewhere
They too with them love of God share

The prayer is that they do so more
For this be pleasing to God sure
And that they aspire to lead quiet
Life, loving God and man from heart

And to do their own business, be
Working with their own hands daily
Living honestly in each thing
Prosper, having lack of nothing

Help To Humans

Tune: St James' Air

Adapted from ' A Prayer to God the Father'

by St Clement of Rome: b. 1st Century AD - d. 101 AD

We beseech you, Father, Master
Be helper, protector
Save the afflicted here among
Us, praises to you sung

Have mercy on the lowly, raise
Up fallen, so they praise
You, and appear to the needy
Come, heal the ungodly

Restore the wanderers of your
People, bring them back sure
Ransom our prisoners, up raise
The sick to healthful days

Comfort the faint-hearted, mercy
Have on us all, so be*
What we do ask in prayer humbly
Give us by grace freely

* The actual prayer finishes at the end of this line.

Prayer Pleas

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Psalm 86 v.6-10

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer
I call, believing you are there
Attend to my supplications
And answer here your needy ones

In the day of trouble I will
Call on you, trust for your help still
Among the gods is none like you
And your works none of them can do

All nations, Lord, who you have made
Shall come and worship, be arrayed
Before you, and shall glorify
Your name, and know your presence nigh

For you are great, and do wondrous
Works, and they are revealed to us
And you are God alone, you reign
In your power for e'er unfeign* (*true)

Asking Assurances

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Luke 11 v.11-13

If a son (/daughter) shall ask bread of you
A father, what you do?
Will you give him (/her) a stone? No, you
Will give him bread, 'tis true

Or if he ask a fish, will you
Give him a serpent due?*

No, you will give him a fish, he
Then satisfied shall be

Or if he ask an egg, will you
A scorpion then view**

And give it to him? No, you will
Give him what he asks still

If you then, midst evil mankind
Good gifts for children find
And know how to give them, then how
Much more shall God act now

He your heavenly Father be
See, how much more shall He
Give the Holy Spirit to they
Who ask Him in this day

* Verse 2 - a fish and a serpent, eel-like, can look somewhat the same.

** Verse 3 - an egg and a rolled-up scorpion can look somewhat the same.

Messiah Mission

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 72 v.1-8

O God, give the King your judgements
Your wisdom, not human sense
And your righteousness unto your
Son, He the Messiah pure
Promised of old, now Him you sent
Bringer of new Covenant

He shall judge your people rightly
And act for the poor justly
Peace shall surround them as hills, mounts
They partake of blessing's founts
he shall bring justice to the poor
And shall save the needy sure

They shall fear you, shall be in awe
As long as sun, moon endure
Throughout all the generations
Reaching unto all nations
He your Son shall come as showers
On us, bring refreshing hours

In His days righteous shall flourish
He will feed and them nourish
He shall have dominion o'er
All the earth for evermore
From coast to coast, from sea to sea
His rule and reign e'er shall be

Fisher Followers

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Matthew 4 v.18-23

Jesus by sea of Galilee
Two brothers did He see
Simon Peter and Andrew, they
Were fishers there that day

Jesus said to them, Follow me
And I will make, so be
You fishers of men, they straightway
Left nets, with no delay

They followed Him, then Jesus saw
Two brothers by the shore
James and John sons of Zebedee
Working in ship they be

As they mended their nets Jesus
Did give them a call thus
To follow Him, and they left their
Nets and their father there

And Jesus went about teaching
And preaching and healing
So did His disciples share too
Gospel words, deeds did do

Spiritual Sight

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Luke 6 v.39-42

Can the blind lead the blind?
Will they the way then find?
Shall not they both fall, get nowhere
As useless things they share

'Tis spiritual blindness
This Jesus does confess
The disciples not above, see
Their master, fair it be

Why you the speck behold
In the eye, it be told
Of another, yet perceive not
Beam in own eye your lot

Or how can you say to
Another, let me, do
Take out the speck in your eye, so
Good sight you then shall know

Do you not see the beam
In your own eye, or seem
It to be imaginary
Truth is, you cannot see

It hypocritical
Cast out first the beam all
Of your own eye, then clearly you
Remove specks, cause fine view

Candlemas Communings

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Luke 2 v.25-32

Candlemas (Feb 2) - The Presentation of the child Jesus,
aged 40 days, in the Temple.

Lord, now let your servant depart
In peace, desire of my heart
I have seen in your child Jesus
Born a Saviour unto us

So said Simeon in Temple
He did true hear the Lord's call
That he would not this earth leave till
God His promise did fulfil

'Twas that Simeon would see clear
The Lord's Christ, Anointed, dear
Simeon took Him in his arms
Gone now any doubts or qualms

He said, My eyes they have now seen
Your salvation, Lord, between
You and man you have provided
Salvation, as you have said

You have your Son prepared before
The face of all peoples, for
He a light to Gentiles lighten
Israel's glory revealed then

Sincere Singing

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Adapted from a prayer 'Singing to the Father'

by St Ignatius of Antioch, 35-108AD.

And you have all been formed
Into one choir, and warmed
By the Spirit to sing
God's song, praises Him bring

So that you Father praise
With one voice, worship raise
Through Jesus Christ, that when
He hears you, He may then

May realise from what
You have done, thankful lot
Is yours, so singing well
God His people can tell*

(*tell, meaning here: discern, know, etc)

Waiting Watchfulness

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Psalm 130 v.4-8

Lord, there is forgiveness with you
That you may be feared true
Reverenced with awe, your mercy
Love, grace, reach e'en to me

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits
He knows all my estates
And in His word do I hope sure
It stands firm evermore

Yes, my soul waits with trust, patience
If I His presence sense
Or if it seems he me forsook
Trust He still on me looks

So I wait more than watchmen wait
For the morning, not late
It comes each day, it follows night
Dawn leads to clear daylight

Let His people hope in Him for
With Him is mercy sure
And too plenteous redemption
Abundant for each one

And He shall all our sins forgive
Redeem us, we shall live
Price of sins paid through Christ, God's Son
Salvation barring none

Prospering Presence

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Jesu, lover of my soul')

Adapted from 'Prayer to God the Father'

A prayer by St Irenaeus of Lyons, 130-202AD

To you, Lord God, I appeal
God of Abraham, hear still
God of Jacob, Israel
Father of our Lord as well
Our Lord Jesus Christ is He
He your true Son ever be
Infinitely merciful
As you are, give grace to all

It is your will we should learn
To know you, your ways discern
You made heaven and earth, you
Rule supreme o'er all, 'tis true
You are the true, the only
God, and there sure never be
Any god above you, for
You are Lord for evermore

I ask through our Lord Jesus
Christ, and the gifts unto us
Of the Holy Spirit, pray
I that all who read this day
What I have written, that they
May know you, not turn away
Because you are God alone
Your Son does for us atone

Let the people from your draw

Strength, keep them from the allure
Of all teaching false, but true
Guide them in the truth of you
And keep them from heresies
And what irreligious be
And what is godless, so they
Follow you closer each day

Trusted Tutor

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Adapted from 'Prayer to the Divine Tutor'.

A prayer by St Clement of Alexandria, 150-215AD

Be kind to your little children
Lord, bless them even then
This is what we ask of you, for
You are their Tutor sure
You are Israel's guide, your Son
Jesus Christ He the One
And you are the Father also
A Trinity, we know

Grant that by doing what you told
Us to do, we your fold
May achieve a faithful likeness
Of your image, no less
As far as it is possible
To be for humans all
And you a good god may we find
And lenient Judge kind

May we all live in the peace here
That comes from you, it clear
May we journey to your city
And calm our passage be
Through the waters of sin, touched not
By the waves, that our lot
Born tranquilly along by your
Holy Spirit, guide pure

He is your Wisdom, beyond all

Human wisdom's recall
Night and day until the last day
Of all, may we sing, say
Praises and thanks, you who alone
Are Father, Son, this known
With the Holy Spirit you be
Our Tutor constantly

Peace Plea

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Adapted from 'A prayer for peace of mind'

by Origen, 184-253AD.

Let us pray that Jesus
May sure reign over us
And that our land may be at peace
That wars and conflicts cease

That our bodies may be
Free from assaults fleshly
Desires that us into sin lead
Your graces, Lord, we need

When these have ceased, we shall
Be able to rest well
Beneath our vines, fig-trees, olives
Blessed with the peace God gives

Those idylls of plenty
Father, Son, Spirit, He
Will shelter us as we rest, gain
We peace of mind again

Steadfastly Settled

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 57 v.7-11

My heart is fixed, it steadfast be
So said the Psalmist, see
Lord, incline our hearts that they may
Be stayed on you always

Temptations to distract, deceive
To turn [away], to disbelieve
In you, may come our way, but set
We our minds on you yet

So we awake and instruments
Use, praise, with wholesome sense
If early or later in day
To watch and seek and pray

Praising you amidst the people
Of they who on you call
For your mercy reaches unto
The heavens, true are you

Be exalted, O God, lifted
High, and so lift our heads
If we downcast, still your glory
And power our strength be

Contentment Considered

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

1 Timothy 6 v.6-8

Godliness, it true be
With contentment, here see
It be great gain, of value great
And not mere luck or fate

For we brought in nothing
Into this world, each thing
Given to us by God, His grace
And His mercies we trace

And it is certain we
Can carry out, so be
Nothing of this world, empty hands
Depart we from this land

Having food and raiment
Let us so be content
With them, and with our God to guide
Us, no better beside

Penitence For Persecutors

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Adapted from 'Prayer for Peace'

by St Cyprian of Carthage, 210-258AD

We beg, beseech of the God who
The enemies of the church do
Forever provoke, irritate
That He would tame their wild hearts state

May their rage subside, calm return
To their hearts, may their minds so turn
Clouded by dark that their sins make
May they repent, for comforts sake

And may they see the light, may they
Seek the bishop's prayers, and so say
We shall not his blood seek, for we
Turned from our persecuting be

Teaching Time

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Christ be our Teacher, our guide
By your Spirit, still reside
In our hearts, your wisdom give
So we good know how to live
Not of human cleverness
Not as human thoughts is this

Spiritual wisdom in part
Directing our every part
You who told stories simple
And in your words parables
They revealed to us these days
Not dark sayings, but clear ways

Having you the light of life
Bringing peace to human strife
Inspire hearts and minds, mankind
That they you will may know, find
Seek to bring your kingdom here
That on earth it shall appear

So your will on earth be done
Corporate, and by each one
Redeeming the time, for see
Days of troubles, conflicts be
Your word to our path a light
Lamp to our feet, shining bright

Securely Sustained

Tune: Slane

('Be thou my vision')

Adapted from 'A prayer to the Holy Trinity'

by St Basil The Great, 330-379AD

As I rise from sleep I thank you, Trinity
Holy, of three Persons you ever shall be
Father, Son, and Spirit, through your great goodness
And patience you not angry with me, true this

Though an idler, sinner, you have not destroyed
Me in my sins, but in your love have employed
Me, faithful and usual, your love to mankind
When prostrate in despair, mercies I did find

You raised me to keep the morning watch again
And to glorify your power shown to men
Enlighten my mind's eyes and my mouth open
To study, understand your commandment then

And to do your will, and sing to you heartfelt
Adoration, distractions away now melt
Praising your most holy name, Father, and Son
And Holy Spirit e'er, while all ages run

Kingly Kindlings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 89 v.20-28

The Lord did find David His servant true
David did always keep the Lord in view
With His holy oil He did him anoint
Unto His service He did him appoint

His Spirit would with him be established
And He would strengthen him, so as He wished
The enemy would not him defeat, for
The Lord would sustain him with power sure

And His faithfulness and His mercy too
Would be with him, and in the Lord's name true
He would be strong, and rule o'er sea and land
Enabled and helped by God's mighty hand

And he shall pray to God, his salvation
A rock, his father, compares unto none
And the Lord shall him bless, and raise him high
His mercy, covenant, be e'er him nigh

Valentine's Woe

Not a hymn-poem.

If it had a tune it would be a dirge!

I been dreading today - now it's here.
Oh, I cannot turn to lyrics today
No 'My love is like a red, red rose'
And all that 'gushing' stuff (!) heehee

But why not? Well, woe is me
I gotta spend the day with KP
What could be worse?
There'll be nowt romantic in it

And Fido don't help either
He won't let me have any 'ardour'
And certainly no 'excitement'
And he's banned 'slap and tickle!'

But in me sheltered life
I need to 'get me coat'
And 'get out more', as they say
But KP's spent all me money on botox

Doh! 'Out you go, Fido!'
Into the back yard for a while
Then I can let me hair down
What you don't see won't hurt ya, Fido

Now I can't tell you folks more
Cos ya might swoon
KP and I might have some slap and tickle after all
'Spare me the ghastly details', you reply!
Heehee

I best mark this 18+. Ooohh!

Dedicatory Desires

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Adapted from 'Prayer to God the Father

by St Macarius The Great, 300-391AD.

Eternal God, King of all creation

Who had brought me to this hour, staion

Forgive me sins today of thought, word, deed

In your grace my prayers heed

Cleanse, O Lord, my humble soul from all ill

Defilements of flesh, spirit, that may still

Be within me, and grant me peace this night

Keep me safe in your sight

That when I rise in the morning I may

Please your most holy name throughout the day

With your power conquer the sinful things

My flesh life to me brings

Deliver me, O Lord, from thoughts that vain

And frivolous be, which no progress gain

And from evil desires defend me, you

Father, Son, Spirit true

Forgiveness Freedom

Tune: All for Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come confirm us')

Psalm 32 v.1-5

Blessed are they whose sins forgiven
They know freedom from them then
Blessed are they unto whom the Lord
Extends His pardoning word

And to whom He does not impute
Sins, and does account them mute
Does not charge them to their account
But price paid from mercy's fount

Cleansed within, in their spirit no
Guile, deceit, they not now know
If keeping silent, withholding
Confession, it turmoil brings

But if acknowledging honest
Our sins be to God confessed
He will forgive, make us restored
To enjoy peace with our Lord

People's Prosperity

Tune & Hymn: Amazing Grace

Hosea 1 v.6-9 and 2 v.1 parts

Hosea speaks, Restoration
Shall be to the nation
People of Israel shall be
Numbered as sand's grains, see

It shall come to pass in the place
Where 'twas said to the race
Of Israel, you are not my
People, not to me nigh

There it shall be said, My people
You are, even you all
The people of the living God
Which on this land have trod

For once you were named Lo-ammi
'Not my people' you be
But now you are named Ammi, for
You are my people sure

And once were named Lo-ruhamah
I put you from me far
'No mercy' to you I would show
So troubles, grief you know

But now you are named Ruhamah
For to you my desire
Has rekindled, mercy I shall
Have on you, do you well

Barmy Birthday!

Arghhh! It's that day again
That old, very old Orchi
He's millions of years old
Today he's millions plus one years old!

He don't have any fun
And no excitement or ardour
As I've told ya
It's Fido's fault, ya see
Plus I'm married to KP

Ah yes, we'll go out for the evening
KP and I, to The Old Trout Club
Though it'll be a ghastly time
She's the Chairperson! heehee

Ya can all pop rounds for drinks this weekend
They might taste a bit funny though
That'll be me adding water to them
Orchi, a.k.a. The Phantom Whisky*-Waterer
(* or whatever your tippie is)

Write a love poem, for KP and I
Bring it along with ya
Though mark it 18+ if need be
Or Fido will bark at ya
Ya won't get into the house even
When he guards it from those in the category
'Poems that should be marked 18+ but are not!'

Ohh, yes, I'm 21 again
About 5,000 times over
I've not done the maths for this

Does it work out to millions of years?!

Another eccentric year.....! lol

The Timeless And The Temporary

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord my God')

Psalm 103 v.13-17

Like as a father to children
The Lord them pities then
They that fear Him, show reverence
Respecting His presence

For He does know our human frame
And each of us by name
He remembers that dust we are
He who made furthest star

As for mankind, their days shall be
As grass, not lastingly
And as a flower of the field
Flourishing with short yield

For the wind passes over it
Then it is gone, each bit
And the place where mankind was shall
Be no more, thus we tell

But the mercy of the Lord be
From everlasting, see
And to everlasting upon
They that fear Him, each one

Jerusalem Joys

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Revelation 22 v.1-5

John, who in his vision he saw
New Jerusalem sure
In it there be a river pure
Water of life, health-cure

Clear as crystal, it did proceed
Out of the throne indeed
Throne of God and of the Lamb, there
It flowed for all to share

In middle of the street, and too
On sides of river, view
The tree of life, which there did bear
Twelve manner of fruits fair

Its fruit it every month did yield
And its leaves no concealed
But were for healing of nations
Reaching to all stations

And there shall be no more curse, throne
Of God and Lamb alone
Shall be in it, and His servants
Shall serve, know His presence

They shall see his face, and His name
On their foreheads, the same
Lord God who reigns there, and no night
Be, but perpetual light

No candle, lamp, or light of sun
The Lord God lights each one
Who dwells there, they shall reign for e'er
With separation ne'er

Causes Of Contentment

Tune: Marching

(one tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Philippians 4 v.11-13

Grant, Lord, that we here in life learn
To be content, to discern
In each situation, whate'er
Things in each day we may share

To know both how to be abased
Live humbly, and by you graces
And how to abound, to prosper
Still helped by your same grace sure

And everywhere and in all things
Instructed in what life brings
To know both, whether full, hungry
If too much or little be

And to know both how to abound
Where more than enough is found
And to suffer need, go without
Trust you to provide, no doubt

So we can do all things through He
Who strengthens us, Christ He be
Power to live through the hours
Life of Christ through us flowers

Humble Heard

Tune: Heinlein

('Forty days and forty nights')

James 4 v.6-10

God resists the proud, but gives
Grace to the humble. each lives
Submit yourselves therefore to
God, yield Him your life anew

Reist the devil, and he
Will then from you swiftly flee
Draw near to God, and he will
Draw near to you this day still

Cleanse your hands, you sinners here
That your good deeds may appear
Unto God, and purify
You hearts, minds, know He is nigh

Be not double minded, be
Single-minded, clarity
Be afflicted, mourn, and weep
Yet God takes us for His sheep

Let laughter turn to mourning
And joy turn to lamenting
Humble self in the Lord's sight
He shall raise you, give you light

Time for...

Sometimes, the time may be short
But note down any passing thought
Then when your writers block may clear
You shall find expression here!

Returning Repentants

Tune: Spiritus Vitae

('O breath of life, come sweeping through us')

Hosea 6 v.1-3

The Lord says, I will go and return
To my place till my people learn
And confess their offence, they away
have gone from me in this their day

Till they seek my face, though afflicted
They be, they will seek me early
With diligence, will say, Come and let
Us return unto the Lord e'en yet

For He has torn and He will us heal
Unto Him we shall pled, appeal
He has smitten us, and He will bind
Us up, His mercies we shall find

After two days He will us revive
In the third day let us not strive
For He will raise us up, we shall live
In His sight, He will us forgive

Then shall we know, if we do follow
On to know the Lord, even so
That His going forth it is prepared
As the morning dawns, His love shared

He shall come to us as the rainfall
Waters the earth, refreshes all
Former and latter rain, heavy, light
And bless us with His presence bright

Justice And Judgement

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

Psalm 9 v.7-11

The Lord shall endure ever
His years they end never
He has His throne prepared for
His righteous judgement sure

He shall judge in righteousness
And deal in uprightness
He will be a refuge for
The oppressed, needy, poor

They that know His name, they will
Put their trust in Him still
For the Lord has not forsook
But us to Him has took

He will not leave those who seek
Him, humble, loving, meek
Sing praises to the Lord, He
Dwells in Zion, so be

Zion, where His temple be
Upon that mount, here see
Declare midst people His deeds
He who unto us heeds

Mission To Mankind

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

Luke 4 v.16-19

Jesus in synagogue did read
From Isaiah's book indeed
What He read was fulfilled that day
As they met to worship, pray

He said, The Spirit of the Lord
Is upon me, true this word
Because He has anointed me
To do His purpose freely

To preach the gospel to the poor
Heal the broken-hearted sure
Preach deliverance to captives
Restoring the Spirit gives

Recovering of sight to blind
The way clear they shall see, find
They who are oppressed, released all
[It is] The Lord's year acceptable

Sowing And Reaping

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Hosea 10 v.12-13

Sow to yourselves in righteousness
So shall the Lord turn to you, bless
Reap in mercy, loving-kindness
And seek the Lord, His forgiveness

Brek up your fallow ground, it be
Untilled, and laying idly, see
For it is time to seek the Lord
Come to Him humbly, trust His word

Seek Him till He come and rain on
You righteousness, each daughter, son
Wickedness you plowed, and sin reaped
Were in idolatrous ways steeped

Through Troubles

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 116 v.1-7

I love the Lord, He heard
My voice, my every word
My pleas, my prayers came to His ear
His presence I sense near

So I will on Him call
Trusting, I shall not fall
Though sorrows as of death I knew
You helped me, even you

Pains as of hell gripped me
Troubles, sorrows did see
Then called I on the Lord's name sure
Deivler me, restore

Tend to my soul, for you
Gracious, righteous be too
And merciful you, our God be
Our Lord eternally

The Lord does me preserve
From Him may I not swerve
He lifted me when I was low
His graces I did know

Return to rest, my soul
The Lord restores you whole
Has saved you, dealt bountifully
From troubles set you free

Forgiveness Fullness

Tune: Detroit

('Forgive our sins as we forgive')

Psalm 51 v.1-4 and v.11

Have mercy on me, loving-kind
Lord, I do so you find
According to your mercies blot
Out my sins, the whole lot

Forgive me, wash me from my sin
And cleanse me deep within
For I confess my sins, I do
They all be against you

So that you, Lord, are justified
When you speak, none beside
Can cleanse me from my sins, but you
Forgive sins not a few

And too you be clear when judging
Myself I to you bring
Dependent, trusting for mercy
For your restoring free

Create clean heart, O God, in me
And set me steadfastly
To follow you, your Spirit take
Not [from me], but more like Christ make

Going On In Grace

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Jude 1 v.20-23

Belovéd, be building
Up yourselves in each thing
On your most holy faith each day
And be watching and pray

Pray in the Spirit true
He will strengthen, renew
Keep yourselves in love of God sure
It be holy and pure

And look for the mercy
Of our Lord, may you see
It is fullness, to eternal
Life it shall bring you all

Preach gospel message, share
With love, compassion, care
So others too salvation know
And in Christ daily grow

Lasting Love

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Hosea 11 v.8-9

The Lord says, Now how shall I give
You up, my people? You shall live
In my sight, not as days of old
When stories of destruction told

For cities around the Dead Sea
Admah, Zeboim midst them be
Destroyed for their sins, but I shall
Not treat you like them, you fare well

My heart within me it is turned
And my emptions they are churned
For you deserving punishment
But from it here I shall relent

My repentings, my sympathy
It kindled together, so be
It be stirred in me, I will not
Vent my anger, peaceful your lot

I will not destroy my people
For I am God, they shall not fall
The Holy One among you I
Be, you shall know my mercies nigh

Stones To Bread?

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Matthew 4 v.1-4

Jesus was led by the Spirit
As God's purpose did fit
Led into wilderness to be
Tempted by Satan, see

He fasted forty days and nights
And knew hunger-pains bites
Tempter said to Him, If you be
The Son of God, agree

Agree to turn these stones to bread
And so you shall be fed
Your hunger met, and energy
From food you shall have free

But Jesus answered, It is wrote
Here to you I do quote
Man shall not live by bread alone
But each word of God own

Each word that from God's mouth proceeds
That sustains, as we heed
Though needing our food physical
More so food spiritual

Helpful Hope

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, my Saviour dear')

Psalm 40 v.1-5

We wait patiently for the Lord
Incline to us Lord, hear our call
Bring us out of horrible pit
Set us on your way, with path lit

Bring us too out of miry clay
That our footsteps not stuck do stay
But set our feet upon a rock
For of our steps you do take stock

Establish our goings, and we
Shall sing new song you give us, see
Even praise to you, our God, so
Many shall see it, shall you know

Blessed they that make the Lord their trust
Though they but men made of the dust
Blessed they who respect not the proud
Nor such as are of lies endowed

Many, O Lord our God, are your
Wondrous works you have shown us sure
If we reckon your thoughts to us
We cannot count them, numberless

Jump From Temple Top?

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Matthew 4 v.5-7

The devil took Jesus up to
The holy city, there to do
His tempting, from pinnacle high
Of temple, Jump, you will not die

For God shall His angels charge give
If you be Son of God, shall live
If you cast yourself down from here
His saving angles shall appear

God shall give charge to keep you when
You leap aloft, and no harm then
Shall come to you, angels shall bear
You in their hands, no have no care

For if worrying if you harm
Yourself on e'en one stone, be calm
For God's angels shall protect you
Now this spectacular feat do

But Jesus said, It is also
Written, and I this Scripture know
That you shall not tempt, test the Lord
Your God, nor twist nor turn His word

Dwelling Delights 2

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner sing')

Psalm 84 v.8-12

O Lord God of hosts, do now hear my prayer
You be just, fair
Behold, O God, our shield
We have to you appealed
Look on us, on Christ too
And through Him do us view
Your Son who brings salvation unto all
Who on Him call

For a day in your courts, it better be
Than thousand, see
Of days that be elsewhere
Spent, they in this mot share
As sense of your presence
We find in your house hence
I would rather be door-keeper therein
Than [in] tents of sin

For the Lord is a sun and shield, He
Gives grace, glory
No good thing shall He keep
Back from His flock, His sheep
They that live uprightly
His blessings they shall see
O Lord of hosts, blessed they that trust in you
You them renew

Worship Me?

Tune: Saffron Waldon

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Matthew 4 v.8-11

The devil took Jesus to high
Mountain, showed Him there by and by
All the kingdoms of the world, He
And their glory did see

The devil said, All these things will
I give you, each vale, town, and hill
If you will fall down, worship me
All these things shall yours be

Jesu said to him, Get you hence
Satan, and tempt not providence
For it is written, That you shall
Worship the Lord, know well

Worship the Lord your God, and He
Only shall you true serve, so be
The devil left Him, and, behold
Angels helped Him, it told

Jesus ne'er to temptation yield
Did you, though Satan words did wield
To turn you from the way of cross
But the outcome his loss

A Lion's Share-In

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Adapated from a 'said' poem.

Lion of Judah, commands, coherent
His power to break each chain inherent
Majetcially displayed, lion's pride strong
Yet proud in humility, suffering long

Beauty and honour and praise evermore
Set free from oppression, unlocks each door
We wonder, marvel at your awesome sight
You are God, King of Glory, Lord of Light

Your face appears inviting, not cruel, fierce
All shall look on you, you whom they did pierce
All-powerful One, with Omnipotence
In gentleness you call, say, Follow hence

Victorious you reign, over all high
Lord of everything, earth and sea and sky
Your standard of love be in every heart
Banner unfurled as you rule our each part

Your eternal victory, none withhold
Your will be done, and your kingdom unfold
[Lion of] Judah - Praise - your people do you proclaim
No end the triumph, your resplendent name

Restorative Remembrances

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Psalm 77 v.10-15

I will remember sure the years
Of the most high God, though fears
I do have, yet I will recall
His works, wonders, so not fall

I will meditate too of all
Your work, your doings extol
Will talk of them, comfort they be
Through my troubles unto me

Your way, O God, in Temple be
It your dwelling, sanctuary
There we learn of your holiness
And your good intent to bless

You the God that wonders does do
They be many, not a few
By your strength you did redeem sure
Your people Israel e'ermore

The Two Ways

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Matthew 7 v.12-14

Therefore all things whatever you
Would that people would do to you
So do to them, this golden rule
Summarises law, [and] prophets all

Enter you in at the strait gte
It narrow be, this contemplate
For wide is the gate, broad the way
Therein path to destruction lays

But many do go in that gate
Because narrow gate it is strait
With difficulties, confinements
Yet be way to true contentments

And this strait gate does to life lead
Though there few that find it, it heed
Yet pursuing this way, Christ He
With us, and the Life, Truth, Way be

Mission Of The Messiah

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Luke 7 v.17-23

John's disciples one day
Came to Jesus, did say
John Baptist sent us to
You, to ask this of you
Are you the Messiah promised?
Or is there chance we have Him missed?

At that time Jesus cured
Many, healings assured
Infirmities, sickness
And evil spirits, this
His mission to teach, preach, and heal
To bring salvation and good weal* (*well-being)

And to many who blind
Gave gave sight, they did find
That they could see clearly
And Jesus said, So be
Go your way, you disciples, tell
Things you have seen, heard, know them well

How the blind see, lame walk
How the dumb freed, they talk
Lepers are cleansed, deaf hear
Dead raised, gospel preached here
Too the poor, and blessed are they who
Accept me, what I say and do

Cross Before Crown

Tune: Gute Baume Bringen = bringing good trees

('Christian, dost thou see them?')

Luke 9 v.23-26

Jesus said to people
Even unto all
If anyone will come
After me, I some
Words [to say], If come after me
Let this bearing be
Of you, take up your cross
Daily, to self loss

For whoever will save
Their life, path will pave
Unto loss, but whoso
Lose their life, this know
Losing life for my sake
They shall save it, take
Of my own life, and live
With power I give

For what advantage is
If gain whole world, this
No benefit, if such
Lose themselves thus much
Or they may be off cast
World's pleasures not last
But in self-denial
Partake Christ's life full

For whosoever shall
Be ashamed, know well

Of me of my words, they
Shall find in that day
When I return, shall come
Take my people home
I shall too be ashamed
[Of they] Who have me disdained

Commonwealth Considerations

On seeing the annual Commonwealth Day Service on TV
It's always the second Monday in March in the UK

Vibrant and bright, many nationalities
King Charles III giving an address from the pulpit
In Westminster Abbey (UK)

A crowing moment (pun intended?)
Was the Recessional Hymn (last hymn)
And a procession out of church
With all the Commonwealth flags
To the hymn and tune
'Crown Him with many crowns'
Suitable for our Lord Jesus
The King of Kings and Lord of Lords

A sort of 'going-forth' showed symbolically
Patriotism too, but not just that
The flags as banners
Of nations going out into the world
To share justice, peace, equality - love

A pipe dream? Or 'if only it were so.....'?
And 'Give peace a chance'
Let's hope so - and we can pray so.....

Willing Witnesses

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Water of life, river now flow
From us, that others know
The Spirit's touch through word and deed
And to your message heed

Message of salvation to all
Who on the Lord's name call
Give us courage, boldness that we
Not as the blocked streams be

Not stagnant, stale, but refreshing
Something of God's life bring
To each we meet, be large, small ways
Throughout our pilgrim days

The gospel preached, teaching, healing
Your name glorifying
As you Christ did, so may we be
Sharers of you freely

That deaf shall hear and dumb shall speak
Grace to the humble, meek
That sick be healed, e'en dead to rise
True gospel spread, no lies

Capturing Commitment

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Psalm 23 v.1-2

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall
Not want, but of His goodness tell
And He makes me to lie down in
Green pastures, pleasantries therein

Psalm 23 v.4

Even though I walk through valley
Of the shadow of death, it be
That no evil will I fear there
For you the way with me do share

Psalm 24 v.1

The earth is the Lord's, its fullness
He created it, and does bless
The world and all that therein dwell
They of His providings do tell

Psalm 25 v.5

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me
You God of my salvation be
On you do I wait all the day
Hear me now as I watch and pray

Psalm 25 v.9-10

The meek will He guide in justice
Meek and humble teach, true is this
All His paths mercy and truth be
To all who keep to His words, see

Psalm 26 v.2-3

Examine me, O Lord, prove me

Try my conscience and heart here free

For your loving-kindness it is

Before my eyes, your truth my bliss

Praise Pieces

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 100 v.1-2

Make joyful noise unto
The Lord, His word true
All you lands give Him praise
To Him your songs raise
Serve the Lord with gladness
His good deeds confess
Come before His presence
Sing with thankfulness

Psalm 102 v.12-13

You, Lord, shall endure e'er
Your years they end ne'er
You remembered shall be
Generations agree
You shall rise, have mercy
On Zion, city
Your dwelling-place, favour
Shall come unto her

Psalm 102 v.25-26

Of old you have laid, set
Earth's foundations yet
Heavens, work of your hands
Created all lands
They shall perish, but you
Shall endure anew
They temporary, but you
Eternal we view

Psalm 103 v.17

Mercy of the Lord is

Everlasting, this

Our comfort, for they who

Godly fear Him do

Know that mercy, kindness

Loving, He shall bless

Gives us His righteousness

Forgives sins no less

Communion In Community

Tune: Bread of Life

('Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord to me')

Communion shared in community
Your gifts of bread and wine to us we see
Which you, Lord, did first institute, when you
Onwards your Father's will did choose to do

Here shared the bread of life, sustaining all
Who unto you the living bread do call
And water of life, here drink of fine fare
Wine quenches spiritual thirst, none compares

Your life given for all, remembrance made
As bread and wine on table here displayed
That not the end, for you did rise again
Saviour of sinners, women, children, men

Building Blocks

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Ephesians 2 v.18-22

Through Christ, Jews and Gentiles both, we
Have access to [God the] Father, see
It be by the one Spirit sure
We not strangers anymore
But w fellow-citizens be
With the household of God free

And are built on the foundation
Stands firm unto each nation
Foundation of the apostles
And they who hear prophets calls
Jesus Christ He Himself being
Corner-stone of everything

In Him all the building, set, framed
Made up of those who have named
Him as Lord and Saviour, trusting
He their Redeemer and King
In Him all does together grow
To temple holy we know

In Him you also are being
Built together, there nothing
Nor anyone left out, all one
For to be habitation
Dwelling of God through His Spirit
Acceptable, perfect, fit

Worthy Word

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Psalm 119 v.140-144

Your word is very pure, Lord, I
Your servant do love it here nigh
I am small, despised, yet do not
Forget your precepts, they my lot

Your righteousness ins e'erlasting
Your law is the truth through each thing
Trouble and anguish do I know
Yet I hold to your word e'en so

For your commands are my delight
I keep them always in my sight
To do them, and the righteousness
Of your testimonies, they bliss

They last for ever, never fade
Give me understanding, so staid
In your ways I shall be, and live
And thankful praises to you give

Restoration In Returning

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Hosea 14 v.1-7 parts

O Israel, return to the Lord
You have fallen by sins, true word
But say, Lord, forgive us this day
And restore us back to your way

So we will praise you and not turn
To foreign nation, but shall learn
Of you, and from idolatry
We turn, and find in you mercy

The Lord says, I will hear, and heal
Their backsliding, with them will deal
With love freely, for my anger
I turned from them, and shall not stir

I will be as dew to Israel
They shall grow as the lily well
Shall send forth roots as cedar trees
Of Lebanon, as they me please

They that dwell under His shadow
Shall return and revival know
Be as the corn, grow as the vine
Aroma as the fine fresh wine

Troubles Told

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 6 v.1-4

O Lord, rebuke me not
In anger, else my lot
Shall be poor, nor chasten me in
Displeasure for my sin

Have mercy upon me
O Lord, my troubles see
For I am weak, come to me, heal
Me, that I you sense, feel

My bones are vexed and pained
My soul sore troubled, feigned
I this not, but O Lord, how long
Till I return to song?

And you return to me
And from my troubles free
Me, O save me for your mercies
Sake, do so, these my pleas

Gospel Givers

Tune: Fulda

('W have a gospel to proclaim')

Colossians 1 v.26-29

God would make known what the riches
Of the glory of mystery, this
To Jews and Gentiles, all mankind
That they this revealed secret find

It be Christ in us, His Spirit
The hope of glory, our path lit
So send us, Lord, to witness free
Of the gospel courageously

Preaching and warning and teaching
In all wisdom in every thing
That every one presented be
Perfect in Christ Jesus fully

Labouring on, this work, service
That we the standard do not miss
Finding the Spirit's might and power
To give us strength for every hour

Praise Procession

Tune: Leoni

('The God of Abraham praise')

Psalm 46 v.1-2

God our refuge and strength
Will save, soon, or at length
A very present help He be
In trouble, see
Therefore we will not fear
E'en though afflictions near
Earth, mounts, waters move, but our stay
Is God today

Psalm 47 v.6-8

Sing praises to God, sing
he King o'er everything
Reigns o'er the heathen, to Him sing
With understanding
He sits upon His throne
None other like Him known
Throne of His holiness for e'er
That changes ne'er

Psalm 48 v.10-11

According to your name
O God, so praise is same
To ends of the earth, farthest boudns
Your rule resounds
Your right hnd it is full
Of righteousness, let all
Rejoice, be glad, in your judgements
Fair and true hence

Psalm 45 v.4

In your majesty ride

Let it not be denied

Ride prosperously, true and meek

May we you seek

And too in righteousness

Look on us and us bless

Your hand shall guide, teach us awesome

Things, good each one

Restoration Revealed

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Isaiah 52 v.7-10

The Festival of The Annunciation - March 25.

How beautiful on the mountains they be
The feet of Him that brings good tidings, see
He publishes peace, bring tidings of good things
And throughout Zion, 'Your God reigns!', the cry rings

Your watchmen shall lift up their voice and sing
For they shall see salvation the Lord brings
Break forth into joy, you waste places of land
Teh Lord comfort, redemption brings by His hand* (*Spirit)

He has revealed His power, His strength shown
Among all the nations it here be known
And all the ends of the earth, they shall see true
Teh salvation of God, He restores, renews

Pursuing The Passion

Tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

John 12 v.24-28

Chorus

Unless a grain of wheat fall in the ground

It shall abide alone, thus shall be found

But if it die, it brings forth much fruit, see

Shall come to new life, grow productively - Chorus

They that love their life, hold it selfishly

Shall lose it, there no self-denial be - Chorus

And they that love not their life in this world

Shall keep it to life eternal unfurled - Chorus

If anyone serve Christ, let them follow

Him, and them His servants His presence know - Chorus

If anyone will serve Christ, He does say

His Father will honour them, with them stay - Chorus

Now is my soul troubled, what shall I say?

Father, save me from this, my Passion's day? - Chorus

But for this cause He to this hour came

Says, Father, glorify here true your name - Chorus

Faithfully Forwards

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear Sacrament')

Psalm 119 v.33-38

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your
Statutes, and I for sure
Shall keep them unto the end, give
Me grace, so I shall live

Give me understanding, and I
Shall keep your law, comply
With it, I shall with my whole heart
Observe it every part

Make me to go in the path here
of your commndments clear
For therein do I delight free
They are pleasant to me

Incline my heart, testimonies
Of yours, my soul agrees
That they are good, and turn me not
To a covetous lot

Establish your word unto me
I who your servant be
I am devoted to your fear
Worship you, you reve

Sheep Safety

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 32 v.7-11

You, Lord, my hiding place
Assist me by your grace
You shall preserve me, keep
I of your fold, your sheep
You shall surround me with songs true
Of your salvation here anew

The Lord will instruct, teach
Will show His way to each
Will guide us, on us look
We helped, and not forsook
But be not as the mule or horse
Who one must restrain, be by force

Many sorrows shall be
Unto the wicked, see
But they that trust the Lord
It shall be as His word
For mercy shall be round about
Them, they secure now with no doubt

Be glad in the Lord, sing
Rejoice, you righteous bring
Him praise, and joyful shout
Celebrations ring out
From they who are upright in heart
They never from their Lord apart

A Discourse

A Discourse

Some may say, for example, watching 'Songs of Praise' on TV

That it can vary - traditional, modern, etc; old, new songs, hymns, choruses, etc

We don't HAVE to watch it every week though!

Some Sundays I look at the theme and think, 'Oh no, don't fancy that!'

But recently one was asked, 'What does your faith mean to you in this situation?'

Maybe not always talking about the help of faith in times of trouble, but also in things of everyday life.

We can get into 'church-going' as a 'hobby', or just as a social club, but it's more than that, I believe

One ditty is: 'Christ and Christianity - a crutch to lean on?' 'No, the ground to stand on!'

The need for a Saviour, so there must be some awareness of sins to be forgiven, or else we say 'What sins?'

A search, and then hopefully finding, a 'thing' or rather 'one', a God, one greater than us as humans

Not cliquey nor a Club to join, but a living relationship with Jesus, God's Son

It's how it is for me - and for millions.

Another thing is, though it does not depend entirely on this, is 'Surely some many millions of believers can't be wrong?'

The 'Easter journey' starts again soon

It can be a sort of pilgrimage for us.....

End of 'sermon'?!

'Woof! it's not a sermon', says Fido!

(You knew he'd get a word in somehow)

Promises Provision

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 105 v.38-45

The Lord brought out His people
Israel, from Egypt all
Egyptians they were plagued there
God's judgements they did share
And they were glad when Israel
Departed, told the tale
Of their release, captivity
Was broken, they were free

For the fear of Israel fell
On Egyptians, they well
Knew the Lord's workings, His deeds
Meeting His people's needs
He spread cloud for covering
Out of Egypt did bring
His people, and fire to give
Light in the night, they live

They asked, and He did quails bring
Bread of heaven, each thing
To satisfy them, and He
Did open the rock, see
And waters gushed out, the ran
To quench the thirst of man
Ran in dry places, they flowed
Like a river bestowed

For He did remember sure
His holy promise pure

And Abraham His servant
He helped, did not relent
He gave them lands of heathen
Their inheritance then
They came into possessions
They His true daughters, sons

Was so that they might observe
The Lord's words and Him serve
keep His statutes and commands
And so enjoy the lands
Ans keep His laws, His name praise
Fresh thanks unto Him raise
He still their guide and faithful
Unto His people all

Preaching Proclaimed

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Romans 10 v.13-15

Whosoever shall call upon
Name of the Lord, every one
Shall be saved, it is His promise
Gracious to us this

But how shall they call on Him in
Whom they not believed therein?
And how shall they believe in Him
More than by a whim?

How beieve, if they have not heard?
How hear without the preached word?
Though it written, How beautiful
Are feet of them all

Feet of them that walk, preach gospel
Tidings of peace, hear the call
Glad news of good things to receive
From the Lord, believe

Returning Readiness

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Luke 21 v.34-38

Take heed to yourselves, these Jesus' word be
Let not hearts be taken up completely
With surfeiting, carousing, nor drunkenness
But ready for His return, His witnesses

And take heed too that cares of this life, they
Distract you not from His returning day
If so, His return shall come, you unaware
Until Christ in person appears to you there

For as a snare that day shall come to all
That dwell on the earth it shall come, not stall
Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be
Not off guard, but wait patient, diligently

Pray that you may be accounted worthy
To escape things that at end times shall be
The troubles and perils, and to be able
To stand before the Son of man, with no fall

Palms Procession

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Matthew 21 v.1-11 parts

Chorus

Journey to Jerusalem

It joyful though solemn

Jesus on humble donkey

Makes His way, all folk see

Tell the people of Zion

It was prophesied then

By Zechariah, prophet

Your King comes to you yet - Chorus

Great multitude their garments

With worshipful intent

Spread them on the road, some they

Strew palm branches in way - Chorus

Or waved them, praising their King

Jubilant sings did sing

Their cry, 'Hosanna to Son

Of David', Christ the One - Chorus

Blessed He that comes in the name

Of the Lord, Christ the same

Hosanna, Save now, we pray

In this salvation day - Chorus

Hosanna in the highest

Through Christ all peoples blessed

Jerusalem, whole city

Moved, enquired, 'Who this be?' - Chorus

'Tis Jesus the prophet sure
Spotless Lamb of God pure
From Nazareth, [in] Galilee
Revealed for all to see - Chorus

Priestly Profile

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Hebrews 2 v.9, 14-17

Jesus, Son of God, tasted death
For every one, to final breath
Upon the cross, and salvation
He obtained for every nation

Humans of flesh and blood partake
And so did Jesus for our sake
Become full human, full divine
To defeat powers ill, align

That through His death He might destroy
Him that had power, evil ploy
The one who had the power of death
The devil, this the scripture saith

And so deliver they who through
Fear of death, were subject anew
Through their life, by this fear they bound
But eternal life in Christ found

For Christ became not an angel
Some super-being for to tell
But took on Him human nature
Our high priest, He true God, true man

Willing The Cross-Way

Tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

Matthew 26 v.36-42

Jesus took with Him, see
Unto Gethsemane
Peter, James, and John, He
Said, I sorrowful be
Exceedingly, very heavy
Deep emotion, distressingly

He said, Sit you here while
I go yonder, compile
My thoughts to pray, stay here
Take courage and not fear
But watch with me, a little way
He went and then these words did say

O my Father, if it
Possible, any whit
Let this cup pass from me
Suffering cup it be
Nevertheless not as I will
But as you will, my Father still

He to disciples came
They were asleep, the same
He said, Could you watch not
One hour? Or forgot
You to watch and pray, that you not
Fall weak into temptations lot

The spirit is indeed

Willing, on God does feed
But the flesh is weak so
May give up its prayer flow
Jesus said, Father, if this cup
Cannot pass from me, I it sup

Shepherd Sufferings

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, sore wounded')

1 Peter 2 v.21-25

Christ did in His suffering
Us an example bring
That we should his steps follow
He suffered, this we know
But did no sin, and neither
Was deceit found either
In His mouth, His words sinless
His mouth did speak to bless

Who when He was here reviled
Reviled not angry, wild
In return, and when suffered
No threatenings were heard
From Him, but He committed
Himself to Father's stead
He who judges righteously
All of humanity

Christ, He Himself our sin bore
In His own body sure
On the tree, the cross, that we
Being dead to sins, see
Should live unto righteousness
And too that we confess
By His stripes, wounds, we are healed
As He His life did yield

For you were as sheep going
Astray, lost in each thing

But are now returned unto
The Shepherd, Him you view
Shepherd, Bishop of your souls
Who does make each one whole
The Overseer, guardian
Safe we in Him, each one

Sharing Supper

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

John 13 v.1-17 parts

Sharing in meal before Passover

It was at the final Supper

Before Christ suffered, died, rose again

He still showed love unto all men* (*mankind)

After supper, washed disciples feet

Dusty and grimy, He left seat

Girded self with towel, and them served

Never from father's will He swerved

He would still love them, us, to the end

God the Father His Son did send

To save us, here shown in bread and wine

Christ's life full human, full divine

Give grace to us that we here humbly

May too serve each other freely

Many ways we wash each other's feet

And grow more Christ-like, whole, complete

Gospel Goodness

Tune: Horsley

('There is a green hill far away')

Romans 5 v.6-11

When we were without strength, at right
Time, Christ did in our sight
Die for the ungodly to bring
Salvation, praises ring

For scarcely for a righteous man
Will one die if one can
Yet perhaps for a good man some
Would dare to die, so come

But God commends to us His love
And Spirit, holy dove
In that while we were yet sinners
Christ died for us, appears

Much more now being justified
By His blood, none beside
We shall be saved from wrath through Him
Sins forgiven our hymn

For if, when we were enemies
God looks on us and sees
Sends His Son to us reconcile
By His life all the while

Much more having been reconciled
Now, cleansed and undefiled
We shall be saved by His life, for
He our atonement sure

Interval Imposed

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Matthew 27 v.57-66 parts

A waiting time, Jesus had died
Uncertainty seemed to preside
Joseph of Arimathea
Had laid Him in his own tomb, see

There witnesses, the two Marys
Saw the scene, the story agrees
Joseph at tomb door rolled great stone
Placed Jesus' body there, it known

Soldiers asked Pilate for a guard
For tomb-escape it would be hard
They said, Lest His disciples steal
Jesus away, this their appeal

Yet truth came to pass, Jesus said
Three days and I will rise from dead
We may share His resurrection
Eternal life denied to none

Easter Expressions

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Matthew 28 v.1-8

Now since the first Easter morn - Alleluia!
Humankind may be reborn - Alleluia!
Born of the Spirit within - Alleluia!
Forgiven and cleansed from sin - Alleluia!

After Sabbath* some to tomb (*Sunday morning) - Alleluia!
Came, and they saw empty room - Alleluia!
Then great earthquake, an angel - Alleluia!
Descended, tidings did tell - Alleluia!

Angel rolled back stone from door - Alleluia!
Of tomb, Jesus there no more - Alleluia!
His countenance as lightning - Alleluia!
White clothing, good news did bring - Alleluia!

For fear of him keepers there - Alleluia!
At tomb did shake and despair - Alleluia!
They became as like dead men - Alleluia!
But Jesus had risen then - Alleluia!

Angel to women did say - Alleluia!
Fear not, I do know this day - Alleluia!
That you seek Jesus, though He - Alleluia!
Crucified, now risen be - Alleluia!

Come, see place where He did lay - Alleluia!
But not here for ever stay - Alleluia!
For He goes to Galilee - Alleluia!
And sure you shall there Him see - Alleluia!

So they left tomb, quickly sped - Alleluia!
To announce Jesus not dead - Alleluia!
Bringing His disciples word - Alleluia!
Of the message they had heard - Alleluia!

Emmaus Event

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven')

Luke 24 v.13-32 parts

Two disciples to Emmaus
On their journey they did press
Talked of all that happened those days
With wondering and dismay
But the risen Jesus drew near
And unto them did appear
They did not know Him straight away
Though they knew later that day

'Twas when they unto the village
Of Emmaus neared, their stage
Said to Jesus, Abide with us
For dusk falls we do confess
And Jesus did then with them stay
They did know Him in the way
He took bread, broke it, then it gave
Risen Saviour, still does save

Spiritual eyes then were open
They did recognise Him then
But He then vanished from their sight
He who is of life the Light
They said, Did not our hearts burn in
Us, time He talked with us when
On our journey, and did explain
Scriptures of Himself shown plain

Commission Commitment

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.45-49

The risen Jesus did appear
To the disciples clear
He said, Thus it is written, know
The Scriptures do me show

Show it was necessary for
Christ to suffer for sure
And to rise from the dead third day
And now to live alway

And that repentance, remission
Be preached, sins forgiven
In Christ's name, mission unto all
Nations who hear His call

At Jerusalem it shall
Begin, and too know well
That you are witnesses of me
Of all you hear and see

And, behold, I send the promise
of my Father, true this
Upon you, the Spirit He be
To guide you constantly

But stay a while in the city* (*Jerusalem)
Until the time you be
Endued with power from on high
My presence e'er you nigh

Resurrection Reign

Tune: Gelobt Sei Gott

('Good Christians all, rejoice and sing')

1 Corinthians 15 v.20-26

Now is Christ risen from the dead
He ever lives, our risen Head
Water of life and living Bread
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He the first-fruits, conquering death
Who gave His life to final breath
Yet all was as the Scriptures saith
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For since by man came death, by man
Came also resurrection, can
We believe this? There be no ban
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For as in Adam all die, e'en
So in Christ shall all, shall be seen
All made alive in Him, fine scene
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

But each one in their own order
For Christ He be the first-fruits sure
Then rise His people, live e'ermore
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Raised at His return, He shall give
Kingdom to His Father, we live
Satan like wheat shall not us sieve
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This when He shall have put down all
Authority, power, each fall
At His throne, attend to His call
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For He must reign, each enemy
Then put under His feet, so be
Death destroyed, this His victory
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Festival of Food

Tune: Noel Nouvelet

('Now the green blade rises')

John 21 v.6-14 parts

Cast net on right side of ship, there Jesus said
At sea of Tiberias, risen from dead
And you disciples shall find fish for sure
They did cast and drew in a shoal not mean, poor

When they came to land, they saw fire of coals there
Jesus said, bring of fish you have caught, them share
Fish and bread prepared, Come, eat, Jesus said
They had breakfast with Him. He rose from the dead

Count of fishes one hundred and fifty three
Even there so many, net not broken, see
None of them dared to ask Him, Who you be?
They knew He was the risen Lord completely

Tale Of Thomas

Tune: Albinus

('Jesus lives! Thy terrors now...')

John 20 v.26-29

After some eight days again
Disciples were gathered there then
In one room, with Thomas too
Then cam Jesus to them anew. Alleluia!

Doors were shut, but He appeared
Said, Peace to you, unto them neared
Said to Thomas, Reach here your
Finger, behold my hands' wounds sure. Alleluia!

And put forth your hand and touch
My wounded side, and know this much
It is I, be not faithless
But believing, not comfortless. Alleluia!

Thomas said, My Lord, my God
You who on this earth have sure trod
You same one, though crucified
Were, now risen, though you had died. Alleluia!

Jesus said, Thomas, cause be
You have believed, for you see me
Blessed are they that have seen not
Yet have believed, happy their lot. Alleluia!

Prosperous Progressions

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me. my God and King')

Psalm 40 v.1

I waited patiently
For the Lord, he did see
Me, and inclined unto my prayer
My burden He did share

Psalm 40 v.2

For I was in a pit
In dark, my way not lit
But He did take me out from thence
Set me on a rock hence

Psalm 40 v.16

Let all those that seek you
Rejoice in you anew
Let them be glad, your salvation
They love, you bless each one

Psalm 41 v.11

By this I know that you
Do favour me sure, true
That my enemies triumph not
Over me, blessed my lot

Psalm 42 v.5

Why cast down, O my soul?
The Lord shall make you whole
Hope you in God, my soul, Him praise
He shall help and you raise

Psalm 43 v.8

O send your truth and light
To brighten here my sight
Let them lead me to your temple
And I shall on you call

Luminous Light

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul and with the sun')

Lord, you do teach with wisdom's light
And darkened paths you do make bright
Help us keep you in all our sight
You who dispel the fear of night

Lift heart and voice, to Him songs raise
Worship, be thankful, all your days
He will guide sure, each step nwo tread
Along life's way, Chrsit rose from dead

Arose from dead, now lives e'ermor
Residing by His Spirit sure
In humble hearts who hear his call
He came to be Saviour of all

No other way, though exclusive
It may seem, it is inclusive
For all may come to God and live
Through the new life that Christ does give

Alight a while, and meditate
On Him, His plans, purposes great
G forth, serve Him, His power know
And ever in His image grow

Evangel, proclaim the good news
knowing that Christ did you first choose
'Tis by His grace, His mercies pure
You are His people evermore

Merciful Musings

Tune: Bread of heaven

('Bread of heaven on thee we feed')

Psalm 67

God to us be merciful
Show us your grace bountiful
Bless us, cause your face to shine
Lighten us with light divine
That your way on earth be known
And your saving health be shown

Let, O God, the people praise
You, unto you fair songs raise
O let the nations be glad
Sing for joy, and not be sad
For you shall judge righteously
Your just governance we see

Let the people, you God, praise
All people in all their ways
Then shall the earth her increase
Yield, God's love, it shall not cease
For He us shall bless and all
The earth fear Him, on Him call

Presence Petition

Tune: Heinlein

('40 days and 40 nights')

Psalm 69 v.29-36

I am poor, sorrowful be
Let your salvation to me
Come, O God, set me on high
May I feel your presence nigh

I will praise God's name with song
Praise with song both short and long
I Him too will magnify
With thanksgiving, this my cry

This shall please the Lord better
Than sacrifice, law's letter
The humble shall see, be glad
Shall no more be downcast, sad

Your heart shall live, you who seek
God, revealed to humble, meek
For the Lord does hear the poor
Shall help them faithful for sure

The Lord He does not despise
His prisoners, them espies
Let heaven, earth, seas, all praise
Him, and to Him worship raise

For God He will save Zion
Rebuild cities, shall be done
Judah restored it shall be
And His people dwell there free

They shall possess the land there
Descendants in it shall share
They that love His name shall dwell
Therein, and His goodness tell

Restoring Requests

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty')

Psalm 80 parts

Turn us again, Lord, us restore
E'en to earth's farthest shore
Cause your face to shine here and so
Salvation we shall know
Give ear, Shepherd of Israel
Your leadings shall not fail
They are your flock, you do them feed
And attend to their need

You who dwell between cherubims
Shine forth, each to you hymns
A song of praise and worship too
Come to us, us renew
Stir up your strength, us come and save
The way to life you pave
Cast us not off, we look to you
To save sure not a few

The vineyard which your right hand strong
Had planted all along
And the branches, shoots, all you made
Through you they were firm, staid
But now it is with fire burned
Israel not to you turned
But they perish at your rebuke
A state bereft, forsook

Yet come save us, Lord, we do pray
And bring salvation's day

The Son of Man He shall prosper
He shall to your will stir
So then we will no more go back
Desire for you not lack
Quicken, revive us by your grace
And we shall seek your face

The Desolate Deceitful

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul it is the Lord')

Psalm 52

Why boast you man in mischief?
Trouble me, give no relief
The goodness of God endures
Continually, He ensures

Your tongue mischief does devise
They be foolish and unwise
Like a sharp razor do you
Work deceitfully anew

You love evil more than good
None can trust you, I ne'er would
You love lying more than right
Sinful ways are your delight

You love words that devour
Oppress, persecute each hour
God shall likewise you destroy
For ever, all your employ

He shall take you away for
He shall remove your place sure
Root out of land of living
Desolate in everything

The righteous shall see and fear
They shall laugh at him, he here
Did not make the Lord his strength
But strengthened himself at length

But I like a green olive
Tree am, in God's house I live
I trust in His mercy e'er
It shall depart from me ne'er

I will praise you Lord for e'er
For you did help to me share
And I on your name do wait
Before the saints it good, great

Light Leading

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia. Alleluia! Hearts to heaven....')

Christ arisen, ever living
Light and life and love you bring
Fill us with your joy and gladness
Your desire be all to bless
And that our hearts true confessing
Through your Spirit's faith well-spring
That we are in you forgiven
Made inheritors of heaven

For you Father so loved the world
And your purpose here unfurled
To gather all things in Christ, so
They shall all be one, we know
You gave your only begotten
Son, Jesus, the only one
That whosoever believes in
Him may be saved, freed from sin

It be your will that none perish
You do love and each cherish
So believing we may have sure
Life e'erlasting evermore
Light our lives where dull or dreary
Look on our fallow ground, see
Spirit, give refreshing water
Inspire us afresh, us stir

Trusting through life's times and trials
Learning, growing, wait awhile
Waiting on you strength we renew

Come to us with grace anew
On each step, changed to your image
Onwards going, give courage
'Til the heavenly land reach we
Then see you eternally

Godless Gloominess

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 14

The fool has said within his (/her) heart
There is no God, no part
They corrupt, abominable
None does good, none at all

The Lord looked down from His heaven
Upon the sons (/daughters) of men
To seek if any understood
If any seek God would

But none, for they all gone aside
In selfishness and pride
All become filthy, none good do
Not even just a few

Have those who work iniquity
No knowledge, they not see?
They eat up God's people as bread
Call not on Him, their Head

There the wicked in great fear, see
God in the midst He be
In generation of righteous
Dwelling sure among us

The wicked have shamed the counsel
Of the poor, they near fall
God, He the refuge of the poor
Will come to their help sure

Oh that Israel's salvation
Would come out of Zion
When the Lord brings back His captives
They shall rejoice, each lives

Godly Graces

Tune: Beatitudo

(one tune to: 'O for a closer walk with God')

Psalm 15

Lord, who shall in your tent abide?
[In] Tabernacle reside?
Who shall dwell in your holy hill?
And know your presence still

They that walk uprightly, and they
Work righteousness each day
They that speak the truth in their heart
From lies, falsehood depart

They that backbite not with their tongue
To you with it they sung
Nor do they evil to neighbour
Nor reproach nor demur

They in whose eyes a vile person
Is condemned, evil one
They who do honour them that fear
The Lord, and know Him near

They that to their own hurt do swear
When troubles they forbear
They will not change their word, but do
What they say unto you

They who put not out their money
To interest, usury
Nor reward against innocent
Do they take, not a cent

They who do these things, they shall ne'er
Be moved, but blessings share
They obtain help from Christ their Lord
Trusting His living word

Just Judgement

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 75

We give thanks unto you
Lord God, you just and you true
For that you name is near
Your wondrous works declare here
When I the people shall
Receive, I shall judge well
Though earth be dissolved, He
The Lord bears it up, see

The Lord said to boastful
Deal not foolish or evil
And to the wicked He
Said, as horned beast do not be
Lift not your horn* as proud (*a symbol of pride)
Nor be stiff-necked* avowed (*stubborn)
For promotion does not
Come by man's strength or lot

But God the judge He is
Puts down and sets up, see this
For in the Lord's hand there
A cup of wine He does share
It is full of mixture
He pours it out for sure
But the dregs the wicked
Shall drink, it be wine red

But I for ever will
Declare praises of God still

All the wicked's strength, horns
The Lord will cut off, be shorn
But strength of the righteous
Shall be exalted thus
For God is judge for e'er
His righteous ways fail ne'er

Pain of the Passion

Tune: Margaret

('O love that wilt not let me go')

Psalm 22 v.1-5 and v.27

My God, why have you me forsaken?
Why you your presence from me taken?
Why so far from helping me today?
My roaring, groaning hear I pray
Bring light unto my day

O my God, I cry in daytime
But you her me not in life's rhymes
And in the night too I do cry
Am not silent, to you I fly
O save me, be nwo nigh

But Lord, you still are holy
That ever your nature will be
O you that inhabits the praises
Of Israel, worship each raised
Thorough all of life's phases

Our fathers they did in you trust
Though they were human too, mere dust
You did hear them, did them deliver
You Saviour, Lord, and life-giver
Who does reign for ever

They cried to you, and were delivered
They trusted and were in you assured
They were not confounded, ashamed
For you as their Lord they had named
Their prayers to you they framed

The cross does bring to all salvation
Open to all of every nation
All the world shall remember and turn
To the Lord, to Him their hearts burn
They through life Him discern

Just Judgements

Tune: Leibster Jesu

(Dearest Jesu. we are here')

Psalm 50 parts

The mighty God has spoken
He the Lord, spoke unto all men
He called the earth from rising
Of the sun unto its setting
Out of Zion, the perfection
Of beauty, the Lord God has shone

Our God shall come and He shall
Not keep silence, we shall know well
Before Him ma fire devours
When He comes in stormy hours
And it shall be tempestuous
Round about him, when He meets us

For He comes to testify
Against the deeds of wicked, see
To give His judgements, true, fair
Though He long with man does forbear
He shall judge for righteous He be
Lord remember grace and mercy

Whoso offers praise, they do
Glorify the Lord God, 'tis true
To they that order their way
Arigh, the Lord gives light of day
To then He shows His salvation
Availing ot every nation

Profitable Persuals

Tune: Savannah

('Loves' redeeming work is done')

1 Corinthians 15 v.54-58

Death swallowed in victory
At last day fulfilled shall be
Thean saying, O death, where be
Your sting? Grave, where victory?

Sin it be of death the sting
Law, strength to sin it does bring
But thanks to God, who does give
Us the victory, we live

Through our Lord Jesus, it be
The victory, He Christ, see
Messiah, the Promised One
Here salvation in the Son

Therefore we may be steadfast
Unmoveable, deeds shall last
Abounding in the work sure
Of the Lord, profit e'ermore

For we know that our labour
In the Lord, we do concur
That in Him it not vain be
Has value eternally

Refuge Requests

Tune: Acclaim

('Praise the Saviour, ye who know Him')

Psalm 59 v.9-13 and v.16-17

Because of your strength God, I will
Wait upon you, my defence still
You are the God of my mercy
And go before me

You shall let me my desire see
Upon my enemies, they be
Defeated, scattered by your hand
They shall fall, not stand

Bring them down, O Lord, you our shield
Unto your power they shall yield
For they sin with their lips and say
We shall win the day

Let them be taken in their pride
In their lies, cursing, they deride
Consume them in your wrath, and so
Your rule, all shall know

But I will sing of your power
Praise your greatness every hour
Sing aloud of your mercy for
You my refuge sure

My defence, refuge in trouble
You do hear me when I do call
Unto you my strength I will sing
For you mercies bring

True Teachings

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee not because')

1 Timothy 1 part

In following the true teachings
Of Christ, the outcome be
Love from a pure heart so displayed
With graces all arrayed

And love from a good conscience too
His Spirit does renew
And love of faith unfeigned, sincere
Believing in Christ here

From these things some have turned aside
To vain talk, and denied
The gospel truths, though they desire
To teach the law, go far

But they understand not the things
Their supposed wisdom brings
Nor understand affirmations
They make, they are false ones

Paul thanks the Lord for His good grace
Continues, even pace
The Lord enabled Him to share
Gospel with no impair

Did count him faithful, ministry
Did give unto him, see
He obtained mercy, so was shown
A pattern of grace known

A pattern to those who after
Would believe, their hearts stir
To believe on Christ, His life show
Life everlasting know

Here Be Hope

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

1 Peter 1 v.3-5

The God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, true His word
And blessed be He, who according
To great mercy does bring
Life, he has us begotten
Born again through His Son
Unto a living hope, that we
No more without hope be

'Tis by the resurrection
Of Jesus, His own Son
Jesus Christ risen from dead
Now e'er our living Head
Brought to an inheritance
Nothing can remove hence
Us from here is we believe
And His good gifts receive

It an inheritance be
Incorruptible, see
And undefiled, unfading
No blot or decaying
It be reserved in heaven
For us, who are kept then
By the power of God to
Salvation, e'en for you

This salvation is ready
To be revealed fully

At end time, Jesus' return
We in Him grow and learn
Having His Spirit, earnest* (* deposit, down payment)
Of this, we people blest
God and we shall ever be
At one eternally

Prayer For Protection

Tune: Heathlands

('God of glory, God of grace')

Psalm 64

Hear my voice, Lord, in my prayer
I do know that you ae there
Preserve my life from the fear
Of the enemy, they near
Hide me from secret counsel
That wicked workers do tell

They sharpen tongue like a sword
Bitter words for good [they] reward
That they may, like bow, arrow
Shoot at them, to oppress so
They encourage themselves to
Lay snares, and to evil do

They search out iniquities
Devise evil, say none sees
Their inward thought and heart deep
They do no good in them keep
But God He shall suddenly
Shoot at them, wounded they be

And so their tongue, e'en their own
Makes them stumble as o'er stone
All that see them, all shall flee
And fearing to God shall be
His work they shall sure declare
Show that His doings wise fare

The righteous, they shall be glad

In the Lord, no longer sad
And shall trust in Him always
E'en to light of lasting days
All the upright in heart shall
Glory, His protection tell

Temple Talk

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

John 2 v.18-22

The Jews to Jesus they did say
What sign do you today
Show unto us, for casting out
Temple traders, no doubt

Jesus said, Destroy this temple
And then in three days all
Of it I will raise up, then they
Replied to Him, did say

Forty six years this temple here
Took to build and to rear
And will you in three days it raise
If we should here it raze?

But Jesus spake of the temple
Of His body, not walls
Of temple built of bricks and stone
Though that was to Jews known

When therefore Jesus was risen
From the dead, surely then
His disciples remembered so
His words, and truth did know

Resurrection Rejoicings

Tune: Juda Maccabaeus

('Thine be the glory')

1 Corinthians 15 v.51-58

Behold, a mystery, we shall not all
Sleep in death, but shall hear resurrection call
And we shall all be changed, in twinkling of eye
In a moment, at last trump, no more to die

Chorus

Where death, your sting? Where grave your victory?
Through our Lord Jesus Christ it defeated be

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead be raised
Incorruptible, we shall be changed, Christ praised
For this corruptible, it must sure put on
Incorruption, Changed to image of God's Son - Chorus

And this mortal must immortality
Put on, so when this corruptible, so be
Has put on incorruption, and this mortal
Has put on immortality, we sing all - Chorus

For then shall be brought to pass saying true
Death is swallowed up in victory, so do
We the chorus repeat, for death's sting it be
Sin, and strength of that sin is the law fully - Chorus

But thanks be to God, He gives victory
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, unto you and me
Therefore be steadfast, unmoveable, abound
In the Lord's work, it in Him vain not be found - Chorus

Unreedeeming Utilisations

Tune: Sagina

('And can it be')

Psalm 49 v.6-17

(R) - Refrain section (may vary in some versions)

They that trust in their wealth hand boast
Of their riches, from whate'er coast
None of them can any means redeem
Another soul, though it does seem
They can pay their way unto life
By money, riches, without strife
(R) They can, they can pay their
Way unto, unto life
By money, riches, without strife

Fo wise and foolish, both do die
Leave goods to others by and by
Though they think they shall abide e'er
Their homes, their towns, shall perish ne'er
And they call lands by their own names
To gain honour and worldly fames
(R) And they, and they call lands
By their, by their own names
To gain honour and worldly fames

Nevertheless man in honour
Abides not, but does death incur
He is like the beasts that perish
They their foolish way do relish
Like sheep are they laid in the grave
Death shall feed on them, and none save
(R) Like sheep, like sheep are they
Laid in, laid in the grave

Death shall feed on them, and none save

The upright over them shall rule

The rich's beauties be gone all

But God He will redeem my soul

From power of grave, and make me whole

So fear not of their wealthy ways

When gone, vain shall have been their days

(R) So fear, so fear not of

Ther wealthy, wealthy ways

When gone, vain shall have been their days

Night-Time Nigh-Time

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Psalm 134

Behold, you the Lord bless
All His servants, confess
You that stand by night in
The temple, raise therein

You that stand by night there
Partake in worship's share
Lift up there your hands high
Bless the Lord, He be nigh

The Lord that heaven made
And the earth all arrayed
Bless you out of Zion
He of David, scion* (*descendant)

Trusting In The Truth

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 73 v.16-28 parts

I considered way of wicked
Was too painful for me, I did
Wonder how they prospered daily
And did seem no troubles see

But then I to sanctuary
Of God, His Temple it sure be
I went, and understood the end
Of their state, for God will rend

Rend then out of their place, destroy
Consider their evil plan, ply
I was grieved that I had thought such
That they long should profit much

Nevertheless I am with you
Always, Lord, you hold my hand true
You with your counsel will guide me
And your glory I shall see

Whom have I in heaven but you?
You come to me, strengthen, renew
None on earth but you I desire
Draw near me Lord, be not far

My flesh and my heart they do fail
But God's strength to me does prevail
He the strength of my heart ever
My portion that fails never

It is good for me to draw near
To God, I shall trust in Him here
he the Lord God, I may declare
All His works, His goodness share

Coronation Kiss

There it was in all its grandeur
The before - during - and after
Of the Coronation

Then a moment - Prince William
Pledges his allegiance to the King, his father
And a kiss to Charles in all his regalia

It happened in 1953 too
Prince Philip gave Queen Elizabeth a kiss
Maybe a formality?
Maybe sentimentality?
But a poignancy, a sensitivity
A sort of representative pledging

Princess Anne on a horse still
At age 72.....
.....Say no more about the Markles
And Harry dashing back to USA
Though he is Charles' son too

Royalist or not
Protestant or not
Patriotic or not
(included in the Service, that it would be maintained)
One can't help noticing
The pageant, the procession, the glory of the day
Not seen in any one's life time in person
Who is under age 70 in the UK.

Plus - the Hymn
'Christ is made the sure foundation'
To the tune 'Westminster Abbey'

Sung in the abbey itself!

Fido was in the crowd with me

He met Seamus, an Irish Wolfhound

One of the mascots of a regiment.

Buildings of Blessings

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

1 Peter 2 v.4-8

Come to the Lord, as to a stone
Living, His Lordship own
Disallowed by men, rejected
Chosen of God instead

You also, are as stones living
Being built in each thing
Into a spiritual house, too
Holy priesthood, e'en you

'Tis to offer up spiritual
Sacrifices from all
Acceptable to God by His
Son Jesus Christ, true this

As said in scripture, Behold, I
Lay in Sion, no lie
A chief corner stone, it chosen
Though rejected by men

But this same stone is made the head
Stone, Jesus rose from dead
And a stone of stumbling, rock to
Offend those who evil do

They that believe on Christ shall ne'er
Be put to shame, but e'er
Shall find Him precious, He that stone
Head, corner stone alone

Practical Pursuits

Tune: Everton

('Son of God, eternal Saviour')

1 Thessalonians 5 v.12-23

Know them which do work among you
They who faithful labours do
They who leaders in the church be
Able to admonish, see
Esteem them in love true highly
For their work's sake, so it be
And be at peace among yourselves
That it prosper your soul's health

Warn the unruly, and comfort
Feeble-minded and that sort
Those faint-hearted, and do support
The weak, strong in faith fight fought
Be patient unto all people
Give not evil for evil
But ever the good do follow
Christ-likeness to others show

In church community do so
And your goodness let it flow
To those also who be outside
The church, on earth it Christ's Bride
Rejoice evermore, and do pray
Without ceasing, night or day
And giving thanks in everything
To God, praise Him, to Him sing

Theses things be will of God for you
Quench not the Spirit anew

Despise not the prophesyings
Prove in life here of all things
Hold fast that which is good, abstain
From evil, covered or plain
The God of peace sanctify you
Spirit, soul, and body too

Word Worthies

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Psalm 119 v.73-80

Your hands have made me, Lord, fashioned me
Give me understanding, so be
That I may learn your commands, obey
And so walk in your light of day

They that fear you will be glad when they
See me, I in your commands stay
Have hoped in your word, and Lord, I know
Your judgements are righteous, 'tis so

And I know that you in faithfulness
Have afflicted me, plan to bless
Let, I pray, your merciful kindness
Be to my comfort, that, no less

let you tender mercies come to me
That I may live, your law freely
is my delight, let proud be ashamed
They false treated me, me defamed

Let those who fear you, Lord. turn to me
And who know your testimonies
Let my heart in your statutes be sound
Blameless, unashamed then I found

A welcome return

I'm here early today
Goldfinch should appear again soon though!

The welcome return of a fine poet
I'm grovelling now, don't you know
Though he never said to me
'Kiss my boots!'

But, woe, alas, he was cut orf
Now that could be painful!
Not seen for a couple of days

Happened to me for a fortnight
Until I cleared a cache or something
I'm no 'techy' whizz-kid

A reboot needed maybe
Not meaning boot the PC
Around the room
Nor chuck it out the window
Say nice things to your PC now
Or it may throw a hissy fit
And cut you orf!

Be nice to it
Cos it will do just about anything
Except make the tea
It'll probably do that one day too!

All welcome him back
Your Royal Goldfinch!
Lay your tributes at his feet
But don't welcome me

I will only sing to ya
Add water to ya whisky
And other eccentric things. lol.

You're going too far now, says Fido
You know idolatry's not allowed. Doh!

Uplifting Utterance

Tune: Marching

(one tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Psalm 43 v.3-5

O send out your truth and your light
Let them be clear to my sight
Let them bring me to your temple
There to praise you free and full

Then I will to the altar go
To God, my great joy, I know
Upon instruments will praise you
Give you worship, honour due

Why are you cast down, O my soul?
Look to the Lord, be made whole
Why you disquieted within me?
Stay not downcast constantly

Hope you in God, my soul, for I
Shall yet praise, Him, to Him cry
He the health of my countenance
My God, I His presence sense

Confession Clarity

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

1 John 1 v.8-10

If we say we have fellowship
With God, profess to Him worship
But live in sin, darkness, we lie
Practise not the truth, not us nigh

But if we do live in the light
As God is in the light, clear sight
We have fellowship, each other
With each sister and each brother

And too the blood of Jesus Christ
God's Son for us it be sufficed
To cleanse us from all sin, so we
Shall live and shall forgiven be

If we say we have no sin we
Deceive ourselves, and the truth be
Not in us, but if we confess
God is faithful, He shall us bless

Faithful and just to us forgive
To cleanse us from sins, pardon give
And take away unrighteousness
Accepted in His sight no less

If we say that we have not sinned
Yet God's true word does not rescind
But we make Him a liar, know
And His word is not in us so

Communion Contemplation

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Ready to partake bread, wine
Gifts to us in your feast divine
Whether we in person meet
Or around home tables do seat
Come to us, bless now these symbols
Help us hear your salvation calls

They symbols of your body
And of your blood shed for us free
Money cannot buy such, though
Yet you tell us so we may know
That it will cost all if truly
We faithful disciples will be

Here we recall of your death
On the cross, drawing final breath
Then rising to life again
Saviour of races of all men
Whate'er be our human station
You redeem from every nation

Inspire, strengthen us, so we
Go out in the world and thus be
Empowered by your Spirit
That our lives be as your lamps lit
Sharing Christ-likeness in our each day
That folk know you, the Life, Truth, Way

Daily Duties

Tune: Winchester New

('O splendour of God's glory bright')

2 Thessalonians 3 v.11-16 parts

If any will not work, neither
Should they repast or either
For where some be disorderly
They work not, but busybody

In the name of the Lord may they
With quietness work, and so it be
They eat thier own food, ern living
From what their dily earnings bring

Be notweary in well doing
But continue in each good thing
The Lord of peace Himself give you
Peace always by all means and true

Remembering, Rogation-tide
Asking in prayer, we need not hide
For God knows all before we ask
And will bless us in our prayer task

Peace Through Prayers

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Philippians 4 v.6-8

Do be anxious for nothing
But in life, in every thing
By supplication and prayer
Bring needs to God, He is there

Adn with thanksgiving also
Pray, that God your requests know
Though He knows all things before
We ask them of Him, 'tis sure

And then the peace of God which
He shall give unto you rich
It past full understanding
But comfort to us does bring

His peace shall keep your hearts, minds
Through Christ Jesus, each one finds
Think on things true, just, honest
Pure, lovely, so you be blest

And on things of good report
Virtuous things to you brought
And anything praiseworthy
Pleasant, agreeable be

Pleas In Plagues

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

1 Kings 8 v.35-40

King Solomon prayed, Lord, if heaven
Is shut up, no rain then
If because of our sins, if we
Pray unto you, so be
And turn from our sins, hear, forgive
Then we again shall live
So teach us the good way to go
Your laws to do and know

And grant us rain upon your land
Sent down by your good hand
The land you have given unto
Your people, bless, renew
And if there be famine or blight
Pestilence in our sight
Mildew, locust, caterpillar
Whate'er plague may confer

Whate'er plague in land or city
Or whate'er sickness be
When prayer and supplication made
By your people outlaid
Then hear in heaven your dwelling place
See the troubles we face
And forgive, give unto each one
According as [their] deeds done

For each one knows plague of own heart
And you know every part

Of every one, you, you only
Know each one completely
Look on us, answer our prayers here
That you we godly fear
Live in the land which you provide
There none more blessed beside

Ascension Acclamations

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Daniel 7 v.9-14 parts

Daniel beheld, thrones down cast - Alleluia!

Earthly powers not e'er last - Alleluia!

The Ancient of Days did sit - Alleluia!

With His glory all was lit - Alleluia!

His garment was white as snow - Alleluia!

His hair like pure wool, we know - Alleluia!

His throne like the fiery flame - Alleluia!

As a burning fire, the same - Alleluia!

A fiery stream flowed before - Alleluia!

His throne, it His judgment sure - Alleluia!

Millions serve, ministered - Alleluia!

heavenly court here preserved - Alleluia!

Judgment ready to begin - Alleluia!

Away with evil and sin - Alleluia!

Then in a night vision one - Alleluia!

Seen, He be of God the Son - Alleluia!

He came with clouds of heaven - Alleluia!

Presented at the throne then - Alleluia!

To the Ancient of Days, He - Alleluia

The ever-living God be - Alleluia!

The Son given dominion - Alleluia!

And a kingdom, that each one - Alleluia!

Of all peoples, tongues, nations - Alleluia!

Should serve Him while ages run - Alleluia!

His dominion e'erlasting - Alleluia!
Lord of Lords and King of Kings - Alleluia!
It shall never pass away - Alleluia!
Kingdom ne'er destroyed, e'er stay - Alleluia!

Riches Cannot Redeem

Tune: Malvern

(one tune to 'Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Psalm 49 v.16-20

Be not afraid, when rich one made
Their state shall not be ever staid
When the glory of their house be
Increased, 'tis not eternal, see

For when they die they shall carry
Nothing away, nor their glory
Can they take with them, the shall go
As they came, with nothing, we know

Though while they lived they blessed their soul
And looked to have all things, and whole
Yet people will praise when you do
Well to yourself, your good show too

But the rich shall perish, and they
Shall never see light, no more day
Man that is in honour, and no
Understanding, like beasts is so

Corporate Communion

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of they sheep')

Lord, in Communion these days
We may meet in different ways
In person or virtually
But you still our Saviour be

help us recall family
That you made us sure to be
Christian brothers, sisters we
All are saved by your grace free

When partaking bread and wine
Gifts of heaven, gift divine
In person or in spirit
As occasion does befit

Yet we all on in you be
In Christ as His family
Send healing, peace, forgiveness
Where needed, so do us bless

That patient, do us restore
That ere long we meet once more
Together in one meetings
Thankful praises to you bring

Hope Of Help

Tune: Monkland

('Songs of praise the angels sang')

Psalm 9 v.13-16

O Lord, have mercy on me
Consider my trouble, see
I suffer from they who hate
Me, your rescue from death's gate

That I may show all your praise
For you by grace me up raise
I will show praise in city
Jerusalem true it be

Enemies are sunk in pit
That they have made, and this fit
Their feet caught in their own net
They o'ercome me you not let

The Lord is known by judgement
Which He works, which He has sent
Wicked are snared in what they
Do work by their hands today

This be a meditation
In Hebrew, a higgsaion
The Lord will help, have mercy
Set us from enemies free

Shepherd And Sheep

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

Psalm 100

Make joyful noise unto the Lord
All lands, faithful His word
Serve the Lord with gladness and come
And make your heart His home

Come before His presence singing
To Him your worship bring
Thus know that He the Lord God is
And ever be, true this

It is He that has made us, we
Have not made ourselves, see
We are His people, and the sheep
Of His pasture, loved deep

Enter His gates with thanksgiving
Praise, thanks unto Him bring
And bless His name, for the Lord He
Is good, gives grace, mercy

His mercy is everlasting
And of it we may sing
His truth endures even unto
All generations true

Promise of Power

Tune: Gopsal

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Ephesians 1 v.19-23

Church of God, now arise
Press onwards to the prize
The day when we shall be
For 'er with the lord free
The Father's promise, the Spirit
Jesus sends to us, our way lit

The exceeding greatness
Of His power, true this
Unto us who believe
The Spirit we receive
According to God's mighty power
Dependent on Him each hour

His mighty power, the same
When in His Son's acclaim
He raised Him from the dead
he e'er our living Head
God seated Him at His right hand
He rules and reigns o'er every land

In heaven, far above all
Names that mankind can call
All principalities
And power, might, e'en these
Shall bow to His dominion
And worship Him, the worthy one

Not in this age only

But in the age, so be
That is to come, though hwe
As yet we it not see
God has put all things 'neath Christ's feet
He Head o'er all things, it is meet* (*apt, suitable)

He Head over all things
To the church, it Him brings
Him homage, and church be
His body spiritually
The fulness of Him that does fill
All in all, His reign of good will

Troubled Times (2)

Tune: Heinlein

('40 days and 40 nights')

Psalm 38 parts

I am troubled, bowed down here
Lord, come and to me appear
I go mourning all day long
Dried up now, and gone my song

Forsake me not, O Lord, save
Me, all I have you me gave
O my God, be not from me
Far, but my poor state do see

I am plagued with sickness, ill
Heal me by your grace, good will
I am weak, and feeble, frail
Yet your help to me avails

If sin be the cause, forgive
So in your sight I shall live
Strengthened body, spirit, soul
Come to me and make me whole

Though darkness seems to o'erpower
Your light is with me each hour
Restore, heal, and set me free
That I may more Christ-like be

Praise Panorama

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 145 v.10-18

All your works shall praise you, O Lord
Saints shall bless you, true your word
They shall too speak of the glory
Of your kingdom, so it be
And shall talk of all your power
For it decreases no hour

They shall make known unto mankind
His mighty acts, so they find
And the glorious majesty
Of His kingdom, whole and free
Your kingdom, Lord, everlasting
Is through all eternity

And your dominion it endures
Through all generations lores* (*cultures, stories, etc)
The Lord upholds all the that fall
Raises up those bowed down, small
The eyes of all wait, look to you
You give them food, drink anew

You open your hand, satisfy
Providing for us, you nigh
Satisfy desire of every
Living thing that there may be
Created by your good hand sure
You will ten them evermore

The Lord righteous in all His ways

Through the years, the nights and days
In all His works He be holy
And gracious unto us, see
He night to all that on Him call
In truth, they helped, shall not fall

Zacchaeus' Zeal

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a herald voice is sounding')

Luke 19 v.1-10

Zacchaeus, tax-collector he
Of certain short stature be
Climbed a tree for to Jesus see
As He passed in company

Jesus saw him, said, Zacchaeus
Make haste, come down, with no fuss
For today I must abide, stay
At your house with no delay

Then crowd murmured, Jesus, He be
Gone to visit sinner, see
To be a guest in his house, so
Their displeasure they did show

Zacchaeus in his house did say
To Jesus, Lord, here today
The half of my goods I give to
The poor, this my pledge anew

And if I from any taken
Falsely, and not mistaken
I restore unto them four-fold
So be my accounts resolved

Jesus said to him, Today is
Salvation come to house this
For he a son of Abraham
Is truly and is no sham

For Jesus the Son of man is
Come to seek, save lost, this bliss
Help us Lord, show our faith in deed
As Zacchaeus did you heed

Here Be Help

Tune: Saffron Waldon

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name strong
Defend me now and all life long
Judge me by your strength, it not fail
O'er enemies prevail

Hear my prayer, O God, and give ear
I do trust yet that you are near
Give ear to my words, help you will
Send, I be secure still

For strangers are risen up, they
Oppress me, seek my life, their way
Is without God, not in their thought
Nor have they here Him sought

Behold, God is my helper, He
Will come to my aid, rescue, see
he with those that uphold my soul
He will restore, make whole

To enemies, their reward He
Shall repay evil deeds, so be
Will cut them off, His truth remains
So He faithful, He deigns

I will freely sacrifice to
You, O Lord, and praise you anew
For your name is good, trustworthy
My soul does here agree

For He has delivered me here
Out of trouble and out of fear
I have seen His desire upon
My enemies, each one

Pentecost Promise

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

John 14 v.26 & 27; John 16 v.13-15

The Comforter shall come
And make our heart His home
Sent from the Father in Jesus' name, promised
He shall teach us all things
Each thing from God He brings
Shall reside in us, humankind He has kissed

And He shall bring to our
Remembrance each hour
Whatsoever Jesus has said to us sure
Peace He did leave, His peace
A fount that shall not cease
Not as worldly peace but lasting evermore

Let not heart be troubled
He has chosen us, called
These words to assure us by Jesus spoken
For the Comforter, He
Helper, Paraclete be
He will guide us into all truth, right ways then

He shall not speak of self
But of the Father's wealth
Whatsoever He shall hear, shall to us speak
Shall show us things to come
Through God's treasures shall roam
And glorify Jesus, meet with lowly, meek

Of Christ He shall receive

Show to us, no deceive
All things that the Father has are Jesus's
So Christ says the Spirit
Shall take Christ's things, each whit
And shall show them unto us, help us gracious

A Life Of Light

Tune: Newcastle

('Eternal Light! Eternal Light!')

Luke 11 v.33-36

No one, when candle has lighted
Causes it benighted
To become, puts it not wihtin
A secret place, that it therein
Light's flame does not begin

Nor do they put it under bush
As if it hidden, hush
But puts it on a candlestick
That there it may burn with its wick
What size be, thin or thick

So then all they may see its light
Shining clearly to sight
The light of the body, the eye
It be, thus when your eye clear, see
Body full of light be

But when your eye is bad, then this
Body full of darkness
Take heed therefore that the light in
You be not darkness, not of sin
But shine clear from within

If your whole body full of light
No part dark, no part night
You shall be full of light wholly
As when bright candle shines purely
Gives light radiantly

Knowing We Know

Tune: Solothurn

('Now let us from this table rise')

1 John 5 v.14, 15, 18-20

This is the confidence that we
Have in Christ, if we do ask, see
Anything that is according
To His will, He hears us, each thing

And if we know that He us hears
Whatsoever we ask, no fears
We know we have the petitions
That we desired of Him, each one

We know that whosoever is
Born of God sins not, true is this
Sins not habitually, but when
We sin, we have Advocate then

They that are of God begotten
They keep themselves from sin, and then
The wicked one touches them not
They fall not to his sinful lot

And we know we are of God, us
And the whole world in wickedness
And we know that Jesus, God's Son
Has come, revealed unto each one

He gives us an understanding
That we may know Him in each thing
He that is true, we in Him be
And in God, [this is] life eternally

Virtuous Visitation

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Luke 1 v.39-45

Mary arose, went into hill country
To a city of Judah, where there be
Elisabeth her relative, and she
Went into her home, all acceptably

Elisabeth, husband Zacharias
She said, We welcome your visit to us
At greeting of Mary, then the baby
In Elisabeth's womb did leap, so be

And she with the Holy Spirt was filled
Spake with loud voice, said, You blessed as God willed
And blessed your child that you will come to bear
Why this honour granted, that I should share?

That you, the mother of my Lord to me
Should come, for when I heard your greeting, see
The babe in my womb leaped for joy, could sense
You and your unborn child's gracious presence

And blessed you be, Mary, who have believed
And God's promise unto you have received
For it shall be fulfilled, shall be performed
The words spoken unto you from the Lord

Clear Commitment

Tune: Marching

(faster tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Psalm 37 v.1-7

Fret not over evil-doers
Nor that envy in heart stirs
Over those who work sinful deeds
They shall wither as do weeds

Trust in the Lord and do good, so
You shall dwell in the land, know
And truly you shall be fed, see
The Lord your provider be

Delight yourself too in the Lord
Follow him and hear His word
And He shall give you the desires
Of your heart, and [He] you inspires

Commit your way unto Him sure
Trust also in Him e'ermore
And He shall bring each thing to pass
All your life does encompass

He shall bring forth your righteousness
As the light, and you shall bless
Bring you justice, clear as noon day
True God-speed you on your way

Rest in the Lord, wait patiently
For Him, fret not, wicked, see
Though such seem a while to prosper
The Lord shall deal with them sure

Voice Of The Vine

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in owe')

John 15 v.1-5

Jesus He be the true Vine
He be human and divine
And God the Father He be
Husbandman, vinedresser, see

Every branch in Christ that bears
Not fruit, it His life not shares
For He does take it away
It unfruitful in its day

And every branch that fruit bears
It at times is pruned, it shares
In that, so it may bring forth
Productive fruit and more worth

God the Father He does prune
Fruitful branches late or soon
May be chastening, some pain
But that it bear fruit again

Now we are clean through the word
Christ spoke to us, we it heard
He says to in Him abide
Branches in the vine reside

As vine's branches cannot bear
Fruit alone, but they must share
In the life of the vine, see
Christ says, So abide in me

He the vine, the branches we
Abide in Christ, and He, see
Abides in us, such shall bring
Forth much fruit in each good thing

For without Christ we can do
Nothing, we dependent too
On Him, and in Him we live
He to us true life does give

Shepherd of Salvation

Tune: North Coates

('O my Saviour lifted')

Hebrews 13 v.20-21

Now the God of peace, He
That raised from dead, see
Our Lord Jesus, that great
Shepherd, not mere fate

Shepherd of the sheep He
Through His blood it be
Blood of the e'erlasting
Covenant we sing

God make you perfect in
Each good work therein
To do His will, working
To Him well-pleasing

What be acceptable
In His sight, it all
Through Jesus Christ, glory
To Him ever be

Holy Trinity

Tune: Nicea

('Holy, holy, holy')

Revelation 4 v.1-11

John saw vision, behold, open door in heaven
Voice as if of trumpet sound spoken to him then
Saying, Come up hither, I will show you of things
Which must be hereafter, what future brings

John did behold a throne, in heaven it was set
And one sat on the throne, John did it not forget
Appearance like jasper* and sardius** stones seen
Round throne rainbow like to emerald green

Round throne twenty four seats, each with an elder
Clothed in white raiment, with their crowns of gold they were
From throne lightnings, thunderings, voices did proceed
All in realms above awesome sight did heed

And seven lamps of fire burning bright before
The throne, which are the seven spirits of God sure
Before the throne a sea of glass like to crystal
In midst of throne four beasts, they seeing-all

Beast like lion, beast like a calf small
Beast with face like a man, beast like flying eagle
They each had six wings and were full of eyes within
Ne'er rest day, night, the song they did begin

Holy, holy, holy, their song ever be
To the Lord God Almighty who lives eternally
He which was, and is, and is to come, e'erlasting
Beasts, elders, honour Him in everything

Falling down before Him, casting crowns before throne
Worshipping him that lives ever, He is God alone
Worthy to receive honour, glory, and power
You pleased with what you create every hour

(*Jasper can be red, yellow, brown, or green, or rarely blue)
(**Sardius can vary in colour from pale yellow to reddish orange
- may also be called sardine stone!)

Paraclete Promised

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

John 14 v.15-18

If you love me, my commands keep
I will still tend to you, my sheep
Said Jesus, and He too would pray
The Father, then He went away

Would pray the Father, He shall give
Another Comforter, you live
A constant Helper, Paraclete
In Him too is Christ's life complete

And He shall abide with us e'er
Even the Spirit of truth, ne'er
Shall He depart, but world not know
Or see Him when He sent below [to Earth]

But believers shall know Him for
He dwells within and with them sure
Christ will not leave us comfortless
He sends the Spirit who shall bless

Light Through Life

Tune: All for Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come confirm us')

Psalm 119 v.105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path sweet
I have sworn, and I will perform
It, I promise, I confirm

I will keep your righteous judgements
They close to me do I sense
I am very much afflicted
Revive me with daily bread

Inspire me, Lord, according to
Your word, by it me renew
Accept my freewill offerings
What I have said, them I bring

Teach me your judgements, my soul is
In danger, yet comfort this
I do not your law forget, send
Grace to keep it to the end

The wicked have laid a snare for
To entrap me, it is sure
Yet I strayed not from your precepts
To your commands I have kept

Your testimonies have I here
Taken as heritage e'er
They are rejoicing of my heart
I love, obey, every part

My heart I have so inclined to
Perform your statutes, and you
I will follow unto the end
Through your grace I pray you send

Godly Graces

Tune: St Michael

('Come, Holy Spirit, come'

= 'The Lord is risen indeed')

Psalm 1 v.1-3

Blesséd are they that walk
Not with ungodly's talk
Nor follow their counsel, nor they
Stand in the sinners way

Nor do they their seat take
Midst scornful, not it make
With them, but their delight it be
In law of the Lord, see

And in His law do they
Meditate night and day
They shall be like trees planted by
Rivers of water nigh

They shall their fruit bring forth
In season, show their worth
Their leaf also shall wither not
Prosperous e'er their lot

Revealings By The Spirit

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

John 16 v.13-15

Jesus had many things to say
To disciples, but they
Could not bear them then, but when He
The Spirit of truth be

When He be come, He will us guide
Into all truth, reside
Within our hearts, not speak alone
But words of Jesus known

For He shall of Jesus' words hear
And speak them to us here
And He will show us things to come
Shall reveal, be not dumb

He shall glorify Jesus, for
He receives from Him sure
The things of Jesus, and shall show
Them to us, then we know

The Spirit takes of Jesus' things
Unto us He them brings
All things Father has, Jesus too
Has, we by grace them view

Prosperous Provision

Tune: Austrian Hymn

('Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him')

Psalm 65 v.5-9

By awesome things in righteousness
You will answer us, and bless
You the God of our salvation
And too unto each nation
You who are the sure confidence
Of all ends of the earth hence
And of those far off on the sea
In all places man may be

By His strength He has established
Firms the mountains as He wished
They are set, girded with power
Hill and vale and tree and flower
He does quiet the noise of the seas
Angry waves, each from Him flees
And the people's tumult He calms
Brings to them His healing balms

They that dwell in the uttermost
Parts, in Him they make their boast
His fear, awe, extends to the ends
Of the earth, He signs them sends
He does make each day to rejoice
And too nights, made by His choice
He does visit the earth, gives rain
That lands be refreshed again

He waters earth, and doe enrich
It with His river, and whic

Is full of water to supply
Needs of those afar and nigh
And causes corn, food, to there grow
Of His production we know
Faithful to provide all people
Help us Lord to share with all

Judgements of Justice

Tune: Old Hundredth

('Praise God from whom all blessings flow'

= 'All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 7 v.9-17

O that the wicked's ways would cease
And that men give a chance for peace
But establish the just, O Lord
They that live following your word

For the righteous God tries the hearts
And the reins, consciences, all parts
My defence is of God, who sure
Saves the upright in heart e'ermore

God judges the righteous, and He
Is angry with the wicked, see
Every day, if He does not turn
From them then His anger will burn

He will prepare His sword, His bow
And even death enemies know
He makes fiery arrows, them shoots
The persecutors He uproots

They work with iniquity, they
Conceive mischief, trouble, each day
And bring forth falsehood, make a pit
They dig it and fall into it

Their mischief shall to them return
On their own heads, so shall they learn
Their violent dealings they shall sense

The Lord God shall them recompence

I will praise the Lord, he righteous

Bringing salvation unto us

And will sing praise to the Lord He

Most high, and everlasting be

Praise For Providings

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 145 v.16-21

Lord, open your hand true
As your word says you do
And so satisfy the desire
Of all things near and far

Yes, every living thing
Sustenance you them bring
You, Lord, righteous in all your ways
We praise you all our days

In all your works holy
You are, and gracious be
Nigh to all they that call on you
Come to their aid anew

They who in truth do call
On you, you meet needs all
Will fulfil desire of they who
Fear, reverence you do

You will hear their prayers, pleas
Will save them, bring heart's-ease
You preserve all that love you, though
Wicked destruction know

My mouth shall speak the praise
Of the Lord, Him upraise
Let all beings bless His name, see
It holy ever be

Desirous Dwelling

Tune: Saffron Waldon

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Psalm 26 v.8

Lord, I have loved the habitation
Of your house, joy and elation
And the place where your honour dwells
It your Temple, each tells

You have Jerusalem chosen
To be your city, that the one
You there will abide, there will rest
By your presence we blest

Yet your throne in heaven, you reign
Show your great works to us again
Heaven and earth cannot contain
All of your hosts and train

In worship her we humbly bow
Or in praise rise, and so tell how
Of your great works, your salvation
Open to each nation

Help us your house, your Temple, use
To ordained purpose, not abuse
As den of thieves, but house of prayer
All nations here may share

Our souls delight, no greater place
To abide, see by faith your face
And go out into the world, share
Of your glory most fair

His Will To Do

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Psalm 143 v.7-12

Hear me speedily, O Lord, hear
My spirit fails, draw to me near
Hide not your face from me, lest I
Give up all hope and then die

Cause me hear your loving kindness
Morning, evening, come to me, bless
For in you do I trust, cause me
To know your way, what it be

For I lift up my soul to you
Deliver me Lord, me renew
Save me from enemies, I flee
To you, for you to hide me

Teach me to do your will, O Lord
For your name's sake, true be your word
You are my God, your spirit is
Good, you shall lead me, sure this

Rescue me, for you righteous are
You are near me, you are not far
Bring my soul out of its trouble
Thus I shall then praise you all

And in your mercy put an end
To my enemies, me defend
Cut off those that afflict my soul
I your servant with heart whole

Hear, Help, Hope

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Parts of Psalms 9, 10, and 11

Sing praises to the Lord, sing praise
And e'er His name upraise
He dwells in Zion, here declare
Midst peoples His deeds share

The needy shall not always be
Forgotten, but shall, see
Be helped, and their expectation
Not be desolation

Arise, O Lord, lift up your hand
To help poor in the land
Forget not the humble, but do
Come to their aid anew

Lord, you have heard humble's desire
You will them fresh inspire
Will prepare their heart, cause your ear
To attend and them hear

The righteous Lord loves righteousness
He shall come to us bless
He does the upright ones behold
He Shepherd of His fold

Remember The Right

Tune: Carlisle

('Your harps, ye trembling saints'

= 'Stand up and bless the Lord')

Psalm 25 v.6-10

Remember, O Lord, do
Your tender mercies true
And your loving-kindnesses, they
Have been from olden days

Remember not the sins
I did, not them begin
To rehearse, but forgive I pray
Have mercy now, I say

Remember me for your
Goodness sake, it be sure
Good and upright is the Lord, He
Shall show His ways to me

The meek, humble, will He
Guide in His judgment, see
He will teach them His ways, mercy
And truth to us they be

A Daft Update

I got some rubbish for ya today!
'Not much change there then', you say?

I read that it can be called 'micro-aggressions'
Snipes or asides, maybe made in jest.
But underlying nastiness and jibes

I'll tell ya this for a fact
Me marriage to KP is a 'mega- aggression'
What made me do it
Marry her one Halloween?

Now she's roped me in
To be Treasurer of The Old Trout Club
I got no money of me own to account for
She spends it all on Botox

You cad, you bounder, you misogynist
('women-hater' that is)
'Woof!' Steady on, says Fido
'Sorry Fido - pardon my French!'

Enough of my ramblings.
'Let's go ramble, walk-wise,' says Fido
You've spouted enough rubbish for today! lol.

Here ends 'Mad Adventure of Orchi No. 6749'
Summat like that - I lost count!

Nature Nurture

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Psalm 36 v.7-9

How excellent and how precious
Your bearing unto us
Your loving-kindness, O God! You
Bestow here graces true

Therefore we people put our trust
In you, though we are dust
Put our trust under the shadow
Of your wings, comfort so

We shall be thus abundantly
Satisfied, whole, and free
With the fulness of your house for
Enough for all, 'tis sure

You shall make us there that we drink
Of your river, we think
On you, river of your pleasures
With us you share treasures

For with you is of life the fount
Blessings we cannot count
In your light shall we see light true
Clearly revealed by you

Creator And Creatures

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen = Let Us Rejoice

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 8

O Lord, how excellent your name
In all the earth, it e'er the same!
Alleluia, Alleluia!
You who have true set your glory
Above the heavens, bright and free
Tend your creatures mercifully
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Out of mouths of babes and sucklings
You have ordained strength, and each brings
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise and worship, that you silence
Enemy's avenger's presence
For you great Creator they sens
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

When I your heavens consider
They the work of your fingers sure
Alleluia, alleluia!
The moon and stars which you have made
In the skies are to us displayed
We believe you them all arrayed
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

What is man, that you are mindful
Of him? And e'en to people all?
Alleluia, Alleluia!
What are we, that you us visit?
Our lives as vapour and as mist

But loving us you not desist
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

You have made man little lower
Than angels, and do him endower
Alleluia, Alleluia!
With glory, honour you him crown
Not biding 'neath and angry frown
You lift us up when we be down
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

You mad man to have dominion
Over all your works, e'en each one
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Have put all things under his feet
While you reign, your throne is your seat
All things made y you whole, complete
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

All sheep and oxen, beasts of field
Appointed man power to wield
Alleluia, Alleluia!
O'er them, and birds, fish of the sea
And whate'er else in life there be
Your name great in earth lastingly
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Pleasant Paths

Tune: Nun Danket

('Now thank we all our God')

Psalm 119 v.161-168

People, they persecute
Me without cause, me confute
But my heart it stands in
Awe of your word, Lord, not sin
In your word I rejoice
I have made it my choice
As one that finds great tore
Of treasures evermore

I hate, abhor lying
Your law do I love, each thing
Seven times a day do
I praise you, your works review
For you act righteously
And not deal unjustly
Great peace have they which do
Love your law, your ways too

Nothing shall them offend
They come not to troubled end
Lord, I have hoped for you
Salvation, show me it sure
I your commands have done
Still seek to do each one
My soul, your laws it sees
Keeps your testimonies

And them exceedingly
I love whole-hearted, so be

I have your precepts kept
By your grace me do accept
All my ways are before
You, my God be you sure
Assist me, help I need
In your good paths me lead

Remembering C.B.

I can give you his first name - Chris (Christopher)

'Twas back in '68, those 55 years ago

The primary school class I was in had swimming lesson

I was not in the pool that day, but observing from outside

A sunny day with outdoors pool

But suddenly an emergency

Chris, one of the best swimmers in the class

Got a hand caught under some pipe

That went round the edge of the pool.....

No one could free him

Ambulance arrived - but a tragedy

We were left stunned at his passing away

Now a bird-bath stands in his memory

Drink from the bath, little birds

And know we have sweet memoires

Of why your bath was installed

Gone - but never forgotten

A strange feeling -

Chris not been here with us the last 55 years

How might his life have turned out?

He lived just up the road from the school

We can't answer the 'Why did it happen?' question.....

The Godly Guided

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Saviour, visit thy plantation'

= 'Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven')

Psalm 37 v.28-34

The Lord loves judgment and justice
Forsakes not His saints, true this
They are preserved e'en for ever
Wicked destroy them never
The righteous, they shall inheirt
The land, with God's presence lit
They shall therein forever dwell
And of the Lord's goodness tell

Mouth of the righteous wisdom speaks
Ways and words of God each seeks
They do talk of justice, judgement
From God above it is sent
The law of God be in their heart
They devoted, every part
None of their steps shall slip, stumble
The Lord shall uphold them all

The wicked do watch the righteous
Seek to slay them, not them bless
The Lord will not leave them there for
He will come to their aid sure
Save them from the hand of they who
Are set to wickedness do
Wait on the Lord, and keep His way
He shall bring salvation's day

Just Judgement

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Psalm 9 v.7-11 & v.16

The Lord shall endure for ever
His power, might ceases never
And He has prepared His throne for
Judgement, it be true and just sure

He shall judge all in righteousness
Show His justice in uprightness
To the people, and also will
Be a refuge for oppressed still

A help to them in their troubles
They that know Him, each stands, not falls
They will put their trust in Him, He
Has not forsaken seekers, see

Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells
In Zion, so each tongue it tells
Among the people His doings
So worship to Him each one brings

The Lord is known by the judgement
He has carried out, it He sent
The wicked are snared in work of own
Hands, brought it on themselves alone

Gospel Given

Tune: Merton

('Hark a herald (or thrilling) voice is sounding')

Romans 15 v.9-13

Jews and Gentiles in the gospel
Nations may partake free, all
Gentiles too included, that they
Glorify God, His mercy

For there be Scriptures so written
And they did prophesy then
Such as, "For this cause I confess
You, Lord, midst Gentiles, them bless" (1)

Confess, sing to your name among
The Gentiles, let praise be sung
And, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles
All people His lauding tell" (2)

And Isiaah says, "There shall be
A root of Jesse, and He
A descendant of David be
Shall rise, rule o'er Gentiles, see" (3)

And in Him shall the Gentiles trust
Though Jews, Gentiles, made from dust
And now the God of hope fill you
With all joy and peace anew

All joy and peace in believing
That you may here, receiving
Abound in hope through the power
Of the Spirit every hour

(1) Psalm 18 v.49

(2) Psalm 117 v.1

(3) Isaiah 11 v. 1 & v.10

Continual Contentment

Tune: Albano

('Behold, dear Lord, we come again'

= 'Once, only once, and once for all')

Philippians 4 v.11-13

Lord, help us learn, whatever state
We be in, it not fate
But your appointing, what you deign
In your continual reign

In whatever state there to be
Our lot contentedly
Whether abased, living humbly
Or abound prosperously

Every where and in all things learn
And to acceptance turn
Whether we full or hungry be
Abounding or needy

So to find that in Christ we can
Trust him, the Son of Man
Can do all things through Him who gives
Us strength, and each one lives

Philippi Prison

Tune: Hyfrydol

('Alleluia! Sing to Jesus')

Acts 16 v.25-34

In Philippi, Paul, Silas, they
In a prison did sing, pray
And at midnight a great earthquake
Foundations of place did shake
And all prison doors were open
All prisoners chains loosed then
Keeper of prison awaking
Dis witness amazing thing

He drew his sword, was about to
Kill himself, for this he knew
he had not guarded prison well
Poor report of him would tell
He supposed prisoners had fled
But with loud voice Paul then said
Do yourself no harm, we all be
Here in our cells, come, look, see

Keeper asked for a light, then ran
In to the cell, saw each man
There, and came trembling, and di fall
Down before Paul, Silas, all
Brough them out of prison cell, free
Sirs, What must I do to be
Saved? They said, Believe now upon
The Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son

And so you shall be saved, and your
Whole household shall be saved sure

They spake to him word of the Lord
And to household, they assured
Of salvation, and the keeper
Kindness on them did confer
Washed their wounds received from beatings
Comforted them with good things

Then he and all his house baptised
Were straightaway, none denied
And when he them then brought into
His house he gave them food too
And rejoiced, in god believing
Salvation all receiving
Rejoiced with all his house that day
Knowing Christ the Life, Truth, Way

Creation Concerns

Tune: St Stephen

('All praise to our redeeming Lord'

= 'In Christ there is not east or west')

Based on St Gregory Nazianzen's 'Hymn to God'

c.329 - 390AD.

All things cry out to you, O Lord
Those which speak give their word
And too those things which cannot speak
Worship you lowly, meek

All things honour you, those which think
And those which eat and drink
And too those things, some which cannot
Think, they praise you, their lot

For there is one longing and one
Groaning, excluding none
That all things have for you, who made
Each one, and them arrayed

All things pray to you that your plan
Do comprehend for man
And offer you silence or song
They join the heavenly throng

In you, the One, all things abide
In you does life reside
And all things do endlessly run
To you, Creator One

You the beginning and the end
You your Creation tend

Appoint for all, a set life-span
May we seek you, we can

Leading Light

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 36 v.9-12

With you, O Lord, is the fountain
Of life, it to all men* (*mankind)
In your light shall we see light, so
The truth, the right way know

Continue your loving-kindness
Unto them that confess
You, they do know you, and show light
To the righteous, upright

Let not the proud come against me
Nor wicked make me flee
Workers of evil have fallen
They shall not arise then

O Light of life, on our path shine
Fill us with joy divine
Where you present there be no night
Come, illumine our sight

Protection Professions

Tune: Heathlands

('God of mercy, God of grace')

Psalms 90, 91, 92 parts

Teach us to number our days
Set ourselves to know your ways
Lord, that we may apply our
Hearts to wisdom, be not far
From us, we pray in life's span
You have granted unto man

The Lord, my refuge, fortress
Trusting that He will us bless
He our God, His help we need
We His sheep, He does us feed
Safe in Him we shall abide
In our hearts He does reside

For matters of every day
His angels shall in our ways
Keep us, He shall give them charge
Over all things, small or large
His protection daily known
And through troubles His grace shown

You, O Lord, have made us glad
Through your works, we stay not sad
O Lord, how great your works are
Everything near or far
And your thoughts are very deep
You shall tend us and us keep

Praise Of The People

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my Soul, thou Saviour dear')

Psalm 28 v.6-9

Blessed be the Lord, for He has heard
My prayer, attended to my word
Heard my voice, I to Him did pray
Gave me an answer in His way

The Lord is my strength and my shield
I shall trust in Him, to Him yield
So I am helped, and my heart here
Rejoices in Him, knows Him near

And with my song I will Him praise
He my helper through nights and days
He is the strength of His people
And of His Christ, we shall not fall

Save your people, Lord, and do bless
Them, your inheritance no less
Feed them also, and them upraise
Shepherd your sheep now and always

Trusting Times 2

Tune: Praise my soul

('High beyond imagination

= 'Praise my soul, the King of heaven')

Psalm 40 v.10-16

I have not hid your righteousness
In my heart, but it confess
And have declared your faithfulness
Lord, and your intent to bless
I have shared of your salvation
Open to every nation

I have not concealed your mercy
Your loving kindness it be
Nor have hid your truth from people
They your congregation all
Withhold not your tender mercies
From me, these my humble pleas

Lord, O let your loving kindness
And truth preserve me, do bless
For many evils do surround
Me, iniquities abound
They be more than hairs of my head
My heart fails me, as if dead

But be pleased, O Lord, to save me
For my troubles you do see
Make haste to help me, enemies
Turn back, you them each one sees
Let those that seek you here rejoice
Magnify you with one voice

The Godly Guided

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Saviour visit thy plantation'

= 'Alleluia, Alleluia! Heart to heaven...')

Psalm 37 v.28-34

The Lord loves judgement and justice
Forsakes not His saints, true this
They are preserved e'en for ever
Wicked destroy them never
The righteous, they shall inherit
The land, with God's presence lit
They shall therein forever dwell
And of the Lord's goodness tell

Mouth of the righteous wisdom speaks
Ways and word of God each seeks
They do talk of justice, judgement
From God above it is sent
The law of God be in their heart
They devoted, every part
None of their steps shall slide, stumble
The Lord shall uphold them all

The wicked do watch the righteous
Seek to slay them, not them bless
The Lord will not leave them there for
He will come to their aid sure
Save them from the hand of they who
Are set wickedness to do
Wait on the Lord, and keep His way
He shall bring salvation's day

Fruit Of Fortitude

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ, whose glory fills the skies')

Psalm 22 v.27-31

All ends of earth shall recall
The Lord's salvation, and all
Shall turn to Him, all kindreds
Of the nations, in their steads* (*places)
Shall worship before Him sure
He Lord and king evermore

All that on the earth prosper
Shall eat and whorship, concur
To praise Him, and all that die
Shall bow before Him, no lie
His the rule and dominion
Reigning justly o'er each one

None can keep their soul alive
However they may toil, strive
A seed shall serve Him, it be
His certain posterity
Salvation accounted to
The Lord to peoples anew

They shall come, and shall declare
His righteousness, shall it share
To peoples, generation
To be born of the nation
That the Lord great works has done
Reaches now to every one

Tale Of Thomas

Tune: Alleluia, Dulce Carmen

('Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing'

= 'For the healing of the nations')

John 20 v.24-29

St Thomas Day - 3 July.

Jesus to disciples appeared
When risen, He to them neared
But first time Thomas was not there
Did not Jesus' presence share
The disciples to him they said
We saw the Lord, He not dead

Thomas said, Except that I see
Him in person, so it be
See His hands and print of the nails
Put my finger there, no fails
And put my hand into His side
I will not believe, confide

Eight days later disciples there
Together, Thomas did share
In the room Jesus did appear
Said, Peace, They did see Him clear
He said to Thomas, Reach here your
Finger, behold my hands sure

And reach here your hand, and it place
In my side and my wounds trace
Be not faithless, unbelieving
But my witness believing
Thomas said to Him, You my Lord
And my God, true is your word

Jesus said, Thomas, because you
Have seen me, you believe true
And blessed they who have not seen me
In person physically
Yet have believed by faith in me
Trusting by faith they do see

Meditation Musings

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Psalm 119 v.145-152

I cried to the Lord with my whole
Heart, hear me, keep me, body, soul
And spirit, I will your laws keep
Enfold me, Shepherd, I your sheep

I cried to the Lord, Save me, I
Shall keep your laws, retain them nigh
I rose before the dawning day
Seeking you closely, and id pray

I called for help, hoped in your word
Trusting that you my prayers have heard
I also woke throughout the night
To meditate in your word's light

Hear my voice according unto
Your loving-kindness, me renew
Revive me, show your just judgement
Holy and right with good intent

They draw near that mischief follow
They far from your law, it not know
You are near, Lord, all your commands
Are truth, for ever each one stands

Concerning your testimonies
I have know of old as you please
You have founded them for ever
Your words, O Lord, do fail never

Prophetic Prayer Of Hannah

Tune: Ye Banks and Braes

("We cannot measure how you heal")

1 Samuel 2 v.1-10

Hannah did pray, and she did say
My heart it does rejoice always
In the Lord, my strength exalted
In the Lord is, He has me led
I smile now at my enemies
Before the Lord now each one flees
Because I rejoice, Lord, in your
Salvation now and evermore

There is none holy as the Lord
None beside Him, true is His word
Nor any rock like our God be
Talk no more now very proudly
Speak not arrogantly, for He
The Lord a God of knowledge be
And by Him our actions are weighed
None hidden, before Him outlaid

Bows of mighty, they are broken
God shows Himself stronger than men
And they that stumbled are girded
With strength, and by the Lord are fed
They that were full have hired selves out
For food, they were hungry, no doubt
They that were hungry were then filled
Barren women children did yield

The Lord kills, and does make alive
Brings down to grave, and does raise, save

He makes poor and too He makes rich
Brings low, lifts up, knows each one's pitch
He raises up poor from the dust
Lifts beggar from dung-hill and rust
Set them midst princes, that they may
Glory inherit in their days

The pillars of the earth belong
To the Lord, to Him be our song
He has set upon them the world
And His creation has unfurled
The feet of His saints He will keep
They ever in His fold His sheep
For by strength shall no man prevail
His efforts vain, to no avail

The Lord's adversaries, they shall
Be broken to pieces, we tell
Out of heaven He shall thunder
Upon them, justice does render
He shall judge the ends of the earth
Shall give strength to His king, no dearth
Shall exalt the strength of the one
His anointed, His only Son

Positive Praises

Tune: Richmond

(one tune to: 'Praise to the holiest in the height')

Parts of Psalms 30, 31, 32, 33

Lord, you have for me my mourning
Turned to dancing, I sing
You have my sackcloth put off, I
Know your salvation nigh

'Tis so my tongue may sing, glory
From sadness you set free
No silent now in mourning dearth
But give you thanks, your worth

For you are my rock and fortress
Lokk unto me, me bless
Therefore for your name's sake me lead
Guide me, your sheep still feed

Oh how great is your goodness, you
Have laid up for them true
That trust you, you for them have wrought
Good things, they you have sought

You are my hiding place, you shall
Keep me from trouble well
You shall surround me with songs, they
Your salvation display

Many sorrows to the wicked
In their sins they misled
But they that in the Lord do trust
Mercy, no meagre crust

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous
Come praise Him now with us
For praise, see, it is beautiful
For upright, righteous all

Praise him with songs and instruments
His presence here now sense
Sing to Him a new song, and play
Skilful, joyful alway

Waiting, Trusting, Hoping

Tune: University College

('Of in danger, oft in owe')

Psalm 130

Out of depths have I cried to
You, O Lord, hear my voice, do
Let your ears be attentive
To my prayers, so I shall live

If you, Lord, should records keep
Of our sins, how shall your sheep
Stand? But with you sure there be
Forgiveness, so you feared, see

I wait for the Lord, my soul
Does wait, His word I extol
In it I hope, and I wait
For the Lord, He be not late

Let Israel in the Lord here
Hope in Him, He shall appear
For with Him there is mercy
And redemption in plenty

He shall redeem Israel
From their sins, and all shall tell
Of his help, His comfort strong
To sustain us day, night long

Prayers In Perils

Tune: Trentham

('Welcome sweet day of rest'

= 'Breath on me, breath of God')

Psalm 57 v.1-5

Be merciful to me

O God, even to me

For my soul trusts in you, I will

Make you my refuge still

In shadow of your wings

I stay, there my soul sings

Until these troubles be o'er past

Enemies from me cast

I will call to God, He

Most high o'er all things be

he performs all things for me, He

Shall save me here, so be

Save me from the reproach

Of those who my peace broach

They that trouble me, God shall send

Mery, truth, me defend

Though my soul midst lions

Feels, and midst battle sons

Still be you exalted, God be

Above earth your glory

Creation Chorus

Tune: St Timothy

('My Father, for another night

= 'O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalm 96 v.11-13 and Psalm 98 v.8-9

Let heavens rejoice, let earth be glad

Remain no longer sad

Let seas resound, and all that be

Created by God free

Let fields be jubilant, each thing

In them to the Lord sing

Along with trees of the forest

They sing for joy, God-blest

For He comes for to judge the earth

And give justice, true worth

Let rivers clap their hands, proclaim

The Lord, His holy name

Let mountains all together sing

For joy, and praises bring

To the Lord, sing before Him here

And know His presence near

For He comes to judge the earth sure

The world righteously, pure

And judge people with equity

He great Creator be

Healing Help

Tune: Horsley

('In evil long I took delight'

= 'There is a green hill far away')

Mark 7 v.31-37 parts

At healing of deaf and dumb man

They said, Lord, if you can

Help him, bring healing, Jesus did

It revealed and not hid

The man's ears opened, tongue loosed, he

Spoke plain, all heard, did see

Jesus said not to share this, though

They did, others did know

Did know if this healing, for they

Widely proclaimed, did say

Jesus has done all things well, He

Makes deaf hear, and blind see

They beyond measure astonished

It more than they had wished

Yet He the lord who heals, makes whole

Body, spirit, and soul

Bonkers!

A poem not in any metre at all
And no tune to it either
No iambic pentameters or stuff like that
If I knew what they were!

Ohhh, I must stop this
Fido says so too!

Barging in on people's poems
Making daft, crass, idiotic comments
Me 3 brain cells have gone on holiday, you see
And I dunno when they'll be back
Probably never!

And who is this Fido?
He's all imaginary
But he'll bark fiercely at ya
If ya 'forget' to mark poems 18+
When they should be so marked

You knows Fido
You can humour him
Give him a bone or summat
He's very friendly really
He growls at KP at my command
That can't be bad! lol

Oh, 'The Wonderful Adventures of Orchi and KP'
You can buy the book
It's 400 pages -all blank!
Well, I've not had one good adventure
Since I married her

Or 'The Miserable Adventures of Orchi and KP'

It's 800 pages - crammed full of words!

Ya can beat an egg, some poets say

But ya can't beat some other things

I'm off to beat a couple now

And finish this rambling.....

'Where ya been on your ramble?' asks Fido!

Heehee.

Abiding Assurance

Tune: Aberystwyth

('Lord, if with thee part I bear'

= 'Jesu, lover of my soul')

Psalm 73 v.23-28

I am continual with you
Only God and only true
You have held me my your hand
As I traversed every land
You shall with your counsel guide
Shall show me it and not hide
And afterwards shall receive
Me to glory, I believe

Whom have I in heaven but you?
None can compare, not e'en few
There none on earth I desire
Beside you hear, near, not far
My flesh and my heart they fail
But with God I shall prevail
He the strength of my heart, rock
Standing through each trouble, shock

He my portion for ever
I dissatisfied never
They that be far from you they
Shall perish, no lasting day
But it good for me to draw
Near to God, abide e'ermore
Put my trust in Him, declare
All His works, with others share

Presence Promises

Tune: Camberwell

('At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 89 v.11-18

The heavens Lord are yours
Endless, countless stores
The earth is yours also
This we sure of, know
The world and is fulness
You founded, you bless
Hills, mounts, vales, you them made
They firm, solid, staid

Mighty is your arm, strong
Prevails all day long
Judgement, justice, they be
Habitation, see
Of your throne, and mercy
Too with truth shall be
Going before your face
Where you go, each place

Blessed are they who do know
The joyful sound, so
They do praise and worship
You in deed and lip
And such, Lord, they shall walk
In your ways, and talk
Of you, and the light sense
Of your countenance

In your name they shall sure
Rejoice evermore

And in your righteousness
Be exalted, yes
For you are the glory
Of their strength, so be
And in your grace, favour
That strength [on] us confer

For the Lord our defence
Is, and here from hence
He the Holy One is
Of Israel, this
We have an assurance
Unto penitents
You great God o'er all things
Unto you all sings

Favourable Forgiveness

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Isaiah 43 parts

Remember not the former things
Let them go and let them take wings
Nor consider the things of old
The Lord will do a new thing bold

Now shall it spring forth, will you know
How He shall make a way, e'en so
In wilderness and desert dry
Rivers shall be there by and by

They shall give drink to my people
My chosen, those who I do call
This people have I for myself
Formed, and they partake of my wealth

They shall show forth my praise anew
Though they grew dull and did not do
Service to the Lord, but did sin
Unfaithful family and kin

Yet I, even I, am the Lord
It be according to my word
That I blot out your sins each one
For my own sake it shall be done

I will not your sins remember
I will sure act and not defer
Thus come me, forgiven be
To me for your salvation free

Presence Pleasantries

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty?')

Parts of Psalms 84, 85, 86

How amiable are your tents
Where we your presence sense
Your tabernacles, Lord of hosts
In you we make our boasts
My soul longs, yes, faints for His courts
To Him be my resorts
My heart and flesh cry out to know
The living God anew

Blessed are they whose strength is in you
And those who your ways do
They pass through valley, make a well
Of you they good things tell
The rain shall fill the pools therein
Refresh and cleanse from sin
They shall be fruitful, glorify
The Lord, He with them nigh

Turn us, God of our salvation
Lord over each nation
Cause your anger to us to cease
Grant us your life and pace
Will you for ever angry be?
Shall we your grace not see?
Will you not again us revive
That we in you joy, thrive?

The Lord shall give us what is good
He will do as He would

Still to bless, give our land increase
And from our sins release
Righteousness it shall go before
You, set our steps for sure
In your way, that we follow on
Trusting in Christ your Son

Teach me your way Lord, I will walk
In your truth, of you talk
Unite my heart to your name fear
And reverence it dear
I will, O Lord my God, praise you
With all my heart ensue
To glorify your name for e'er
You come, you leave us ne'er

Little Life

Tune: Bread of heaven

('Bread of heaven, on thee we feed')

Psalm 39 part

I said, I will to my ways
Take heed unto, all my days
That I sin not, so I dumb
Was, and silent, answered none
But I was sad, heart was hot
I did meditate my lot

While I did muse the fire burned
Within me, to words I turned
Then I did speak, said, Lord make
Me my days know, for your sake
Make me to know what my end
Is, measure of days you send

For you do send all my days
Man to you watches and prays
So make me to know how frail
My days are, a handbreadth tale
My age as nothing 'fore* you (*before)
Man does vanity renew

Small and feeble as compared
To you, by grace I have fared
Man's life like shadow, passing
Yet he does you praise and sing
Gathers riches, vanity
Knows not what the future be

My hope Lord is all in you

Forgive me, to me good do
When you do come to correct
Even your chosen elect
There man's beauty is consumed
'Tis vain, it for moth is groomed

Hear my prayer, Lord, hear my cry
See my tears, I to you fly
Spare me, this life give me strength
'Til I then depart at length
Living for you, life's brief span
That you allot to each man

Meditative Meandering

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Forgive Lord, where I fret
Of things past, or not yet
Meditation disturbed
Distracted from your word

Search my heart, you know me
All things of me you see
All-seeing, All-knowing
Ever my Lord and King

Spirit e'er residing
In sanctum abiding
Of my heart, though fill me
My whole being purely

I may to you draw near
Worship in lowly fear
Your presence be dwelling
In me, rule o'er each thing

What I want or desire
Your wisdom best by far
Help me seek of those things
Do what glory you brings

Heart our central core be
And too our mind you see
E'en our whole life you know
In Christ's image we grow

Remaining Rejoicing

Tune: Southcote

('One more step along the road I go')

Parts of Psalms 33, 34, 35

Rejoice in the Lord, O You righteous
He will come to you and will you bless
Praise is comely for those who
Are upright, and who seek Him they do

Chorus

Sing to Him a new song
Sing it day, night long
Skilfully with loud noise in the throng

Let all the earth the Lord now here fear
He does keep His sheep, they to Him dear
Let the world's inhabitants
Stand in awe of Him in His presence - Chorus

O come magnify the Lord with me
Exalted sure now let His name be
I sought the Lord, and He heard
Delivered me from fears, what disturbed - Chorus

The Lord's eyes upon the righteous are
Open, He is near them, and not far
His ears open to their cry
They to Him will go, for refuge fly - Chorus

The Lord near to them of broken heart
He will aid them, heal in every part
And saves those who surely be
Of contrite spirit, He does them see - Chorus

My soul shall be joyful in the Lord
He will help according to His word
Rejoice in His salvation
My soul's state be joy and elation - Chorus

Aspirational Ascent

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Parts of Psalms 121-132

Chorus

I lift my eyes to the hills

The Lord my soul He stills

My help comes from the Lord sure

Today and evermore

The Lord He shall you preserve

In gratitude Him serve

He shall your soul preserve, keep

You are loved as His sheep - Chorus

Pray for peace of God's city

Jerusalem it be

They shall prosper that love you

Abides forever true - Chorus

With the Lord's help our soul is

Escaped as a bird, this

We know, the snare is broken

No more entrapment then - Chorus

They that trust in the Lord sure

Shall not move evermore

For they be as the mount fair

Zion, abides for e'er - Chorus

They that do sow in tears shall

Reap in joy, and do well

Their weeping turned to joy be

Fruitful sheaves gathered, see - Chorus

Children be an heritage
From the Lord, privilege
Fruit of womb is His reward
From Him the gracious Lord - Chorus

Let Israel hope in the Lord
And by Him be assured
That with Him there is mercy
Plenty redemption be - Chorus

My soul is as a weaned child
Not proud, but meek and mild
In the Lord I quiet myself
'Tis to my soul's good health - Chorus

The Lord has chosen Zion
This His habitation
Here be His rest for ever
He dwells here, departs ne'er - Chorus

Reigning Ruler

Tune: St Helen

('Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour')

Psalm 97 v.1-7 and v.11-12

The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice
All come, praise Him with one voice
Let multitude of isles be glad
Not remain for always sad
Clouds and darkness they Him surround
There His awesome presence found

Righteousness and judgement they be
Foundation of His throne, see
Heaven be His habitation
Who rules o'er every nation
A fire goes before Him, it burns
Enemies and evil turns

His lightnings the world enlightened
The earth saw, He did them send
The hills like wax did melt when they
Knew His presence in their day
His presence, Lord of the earth whole
His the rule, His the control

Heavens declare His righteousness
He shall favour and us bless
All the people see His glory
Displayed so resplendently
He the only true God, idols
They false gods be, each one falls

Light is sown for the righteous' part

Gladness for the upright's heart
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous
Give thanks, He does tend to us
Remembering His holiness
Just in judgement, we confess

Sincere Service

Tune: Melcombe

(New every morning is the love')

* First line from a sonnet by John Milton (1608-1674)

They also serve who [only] stand and wait*
They always ready, not be late
Enabled by the Spirit's power
To meet the tasks of every hour

For even the Lord came to serve
Though His service we not deserve
To do some deed, some word to speak
Our service e'er be humble, meek

Attending unto poor, needy
Of those around us who we see
Share something of Christ's life and love
By His Spirit, the gracious dove

So e'en if one [person] a day comes near
To know more of the Saviour dear
It will be one, better than none
Some kind at, word, through Christ be done

And in the church, the fellowship
Of believers, in deed and lip* (*word)
Sharing community, grace free
Growing to what Christ have us be

By your grace at the end times we
Among the blessed sheep shall we be
We who did serve you in the least [person]
You invite such to your great feast

Mary's Momentous Moment

Tune: St Peter

('My God, accept my heart this day')

John 20 v.11-16

For St Mary Magdalen's Day - July 22.

Mary Magdalen outside tomb

It was an empty room

While weeping, looked therein, did see

Two angels there they be

They said to her, 'Woman, why do

You weep as you us view?'

She said, 'They have taken away

My Lord, He gone this day'

'And I know not where they have laid

Him, nor where His tomb made'

Then when she turned arounds she saw

Jesus alive e'ermore

But she did not know it was He

And He did say, so be

'Woman, why weep you? Whom seek you?'

She was distressed, 'tis true

She thought that He the gardener be

And said, 'Now here, do see

If you have carried Him away

Tell me where you Him lay'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary', she

Turned round surprisingly

Said, 'Master', then she knew He be

Jesus, from death now free

Persevering Petitions

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Psalm 138 v.3

In the day when I cried you heard
To my help came, you stirred
And strengthened me sure in my need
Strength in my soul indeed

Psalm 139 v.17-18

How precious are your thoughts to me
If I should count them, see
More than the grains of sand the yare
I live in you strong, free

Psalm 140 v.3

Keep me, O Lord, from the wicked
Their deeds done, their words said
Preserve me from the violent, they
Would overthrow my way

Psalm 141 v.4

Incline my heart to no evil
But follow you, my will
Is not to go after them who
Do go astray anew

Psalm 141 v.8

My eyes, O God, are unto you
I focus on you, view
In you is my trust, my pursuit
Leave me not destitute

Psalm 142 v.2

When my spirit in me heavy

Was, overwhelmed it be

Then you my path knew, me did show

So I still your way know

Book Of Life

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Revelation 20 parts

Grant, Lord, that as you look
Our names be in your book
Your book of life it be
May you there our names see
Who have believed on Christ your Son
He our Saviour, atoning one

And that we evangel
Rech out, to others tell
Of your gospel that saves
Your love the way it paves
For us to come to God through you
Forgiveness, eternal life new

For may none here be late
To enter the strait gate
And path which to life leads
Though narrow, grant each heeds
That all be writ there in your book
None need be forfeit nor forsook

Safe from the lake of fire
where torments never tire
Where all evil does burn
None penitent e'er turn
Separated from God for e'er
A fate we wish for none to bear

What good deed, what word can

We do for woman, man?
Or child of any age
Throughout history's page?
For none you desire to be lost
Great Shepherd, paid for them the cost

Yet raptures of redeemed
On them has light bright beamed
No death, mourn, tears, or pain
They free from all sins stain
Believers trusting Christ the Lord
He our salvation, living word

The Light Of Life

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Ephesians 5 v.13-17

All things that are reveled
By the light, unconcealed
They are made known, for the light shows
It up, they each one* knows (*i.e. each person)

So it is said, Awake
Who sleep, for the Lord's sake
Rise from the dead, and Christ shall give
You light and you shall live

See you live carefully
Not foolish but wisely
Redeem time, make of it the most
So not a moment lost

Because days are evil
And troubles may prevail
So be not unwise, but do see* (*i.e .understand)
What [the] will of the Lord be

Continuous Comforts

Tune: Darwalls 148th

('Join all the glorious names'

= 'Ye holy angels bright')

Revelation 22 v.1-5

John, pure river of life

Water of life, no strife

Did see, clear as crystal

Proceeding, flowing all

From throne of God, and the Lamb too

Supply enough to all renew

New Jerusalem's street

The sight their did him greet

And upon river's sides

The Lord there so provides

The tree of life, with fruit twelve kinds

Each month it is what one there finds

The leaves of the tree, they

For healing in their day

Healing of the nations

For folk of all stations

There no more curse, but God's throne there

And of the Lamb, His people share

His servants shall Him serve

And He shall them preserve

And they shall see His face

Eternal, by His grace

His name shall on their foreheads be

A symbol of ownership, see

And there be no night there
No lamp, nor no sun fair
For the Lord God He gives
Them light and each one lives
In His light, and they shall reign e'er
No end, as they God's presence share

Redeeming Release

Tune: Holton Holgate

('Where is this stupendous Stranger?')

Psalm 124 v.7-8

Our soul is escaped as a bird
Sound of freedom's wings now heard
It is of the Lord's salvation
Reaches to every nation

As a bird released from the snare
When the Lord did act, was there
Snare of the fowlers, the trappers
Grace on us the Lord confers

The snare is broken, and we are
Flown away and from it far
And we are escaped, are redeemed
Though entrapped we were it seemed

Our help is in name of the Lord
He is strong, and true His word
He made heaven and earth, all things
To Him praise creation brings

Way Of The Word

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 119 various verses

v.7

I shall praise you with uprightness
Of heart, come to me and bless
When I shall have learned your judgements
They all righteous I do sense

v.27

Make me to understand the way
Of your precepts i do pray
So shall I talk and meditate
Of your wondrous works not late

v.50

This my comfort in affliction
Your word sent to me, 'tis done
That word has quickened me, giving
Me life, I in you living

v.66

Teach me knowledge and good judgement
You them to me still have sent
For I have your commands received
In you true I have believed

v.77

Let your tender mercies here be
Unto me, I shall live, see
For your law it is my delight
Giving light, dispelling night

v.99

You through your commands have made me
Wiser than my enemy
For your words are with me ever
I shall forsake them never

v.117

Hold me up Lord, so I safe be
So I shall live, your word see
And will have continual respect
To your statutes, no defect

v.133

Order my steps Lord, in your word
It I have sure loved and heard
And let not any sin rule o'er
Me, for your word I adore

v.160

Your word it true from beginning
Of it I do speak and sing
Each one of your judgements righteous
Endures for ever to us

v.174

I have longed for your salvation
You Lord over each nation
And your law it is my delight
Grant me e'er spiritual sight

Light-Living

Tune: Melita

('Thou hidden source of calm repose'

= 'Eternal Father, strong to save')

Ephesians 5 v.8-11

For you were one time in darkness
But now you are light, we confess
Light in the Lord, now clear your way
You have known sure salvation's day
Live now as children of the light
Do what is pleasing in God's sight

For the fruit of the Spirit be
In goodness, all things wholesomely
And in righteousness and truth too
The light of life has come to you
So living lives productively
Formed more into Christ's image be

Show what things be acceptable
To the Lord, seek His will in all
Join not with the works unfruitful
Of darkness, such shall stumble, fall
But reprove them by your light, shine
Expose evil by rays divine

Restoring Reassurances

Tune: Coelites Plaudant

('Christ the fair glory of the holy angels')

Isaiah 51 part

The Lord shall comfort Zion, her waste places
Shall be rebuilt again, radiant faces
Shall be seen, His people endued with His graces
Each one His love traces

For Zion's wilderness will be like Eden
Fruitful and flowering, prosperous to men
Joy and gladness shall be there, voice of melody
They the Lord's blessings see

Thanksgiving too, and hope shines bright, restorings
God's righteousness is nigh, salvation He brings
Fear not the reproach of men, the Lord acts sure
To defend you e'ermore

Therefore the Lord's redeemed shall return to dwell
In land of Zion, and every tongue shall tell
Of His glories, everlasting joys they share
And in Him each well fares

They shall obtain joy and gladness, so sadness
And mourning be no more. for the Lord shall bless
Comfort and provide for them, His peace giving
He the Lord e'er living

Penitent Prayer

Tune: Luckington

('Let all the world in every corner song')

Psalm 6

O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger
I shall ill fare
Neither do chasten me
Look on me, forgive, see
That I penitent be
Come to me, set me free
Chasten me not in you hot displeasure
But grace confer

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I and weak
To you I speak
O Lord, heal me, I pray
My bones are vexed, I say
My soul vexed too it is
But your presence be bliss
Lord, how long? Return, deliver my soul
And make me whole

O save me sure, for your good mercies sake
This plea I make
For in death, remembrance
There be none, be no sense
Of you, and who shall praise
You in grave, your name raise?
I weary be, look on me, my tears see
I saddened be

My eye consumed it is, because of grief
With no relief

It waxes old, my foes
Gather around, each knows
My distress and my woes
A storm of troubles grows
Depart from me, workers iniquitous
Stay far from us

For the Lord has heard voice of my weeping
To Him I sing
And He too, He did hear
My supplication here
He will receive my prayer
Let enemies that stare
On us be ashamed, sore vexed, let it be
E'en suddenly

Mad Times of KP and I

Well, it not really 'and I'
It's her, isn't it?
And her 5 million appearances
On TV. in newspapers, etc each year.

She got let off jail again for some reason
Probably said 'Do you know who I am?'
And they replied 'Nope, not at all!'

I'll tell ya this, though it's a bit swoony for me
She says she's gonna be buried, not cremated
But why?
Cos she says her breast implants could explode
If she is cremated (swoon!)
And that she would look awful then
Unbelievable - still fussing about her appearance
Though she will be dead!

I will visit her in Chapel of Rest
And say 'You're looking good today, KP
Best I've ever seen ya!' heehee

Then - oh lol - saying her phone recognition system
Does not recognise her now
As she's had too much botox
Her face swollen like the old trout she is!
She says she feels good for age 45
Come off it KP. I thought you were at least 145
Well, you look bad for your age

Now a thing about some worrying how
They can pack all their make-up in to suitcases for holidays
KP knows that problem too

She takes 100 kg every time (if she could!)

I'll keep her in line

Take her down a peg or three

Though it's increasingly difficult, I 'll tell ya

To recognise her as each day goes on! lol

'Old Trouts Rule OK!' she says.

Practical Pursuals

Tune: Breslau

('God is a name my soul adores')

Romans 12 v.9-13

Let love be without false show, see
There no dissimulation be
And nor tend to hypocrisy
But true and honest, sincerely

Abhor that which is evil, cleave
To that which is good, it receive
Be kindly affectioned one to
Another, and your love renew

In honour prefer each other
Each one, be sister or brother
And be not slothful in business
But being diligent, no less

Be fervent in spirit, serving
The Lord, yourselves unto Him bring
Rejoice in hope, and be patient
In tribulation, not relent

Continue on steadfast in prayer
All matters with your Lord do share
Distribute, help to meet folk's needs
And planting of the gospel's seeds

Trust And Abide

Tune: St Anne

'God called great prophets to foretell'

Psalm 125

They that trust in the Lord shall be
As the mount Zion, see
Which cannot be removed, does stand
Abides e'er in the land

As the mountains are round about
And do surround, no doubt
Jerusalem, so the Lord is
Rounda bout us, true this

From henceforth even for ever
His presence always there
The wicked shall not their lot spoil
Evil plans not [the] good foil

Do good, Lord, to those that good be
Their upright hearts you see
Though the wicked be led astray
Lead [the] good in your peace-way

Bread Broken

Tune: Alleluia, Dulce Carmen

('Lord. dismiss us with thy blessing'

= 'For the healing of the nations')

John 6 v.47-51

Truly, truly, Jesus does say
Speaks unto us in this day
Who believes on Him, they life have
E'erlasting, He comes to save
He is the bread of life, he feeds
Us and attends to our needs

They of olden days manna ate
But none alive as of yet
Jesus is the bread which comes down
From heaven to each place, town
That we may eat of it, not die
Spiritual food, He be nigh

If anyone eats of this bread
They shall have life from the dead
Shall live for ever, the bread be
Jesus' flesh, His life, here see
He gives Himself for life of world* (*all people)
God's plan through Him is unfurled

This we recall in Communion
When we so partake, each one
Bread the symbol of His body
Wine symbol of His blood be
Crucified for our sins, risen
He the Saviour of all men* (*mankind)

Firm Foundation

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

1 Corinthians 3 v.9-16

We labourers together
From Christ's love not sever
The ties that bind each other
Each sister and brother
Made one in God's family
His husbandry we be
And too we are his building
He Lord o'er everything

None other foundation there
But Christ, in Him we share
Take heed how you build thereon
Materials upon
That foundation, for some shall
Not stand fires test, but fall
Gold, silver, precious stones*, not
And wood, hay, stubble** rot

Each ones' work shall manifest
At day of Lord's behest
For fire shall try work of each
One, to all it shall reach
And if one's work abide sure
There reward evermore
What they have built firm upon
Foundation of the Son

If anyone's work be burned
To dust and ashes turned

That does not the fire abide
There is loss, not denied
But such ones shall be saved still
Though seemed a turn for ill
Yet they themselves, they rescued
Be, as by fire excused

The church, a temple, building
In it we worship, sing
Our prayers and praises giving
To God our great true King
And too can human body
The Spirit's dwelling be
For hearts, lives, truly lowly
His residency, see

* these things shall stand.

** these things shall fall.

Bounteous Blessings

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 85 v.8-13

What will the Lord God say
As I listen today
I trust assured He will speak peace
His mercies never cease
Saints His good word shall hear
Obey in lowly fear
But turn not to folly again
For shall not prosper then

His salvation sure nigh
Them that fear Him do cry
Unto Him, and do fear His name
Who ever stays the same
And so shall glory dwell
In our land, we shall tell
Of God's blessings and His presence
Him with us we do sense

Mercy and truth are met
Together, remain yet
Righteousness and peace they have kissed
Their purposes not missed
Truth from the earth shall spring
Good tidings shall it bring
And righteousness from heaven look down
Upon our city, town

Yes, the Lord He shall give
What is good, we shall live

And our land shall yield her increase
Presided by His peace
Righteousness shall too go
Before Him, we shall know
His way, for He shall our steps set
Shall not His love forget

Listening Lord

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear Sacrament')

Genesis 16 v.6-14

Lord, hear us now, we ask today
And even every day
Thorough night watch is keep
Guard us your sheep
Hear night and day, we pray

Help us to listen unto you
With us your grace endue
Speak your message clear
Cause us to hear
Obey with godly fear

For you did unto Hagar hark
Her situation stark
Sarah cast her out
Without a doubt
Her state abandoned, dark

Yet you Lord, found her, desert land
Where she escaped the hand
Of her stern mistress
Who caused distress
To her, no more did bless

You promises to Hagar gave
You did vist and save
She woudl bear a son
Ishmael the one
'God shall hear', it be done

And well nearby, she did then name
Beer-la-hai-roi, the same
"The well of Him, he
The God, He be
Who does live and see me"

Definite Deliverance

Tune: Dundee

('God moves in a mysterious way')

Psalm 57 part

O God, be merciful to me
Look on my troubles, see
For my soul it does trust in you
Come to my help now, do

In shadow of your wings I hide
I there shall still abide
Until troubles be overpast
They not for ever last

I will cry unto God most high
He works for me, is nigh
Performs all things with good intent
has me salvation sent

He shall help from heaven, save me
From reproach, enemy
Shall not gain victory, I hold
To my Lord in His fold

God His mercy and truth shall send
And shall me sure defend
Even though my soul oppressed be
You shall deliver me

My heart is fixed, O God, I will
Sing and praise you here still
For your mercy great, and truth high
Exalted to the sky

Grace Gloryings

Tune: Acclaim

('Praise the Saviour, ye who know Him')

Psalm 108 part

O God, my heart it is fixed sure
I will sing, give praise evermore
Even with my tongue, my glory
I sing bold and free

Awake, psaltery and harp, play
I will wake early, for the day
Is set before me to you praise
I shall anthems raise

I will praise you midst the peoples
Even each one who on you calls
Sing praises among the nations
You His daughters, sons

For His mercy it great here is
Great above the heavens, see this
And your truth to the clouds reaches
He us still teaches

Be exalted, O God, above
The heavens, you the God of love
Your glory be above the earth
We give you your worth

Give us help from trouble we pray
We depend on you night and day
Vain the help of man, but you be
Our help constantly

Certainly Not!

Certainly Not!

The words of Fido to me -

He's a talking, reading, barking dog, remember!

No 'excitement' for you, my lad, he says

Well, just a tiny bit

You know you'll only swoon

If things are too hot

Oh, c'mon now, Fido

I'm not getting any younger

Can I have a little slap and tickle?

Oh OK, Fido says

You can have a bit of slap, but less tickle

You're going out the back yard, Fido

You keep me too sheltered

You keep telling me storks bring babies

But I'm still wondering if you're right

Even at my age - about 5 million years old! - hmmm

Ohh, I'm gonna rave - a little

Let me hair down

Gonna have party

With no water in sight, to dilute the drinks

You'll have to bark all you want, Fido

I'm not letting you back indoors yet

Though I will have to -

I will need you to help me recover!

Woof! You better mark this poem 18+, says Fido

It's a teensy-weensy bit hot. lol

Service Settings

Tune: Servant Song

('Brother, sister, let me serve you')

Here in gaining, we shall then lose
But if losing do we choose
In Christ's service this the way be
With His grace, humility

For in saving our own life we
Shall lose it, not keep it, see
If gain whole world, but lose own soul
We shall prosper none at all

If we shall be Christ's disciples
He each one to Him He calls
And says to deny self daily
Take up your cross, follow me

Lord, give wisdom, what that cross be
To each individually
And where we share, help selflessly
That others Christ in us see

Though some sufferings [are] not crosses
Some of our own making, this
Is what we have sometimes made here
But they not true cross to bear

Needing grace, power to always
Follow Christ through all earth's days
'Til heavenly rewards promised
Grant we your way have not missed

Merry Madness and Trout Tales

Ohh, but why
Must trouts always be 'old'?
There's only one that's old
In that description
You all knows her

For example, she writes poems too
They're all titled 'Me, me, me'
And she wrote a book of the same name
A thousand pages long it is

I thought it was a book about fishing
She called it 'Adventures of a Trout!'

Doh! When will I not see her?
Not that I see her much in person anyway
But in newspapers
Articles about botox clinics, etc
She's first in the queue for every new treatment
Or on telly - there she is!
And she's in 'Loose Women' every day, of course

You knows the stories I mentioned recently -
She's gonna be buried, not cremated
Or else her breast implants will blow up (swoon!)
And her phone don't recognise her now
Cos of too much botox! heehee.

It would seem like fantasy
Except these two things are true
I made up the one about her taking 100 kilos of make up
On the plane for her holidays -
Though that might be true too!

I would set Fido on her
But if he bites her
He would get a mouthful of botox
Ohh, she deserves all of it
Every put-down I give her. heehee

Fido says to me
'Don't ya just love being married to KP really?' lol.

Greatness And Glory

Tune: Slane

('Lord of all hopefulness')

Psalm 85 and 86 parts

Will you not revive us again, O Lord?
That we restored rejoice in you and your word
Show us your mercy Lord, and grant to us sure
Your salvation everlasting, evermore

I will hear what the Lord God will now speak
To those with ears open, they humble and meek
For He will speak peace to his people, but let
Them not turn to foolishness, not Him forget

You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive
Plenteous in mercy, in your sight we live
Attentive to all them that call upon you
Your presence refreshing as the morning dew

All nations whom you have made, they shall come
And worship before you, Lord, you their true home
They shall glorify your name, for you are great
You do wondrous things, God alone be your state

Argggh - computer says.....

Arrgghh - computer says 'No'?
Well, it did warn me
If I delete something from the Cloud
Cloud Cuckoo Land?
I won't be able to get it back - or not easily

I pencil me poems out first
Then type them up at intervals on files
Me 'hymn-book'!
Now I've got to re-type a few poems
As I pressed that 'delete' button
Only about ten poems
But they take a while to type up

Say nice things to your computers
And other machinery - printers, copiers, etc
They will do almost anything for ya
Except make the tea
One day soon, they will make the tea too - probably!

But if beyond repair
You'll have to chuck 'em out the window
KP's half-robot really

She's broke down, decrepit, defunct
Time to chuck her out the window
But with all that botox
She'll bounce back up from the ground! lol.

Trust And Abide

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the Lord shall be
As the mount Zion, see
Which cannot be removed, does stand
Abides e'er in the land

As the mountains are round about
And do surround, no doubt
Jerusalem, so the Lord is
Round about us, true this

From henceforth even for ever
His presence always there
The wicked shall not their lot spoil
Evil plans not good foil

Do good, Lord, to those that good be
Their upright hearts you see
Though the wicked be led astray
Lead [the] good in your peace-way

Contentment Considerations

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come, gracious Spirit, holy dove')

1 Timothy 6 v.3-7

If any ones do not agree
With wholesome words of the Lord, see
Nor to teachings of godliness
They then the true way not confess

Such are proud, and they know nothing
But dote and argue o'er each thing
Of questions, words, from where envy
Strife, railings, revilings flow free

And evil surmisings are there
Such in suspicious minds do share
Perverse disputes, useless wranglings
Corrupt minds expression begins

They destitute of the truth, they
Suppose they are right in their day
That gain is godliness, selfish
They be, attend to their own wish

Continue not with such, withdraw
They be bad influence for sure
But godliness with contentment
Is great gain, and be heaven-sent

For we into the world brought nought
And it is certain, e'en if sought
We many things in the world we
Can carry nothing out, so be

Wholesome Wisdom

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('A hymn of glory let us sing'

= 'All creatures of our God and King)

I Kings 4 v.29-34

God gave unto King Solomon

Wisdom, understanding, bar none

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Exceeding much, largeness of heart

To rule the people, every part

Much as sea shores sand did impart

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Solomon's wisdom did excel

All wisdom of the east, we tell

Alleluia, Alleluia!

And the wisdom of Egypt too

He wiser than all people, true

Plenty wisdom's treasures old, new

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Wiser than Ethan*, Ezrahite

And Heman** and his wise insight

Alleluia, Alleluia!

And Chalcol, Darda, Mahol's sons***

They too in there says were wise ones

His fame was spread to all nations

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He did speak proverbs three thousand

Songs at thousand and five did end

Alleluia, Alleluia!

He spake of trees, from cedar tall

In Lebanon, hyssop from wall
Which there grew, he spake of them all
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He spake also of beasts and birds
Insects, fishes, reptiles, his words
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Did describe them, and there came to
Him all peoples of earth to view
And to hear His wisdom great, true
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

* Author of Psalm 89

** Author of Psalm 88

*** Some more wise men - cannot trace them
being mentioned elsewhere.

Protection Provision

Tune: Beatitudo

('How bright these glorious spirits shine'

= 'O for a closer walk with God')

Psalm 34 v.14-22

Depart from evil, and do good
Seek peace, pursue it too
The eyes of the Lord are upon
The righteous, every one

His ears to their cry open are
he hears them, near or far
But His face is turned against those
Who have evil ways chose

The righteous cry, the Lord He hears
Saves them from their strong fears
Delivers them from troubles all
As unto Him they call

The Lord is nigh to them that be
Of a broken heart, see
Saves such as of contrite spirit
Whose hearts to Him are knit

Many are afflictions of those
The righteous, but He knows
Them, and delivers such from all
Troubles that may cause fall

The Lord protects, keeps every part
Of their mind, will, and heart
And body too, not one bone will

Be broken, intact still

Evil shall slay wicked, their fate
And those who righteous hate
They shall be desolate, bereft
No prosperity left

The Lord, He His servants redeems
E'en if all lost it seems
And none of them that trust in Him
Shall be desolate, dim

Forgiveness Freedom

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 32 v.1-5

Blessed are they whose sins are
Forgiven, now afar
Removed they are, for Christ did take
Them, our path to God make

Blessed are they whose sins be
Not imputed them, see
Not counted up, nor record kept
Who Christ's offering accept

His place there on the tree
The cross, for you and me
His place for me, now I set free
My sins forgiven be

Made pure, made clean within
No guile my soul, no sin
To hold back sins cause pain and strife
Adn hindrance to our life

But if we do confess
Christ will come to us, bless
Wash us from sin in crimson tide
No atoning beside [Him]

Firm Faithfulness

Tune: Penlan

('In heavenly love abiding')

Psalm 26

Judge me, Lord, for I have walked
In integrity, talked
Of your works great, glorious
That you have wrought for us
In you I have sure trusted
Through life you have me led
Therefore my footsteps slide not
For pleasant is my lot

Examine me, Lord, prove me
Try my conscience, heart, see
For here your loving-kindness
Is before me, me bless
'Tis before my eyes, I view
You, walk in your truth too
Not met with vain, false, evil
Ones, but kept your way still

I wash my hands, innocent
Before you I be, see
So I will to your altar
Approach swift, not defer
That I may publish with voice
Thanksgiving, and rejoice
And tell of your works wondrous
That reach e'en unto us

Lord, I have loved your dwelling
Your temple, house, I sing

Therein, the habitation
From whence your good works done
Your honour there does abide
You continual reside
Such place I desire to stay
Through endless night and day

Save me from evil, deceit
In your way plant my feet
As for me I shall walk still
In your path, know your will
Redeem me, be merciful
To me, I shall not fall
My foot stands in even place
I bless you for your grace

Prosperous Progressions

Tune: Deep Harmony

('Sweet is the work, my God, my King')

Patience, peace needed, daily life
Love, grace, God's gifts, without a strife
Power of His Spirit to live
Person of God in us to give

To give to needy souls, that they
Too shall know Christ, the Life, Truth, Way
Using each gift, fruit, He bestows
Praying each His redemption knows

Gospel of salvation appears
God in His Son, to each He nears
His Spirit works in human hearts
That all come to Him, none departs

Yet with freewill, our choice to mke
To accept Christ, our Saviour take
So know forgiveness and life new
Though save ourselves we cannot do

In highs and lows, in toil and ease
Help us to do as does you please
Your kingdom come, your will be done
One in the Father, Spirit, Son

Your loving comforts grant as we
Inspired by you, your people be
Comforts of solace and of strength
Sharing your love's height, breadth, depth, length

Loving Leadings

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 39 v.4

Lord, make me to know my end, show
Me my days, so I know
That I am weak, frail, but you strong
You guide me all along

Psalm 40 v.2

i waited patiently, the Lord
came to me, heard my word
Brought me out from pit, and settled
Me on rock when I called

Psalm 40 v.16

Let all that seek you here rejoice
And sing to you, glad voice
Let those who your salvation love
Magnify you above

Psalm 41 v.11

By this I know you favour me
You save from enemy
Who triumphs not o'er me, for sure
You defend me e'ermore

Psalm 40 v.5

Many, O Lord, your thoughts to me
More than I count they be
I cannot reckon them up all
You raise me if I fall

Faithful Following

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalms 1 to 5 parts

Blessed be they who do the Lord's law delight
It shall be their companion day and night
Blessed they who in His law do meditate
The Lord shall comfort and profit them great

Such shall be like a tree that is planted
By rivers of water, growth be granted
That they do in their season fruit forth bring
Leaves shall not wither, they shall prosper, sing

Why do the heathen rage against the Lord?
Know they not nothing can stand 'gainst His word?
Why the people imagine a vain thing?
That they could themselves victory ever bring?

But you, lord, are a shield sure unto me
My glory, lifter of my head you be
Not downcast always, nor in defeat lay
For I cry to you, you show me your way

Salvation unto the Lord does belong
We rise, bring unto Him our joyful song
Your blessing is upon your people here
We love, we worship you with godly fear

Hear me when I call, do my words give ear
Consider my contemplation, be near
Me, for of you my meditation is
In such I find many comforts and bliss

Lead me, O Lord, me in your righteousness
Because of my enemies, see me, bless
Deliver me, make straight now your sure way
Before my face, make my path bright as day

Providing Presence

Tune: Nativity

('Come, let us join our cheerful songs')

Psalm 36 v.5-10

Your mercy, Lord, in heavens is
And too your faithfulness
Reaches unto th clouds, it high
Yet you to us are nigh

Your righteousness like great mountains
You make waters, fountains
Your judgement they are like great deep
You do your people keep

O Lord, you preserve man and beast
From greatest unto least
How excellent, you loving, kind
In you we sure do find

Therefore we people put our trust
In you, though we mere dust
We trust in shadow of your wings
To you each joyful sings

They shall abundant, satisfied [be]
With what you give, provide
You shall make them drink the river
Of your pleasures ever

For with you is of life the fount
Blessings more than we count
Are ours, and in your pure true light
Shall we see light, ne'er night

O continue loving-kindness
To those that know you, bless
Them, and still your righteousness be
To [the] upright in heart free

In Memory of K.F.

It was 16 years ago today
K.F. drowned in mysterious circumstances
Abroad somewhere - only age 24

You were with us on work experience K.F.
For a while after you had left school
Talented and bright he was
Lots of potential for his life ahead

A lovely funeral service
But then terrible grief afterwards
I sensed a dark atmosphere
Grief like I'd hardly known before
Though I'd experienced grief at other funerals before

But unfriendly too
Not appropriate to make chit-chat
I did not know K.F's family
Though they were from a 'rougner' area of town
So I left them there in their private grief

But it was horrible
A sense of hopelessness
No sense of hope, no spark of faith?
Like a black cloud descending
Though we all sang the hymns
Including the full version of 'Abide with me'

I could fool myself into thinking
'A lovely, faith-full, hopeful' funeral service
But there it is.... as is said:
Just cos people are in church
It doesn't automatically mean they all believe....

Similar to:

Just cos one is in a garage

It doesn't mean one is a car, bicycle, motorbike, etc!

Trumpet Triumph

Tune: Gelobt Sei Gott

('Christ is alive, with joy we sing')

Revelation 11 v.15-17

Seventh angel did trumpet sound
Great voices in heaven redound
Victory true in Christ is found
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

They said, Kingdoms of the world they
Are become now, it is the day
The Lord's kingdoms, His sovereign sway
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Kingdoms of the Lord, they now be
And of His Christ eternally
And He shall reign for ever free
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Though He did make all, Creator
Appointed authority sure
To men, to rule His world, its store
alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

They round His throne did worship there
Saying, We give you thanks, we share
In worship, your power, might fair
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Strength And Shield

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think of me')

Psalm 28 v.7-9

The Lord my strength and shield
To Him I trust and yield
My heart trusted in Him, I be
helped by Him, true I see

Therefore my heart greatly
Rejoices, for freely
He has come to me, and with
I praise Him all day long

The Lord, His people's strength
Is throughout all life's length
He is the save strength of One
Messiah, Christ His Son

He the Anointed One
Redemption work has sone
Save your people, Lord, and bless too
Your inheritance, do

Feed them, they each your sheep
Each one your care for, keep
And lift them up for evermore
Grant them your graces sure

Prayers And Praises

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalms 33, 34, 35 parts

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous
He has come to save us
Praise is comely and beautiful
For those who love Him all

By His word were the heavens made
And all the host arrayed
Made by the breath of His mouth for
He Life-Giver e'ermore

O look to Him, be radiant
His Son Jesus He sent
Look to him, faces unashamed
We are His people named

The Lord nigh them of broken heart
Or of desolate part
Saves such whose spirit is contrite
And seek sure for the right

I shall say, Lord, who is like you
Who help again anew
You deliver poor and needy
From them who too strong be

Stir yourself, Lord, judge me rightly
And my troubled state see
Vindicate me, so enemy
Triumphs not over me

Awesome Acclaimings

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All hail, adoréd Trinity'

= 'All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 66 v.1-7

Make joyful noise to God, all lands
You all created by His hands
Sing forth the honour of his name
Make glorious His praise and fame

Say unto God, How awesome are
You in your works! To farthest star
Through the greatness of your power
Enemies shall submit each hour

Submit themselves to you, for they
Shall not obtain victory's day
All the earth shall come, worship you
Sing to you, to your name e'er true

Come, see the works of the Lord, He
Terrible, awesome in works be
In His doings unto mankind
he Red Sea in old days did bind

Turned Red Sea into dry land, they
His people went through river's way
On foot, and rejoiced in Him there
Protected them with His strong care

he rules by His people for e'er
His eyes behold how nations fare
Let not rebellious exalt

Themselves, lest He find in them fault

Persevering Pleas

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

Psalm 119 v.173-176

Let your Spirit help me, Lord, for
I have chosen your precepts sure
I have longed for your salvation
Which you show unto each nation

I have for your salvation longed
You bring it near, it not prolonged
And your law it be my delight
Your way illumined, clear and bright

Let my soul live, and it shall praise
You, and unto you songs shall raise
Let your judgements help me, they be
All right and true e'er, constantly

I have gone astray like lost sheep
Seek me your servant and me keep
For I do not your laws forget
Nor your laws, they are with me yet

Wisdom Wanted

Tune: Irish

('Thy kingdom come, on bended knee')

James 1 v.5-8

If any of you lack wisdom
Then ask you of God some
He gives to all liberally
'Tis for the asking free

He upbraids not, no reproach, scold
We can ask sure and bold
Ask wisdom, it shall given be
To meet your needs wholly

But ask in faith, not wavering
Not unsure nor doubting
For they who waver, doubt, they be
As wave tossed on the sea

Blown about here and there, wind drives
Them, they no settled thrives
Such shall not receive anything
From God in their doubting

A double minded person be
Unstable always, see
In what they do they changeable
Not constant nor faithful

Danger From Deceit

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Psalm 52 part

But I am like green olive tree
In the house of God, so it be
And I do trust in the mercy
Of God for e'er, eternally

I will praise you for ever, for
You have worked for me, for good sure
I will wait on you, you will keep
Safe from the enemy your sheep

From those that would me betray, you
Have kept me, all my ways you know
And from harm that malicious words
Would do, me defended, me heard

Eh??

Eh?? A sample of some mad mysteries for ya
Or 'Events in the nutty interludes of Orchi'

Now why is it?
That every time we're waiting for 'tomorrow'
That it never comes?
When it gets here, it's 'today'. Doh!
Can't fathom it out meself

And these old-fangled Latin phrases
Do ya know
I took so long finding out
What 'Carpe Diem' meant
That by the time I found out
There was no day left to seize
Night-time had fallen!

Here's a puzzle too...
If a Fire Door has a notice on it
'Keep this door closed at all times'
How we gonna get out if there's a fire?
Can't open the door
Have to jump out the window or summat!

And - You seen Bill Stickers?
Or his mate Bill Posters?
They're gonna be prosecuted
Aww - why? what they done?!

We gotta know these things, and similar things
Matters of major importance

A final one for now is (a true one!)

Why that guy walking backwards in the street
With his two bags of shopping?
I knows why (this bit may not be true!)
He's practising for:
'The Annual Walking Backwards With Shopping Race'
What else could it be?!
Heehee.

Woof! From Fido and I
He helped me write this, ya know.!

Praise For Providings

Tune: North Coates

('O my Saviour lifted')

Psalm 147 v.7-9

Sing to the Lord, give praise
Him an anthem raise
Sing praise on the harp fine
Making sounds divine

Praise unto our God sure
He faithful e'ermore
Covers heavens with clouds
Envelops, enshrouds

For He does prepare rain
For the earth again
Makes grass. all things to grow
Mounts, valley do show

They show what He has made
Steady, firm, and staid
And He does provide, so
All fed here below

For He upon earth looks
He it not forsook
Though He God in heaven high
Yet He is us nigh

Gospel Graces

Tune: Lyons

('Ye servants of God.....')

Colossians 1 v.25-29

We ministers, stewards of the gospel
Give us grace, O Lord, to go forth, to tell
Of your salvation, mystery now revealed
Hid from past ages, but is now unconcealed

It a hidden truth, a secret not known
But now to mankind, to all peoples shown
We may come believing, accept of the word
Praying all may hear it as those who have heard

God would make known what the riches sure be
Of the glory of this here mystery
To Jews and to Gentiles, it be Christ in you
The hope of glory to each believer true

There be preaching, warning, admonishing
And teaching in wisdom in every thing
To present each person in Christ perfectly
Labour on in God's power, work fervently

Mustard Multiplied

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Matthew 13 v.31-32

The kingdom of heaven be
Like a mustard seed, see
Which one took and sowed in the field
A great plant it did yield

For that seed is indeed
The smallest of all seeds
But when it is grown, greatest be
Among the herbs surely

And it becomes a tree
And large enough it be
For birds of the air to lodge, come
Make there their nests, their home

So from small beginnings
It produces great things
Let us not waste a single seed
But each plant tend and feed

Wise Words

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Proverbs 15 v.1-7

A soft answer, gentle
Turns away wrath all
But grievous words, harsh they
Stir up anger's way
The tongue of wise uses
Knowledge right, each says
Useful things and good they
Proclaim day by day

But the mouth of fools pour
Foolishness for sure
The eyes of the Lord are
in each place, not far
They behold the evil
And the good as well
A wholesome tongue a tree
Of life and health be

But perverseness therein
Breaks the spirit, sin
Causes a disruption
Confuses each one
Fools despise instruction
Listen unto none
But they who reproof heed
They prudent indeed

In house of righteous there
Much treasure to share

But wicked's revenues
Troublesome, bad news
Lips of wise knowledge spread
But of fools is said
Their heart it not wise be
As the righteous, see

Reviving Refreshments

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 85 v.9-13

Surely the Lord's salvation be
Near them that fear Him, see
That glory may dwell in our land
The blessings of His hand

Mercy and truth, they met as one
Together, so it done
Righteousness and peace they have kissed
Each other, no joys missed

Truth shall spring out of the earth here
And righteousness appear
Shall look down from heaven, the Lord
Shall act true to His word

He shall give us that which good be
Our land shall yield freely
Her increase, righteousness shall go
Before Him, we shall know

It shall set us in His way sure
His footsteps evermore
It shall make plain His path before
Us, from His wisdom's store

Net Nuances

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Matthew 13 v.47-50

The kingdom of heaven be
Like a fisher's net, see
'Twas cast into the sea
Gathered all kinds freely
When net was full, it drawn to shore
Then they sat down to sort it store

Thye gathered the good, they
Kept them, not thrown away
Good in vessels preserved
And their goodness conserved
But they did throw the bad away
It was of no use in that day

So at end of the age
At history's final page
It shall be like this for
Angels shall come forth sure
They shall sever and separate
Wicked from the just, not be late

The wicked's end shall be
Cast into the fire, see
There wailing and gnashing
Of teeth, agonising
But all the good be gathered in
Secure for e'er from evil, sin

Practical Pursuits

Tune: Offertorium

('Sometimes a light surprises'

= 'When Jesus came to Jordan')

Colossians 3 v.12-17

Put on, as God's chosen ones
His people, daughters, sons
And holy and beloved, share
With others graces fair
Tender mercies and kindness
Of mind show humbleness
Meekness and longsuffering
Reflect Christ in each thing

Forbearing one another
Each sister and brother
Forgiving one another
And godly desires stir
If any have a quarrel
Against any, do well
Forgive as Christ forgave you
Complete and whole and true

Above all these things put on
Love, now let it be done
'Tis the bond of perfectness
And with it we may bless
And let the peace of God rule
In your hearts, this His call
United in one body
Be thankful and agree

Let the word of Christ dwell here

Richly in you and clear
In all wisdom, be teaching
And too admonishing
One another in psalms, hymns
Voice of praise that ne'er dims
Spiritual songs, and so sing
With grace in hearts and bring

Bring worship to the Lord new
And whatsoe'er you do
In word or deed, do all in
Whatever you begin
Do in the name of the Lord
Jesus, give thanks outpoured
Thanks to God, the Father He
Our God eternally

Chosen in Christ

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Ephesians 1 v.3-6

God be blessed, He who has us blessed
With His blessings, true, now confessed
Having all spiritual blessings
In Christ, to Him our soul now sings

Chosen before the foundation
Of the world, sure, from each nation
That we should holy, blameless be
Before Him in love, here now see

And he has too us predestined
To be His sons (/daughters), with no rescind
To be adopted, His children
From among human kith and kin

'Tis so we praise His glorious grace
And His mercies here we do trace
By His grace we made accepted
In Christ, in Him, the beloved

Justice Judgement

Tune: Saffron Walden

('Just as I am')

Psalm 94 v.17-23

Unless the Lord my help had been
My soul had not by faith Him seen
But would have soon dwelt in silence
Not perceiving Him hence

When I said, My foot slips, mercy
Of the Lord held me up, so be
I stand again on solid ground
In Christ my life is found

In the multitude of my thoughts
Within me, your comforts, kind sorts
Delight my soul, O Lord, I see
Peace is restored to me

Shall iniquity share your throne?
Not so, for you do reign alone
They do mischief, and persecute
The righteous, their pursuit

But the Lord is my defence strong
He shall come help me, all along
And my God my refuge sure be
Rock of my safety He

He shall deal with wicked, and bring
Thier wrong upon their heads, each thing
The lord shall cast them off and they
Shall vanish, flee away

Prayer Petitioning

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Matthew 7 v.7-11

Ask, and it shall be given unto you
Seek, and you shall find, this sure promise true
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you
God will hear you anew

For every one that asks, they do receive
And they that seek, they do sure find, believe
This, and to them that knock it shall be so
Open doors they shall know

Or who of you if your child asks for bread
Will give them useless stone for it instead?
Or if asking a fish, will give serpent
And child's request dissent?

If you then, human, sinful, know how to
Give good gifts to your children, so to you
Will your heavenly Father give much more
To you, you be not poor

Help us, Lord, pray, to ask and seek and knock
Though you willing to hear us, do not block
Our prayers, but even your Spirit us give
In you we truly live

A Bit Dry - Ramblings

A ramble about sundry things

I've dried up a bit
Not like an old prune
But with me 'hymn-book'
Not been writing so many new ones
But digging out old ones that got missed out

Come, sweet muse, inspire me
Calliope? Or whatever your name is
Didn't I meet ya 3 million years ago?

To be sensible, it's God's Spirit really
I can't think up the hymns all by myself
Though needing vocabulary
To make words rhyme
With me 8888s and 8686s and 486375s, etc
Am I playing bingo?!

What other themes, maybe?
More tales of nuttiness?
Entitled 'Of trouts (you know her, KP), or Fido, or botox'

Or rants about a certain church
That never stops asking for money
I gotta pray that bit of prayer
'Lead us not into temptation'
Cos I'm tempted to send them a nasty note
Saying things Fido will bark at
Such as, putting it mildly:
'Don't ya realise there's a cost living crisis?'

I'd write something 'hot'

But would I ever finish the poems?
I would make myself swoon! heehee

Bold Battlers

Tune: Morning Star

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Ephesians 6 v.10-18

Put on armour of God all
And stir unto battle
Be strong in the Lord to fight
In [the] power of His might
So putting on armour whole
Keeping body and soul
And spirit, that you may be
Able to stand surely

To stand against the schemes, see
Of the devil, he be
Our enemy, oppressor
Deceiver, accuser
For wrestle against not
Human beings, our lot
Is against rulers, powers
Of darkness in these hours

And against spiritual hosts
Of wickedness, their boasts
That as we cannot them see
They not exist, not be
But take stand diligently
With waist clothed securely
With girdle of truth, breastplate
Of righteousness, not wait

Have feet shod in readiness
To share gospel, to bless

Take shield of faith, so you shall
Quench the fiery darts well
Of the wicked one, they fly
Would seek come to you nigh
Take helmet of salvation
Be lacking none, not one

And take sword of the Spirit
The word of God, the writ
And pray always with all prayer
Too supplications share
Watching and persevering
Dropping guard in no thing
Yes, strong in the Lord to fight
In [the] power of His might

Slippery Slanderings

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The king of love my Shepherd is')

Psalm 109 v.27-31

Help me, O Lord, my God, save me
According to your mercy
That my enemies may this know
That you your doings me show

Let them curse, Lord, but you do bless
I shall trust, shall you confess
When enemies arise, may shame
Be to them, I praise your name

Let me your servant here rejoice
To follow you be my choice
Let enemies be confused, fall
But I shall tell your works all

I will greatly praise Him, the Lord
And trust in His good, true word
I praise Him midst the peoples for
He shall come, help, save the poor

Gracious Goodness

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 112 v.4-7

To upright there arises light
In the darkness, to give them sight
They are gracious, compassionate
And righteous, hearts on the Lord set

Good people show favour, and lend
Thye do unto the needy tend
They guide their life-matters wisely
With discretion, justice, so be

Surely they shall not be moved e'er
But solid standing they do share
They the righteous shall ever be
In e'erlasting remembrance, see

They shall not fear evil tidings
What troubles or strifes that life brings
Their hearts are fixed and steadfastly
They trust in the Lord completely

Salvation Sure

Tune: Kingsfold

('I heard the voice of Jesus say')

Romans 9 v.23-26

God would show riches of glory
That in His treasure be
To Jews and Gentiles, unto all
Who will on His name call
Prophet Hosea from of old
Did say, these words were told
That God would call them His people
Which were not His people

And He would too call them beloved
Which were not His beloved
And it would come to pass right there
That they would come to share
In knowing Him, be His people
And be included all
E'en called children of the living
God, and Him praises bring

They would be all part of His plan
Intended unto man* (*mankind)
To bring all into unity
Through His own Son, so be
Jesus, who would work a worldwide
Salvation, none beside
That open secret, mystery
To all revealed now be

Of Mice And Pork Pies

I was gonna comment on that book/film
'Of Mice and Men'
But pork pies got in the way!
So I've subtitled it:
'Pork . pork, and more pork!'

A hunger, a craze, a longing
Must have pork pies now!
At least 10 of 'em.
I dunno anything about the book/film though
Never read the book, or seen the film

Fido wants pork pies too
He will join me for lunch
He says don't read any hot poems during lunch
Or you will only swoon!

And - do mice eat pork pies?
I'm rambling on
Why? Where ya going? Where ya walking?
Nope, not that rambling
I mean waffling on
Spouting out things of no importance at all
Talking rubbish - or garbage, if ya prefer!

Aww, Fido consoles me
When they say 'No change there then!' heehee.

I'm still trying to get out of this Fire Door
But it's gotta be kept closed at all times
So says the notice on the door
What? Even if there's a fire?! Doh!

This poem will appear in the genre 'Rubbish!' lol.

Emotions Expressed

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Proverbs 27 v,1-6

Boast not self of tomorrow
What it shall bring, you not know
Let another praise you, so
Selfish arrogance not show

A stone is heavy, and sand
It be weighty in one's hand
But a fool's wrath heavier
It be than both, it is sure

Wrath is cruel, and anger is
Outrageous, as torrent, this
Be true, but who able to
Stand before envy, can you?

Open rebuke better than
Secret love shown between men* (*mankind)
Faithful the words of a friend
They who support to the end

A Childlike Faith

Tune: North Coates
('O my Saviour, lifted')

Psalm 131

Lord, my heart not haughty
Not proud, boasting, see
And my eyes not lofty
Unconceited be

I not exercise me
Nor my concern be
In great matters that are
Too high or too far

Nor things [of] difficulty
Nor [of] profundity
But have behaved, quieted
My soul, by you balmed

It like a child who weaned
Of its mother, gleaned
Calm and peace, so hope sure
In the Lord e'ermore

Spirit And Song

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Ephesians 5 v.16-20

Be not with wine drunken
Come, children, women, men
But be with the Spirit
Filled, by Him your lives lit
Redeem the time, days are evil
So let your light be shining still

Among yourselves speak, sing
Psalms and hymns to God bring
And spiritual songs, sing
Of His grace, each good thing
And make melody in your heart
To the Lord, come now, take your part

Be not unwise, but do
Understand what the true
Will of the Lord is, so
Daily progress shall know
Give thanks always for all things to
God and his Son Jesus anew

Captivation Creation

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('Eternal Monarch, King most high')

Psalm 19 part

The heavens they do sure declare
That they show and that they do shsre
In the glory of God, skies show
His handiwork, all may it know

Day unto day does utter speech
There no place where words to not reach
And night to night knowledge reveals
Creation to mankind appeals

That mankind may believe that He
God the great Creator e'er be
He has measured out all the world
Land, sea, sky, all by Him unfurled

In the sky He has a tent set
For the sun which does shine bright yet
Sun like bridegroom his bride to meet
And as strong man running with feet

Sun rises and sets from one end
Of earth to other, God it sends
Nothing is hidden from its heat
God's works all made perfect, complete

Covenant Comfort

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Hebrews 8 v.10-12

New Covenant the Lord would make
And all believers may partake
He puts His laws into our minds
And written in their hearts each finds

And He to them a God will be
And they shall be His people, see
They shall not ever be teaching
To 'Know the Lord' in every thing

For all shall know Him, least to great
Whate'er their background or estate
There no intermediary
Except Jesus, none else can be

For He us all to God does bring
And we give praises, to Him sing
Through Him the Lord God merciful
Shall be to us, forgive us all

Our sins forgiven to us be
Through Jesus' blood given freely
And they no more remembered be
For He has borne them on the tree* (*cross)

Telling of Tares

Tune: St George's, Windsor
('Come, ye thankful people, come')
Matthew 13 v.36-43

Parable of the tares told
Jesus did it there unfold
To disciples, said that he
Who sows the seed, He* it be (*the Son of man)
And the field it be the world
Explanation now unfurled
Good seed children of kingdom
Tares children of wicked one

Enemy that the tares sowed
Is the devil, he bestowed
Them, and harvest is the end
Of the world, when reapers tend
They be the angels, servants
Awaiting the Lord's words thence
To gather tares and them burn
In the fire, with no return

So it shall be in the end
Of the world, the Lord shall send
Forth His angels, they work do
Harvest is their sight, their view
Gathering out of kingdom
All that offend, not just some
And them which continue sin
Who do no good deeds therein

They cast them into furnace
Of fire, weeping, anguish this

Their state, but then the righteous
Shall shine as the sun, e'en us
If by grace counted among
The righteous, let praise be sung
Shining in the kingdom e'er
Of their Father they shall share

Proverb Pieces

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Proverbs 18 v. 10-15

Name of the Lord is a strong tower
Righteous may run to it each hour
And there abide, and find safety
For there they set on high shall be

The rich man's wealth his strong city
Is, and he trusts in it, so be
And as high wall in his conceit
He thinks he has it all replete

Before destruction the heart be
So proud and boastful and haughty
Before honour humility
Is, such shall fare well, graciously

They that answer matter before
They hear it, it is folly sure
Folly and shame, they do not wait
To hear all, but their own view state

The spirit of a man it will
Sustain him through his weakness still
But wounded spirit who can bear?
They who broken spirit do share

Heart of the prudent knowledge gains
And with them wisdom it remains
The ear of the wise knowledge seeks
'Tis revealed to the lowly, meek

Salvation Secured

Tune: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Hebrews 2 v.9-10

Now we see Jesus, who was made
To human view displayed
Made little lower than angels
For a while, each tongue tells

Was for the suffering of death
He gave His final breath
Then rose again, crowned with glory
And honour e'er, so be

That He by the grace of God should
Taste death for all, He would
Do His Father's will, so each one
May be saved through the Son

For it was fitting for Him, for
All things are for Him sure
And by Him all things live and be
He brings us to glory

God made Him our captain, our Lord
Of salvation, His word
Says God made Him perfect, complete
Through sufferings, no defeat

Do Shut Up Sometimes...

So says Fido to me
And also I say it to myself
In a 'note to self'

I wish I would shut up sometimes
But I can't seem to stay shut up
I'll waffle on
Say 20 words will 5 will do
Gotta save on breath
Talking too many words!

A bit like when I held my breath once
For 24 hours
I did it - but didn't feel well after it! (Eh?)

We gotta be 'quick to listen;
Slow to speak; slow to be angry'
But if you've writer's block
Just write some old rubbish
In the 'That'll do' or 'Garbage' categories
Aww, why they say to me
'That's what you already do in your daft interludes -
So no change there then!'

And why some of you not got 'u' on your keyboard?
With humor and color and other stuff!
I must know these things
Of major importance

Time for walkies, Fido!
'Mark them poems 18+
Where they're supposed to be' he says
'Or I will bark fiercely at ya

And my Master will swoon!

Gaining Greatness

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, lead me')

Mark 10 v.44-45

Whosoever of you
Will be great, 'tis true
Needs to be a servant
Choose this, give consent

Following the Shepherd
And His words be heard
That He came not to be
Served, but to serve, see

To give His life here, for
It a ransom sure
For many, the price paid
For sins, life down laid

So lead us to follow
And true greatness know
It be through lowliness
As you, Lord, do show

Wise Ways

Tune: Abbots Leigh

('Glorious things of thee are spoken')

Proverbs 16 v.19-25

Better to be humble spirit
With the lowly, from proud quit
They that handle matters wisely
Shall find good, act sensibly
And whosoe'er trusts in the Lord
Blessings on them be outpoured
Wise in heart shall be called prudent
[The] Spirit in lives resident

The sweetness of the lips gives more
Learning, increases it sure
Understanding is a well-spring
Of life, wisdom it does bring
But the instruction of fools be
Unwise things, outcome folly
The heart of the wise it teaches
Their mouth, what each says, preaches

And it adds learning to the speech
Where'er seeds scattered do reach
Pleasant words are as honeycomb
And the experience known
That they are sweet unto the soul
And health to bones, making whole
Man's ways sometimes they do seem right
But at end there death and blight

More Wise Ways

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Proverbs 16 v.16-22

How much better is it to get
Wisdom than gold, no regret
And also get understanding
Than wealth that silver can bring
Highway of the upright it be
To depart from evil, see

They that keep their way do preserve
Their soul, they it do conserve
But pride goes before destruction
Fo each boastful, selfish one
Haughty spirit goes before fall
They shall trip and stumble all

Better to be of a humble
Spirit, hear the lowly call
Than to share in deeds of the proud
Or with what goods they endowed
They that handle matters wisely
Shall go on prosperously

Wise in heart shall be called prudent
Their wisdom be evident
Sweetness of lips it does increase
Learning, and brings health and peace
Understanding is a well-spring
To the wise in everything

Sincere Seeking

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalm 34 v.1-6

I will bless the Lord at all times
Through life's seasons and rhymes
His praise it shall continual be
In my mouth, sung freely

My soul shall make in Him her boast
Father, Son, Holy Ghost
The humble, they shall hear, be glad
Not stay downcast or sad

O magnify the Lord with me
That all His greatness see
Let us exalt His name, as one
Together in His Son

I sought the Lord, and He me heard
And helped me by His word
Delivered me from all my fears
His salvation appears

Looking to Him, we were lightened
His mercies He did send
Our faces radiant, not be
Ashamed, nor we defamed

I, a poor man cried, the Lord He
Did hear me graciously
Saved me out of all my troubles
So too who on Him calls

Through Trials

A sort of discourse
Dried up on poems a bit.....

I suppose it's easy following a God or god
When all is easy and calm
All nice and cosy, sensing His presence
And blessings abounding

Yet He is there with us, in and through trials too
Tests of faith at times? or always?
Not to condemn hymns
Yet some can be rather 'general'
And one can 'hide' behind them
Some are focused entirely on God
Giving him praise and worship

But it's a relationship
It's as is written - God our heavenly Father
So we must be His children, His people
His sons and daughters
His princes and princesses even
As He is also Lord and King

Will we grow in Him? Will I grow in Him?
Will we grow in faith?
It's not 'religion' in a sense of
Observing rules and regulations
That was the Pharisees' trouble
And they got Jesus' rebuke of 'hypocrites'

There's books like:
'When bad things happen to good people', etc

We like it calm, cosy, all on an even keel
Yet troubles have their place too
Whatever human life may 'throw' at us, good or bad
I suppose we wouldn't grow
If we were always on 'holiday' (as a metaphor)
If nothing changed
If nothing inspired us

Though we may not all experience
Persecutions, even martyrdom and death
As some have of old
And still some today

Propitiation Peace

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Jesus, man of sorrows did share
In human life and care
Knew grief, loneliness, rejection
He God the Father's Son

We may by Him be comforted
He our Shepherd and head
Finding in Him peace, sins forgiven
He Saviour for all men* (*mankind)

Forgive where we may cosily
Rest in our apathy
Give grace that we continual grow
In you, more of you know

It shall be a prosperous way
If we follow each day
For Him Himself the Way, Truth, Life
Bring comfort in our strife

Two Ways Of Life

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Matthew 7 v.12-14

The golden rule it be
Explained by Christ here, see
That what we would than folk would do
To us, do to them too

This is the summary
Encapsulated be
Of the law and the prophets words
And now from Jesus heard

Enter in at the strait
Narrow gate, be not late
For wide the gate, and broad the way
Unto destruction's day

Many there be whic hgo
In through that gate, now know
Because strait is the gate, narrow
The way to life, it so

The way that to life leads
Few that find it, few heed
But one step at a time, each day
Follow Christ, He that Way

Sowing And Reaping

Tune: Wir Pflugen

('We plough the fields and scatter')

1 Corinthians 9 v.6-11

God is able to make all
Grace abound to you, call
On Him, that you then always
Having through all your days
All sufficiency in all
Things, so abound, not fall
To every good work resourced
Enough, not strained nor forced

Chorus

Sparse sowing, sparse reaping
But if you in each thing
Sow generous, bountifully
Ample reaping shall be

As it is written, God He
Has dispersed abroad, see
He has given to the poor
He righteous remains sure
Now He that supplies seed to
The sower, so give too
Bred for food, and multiply
Seed sown, His presence nigh - Chorus

And that he too may increase
Fruits of rightness and peace
So you enriched in all things
Liberally shares, each brings
Their offerings, which causes

Praise, thanks to God no less
And sharing with fellow-men
We shall know blessings then - Chorus

Active Assisting

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Psalm 116 v.1-8

I love the Lord for He has my voice heard
My prayers, He attended unto each word
Because He has to me His ear inclined
I call continual on Him in one mind

The sorrows of death they did me surround
Pains of hell and distress with me were found
Troubles and sorrows, these were what I knew
I called on the Lord and said, Save me, do

Save my soul, and me from my troubles free
He be righteous, and did work graciously
he merciful, preserves humble, lowly
To my poor state the Lord came and helped me

Return unto your rest, O my soul, see
Teh Lord has dealt with you bountifully
Has dried my tears, kept my feet my falling
Saved my soul from death, praises I Him bring

Question of Authority

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Mark 11 v.29-33

Jesus to leaders said
'Answer me, how you read?
Was baptism of John of men
Or sent from heaven then?'

They midst themselves discussed
Said, 'Answer give we must'
But if we say, 'From heaven', He
Will say, 'Why you not agree?'

'You did not him believe
Not his message receive'
But if we say, 'Of men', they feared
People, they John revered

And counted him prophet
Indeed, his mission set
So they answered to Jesus, 'We
Cannot tell, here do see'

Jesus then did reply
And told them by and by
'Neither by what authority
I work, how my deeds be'

Harvest Homily

Tune: Golden Sheaves

('To thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise')

Deuteronomy 26 v.1-15

Golden sheaves, harvest offerings
Basket of first-fruits each brings
In celebration to the Lord
The land is blessed by His word
And they there His goodness rehearse
In their spoken and sung verse
Starting from Abraham's time when
He went into Egypt then

He was there with a few people
And became great nation all
The Egyptians them harsh treated
They there downcast, defeated
And when they did unto the Lord
Call, He heard our voice, He heard
Looked on our labour, affliction
Helped us in our oppression

And He bought us out with strong hand
As His mighty army, band
Did terrible and awesome deeds
That e'en our enemy heeds
Showed plagues and signs and wonders great
He came to our help not late
Has given us this land which flows
With milk and honey, each knows

And now, behold. I here have brought
First-fruits of the land as taught

In the law, for the festival
And recalling God's gifts all
Thus baskets before the Lord set
His doings they not forget
And worshipped the Lord their God there
And in rejoicings did share

Their tithes they made throughout the year
God's providings did appear
In humble thanks, not selfishly
But offerings generously
Their prayer, that the Lord look upon
Them, to prosper, bless each one
They dependent on Him, faithful
Grace to them favourable

Sharing, Showing, Safety

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 40 v.10-13

O Lord, may we here not hide your
Righteousness in heart, sure
Though it remains there, may we share
It in love, mercy, care

And too declare your faithfulness
Your salvation, us bless
Not conceal your lovingkindness
But it to folk confess

Withhold not your tender mercies
From us, O Lord, so sees
Each one that your lovingkindness
And truth keep us, no less

When many evils us surround
In you trust, peace be found
If sins be overwhelming, do
Forgive, and us renew

Be pleased, O Lord, to save us, for
we need your graces pure
O Lord make haste to help us, we
Pray for your aid freely

Prayer Petitions

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Colossians 1 v.9-12

For Colossians, this prayer is made
Requests to God outlaid
That they might with the knowledge sure
Of God's will be filled more

And that is with all wisdom be
And understanding, see
Of spiritual means, not worldly
Thoughts nor profession be

That they might too live worthily
Of the Lord, pleasing, free
Being in each good work fruitful
So following His will

And in that knowledge of God to
Increase, and Him pursue
Strengthened with all might according
To His power, [in] each thing

It be His power glorious
Available to us
Empowered unto all patience
Longsuffering, good sense

And these things joined with joyfulness
We God the Father bless
He made, gave us inheritance
Of the light, His presence

Proverb Pieces 2

Tune: St Botolph

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Proverbs 22 v.1-6

A good name is rather to be
Chosen than much wealth, see
And loving favour rather than
Silver and gold of man

The rich and poor meet together
Each sister and brother
The Lord the maker of them all
Each one may on Him call

Prudent ones foresee the evil
Not caught up in it all
Those naive it not avoid
They of wisdom devoid

By humility and the fear
Of the Lord, reverence dear
Are riches and honour and life
Such be at peace, no strife

Thorns, snares are in way of froward*
Troubles they have incurred
But they that keep their soul shall be
Far from them and be free

Train up a child in the way they
Should go, so in their days
Of life's fullness, they not depart
From it, but stay, whole-heart

* froward - difficult to deal with; contrary.

Lyrics on Love

Tune: Ebenezer

(one tune to: 'O the deep, deep love of Jesus')

1 John 4 v.10-21 parts

Here is love, not that we first loved
But God loved us, us encoved* (*encovenanted)
Sent His son for our salvation
Avails to every nation
He the propitiation for
Our sins, e'en for evermore
Teh atoning sacrifice made
Our sins price for us has paid

Love we ponder, meditation
And too love shown in action
This love we can know and believe
Love of God we can receive
They that dwell in love, in God dwell
They shall prosper and fare well
Such sell in God, God in them dwells
And their lives His glory tells

If we say we love God, and hate
Others, we are in poor state
And we lie, for who does love not
Others seen, such is our lot
For if we love not those that we see
How then can it be that we
Love God, who we have not seen, though
He in Christ His Son we know

Trust Through Troubles

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Parts of Psalms 56 to 60

In the Lord God I put my trust
I who am weak, mere human dust
I will not fear what man can do
Unto me, I trust the Lord true

He shall send from heaven, save me
A safe path before me will pave
Will save me from reproach and shame
Show mercy, truth, the Lord His name

The righteous shall see the vengeance
On the wicked, their recompence
And reward be to the righteous
The Lord judges fair unto us

Deliver me, O God, defend
Me with your mercies to the end
Save me from enemies who do
Rise against me and know not you

To You, Lord my strength, will I sing
And fresh praises and worship bring
For you my defence, my mercy
Your help in troubles do I see

Give us your help from troubles, for
Vain it is to trust man for sure
Through God we shall do valiantly
He shall tread down each enemy

Make Haste To Hastings!

Yes, it's that day again
(See Goldfinch's poem too for today)
The Battle of Hastings 1066 in the UK

There's an annual reunion
It's free to attend, but with one condition...
You have to have been there in person
Fighting in that battle
All of 957 years ago
And it helps if your name is Methuselah
He lived to 969 years, it's said

But Goldfinch and I - who can tell
How old we are? How young we are?
We're both millions of years old/young!

We were the first two men on the Moon (and Fido)
Not those in 1969
We stepped out from the dark side of the moon
To shake their hands and say 'Greetings, Earthlings!'
You knows that the true version
And E.T. is Fido's friend!

Yes, haste to Hastings
For more merriment and nuttiness
I'll add water to your wine too!
heehee

Sheep Safety

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 41 v.1-3

Blessed they that consider the poor
Helpless, powerless, for
The Lord will save them in their times
Of troubles in life's rhymes

The Lord will them preserve, and keep
Them alive, they His sheep
They shall be blessed on the earth, they
Helped needy in their day

The Lord will not give them unto
Their enemies to do
What they wish, but will His aid give
To them and they shall live

The Lord will strengthen them upon
Bed of sickness, each one
Will restore, heal, for they did care
In human need, did share

Faith Focus

Tune: All Saints

('Who are these like stars appearing?')

Psalm 77 v.7-13

Will the Lord cast off for ever?
And from us favour sever?
Is His mercy ceased for ever?
And will it return never?
Does His promise fail e'ermore?
Will He remain faithful sure?

Has God forgotten graciousness
Unto His people, no less?
Has He in anger closed His hand
Tender mercies to His land?
I said, This my anguish be
But by faith the Lord I see

I will remember His long years
They eternal day to day
His strong hand I will remember
Will not forget, not defer
Remember His works of old
In the scriptures they be told

I will meditate here also
Of all His works that I know
And will talk of all His doings
His wisdom seen in all things
Your way, O God, holiness
From the sanctuary you bless

Who is so great a God as you

Be? Our God holy and true
You are the God that does wonders
And your grace on us confers
You have declared your strength here
Midst your people it appears

Praise Proclamations

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 98 v.4-8

Make joyful noise unto the Lord
All the earth, true e'er be His word
Make a loud noise, break forth in song
Give Him praises all day, night long

Rejoice, sing praise unto the Lord
He the great God, all be assured
Sing to the Lord with instruments
Harp, voice of psalm, His presence sense

With trumpets, sound of cornets raise
Unto Him thankful hymns of praise
He the Lord, the King, let sea roar
Creation's praise with mankind's soar

All peoples that in the world dwell
Join with floods, rivers, hills to tell
Of His greatness, he all had made
His life and power here displayed

People of Prayer

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Romans 8 v.26-28

The Spirit helps us where we weak
His presence may we seek
And find Him e'en within our hearts
Strength to our inward parts

For we know not what we should pray
For, whether it night, day
But the Spirit He intercedes
With God the Father pleads

With groans at times, they beyond words
Yet all by the Lord heard
And God who does search the hearts knows
How the Spirit's mind flows

For the Spirit prays according
To God's will in each thing
And we know that all things, they do
Work together, 'tis true

Work together for good to they
That love God, with him stay
They are the called ones according
To His purpose, we sing

Announcement of Anointing

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Luke 4 v.18-19

When Jesus in synagogue, He read
From Isaiah, these words He said
That the Spirit of the Lord upon
Me is, to bring life to each one

Because the Lord He had anointed
Me to preach the gospel, so led
Me, and has sent me to heal broken
Hearted, bring wholeness unto men* (*mankind)

And to preach deliverance unto
The captives, and to them renew
Recovering of sight to the blind
So they in me true light shall find

To set at liberty those oppressed
They who are bruised and find no rest
To preach here now the acceptable
Year of the Lord, salvation to all

Proverb Pieces 3

Tune: St James' Air

('How lovely is thy dwelling place')

Proverbs 14 v.23-27

In all labour there is profit
It is suitable, fit
To do, but idle chatter, see
Tends unto poverty

Crown of the wise is their riches
Their prosperity this
But the foolishness of fools be
Unwise, path of folly

A true witness does save souls sure
But deceit turns, allures
People away from truth, they lie
They not God's words apply

In the fear of the Lord is strong
Confidence, lasts life long
And His children shall a place
Of refuge, safety, grace

Fear of the Lord is a fountain
Of life unto all men* (*mankind)
To turn away from snares of death
Impart life-giving breath

Hope Of Help 2

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Help us, O Lord, to wait your time
Whatever we face in life's rhyme
Whether it short or long to bear
May we e'er sense your presence there

In drawing ear to you we may
Find you draw close to us each day
In all of human life you shared
Yet none to you can be compared

In joys and sorrows, sickness, health
May we find in you our true wealth
Of strength and grace, love to uphold
By mercy we sheep of your fold

Your purposes you do reveal
May be not always as we will
But as you will, shall be the best
And you give promised peace and rest

Citizens Celebrations

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Revelation 21 v.1-4

A new heaven and new earth
God shall bring to birth
John saw holy city
All new, bright it be
New Jerusalem, see
Descends from heaven free
As bride for her husband
There joys without end

God's people made citizens
Of heaven, He sends
His Son for our salvation
To Earth's each nation
This be our hope to come
Our everlasting home
With God for evermore
The eternal shore

And God's tabernacle be
His dwelling place, see
He with them shall e'er stay
Through perpetual day
And He shall with them be
From thence e'erlastingly
He shall be our God, we
E'er His people be

Old things, they shall pass away
All gone, we shall say

For God shall wipe away
All tears in that day
And there shall be no more
Death nor sorrow, 'tis sure
Nor crying, no more pain
Only good remain

Remaining Rock

Tune: Wareham

('Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Psalm 46 v.1-5

God is our refuge and our strength
He will help us now and at length
A very present help is He
In trouble, comfort to you be

Therefore we will not fear, e'en though
Earth be removed and mountains so
Be carried into midst of sea
Howe'er wild, chaotic it be

Though water roar and be troubled
He peace o'er the storms rage has called
And mountains may shake, upheaval
But the Lord God be our Rock all

There is a river whose streams shall
Make glad God's city, we do tell
The holy place where He does dwell
His tabernacles we know well

God is in midst of His city
She shall not be moved, but firmly
Remain, and God shall help her give
Early, at dawn, and she shall live

Shepherd Steps

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd now here
I shall not want, not fear
He makes me to lie down secure
in green pastures for sure

He leads me beside still waters
On me His grace confers
He restores my soul, and lead me
In righteous paths I be

'Tis for His name's sake, he leads me
Always will with me be
E'en though I walk through death's dark vale
His mercies still prevail

No evil even here I fear
For He is with me dear
His rod and staff they comfort me
Wise Shepherd, good is He

He does a table me prepare
Of fine things, I well fare
Is in midst of my enemies
From foes He saves and frees

My head He does anoint with oil
Only sin can this spoil
My cup runs over, abundance
I have, His presence sense

Surely goodness and mercy shall
Follow me, I shall tell
Of them and of Him all my days
Dwell in His house always

Prosperity Pronouncements

Tune: Penuel

('Come, O thou traveller unknown')

Psalm 102 v.11-17 and v.25-28

My days are like passing shadow
Are short and brief, true this I know
The shadow declines, I am withered
Like grass, its glory sometime flowered
But you, O Lord, you shall endure e'er
Your remembrance forgotten ne'er

You shall arise, Zion pity
'Tis the time to favour her, see
The set time come, Lord, you will act
Will fulfil your covenant pact
For your servants do take delight
In Zion's dust, her stones be bright

So shall the heathen your name fear
All peoples shall to you draw neat
When the Lord shall Zion upbuild
His glory then shall be revealed
He will regard prayer of the poor
They destitute, despair no more

Of old the Lord lad foundations
Of the earth, yes, of all nations
The heavens be work of His hands
And creation of all the lands
They shall perish, but you endure
Shall live and reign for evermore

The heavens and earth shall wax old

This be their state, it shall be told
That you shall fold them as garment
Shall change our clothes, our earthly tent
And so they shall be changed for you
Shall come, make all things again new

But you, Lord, are the same, no end
Of your years, to decay not tend
The children of your servants, they
Shall continue sure in your way
Their descendants be established
Content, your will they desired, wished

Simple Seeking

Tune: Gott Ein Vater

('Faithful vigil ended')

Here in meditation
Joy, quiet elation
Knowing that you Lord be
God eternally

Freely contemplating
Your presence, we sing
For your rule shall ne'er fail
You shall e'er prevail

Trusting you, you do keep
Hearts, minds, of your sheep
You great Shepherd e'er be
Us do oversee

Lighten our way, we pray
Through life every day
For you the Life, Truth, Way
Ever with us stay

Jericho Journey

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God I love thee, not because')

Joshua Chapter 6 parts

To gain victory at Jericho
The people would it know
Encircling the city round
But silence did redound

Once round the city for six days
This was in the Lord's ways
Then seven times round, seventh day
They in their ranks did stay

Then at word, Joshua's command
And through the Lord's good hand
Then they did shout, and wall flat fell
Through the Lord they did well

Then onwards strong they did advance
Took up their battle stance
Saved only Rahab and her kin
Destroyed all else therein

For city was dedicated
To the Lord, He them led
To gain victory, and silver, gold
Brass, iron, they did not hold

For those were all consecrated
To the Lord, He their Head
They stored within the treasury
His worthy tribute free

Eternal Encouragement

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the Lord
Shall be as says His word
Like mount Zion it strong
Abides through all life long
Cannot be removed, but it stays
In its place through eternal days

As the mountain they be
Round Jerusalem see
So the Lord He is round
His people, praise resound
Roundabout them for evermore
They protected, safeguarded sure

For there the wicked's rod
Not rest on land of God
For there the righteous be
None seek iniquity
Do good, O Lord, unto those here
That do good, trust with godly fear

And too bless the upright
They pleasing in your sight
But as for those who turn
To deceit, their ways burn
The Lord shall lead them, cast them out
But peace be on Israel, no doubt

Eternal Endeavourings

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

1 Corinthians 15 v.51-58

A mystery shown, we shall not all sleep
For God His gracious promises shall keep
We shall all be changed in a moment sure
Shall be changed in an instant evermore

For in twinkling of eye, a second split
The last trump shall sound, alters us each whit
That trumpet sound loud, victory proclaimed
Resurrection hope on God's people named

Then dead incorruptible shall be raised
They shall extol the Lord, He shall be praised
Corruptible, incorruption puts on
Jesus, victory o'er death for us has won

This mortal immortality dons too
For God's word is that He makes all things new
When corruptible incorruption dons
We all changed full to God's daughters and sons

When mortal immortality puts on
Thens shall come to pass this saying, 'Tis done
Death is swallowed up in victory, Lord, you
Have overcome it, given us hope new

And, O death, where now is your sting so sharp?
O grave, where is your victory, your escarp?* (*escarpment)
'Tis as a steep mount where we slip and fall
Yet rescued by Jesus, redemption all

For sting of death is sin, poison's ill-core
And strength of that sting of death, 'tis the law
But thanks now be to God, who through His Son
Our Lord Jesus Christ, victory He has won

Over sin, death, hell, grave, what does oppose
Now His love, salvation, to us o'erflows
Continue immovable, steadfast, sure
Always abounding in the Lord's work pure

Your words, actions, fruit produced in His name
Never in Him are vain, eternal fame
They shall attain, for He who ever lives
Unto His servant grace and strength He gives

Prayer Practicals

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Matthew 6 v.5-15

Pray not you as the hypocrites
For they stand or they sit
On street corners or in temple
But vain their prayer, their call

For they have prayed for to be seen
Of men, so reward been
Given to them, they have no more
They true prayer do ignore

But when you pray, to your room go
And pray to Father, so
Closing your door, it be secret
Your reward comes not yet

But your Father He will reward
You openly, when heard
Your prayers, but vainly not repeat
Many words as great feat

For your Father He does know all
Before you on Him call
Yet invites us to bring our prayers
To Him, He in them shares

Pray, Our Father, which art in heaven
Creator of all men
hallowed be your name, your kingdom
Come, and your will be done

As in heaven, so be in earth
For 'tis the greater worth
Give us today our daily bread
You ensure we are fed

Forgive us our sins, as we do
Forgive others here true
Lead us not into temptation
Deliver each nation

Deliver us from all evil
So in you we not fall
For your the kingdom and power
And glory e'er, each hour

For if you do forgive men here
Your heavenly Father near
Will also forgive you, so be
Living forgivingly

Halloween Horror

Gotta mark this 18+ for sure!
An adventure of Fido and me.....

We went visiting a haunted castle
Quite scary, but nothing to compare
With what happened when we got home

How can I describe it to ya?
Will ya ever recover from the horror of it?
If ya ever saw it in person
Ya would never want to see it again

Yes, we returned from the castle
'Time for bed', I said, and Fido agreed
(He's a talking dog too, ya know!)
And then, as we got upstairs
(He sleeps by my bed)
A sight, an apparition
Too ghastly to behold for long

'It's Halloween night' Fido said to me
'Your mind's playing tricks on you'
'There's no-one there'

'But look', I said to Fido
'There is someone there'
'Looks like an old trout'
'It's..... KP without her make-up on!'

I forgot that she wears no make-up
On Halloween night! heehee.
Oohh, I am horrible to her - lol.

Sights of Saints

Tune: Sine Nomine

('For all the saints')

Hebrews 12 v.22-24

For All Saints Day (Hallowmas): Nov 1.

For you are come, New Testament people
To mount Sion, God did you to it call
The city of the living God, see all
Alleluia, Alleluia!

It be the Jerusalem heavenly
And here angels multitudinously
The festive gathering of God's church free
Alleluia, Alleluia!

It be a gathered general assembly
Church of the firstborn, born from above, see
Names written in heaven eternally
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And you are come to God, He the Judge be
Of all, and He will judge e'er faithfully
Here the spirits of just ones company
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Also you are come unto Jesus, He
Mediator of new covenant be
Sprinkled by His blood, so saints too are we
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Access Available

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Psalm 24 v.1-5

The earth is the Lord's, the fulness
The world, all therein, we confess
He has founded it on the seas
Made each thing as it Him does please

Who shall ascend into the hill
Of the Lord, to His temple still?
Who shall stand in His holy place?
We shall, but only by His grace

They that have clean hands and pure heart
Not from the Lord prone to depart
Nor lifted soul to vanity
Nor have they sworn deceitfully

They sure shall receive the blessing
From the Lord, and He too shall bring
Them righteousness, He the God be
Of salvation eternally

Pursuing The Promised Land

Tune: St Matthew

(slower tune to 'Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old')

Joshua Chapters 1 to 4 parts

Joshua, he the people led
After Moses was dead
Be strong, and of a good courage
Was to him the message
From the Lord, and to meditate
In His word, so be great
Would he be, learning, obeying
To promised land would bring

Would bring God's people, their journey
Long through wilderness, see
It had been, but they now on edge
Of God's promise and pledge
They would enter, they would agree
Joshua leader be
So forth they went, to river came
River Jordan its name

When feet of priest carrying Ark*
Brim of river did mark
It parted, and so on dry land
They passed, through God's good hand
Over the Jordan went safely
God their provider be
Then when feet of the priests left sure
River o'erflowed once more

* Ark - or 'Wooden Box' of the Old Covenant, written on two stone tablets.

Compassionate Caring

Tune: St Gregory (or Irish)

('With glorious clouds encompassed round')

Psalm 111

O praise the Lord, I will Him praise
With my whole heart Him raise
Midst His people, holy, upright
He glorious to our sight

His works are great, and they are sought
Out by them He has taught
By them that have pleasure herein
His works all free from sin

His works honourable, glory
In each one do we see
His righteousness endures for e'er
His wonders forgot ne'er

He gracious, full of compassion
Reaches each daughter, son
He gives food unto them that fear
Him His covenant near

He has showed His people the power
Of His works every hour
That He may give them heritage
Of heathen of each age

Works of His hands are verity
Truth and judgement they be
All His commandments they be sure
Abiding evermore

He sent redemption to people
To those who on Him call
Has commanded His covenant e'er
Unto us did declare

Holy and reverend His name
Worthy of endless fame
The fear of the Lord does become
Beginning of wisdom

A good understanding have they
Who do here watch, obey
All they that do His commandments
They praise Him, penitents

Wondrous Workings

Tune: Sagina

('And can it be')

Psalm 135 part

Praise the Lord here, His servants all
Praise the Lord, and upon Him call
For the Lord, He is good, look, see
To praise His name it pleasant be
His people Israel He chose sure
For Himself, His treasure e'ermore
His people Israel He chose sure
For Himself, His treasure e'ermore

And I know he the Lord is great
Will not abandon us to fate
The Lord above all gods always
We lift our hearts to Him and praise
Whatsoever He pleased to do
He did in heaven and earth too
Whatsoever He pleased to do
He did in heaven and earth too

Man's hand could not change or alter
Nor can any His plans falter
Also in the seas, deep places
He does as He wishes, graces
E'er prevail, He keeps, sustains all
Making rains too, on earth to fall
E'er prevail, He keeps, sustains all
Making rains too, on earth to fall

Winds from his storehouses rough, calm
Yet He protects, keeps us from harm

Wind and he rain, calm and sunshine
All come under His plans, align
He whose name does endure for e'er
Remembrance of the Lord fails ne'er
He whose name does endure for e'er
Remembrance of the Lord fails ne'er

Waiting And Watching

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Psalm 62 parts

Truly my soul on God does wait
He brings me salvation not late
Silently here I meditate
On His words and works, they all great

He only is my rock, and He
Ever shall my salvation be
He my defence, I shall not be
Greatly moved, neither shaken, see

My soul, wait upon God only
For all my hope in him placed be
My expectation is He will
Come to my help, and save me still

In God my salvation, glory
From henceforth and for e'er shall be
Rock of my strength, and my safety
Is in God, He my refuge be

Praise Ponderings

Tune: Dudley

('God is gone up on high')

Parts of Psalms 84, 85, 86, 89

Behold, O God, our shield
You do all power wield
Look here upon the face
Of your Messiah, grace
Grant unto Him, He does your plan
Fulfil for every woman, man
Fulfil for every woman, man

The Lord our God is a sun
And shield to everyone
Who does in Him put trust
Though we mere men and dust
Grace and glory he will us give
Good things to those who upright live
Good things to those who upright live

Lord, you favourable
Are to who on you call
You have brough back we see
Israel's captivity
Have forgotten their sins and blessed
They your great name have true confessed
They your great name have true confessed

Surely His salvation
Is nigh to our station
To those who do Him fear
He shall come and draw near
So that glory may in our land

Dwell, all be by your gracious hand
Dwell, all be by your gracious hand

For you, O Lord, are good
We praise you here, we would
You ready to forgive
By your grace shall we live
And plenteous in mercy you
To those who call, to you ensue
To those who call, to you ensue

You Lord, are a God full
Of compassion, graceful
Longsuffering, plenty
In mercy, truth you be
O turn to me, and have mercy
On me, and give strength unto me
On me, and give strength unto me

For who in heaven be
Compared to the Lord, see?
Who among the mighty
Is strong or great as He?
He is greatly to be feared in
Assembly of the saints within
Assembly of the saints within

Aspects of Wealth - A Blessing

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Deuteronomy 30 v.9; Proverbs 22 v.4

And the Lord God will plenteous
In every work make us
Work of your hand, fruit of body
And fruit of cattle, see

And in fruit of your land, for good
will bless, provide your food
Will rejoice over you again
As so to former kin

By humility and the fear
Of the Lord, it kept near
By such are riches, life, honour
His blessings do confer

Reminder To Love

Tune: St Anne

('O God, our help in ages past')

Romans 13 v.8-10

Owe no one anything but to
Love one another, do
For whoso loves another, they
Fulfil the law today

For the commands here, You shall not
Do certain things, life's lot
Not adultery, kill, nor steal
Not false witness, ill-will

Not covet, and too if there be
Other commandments, see
They all in this find summary
Love neighbour as self free

Love works no ill to another
To no sister, brother
Therefore love is the fulfilling
Of the law in each thing

F F

Yep, keeping up the alliterations in my titles, where I can
Makes them more memorable, I think
But why this short title? says Fido
And why 18+?

Well, I got a poem for ya
I've seen the word in full appearing in some poems
I'm too sheltered to use it in full, of course!
Here's the poem.... it might be a repost on here. lol

Ohhh, F, F, F, and F
And furthermore F, F, F, and F
Ohhh grrrrrr, fumes and rants...
F, F. F, F, and even F!!
I got two words to say to ya
The second one is 'off'!

Steady on, says Fido
You've turned the air blue
It'll only bring on a swoon for you, ya know
But don't you forget
To mark this poem 18+
Or I will bark at you, my master
And throwing me a bone won't shut me up!

My next poem could be KP, KP.....
But no one would survive
Reading the horrific details of it all!
(heeheehee)

Temporary And Eternal

Tune: Melita

('Eternal Father, strong to save')

Psalm 103 v.11-17

For as high as the heaven be
So great is the Lord's mercy, see
Towards them that do Him here fear
With reverence to Him draw near
And far as east is from west
He removed our sins, we confessed

Like fathers pity their children
He does remember our state then
That we are dust, mortal mankind
Yet in Him may salvation find
For He does know our frame, and He
Compassionate to us shall be

As for mankind, our days are as
Grass, as flowers of field, soon pass
Flourishes, and then wind does blow
Over it, then place it not know
For it be gone, taken away
And so be mankind's little day

But the mercy of the Lord is
From everlasting, true is this
And unto everlasting on
They that fear Him, each daughter, son
His righteousness extends unto
Children's children, it fresh and new

Reconciling Remembrances

Tune: The Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

Romans 5 v.6 -11 parts

Peace, can it come to such a world as this?
Be possible to restore Eden's bliss
Before man sinned, and then brought in the Fall?
Christ has made a way, salvation for all

For when we were without strength, at right time
Christ died for the ungodly in life's rhyme
For hardly for a righteous man will one
Die, or for a good man, yet Christ God's Son

Yet through Christ, God His love to us commends
His Son to us redeem, sure He Him sends
'Tis in this, that while we were e'en sinners
Christ died for us, atonement us confers

For in remembering offerings, sacrifice
At this season, most of all Christ sufficed
His life, the holy one, for sinners gave
To bring us to God, reconcile and save

Deliverance Days

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Parts of Psalms 16, 17, 18, and 20

The lines are fallen to me - Alleluia!
In pleasant places, here see - Alleluia!
I have goodly heritage - Alleluia!
Inheritance, privilege - Alleluia!

I have set the Lord always - Alleluia!
Before me, e'en all my days - Alleluia!
Because He be at my side - Alleluia!
I not be moved, here reside - Alleluia!

Keep me as apple of eye - Alleluia!
I to you for refuge fly - Alleluia!
Hide me under the shadow - Alleluia!
Of your wings, safety I know - Alleluia!

I will love you, Lord, my strength - Alleluia!
You do help me here at length - Alleluia!
You my rock, my fortress too - Alleluia!
Deliver me, me renew - Alleluia!

You my God, my strength, my shield - Alleluia!
I will trust you, to you yield - Alleluia!
You, strength of my salvation - Alleluia!
Tower, stronghold, you the one - Alleluia!

From my foe, strong enemy - Alleluia!
He did help, deliver me - Alleluia!
And from them which me hated - Alleluia!
They too strong for me rated - Alleluia!

For you will light my candle - Alleluia!
I to you shall on you call - Alleluia!
The Lord God will enlighten - Alleluia!
My darkness, will it brighten - Alleluia!

Some trust chariots, horses - Alleluia!
Or ways that be man's courses - Alleluia!
But we will remember sure - Alleluia!
The name of the Lord e'ermore - Alleluia!

The Lord lives, blessed be my rock - Alleluia!
I withstood the tempest's shock - Alleluia!
Through him, let Him exalted - Alleluia!
Be, who saves, our living Head - Alleluia!

The Lord hear you in the day - Alleluia!
Of trouble, unto Him pray - Alleluia!
The name of God defend you - Alleluia!
Send you help, strengthen, renew - Alleluia!

New And Old

Tune: Ach Got Und Herr

('Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands')

Luke 5 v.36-39

No one puts a piece of a new
Garment on old, does not sew
If they do, the new will make tear
More difficult to repair

And also piece that was taken
Out of new, not agrees then
With the old, and no one puts new
Wine in old skins, does not do

If they do, the new wine will burst
The old skins, not relieve thirst
Wine shall be wasted, skins perish
And both be ruined, true this

But new wine must be put into
New skins, so shall be to you
That both wine and skins be preserved
Thes actions you have observed

No one having drunk old wine be
Quick to accept the new, see
For they say, The old is better
The new we postpone, defer

Palms Processings

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Chorus

All glory to the Saviour

All praises to the King

On humble colt He rides now

To Him creation sings

He rides on humble donkey

And did in meekness mount

Now we again His worthies

Paschal Mystery recount - Chorus

He rides forth into [Jeru]Salem

The city, name of peace

To bring his great salvation

His honours never cease - Chorus

Tell to daughters of Zion

Prophecy fulfilled thus

Your king on lowly beast comes

Brings salvation to us - Chorus

Crowds gathered by the wayside

To Him they homage give

Palm branches waved before Him

They trust in Him and live - Chorus

Their garments spread before Him

Along the royal way

And this their joyful anthem

'Hosanna' they sing, say - Chorus

So as they their possessions
Along the road did give
Help us service offer you
That we may truly live - Chorus

'Save now Lord' that their tune sweet
Procession marches on
The Lord will then His life lay
Down for them, Holy One - Chorus

Come process in this victory
O'er sin, death, gloom's dark night
For 'tis all in the Son sure
He is the world's true Light - Chorus

Eternal King now living
Triumphant o'er the grave
Come to our hearts, bide now
And stay, us fully save - Chorus

'Blesséd He be, the one who
Comes in the Lord's name true'
Their shouts, their songs, rejoicing
Praises to Him anew - Chorus

Though later then their pleading
Is 'Crucify' and die
Yet He on cross the Victor
Given the name most high - Chorus

Our suffering Saviour dying
There see upon the tree
Now we sing to Him and praise
He redeemed you and me - Chorus

Lord of Lords reigning on high
On us favours bestow
That all the world confess you
And all people you know - Chorus

For Easter message fades not
Christ died and rose again
Will return for His own soon
Unending glories then - Chorus

Peace, Protection, Prayer, Praise

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty?')

Parts of Psalms 121 to 126

I will lift my eyes to the hills
Quiet, peace, my heart stills
From there comes my help, from the Lord
I trust His living word
He who has made heaven and earth
I praise, give Him His worth
He will not allow your foot to
Be moved, will you renew

Pray for peace of Jerusalem
City of peace, Salem
They shall prosper that do love you
And seek your blessings true
Peace be within your city walls
Prosperity in halls
Of your palaces, they shine bright
They are glorious sight

Our soul is escaped as a bird
The Lord our prayers has heard
We are escaped out of the snare
That enemies laid there
The snare is broken, we set free
To spread our wings and be
People who live, and our help in
The Lord, through Him we win

They that trust in the Lord shall be
Strong as mount Zion, see

Which cannot be removed, but stays
Abides to endless days
As the mounts around Salem are
So the Lord is not far
From us, but round about us is
For ever, we are His

Thurn, O Lord, our captivity
As streams in the south be
They that sow in tears, they shall reap
In joy, a harvest keep
They that go forth weeping, bearing
Precious seed, they shall sing
Rejoicing when they do return
With their sheaves, their hearts burn

Corner-Stone

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Luke 20 v.17-18

The stone the builders rejected
Has become main stone, the head
Of the corner, firm foundation
To those called from each nation

'Tis the same stone, Christ that stone be
Whosoe'er upon it, see
Shall be broken, humble, made low
That his grace power they may know

But on whosoe'er it shall fall
It shall sure destroy them all
Shall grind them to powder, shattered
For they that stone rejected

So may we build our lives upon
Jeus Christ, He God's own Son
Becoming a living temple
Each one for His glory all

And thus shall we be in our place
Of whatever culture, race
Better to fall on that stone, so
Brokenness, not crushing know

You Got The Time?

You got the time there?
Is it a quarter past Spring
Half past Summer
Or a quarter to Winter?

I dunno what day it is
What week, year, or century even!
That'll teach me to post
Easter theme poems in November

Now ya knows I can't post Ch..... poems
Or say the word until December
Or Goldfinch will shoot me!

The only word I hear
A million times a day
Well, two words actually - from KP
Is 'More botox!'

I got no money, ya know
She's spent it all on looking trout-like
She don't care about Ch.....
Or any other season of the year
All she does is spend it
On 'me, me, me!

I pays her compliments
Dunno what the fuss is
Each morning I tells her
'You're looking lovely and more trout-like each day, my dear!'

And Fido agrees
He helped me write this poem. lol

Wealth - A Sacrament

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Proverbs 3 v.16

Length of days in wisdom's right hand

Such do well understand

And in her left hand be riches

And honour, such blesses

1 Samuel 2 v-7-8

The Lord makes poor, and He makes rich

Brings low, lifts up, e'en which

He chooses to do, raises poor

Sets them midst princes sure

Ecclesiastes 5 v.19

Each one to whom God riche gives

And wealth, so each one lives

God gives them power to prosper

It a gift from Him sure

Hosea 2 v.8

For Israel they did not know

The Lord appointed so

For them corn, wine, oil multiplied

Silver, gold with them plied

Creation Considerations

Tune: England's Lane

('For the beauty of the earth')

Creation, Lord, you have made
All your works by you displayed
Land and sea and sky, each thing
You wisdom to it did bring
When you created them, so
We your glory through them know

Still today you do create
All things small and all things great
my we see in them your power
To sustain them every hour
And too humans, who in your
Image, likeness made for sure

Give us grace that we may share
In your works with love and care
Tend to others, help in need
Aid the poor, the hungry feed
Faithful as you us appoint
O'er nature, so us anoint

Nothing is made without you
You who create all whole, true
And good news of salvation
Reaches unto each nation
Man born again, from above
By the Spirit, holy dove

Marriage Marvellings

Tune: Gopsal

('Rejoice, the Lord is King')

Revelation 19 v.6-9

John heard great multitude
Their voices thus ensued
Saying, Alleluia!
The Lord the morning star
The Lord God omnipotent reigns
Exalted with His glory's trains

Let us be glad, rejoice
Honour Him with one voice
For the Lamb's marriage time
Has come now in life's rhyme
His bride, the church, has made ready
Herself, for great supper freely

She granted fine linen
Arrayed in beauty then
And clean and white, it be
Righteousness of saints, see
John wrote, Blessed they which are called to
The Lamb's marriage supper, fine view

Proverb Pieces 4

Tune: Wolvercote

('O Jesus, I have promised')

Proverbs 25 v.8-15

Go not forth hastily to strive
Be patient, and so thrive
In case you know not what to do
If in our strivings you
Are put to shame by your neighbour
So with neighbour confer
And go not round secrets sharing
But keep them private thing

Or otherwise one may you hear
As they draw to you near
Hear the secret, and infamy
Shall then sure with you be
A word fitly spoken it be
Like apples of gold, see
In pictures of silver, so framed
Your wisdom shall be named

As an earring of gold, and too
An ornament gold true
So is a wise reprover here
Upon obedient ear
As cold of snow in harvest time
Occurring in life's rhymes
So is a messenger faithful
To they who send him all

For he does so refresh the soul
Of his masters, makes whole

But whoso boast of a false gift
Is like clouds which uplift
And give no rain, no fruit produced
So produce is reduced
By long forbearing persuasion
Is made by gentle ones

Pursuing the Path

Tune: St Hilda

('O happy band of pilgrims')

Psalm 119 v.71-74

It is good for me that I
Afflicted [be] by and by
That I might your statutes learn
O Lord, and to you turn

Law of your mouth better be
Than heaps of riches, see
Better than thousands of gold
Or silver stores be told

You hands, Lord, have fashioned, made
Me, your works here displayed
Give me understanding so
I your commands learn, know

They that fear you, Lord, will be
Glad when they do me see
Because I have hoped in your
Word, it abides e'ermore

Liberty to Love

Tune: Louvan

('Lord of all being, throned afar')

Galatians 5 v.13-15

You have been called to liberty
But not turn it to licence free
Liberty not to do selfish
Things, not as self does please, each wish

But by love serve one another
Of humankind's sister, brother
For all the law it fulfilled be
In one word, it expressed plainly

It is this, You shall love neighbour
As yourself, not hate or abhor
But if you bite and devour
One another, love shall not flower

For in that case, take heed that you
Be not consumed, for it be true
You would only use selfishly
Your liberty for self, I, me

Exodus Explainings

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty?')

Psalm 105 v.38-45

The people at the Exodus
Said, God has done for us
Great things whereof we sure are glad
Our hearts no longer sad
And Egyptians too glad were they
When Israel that day
Departed, for their fear did fall
Upon Egyptians all

He spread cloud for a covering
From exile He did bring
Them and a fiery pillar too
Gave them night-light anew
The people asked, he gave them quails
His provision prevails
And satisfied them with the bread
Of heaven, with manna fed

He opened the rock, waters gushed
From it, in flowings rushed
Waters did run in dry places
Like river, each traces
For He remembered His holy
Promise, and graciously
Abraham His servant with who
He made covenant rue

He brought froth with joy His people
They celebrated all

And they His chosen ones gladness
Did share, He did them bless
And gave them lands of the heathen
They inherited then
That they might observe His laws, ways
Obey Him all their days

Desiring Daylight

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding')

Romans 13 v.11-14

Know now it is time to awake
Out of sleep, for the Lord's sake
For now is our full salvation
Nearer for us, e'en each one

Nearer than we first did believe
The gospel truth did receive
Night is far spent, day is at hand
Christ, morning-star of eh land

Let us cast off works of darkness
Wear armour of light, no less
Live properly, as in daytime
Christ be out Light in life's rhyme

Noe revelling or licentious*
Nor lewdness, things not for us
Not striving, and not envying
Nor rioting, chambering*

But the Lord Jesus Chrsit put on
As a garment, God's own Son
Living in his life and power
Not human greed any hour

* the two words here are similar -
licentious and chambering.

Salvation Through The Son

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ whose glory fills the skies')

Romans 5 v.6-11

For when we no strength did have
Christ in due time came to save
He died for the ungodly
To bring us to God, so be
For scarcely for righteous man
Will one die, e'en if they can

Perhaps for a good man some
Would even dare to die, come
With a willingness of heart
To give life up, every part
But God commends His love to
Us, that we may see, e'en you

For while we were yet sinners
Christ died for us, grace confers
On us, much more than being
Justified by Him, we sing
That by His blood we shall be
Saved from wrath eternally

For if, when we enemies
Were reconciled, truth agrees
To God by death of His Son
He the holy, sinless One
Much more, now we reconciled
Shall be saved, by His life styled

Not only this, but we too

Rejoice in God now anew
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, He
The one by whom we have, see
Now received the atonement
We forgiven, repentant

Day By Day

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 90 v.10-14

Years of our life, average be
Seventy, eighty, we
Find their strength is labour, sorrow
Yet in them we the Lord may know
If melancholy flow
If melancholy flow

For our life soon cut off, and we
Like birds that fly, we be
Here for a while, then removed, gone
When we our earthly days have gone
None retains life e'er, none
None retains life e'er, none

Who the power of God's anger
Knows? When your wrath does stir
As is fear, reverence of you
So is your wrath, this sure be true
Help us keep this in view
Help us keep this in view

So teach us to number our day
To seek you and your ways
Taht we may apply our hearts to
Wisdom, it all does come from you
Lord, inspire us anew
Lord, inspire us anew

O satisfy us early, so

Your mercy we e'er know
That we may rejoice and be glad
All our days, be not always sad
Thanks for days so far had
Thanks for days so far had

Sight And Sound

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Mark 4 v.21-25

Jesus said, Is a candle brought
To be put, so He taught
Under a bush or a bed? Or
Put on candlestick sure?

For there it shall give out its light
And give to others sight
Our own way too we shall see clear
As it does bright appear

For there is nothing hid, which shall
Not be shown, this know well
Shall be revealed, and what it be
All shall see it freely

Nor was anything kept secret
That stay unopened yet
But it shall be spread abroad, known
An to all shall be shown

If you have ears to hear, then hear
Take heed, and all endear
To you what you shall hear, for what you
Give, you shall receive too

If you hear, more shall unto you
Be given, this is true
But they that have not, from them shall
Be taken, you I tell

Not as the world, where more and more
Results in greater store
Of earthly wealth, but spiritual
Treasures Christ gives people

Worldly Worship?

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Matthew 4 v.8-11

In temptation, the devil took
Jesus up mount, made Him look
It an exceeding high mountain
He was able to see then
All the kingdoms of the world known
And the glory of them shown

The devil said to Him, All these
I will give, if you appease
If you will fall down before me
And worship me, then, I, see
Shall give you them all, this one thing
Do, and I shall each you bring

Then said Jesus to Him, Get you
Hence, Satan, although I view
All this, it is written, You shall
Worship the Lord your God, tell
The Scriptures, and Him only shall
You serve, you too know this well

Then the devil left Him, behold
Angels came to help, 'tis told
To minister to Him, for sure
Season of temptation o'er
Help us, Lord, not earthly glory
Seek, but your kingdom e'ermore

Strengthened, sustained, and supported

By the Spirit you were led
Into wilderness forty days
And forty nights, that your stay
Guide us through this world's wilderness
To worship you, you confess

Speech Sentinel

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 141 v.1-5

Lord, make haste, unto you I cry
Give ear to me, and draw nigh
Hear my voice, let my prayer be set
Before you, me not forget

Let it be as incense to you
Fragrant offering and true
May hands lifted to you suffice
As the evening sacrifice

O Lord, before my mouth set guard
That there no things bitter, hard
Proceed from there, door of my lips
Keep, so no tongue's sinful slips

Let not my heart incline unto
Evil, but things that please you
That I not wickedness practise
With those whose hearts [are] set to this

Let the righteous smite me, it shall
Be a kindness, do me well
As an excellent oil, it shall
Not injure me, I shall tell

For yet my prayer shall be in their
Troubles, I with them shall share
Not be vengeful, unforgiving
But support them in each thing

Public Professions

Tune: Charity

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

Colossians 4 v.2-6

Continue in prayer, and be
Vigilant and watchful, see
Give thanks, and be praying for
Spread of gospel more

Pray that doors for utterance
May be open, and so hence
The gospel of Christ be shared
With none it compared

That it be known and be told
Spoken confident and bold
And live wisely to those who
Know not gospel true

Redeem the time, waste it not
Prosperous do make your lot
Let speech be with grace always
In salvation's days

Let it be with salt seasoned
What is shared, proclaimed, reasoned
That you may know how to deal
For each one's true weal* (*well-being)

Advent Anticipation

Tune: Bristol

('Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes')

As sounded the first advent call
Christ comes to one and all
On this Earth, Saviour, to us save
The way to God did pave

A second time He shall return
All peoples may this learn
And be prepare. live in the light
'Til we see Him by sight

Light of the world, darkness dispels
Good news the gospel tells
Of Him to take his people home
We pray His kingdom come

Though long we wait, yet shall the time
Be in life's plan and rhyme
His second advent be fulfilled
All in God's timing willed

Protection Pleas

Tune: Holton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Psalm 31 v.1-5

In you, Lord, do I put my trust
Though I be mere man and dust
Let me never here be ashamed
For enemies taunts have framed

Save me, Lord, in your righteousness
Hear words I to you address
Bow down your ear, deliver me
Come to my help speedily

Be you my strong rock of refuge
I turn to you, take courage
Be to me a house of defence
A strong fortress, save me hence

'Tis true, you my rock and fortress
So for your name's sake no less
Lead me and guide me in safety
Your my Lord, protector be

Pull me out of enemies net
That they have secretly yet
Laid for me, but you unto me
Myr strength and my helper be

Into your hand I commit my
Spirit, trusting you are nigh
You Lord God of truth have redeemed
Me, so have chosen, so deemed

People Prepare!

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, He comes with clouds descending')

Isaiah 40 v.1-5

Comfort, comfort, you my people
Says your God unto you all
Speak comfort words to mya people
I do hear them when they call
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Trusting me they shall not fall

Say that their warfare is ended
Sins forgiven, accomplished
Voice of him in wilderness cries* {*John the Baptist}
Coming of the Lord is nigh
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Shall appear unto our eyes

Prepare the way of the Lord, it be
The message proclaimed here free
Make straight in desert a highway for
Our God, He shall come for sure
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Establish His reign e'ermore

Exalted shall be each valley
Each mount, hill, be made low, see
And the crooked shall be made straight
Rough places made smooth not late
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Equal be each one's estate

And the glory of the Lord shall

Be revealed, we shall know well
And all humankind shall it see
In united company
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
For the Lord has said, so be* (*Amen)

Dwelling Delights

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 84 v.1-4

How amiable, see
Your tabernacles be
O Lord of hosts, how lovely, they
Shine with your light alway

My soul longs, even faints
To be there with your saints
In your courts, O Lord, my heart too
My being desires you

You God, the living God
My footsteps, they have trod
Within your dwelling place, it fine
There you reside, divine

And sparrow and swallow
Birds they too your place know
Have found nests for themselves, they be
Settled, sweet company

A place to lay their young
Where your praises are sung
Even on your altars resting
Lord of hosts, my God, King

Blessed are they that do dwell
In your house, of you tell
They still will be praising you, for
You e'er their Lord God sure

Exhorting to Exaltations

Tune: Morning Star

('Stand up, stand up for Jesus')

Psalm 99 v.1-5

The Lord reigns, people tremble
And attend to His call
He sits between cherubims
And noble seraphims
Let the earth move, be in awe
For He is great e'ermore
Zion He chose, dwelling place
Yet Lord o'er every race

Let us praise His great name for
It terrible for sure
Having awe and majesty
It ever holy be
The Lord strong, He loves judgment
Equity He has sent
Righteous He makes His people
They trust Him and not fall

Exalt you the Lord God all
Worship at His footstool
It be the earth, for He reigns
From heaven, rule maintains
His holy hill, mount Zion
He the Lamb and Lion
Worthy of praise, His greatness
Confess, and do Him bless

Worship Wonders

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 96 v.1-10

O sing to the Lord, all earth show forth praise
To him sing songs, pleasant harmonies raise
Sing to the Lord, bless His name, and do show forth
His salvation daily, proclaiming His worth

Declare His glory among the nations
To all peoples high, low, of all station
For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised
With His marvels, wonders, He has us amazed

For all gods of the nations are idols
They profitless, lifeless, no living souls
But the Lord made the heavens, He ever lives
Sustaining graces unto all life He gives

Honour and majesty they go before
Him, strength and beauty they truly found sure
In His sanctuary, give to the Lord all
You people, give His glory, strength, on Him call

Give unto the Lord the glory that be
Due unto His name, it glorious, see
Bring an offering and come into His courts
With your hearts and minds taken up with His thoughts

O worship the Lord here in the beauty
Of holiness, and fear reverently
All the earth, and say the Lord reigns everywhere
No place where He shall not judge righteously there

Seeds And Soils

Tune: St Stephen

('The Lord will come and not be slow')

Luke 8 v.11-15

The word of God is the seed sown
Various soils are known
Into which it falls, we can see
What different kinds there be

They by the way side, they do hear
But no fruit does appear
For the devil comes, takes away
Word from their hearts away

They on the rock are they which when
They hear the word, right then
They receive it with joy, but they
Have no power to stay

For they have no root, for a while
They believe, but when trial
Comes, they tempted and fall away
They do not watch and pray

And that which did among thorns fall
Did get choked with cares all
Riches, distractions, pleasures, so
Fruit does not fully grow

But that on good ground, they who be
Of honest, good heart, see
Have the word, keep it, good fruit bring
Forth, patient, e'erlasting

Rapturous Return

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Luke 21 v.25-28

Jesus taught of His second coming
What signs and wonders it would bring
Signs in the sun, and stars, and moon
In God's timing it shall be soon
Prepare, prepare, and be ready
Welcome His return and Him see

And upon earth nations distressed
With perplexity, not at rest
Sea and waves roaring, unsettled
Though God's plans they shall not be stalled
You who have laboured long and toiled
End-time events shall not be foiled

And people's hearts failing them for
Fear, and for expectation sure
Of those things which to earth shall come
Before the Lord take His people home
Powers of heaven shall be shaken
When He appears before all men

They all shall see Him, Son of man
Come in a cloud, to dight no ban
With power and great glory, so
Unmistakeable, all shall know
When these things begin to pass, your
Redemption draws near evermore

Grace-Giver

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Ephesians 2 v.4-10

God, who is rich in mercy, He
Comes to save us now, see
With His great love wherewith He loved
Us, and has us encoved

Even when we spiritually
Were dead in sins, so be
he made us alive in His Son
Christ Jesus, sinless One

By grace we are saved, and God sure
Has raised us up e'ermore
And made us sit together too
Above, with Christ, made new

So that in the ages to come
He shows still what is done
Exceeding riches of His grace
We this His kindness trace

It is all done through Christ, for we
Cannot ourselves save, see
By grace we are saved through faith, this
The way that none should miss

This is not of our own doing sure
'Tis the gift of God sure
Not of man's work, so none can boast
But trust God fully, most

For we are God's workmanship, we
In Christ created be
For all good works, God has ordained
Them, we live unashamed

Sheep Story

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come thou long expected Jesus')

Matthew 25 v.31-40

Lord, when you come in your glory
Sheep and goats there then shall be
Grant we hear your words of welcome
Come sheep to your lasting home

You blessed of my father, you be
Inherit the kingdom, see
Prepared for you from foundation
Of the word, for you, eah one

For you did me serve, when you did
Unto least, my love not hid
To them, but helped hungry, thirsty
Strangers, and those who poor be

Gave them clothing, and did visit
Those ill or in prison, it
Was no chore or heavy burden
So to aid your fellow men

Though you then, you righteous, shall ask
When did we perform these tasks?
I the king shall unto you say
You did it to me those days

Those days when you did the least serve
From your service did not swerve
In so doing, you did it to
Me, served me, yes, even you

Appointed Anointing

Tune: Little Cornard

('Hills of the north, rejoice')

Luke 4 v.16-21

Jesus did teach one day
At Nazareth, did say
In synagogue He read
He by the Spirit led
Speaking some of Isaiah's words
The congregation they all heard

The Spirit of the Lord
Is upon me, the word
Is true, it because He
Has anointed me, see
To preach the gospel to the poor
To heal the broken-hearted sure

And deliverance preach
Unto the captives reach
Recovering of sight
To the blind, give them light
To set at liberty the bruised
And peace to those oppressed, confused

To preach acceptable
Year of Lord, here for all
Then said to them, This day
This scripture here shall stay
It be fulfilled in your hearing
These graces does the Spirit bring

Caught Out Cryptically

Ohh, It's no use
Asking Fido and I to understand anything cryptic
In poems or prose

But waffle on pleasantly as you will
In your own style
I dunno what most cryptic poems are on about
Being uncultured, unknowing, unpoetic at times! heehee.

I get caught out
The poet replies - Nooooo, I didn't mean THAT at all!
Yet we can all have our own interpretations
What does a poem speak to us about?

But, wait, Fido will probably know the meanings
He knows 99% of everything there is to know
Explain to me, Fido
Of these cryptic lines
Help my three brain cells to understand
Seeing as you have three trillion of them!

Some may as well be algebra
For all I can understand of them
Now look, who uses algebra now?
 $2x + 3y$ - BBC and ITV...
Summat like that anyway!

Oh, I'll read 'em, them poems
You'll likely get the comment from me:
'Good write', or 'fine write'
But that's all! Doh!

Sure Seeking

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Psalm 27 v.7-11

Hear me, O Lord, when I cry with my
Voice, have mercy on me, draw nigh
And hear and answer, this be my plea
I make requests to you humbly

When you said, Seek you my face, my heart
Said unto you, I do my part
Your face, Lord, will I seek, hide not your
Face far from me, but reveal sure

And turn me not away in anger
I pray your mercies to me stir
You have been my help, Lord, leave me not
With you comfort shall be my lot

Neither forsake me, O God of my
Salvation, e'en if by and by
Others may forsake me, but not you
Teach me your way, Lord, plain and true

Going On To Glory

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come thou long expected Jesus')

2 Thessalonians 2 v.13-17

Brethren, you of the Lord beloved
God has chosen you encoved
From the beginning chose each one
Through His plans in Christ His Son

He chose you unto salvation
And members of each nation
Through sanctification*, it be
By the Spirit's work, here see

And as you the truth believing
And by His grace receiving
For He called you by the gospel
Spread it abroad, all men tell

Called to obtaining of glory
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, see
So stand fast, to the teachings hold
Serve Him, let not love grow cold

The Lord Jesus Christ, and God too
He Father even to you
He has loved us, and e'erlasting
Consolation does us bring

And too brings us good hope through grace
'Til at last we see His fcae
he shall comfort our hearts, meet needs
Stablsih us in good words, deeds

* sanctification - being sanctified,
being saved from the power of sin, as an
ongoing process.

Trust And Trials

Tune: Beatitudo

(one tune to 'O for a closer walk with God')

Lord, help us still to trust in you
By your grace us renew
Where hearts are heavy, oppressed, sad
Come to us, make us glad

If sin the cause, we pray forgive
So in your sight we live
Upheld by you throughout each day
Help us to watch and pray

Of if it sickness, sorrowing
Our needs to you we bring
Believing you hear, will us aid
Trust, soul, be unafraid

And then when troubles ease, and care
You still with us do share
Your presence and your Spirit sure
He abides evermore

Show us your will where we perplexed
Or be in heart, mind, vexed
Your peace shall keep us undistressed
So in you we be blessed

From Darkness To Light

Tune: Quebec

('Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts')

1 Peter 2 v.9-10

You a chosen generation
And too you a holy nation
A royal priesthood of our King
A special people, to Him sing

That you should show forth the praises
Of Him who had called you, raises
each one to Him worship, for He
Called you from darkness to light, see

It be His marvellous light pure
In it we may rejoice e'ermore
In time past we were not people
Of God, but now His people all

And we had not His mercy, though
He has now revealed it, 'tis so
And we from Him it have obtained
Blessings and favour we have gained

A Babe's Birth

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

O spread the news of Christmas cheer
The season once again is here
O spread the news of Christmas cheer
The season once again is here
Time when our Saviour Christ was born
Rejoice you now, no longer mourn

Light of the world. come down to earth
Through Mary. lowly virgin birth
Light of the world. come down to earth
Through Mary. lowly virgin birth
Power of God o'ershadowing
Her, impossible be no thing

Jesus, He be Emmanuel
'Tis God with us, the good news tell
Jesus, He be Emmanuel
'Tis God with us, the good news tell
Ne'er now shall leave us comfortless
Sends His Spirit, and does us bless

Christ's coming to a world of sin
To cleanse us, make us new within
Christ's coming to a world of sin
To cleanse us, make us new within
We too can be born from above
By His Spirit sent by His love

Scripture Sureties

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

2 Timothy 3 v.15-17

Here you may know, now even you
The holy scriptures true
They are able to make you wise
And they contain no lies

Make you wise unto salvation
Revealed to each nation
Salvation through faith which is in
Christ Jesus, without sin

All scripture is given, here se
By God's inspirings free
For He has breathed His living word
He ever is the Lord

And all scripture profitable
It be to humans all
For doctrine, teaching, reproof too
And correction anew

And for instruction and training
In righteousness, each thing
That we may be perfect, mature
And in Him may grow more

Thoroughly equipped, furnishéd
With Christ our living Head
Unto all good works, glorify
Christ, His words ne'er shall die

Turning in Troubles

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 42 v.1-5

As the deer pants for water
So my heart to you stirs
And my soul pants after you
To know you more, clear, true
My soul thirst for God, for He
The living God e'er be
When shall I come and appear
Before God, to Him near?

My tears have been my food, for
Enemies reproach sure
Day and night they say, Where be
Your God? He has gone, see
When I remember these things
What memory to me brings
I pour out my soul in me
Lord, my affliction see

For I do good days recall
When I went with them all
To the house of God, to praise
Him, the voice of joy raise
I joined the congregation
Worshipping with each one
That kept holy day constant
With them, the penitent

Why are you cast down my soul?
Oppression takes its toll

Why are you disquieted in
Me, troubled from within?
Hope you in God, my soul, for
I shall yet praise Him sure
For the help of His presence
His Spirit I do sense

Ruling and Reigning

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched....')

Isaiah 9 v.6-7

For unto us is born a child
He holy, undefiled
Unto us is given a son
Jesus the sinless one

The government shall be upon
His shoulders, He bears, see
All rule and all authority
For Lord and King He be

His name shall be called Wonderful
Counsellor to us all
The mighty God, the Prince of Peace
Whose reign shall never cease

He too the Father e'erlasting
To Him we worship bring
Of increase of His government
And peace there no relent

He born from royal David's line
Yet human and divine
He shall establish, He shall set
His throne, kingdom still yet

It be with judgment and justice
A godly rule be this
From henceforth and for evermore
Zeal of the Lord makes sure

Family Fulfillings

Tune: Forest Green

('O little town of Bethlehem')

Matthew 1 v.18-23

Now birth of Jesus Christ was so
'Tis written, we may know
When His mother Mary betrothed
To Jospheh, thus encoved (i.e. encovenanted)
Before they married, she was found
With child, tidings did sound
Was by the Holy Spirit's power
In that a favoured hour

Then Joseph her husband to be
Was just, had respect, see
Not willing to show her up, he
Set to deal privately
To put her away, but as he
Thought on these things freely
An angel to him did appear
In a dream did draw near

Angel said, Joseph, fear not to
Take Mary unto you
For your wife, for that in her be
Conceived by God, here see
'Tis by the Holy spirit' act
A virgin birth, a face
And she shall sure bring forth a son
JESUS, the holy one

That shall be His name, for He shall
Save His people, know well

From their sins, so the prophecy
Of Isaiah shall be
Fulfilled, saying, Behold, virgin
Shall bear one without sin
And they shall Emmanuel call
Him, God with us, with all

Prophecy Proclaimed

Tune: Est Ist En Ros / St Germanus

('A great and mighty wonder')

Luke 1 v.76-79 (part of the 'Benedictus')

John Baptist's father he did
Prophecy, it not hid
Zacharias at John's birth
Did speak, tell forth his worth
John would be called prophet
Of the Highest, not forget
Would speak of the Lord yet

For John would before Him go
To prepare His way, show
The people of His coming
Salvation He would bring
Joh would them knowledge give
And so knowing, they would live
And to God praises give

This knowledge by forgiveness
Of sins, it true be this
Through the tender mercy, see
Of our God it sure be
Whereby the Dayspring here
Messiah, the Dawn appears
Unto mankind He nears

He gives light to them that sit
In darkness, sight is lit
And to those under shadow
Of death, who dark night know
He guides our feet into

The way of peace now anew
That reaches e'en to you

Glorious Graces

Tune: Iris

('Angels from the realms of glory')

Luke 2 v.8-14

Humble shepherds, tending your sheep
You do guard them, safe them keep
In your night-vigil an angel
Appeared, glad tidings to tell

Refrain

Glo-o-o-ry to God in the highest
Glo-o-o-ry, Peace on earth, good will, men blest

The glory of the Lord did shine
Around them, the light divine
They greatly afraid, and angel
Said, Fear not, I mean you well - Refrain

For, behold, I bring good tidings
To you, who shall see such things
Tidings of great joy unto all
People, babe in manger-stall - Refrain

There unto you is born this day
In David's city, I say
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord
He from God, the living Word - Refrain

This shall be a sign unto you
That the babe you shall find true
Wrapped in saddling clothes and laying
In manger, earth, heavens sing - Refrain

Suddenly with the angel there
The heavenly host did share
Praising God in exaltation
Good news unto each nation - Refrain

Martyr Manifest

Tune: Tempus Adeste Floridium

[The time has come for flowers]

(Hymn tune of 'Good King Wenceslas')

Acts 7 v.54-60 - For St Stephen's Day: Dec 26

Stephen, he a martyr bold
Let the story be told
The crowd raged at him, but he
Looked to heaven, did see
Being full of the Spirit
His spiritual sight lit
Saw glory of God, did view
Jesus at God's right hand too

He said, Behold, I do see
Heavens opened, there be
The Son of man next to God
He who this earth has trod
Then crowd cried out with one voice
To assault him, their choice
They cast him out of city
Jerusalem it be

The stoned him, and witnesses
Laid down their coats, true this
At a young man's feet named Saul
Later was named as Paul
And they stoned Stephen, and he
Prayed to God fervently
Saying, Lord Jesus, receive
My spirit, I do believe

Then he kneeled down and with loud

Voice, thus so heard the crowd
Said, Lord, lay not this sin to
Their charge, but forgive, do
When he said this he did die
Though for him by and by
Was as peaceful sleep, release
Woke to glories that ne'er cease

Practical Points

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

1 John 3 v.16-19

For St John's Day - Dec 27.

Hereby we do God's love perceive
And all may it receive
Because He in His Son He gave
His life, us all to save

And we ought to our lives down lay
In this our age and day
For one another, world's goods share
Show practical love there

For if we can help, and see need
Provide, or others feed
If we shut up our compassion
Not help the needy one

How then in us does God's love dwell?
What deeds can others tell
Of us, if we not love in deed
But only to words heed?

Let it be actions, not only
Words, thus we love truly
And can know we of the truth are
In loving near and far

Innocents Immolated

Tune: Eventide

('Abide with me')

Matthew 2 v.13-18

For Holy Innocents Day - Dec 28

Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream
Said, Now depart, all is not as does seem
Take the young child and his mother and flee
Into Egypt, then there your safety be

For Herod will seek the child to destroy
Him, will use of evil tricks and of ploy
So they departed, in Egypt did stay
'Til word of prophecy fulfilled one day

The word was, Out of Egypt I have called
My son, Herod is dead, be not appalled
For while he lived, with murderous intent
Would kill boys under two, his soldiers sent

Through Bethlehem and its coasts they did go
Misery, suffering did parents know
Yet fulfilled was another prophecy
E'en through this, though children innocent be

The word was, Hark, voice heard, lamentation
Weeping, great mourning, and consternation
Rachel, mother-figure of Israel
Weeps for her children, and her comforts fail

Water of Life

Tune: Sussex

(slower tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

John 4 v.1-14 parts

Jesus journeyed, came to Sychar
A town on his journey far
Sat down by a well, then did meet
A woman and did her greet

He said to her, Who of this well
Drinks, shall thirst again, I tell
But whosoever drink of me
Shall never thirst, true this, see

For who drinks the water I shall
Give, it be a living well
They shall never thirst, but water
Shall give supply ever, sure

For it shall be in them a well
Of water springing up, I tell
In them unto life unto e'erlasting
Quenching of thirst it shall bring

Through Troubled Times

Tune: Langran

('Here now, O Lord, I see thee face to face')

Psalm 42 v.6-11

O my God, my soul is cast down in me
Therefore I will remember you simply
From my depths I do unto your depths call
When troubles as o'erwhelming waterfall

Yet the Lord will command loving kindness
In the daytime, and too at night will bless
His song shall be with me, and my prayer to
The God of my life, He will hear, renew

I will say to God my rock, Why have you
Forgotten me? Not shown me mercies true
Why go I mourning due to oppression
Of the enemy, save me from each one

For they do taunt and reproach me daily
Saying, Where is your God, where can He be?
Why cast down my soul, why disquieted?
I shall yet praise Him, He me thus far led

Visit Verified

Tune: Personent Hodie

('Long ago. prophets knew')

Luke 2 v.15-20

Shepherds came to Beth'lem
To see new-born babe then
They did hurry, make haste
Journey was not a waste
Of glories they did taste

Chorus

Saw the new-born child
family, meek, mild
Born a babe, yet a King
Let praises to Him ring

When they saw them, and there
Babe in a manger fair
They told them what angel
In the fields did them tell
Tidings of great joy well - Chorus

All they that herd wondered
At those things, undeterred
Mary kept them in heart
Pondered them on her part
Gracious words not depart - Chorus

And the shepherds returned
It was true, they had learned
They glorified and praised
God for all things, amazed
They had seen, on Christ gazed - Chorus

Positive Praises

Tune: St Denio

('Immortal, invisible, God only wise')

Psalm 96 v.11-13

Heaven and earth rejoice, some fresh praise begin
The seas, land, creation, and all that therein
Rejoice before the Lord, He comes to judge sure
With righteousness and truth, and holiness pure

Psalm 97 v.1-2

The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice and be glad
All creation join in, not stay ever sad
Clouds and darkness are round about Him, and see
Foundation of His throne righteous judgement be

Psalm 98 v.1-2

O sing unto the Lord a new song freely
For He has done great things, worked marvellously
By strength of His arm He has gained victory
Has made know His salvation, true, openly

Psalm 99 v.11

Exalt you the Lord God, and at His footstool*
'Tis the earth, worship Him here, praise to Him all
For He is holy, praise Him in whate'er place
You may be, what nation, what colour or race

* Heaven is seen as the place of God's throne,
and Earth as His footstool.

Gabriel's Greeting

Tune: Humility

('See amid the winter's snow')

Luke 1 v.26-33

Sent from God was Gabriel
Angel with message to tell
To Mary in Galilee
City, Nazareth it be

Chorus

Hail, you highly favoured be
The Lord is with you Mary
Among women you are blessed
Message now to you addressed

He sent to virgin betrothed
Graces to her he bestowed
Joseph, house of David be
King of old of royalty- Chorus

When she saw him, she troubled
But, Fear not, to her he called
You have with God found favour
And shall bear son for sure - Chorus

JESUS you shall name Him, He
Son of the Most High shall be
The Lord God shall give unto
Him the throne of David too - Chorus

And He shall o'er the house reign
Of Israel, God shall ordain
Reign for ever, and of His

Kingdom no end, true be this - Chorus

A Way Through Woes

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 43

Judge me, O God, and my cause plead
Against ungodly, heed
My prayers, come save me from them all
The unjust, deceitful

For you are the God of my strength
Why does it seem at length
As if you have cast me off? for
I go mourning, state poor

O send out your truth and your light
Let them lead me, shine bright
Lead me to your house, holy hill
So I will praise you still

For you will be my exceeding
Joy, O God, I shall bring
You worship, and on harp shall play
You are my God, I say

Why you cast down within, my soul?
The Lord shall make you whole
Though my soul's refrain disquiet be
God is my health, help, see

For Fans Of Fido

Tune: Branle de l'officiel

('Ding, dong, merrily on high')

Fido, Orchi, plan a song
They will sing it all day long
Though it's torture to you all
The singing will you appal

Chorus

Wo--oo--oo--ofs to you! Don't forget the eighteen plus [tick box]
Wo--oo--oo--ofs to you! Or Fido will cause great fuss

He will bark and howl and whine
If he sees any 'hot' lines
For if you forget to tick
That [18+] box, he will bark, not lick - Chorus

But he wishes you all well
When he content, you can tall
Reading poems by fireside
His contentment not denied - Chorus

He can cause a right ding-dong
You'll not hear the end day-long
His bark be worse than his bite
Humour him, he won't you fright - Chorus

Messiah's Ministry

Tune: Carol (Willis)

('It came upon the midnight clear')

Isaiah 9 v.2-7 parts

The people that walked in darkness
Have seen great light, no less
They that in the land of shadow
Of death dwell, now do tell
That upon them has the light shined
The Light of life divine
Dispelling blackness, gloom, and fear
Messiah's birth appears

For the Lord He has multiplied
The nation, not denied
Them joy, it be as he harvest
Joy, they are truly blessed
And it be like when conquering
Armies their spoil do bring
In celebration victory
The Messiah all see

The yoke of the people's burden
Be broken, they set free
And weapons wherewith enemy
Oppressed, now destroyed be
For unto us a child is born
Bringing redemption's dawn
Unto us is given a son
Jesus the holy one

And He shall rule and reign for e'er
His kingdom decrease ne'er

His name shall be called Wonderful
And Counsellor to all
The Mighty God, the Prince of Peace
Whose rule shall never cease
He the Father everlasting
Here let His praises ring

Star of the Son

Tune: Epiphany

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Matthew 2 v.7-12

Herod, the wise men he sent to Bethlehem
Go search for young child was mission for them
To seek diligently, when they had Him found
Report back to Herod, and tidings sound

When wise men had heard the king they departed
Followed star in the east which had them led
To the young child, when they saw star they rejoiced
With exceeding great joy, and praises voiced

When they were come into the house, then they saw
Mary, Joseph*, and young child Jesus pure
They fell down and worshipped, treasures presented
Precious gifts, gold, myrrh, and incense scented

And they being warned of God, was through a dream
That all things did not appear as did seem
For they should not journey back unto Herod
But go other way, as God to them said

The first verse is traditionally repeated at the end.

Changed to a repeat of verse 3 here.

When they were come into the house, then they saw
Mary, Joseph*, and young child Jesus pure
They fell down and worshipped, treasures presented
Precious gifts, gold, myrrh, and incense scented

** Maybe scripturally inaccurate, as it does not say Joseph was there too.*

Haven Of Hope

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Psalm 31 v.15-19 & v.23-24

My times are in your hand, O Lord
You the ever living Word
Save me from hand of enemies
And persecutors, my please
These be, and too make your face shine
On me with your light divine

I am your servant, O save me
And let me not ashamed be
For I have called upon you, let
Wicked be silenced e'en yet
For they speak grievous things proudly
Against the good scorningly

O how great is your goodness, you
Have laid it up for those, true
That fear you, that show reverence
And respect as they you sense
You have wrought it for they that trust
In you, though we mere men, dust

O love the Lord, you His saints all
He preserves, keeps the faithful
And too repays those who evil
Do, who not repent at all
Be of good courage, and He shall
Strengthen your heart, hope ne'er fail

Face-Tracings

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 31 v.14-17

I will trust you, O Lord, I say
You are my God today
And through each day and night, O Lord
You give your living word

My times are in your hand, O save
Me from enemies, pave
A clear path here before my face
In your love, mercy, grace

And from persecutors save me
Here do my troubles see
Make your face to shine on me for
I am your servant sure

Save me for your mercies sake here
Unto me do appear
Let me not be ashamed, for true
I have called upon you

Tears And Joy

Tune: Trentham

('Breathe on me, breath of God')

Psalm 126

When the Lord turned again
Our captivity, then
We were like them that dream, yet we
By Him released, so be

And then was our mouth filled
With laughter, we were healed
And our tongue broke forth into song
Gave Him thanks all day long

For even the heathen
Did see God's good hand then
They said, The Lord has done great things
For His people, each sings

And so was our reply
The Lord has helped, He nigh
Has done great things for us and we
Are glad, and do them see

Turn our captivity
O Lord, that we be free
As streams that in the south do flow
So freedom we shall know

They that sow in tears shall
Reap in joy, shall do well
Shall bear precious seed, rejoicing
Return with sheaves singing

Greatness Gratitude

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 46 v.1-2

God is our refuge and strength, a very
Present help in trouble, here know truly
Therefore we will not fear, though removed earth be
And though mountains be cast into midst of sea

Psalm 47 v.6-7

Sing praises to God, sing praise day and night
Sing praises to our King, He dwells in light
For God He the King over all the earth be
And reigns over each thing in earth, land, and sea

Psalm 48 v.9-10

We have thought, Lord, of your loving kindness
In the midst of your temple, you us bless
As is your name, so is your praise, great and high
You hear our prayers and pleas, unto you we cry

Psalm 47 v.1-3

O clap your hands, all you people, and shout
Unto God with joy, let praises ring out
For the Lord most high is terrible, awesome
King o'er the earth, to Him shall all nations come

Gifts Given

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Matthew 2 v.9-15

Wise men from the east did come
To the young child Jesus' home
Following the star to where
They knew joys beyond compare
Then in scene most wonderful
Presented gifts to Him all

Theirs was gold, frankincense, myrrh
In His presence pure they were
Desire to worship Him, King
They their homage did Him bring
Lord, who all to us do give
Help us serve you as we live

They were truly wise, for they
Did as God in dream did say
They to Herod not returned
But God's will it was discerned
Little family did flee
To Egypt, not danger see

Mary, Joseph, and young child
Jesus, saved from troubles wild
For God to Joseph in dream
Said of Herod, he would deem
To destroy the young child, so
Into Egypt they did go

Majestic Marvellings

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

Psalm 93

The Lord reigns, and He is clothed
With great majesty bestowed
He is clothed with strength, as He
Has girded self with it, see

Your throne, Lord, established is
From of old, e'erlasting this
The floods they have uplifted
Their voice, their waves are not hid

The Lord on high mightier
Than voice of wild waters stir
Greater than the waves of sea
His words holy, sure e'er be

Created in Christ

Tune: Holton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Ephesians 2 v.4-10

Here God, who is rich in mercy
For His great love wherewith He
Loved us, even when we were dead
In sins raised us, Christ our Head

For by grace you are saved, and He
Has raised us with Christ, so be
To heavenly places, there we
Sit with Christ, and blessed are, see

That in the ages to come He
Might show the exceeding, free
Riches of His grace in kindness
To us in Christ, we confess

For by grace we are saved through faith
Not of self, but as God saith
It is His gift, or our works none
But it be through Christ His Son

So no one should boast, for we be
His workmanship in Christ, we
By God created in Him to
Do good works God ordained true

Epiphany Enlightenings

Tune: St Edmund

('Songs of thankfulness and praise')

Matthew 2 v.6

Town of Bethlehem, you be
In the land of Judah, see
You are not the least among
The towns, let praise be sung
For from you shall come one who
Shall govern and rule, 'tis true
Rule God's people Israel
And o'er all nations, we tell

At your glad Epiphany
Lord reveal, even to me
Yourself, so may we you know
In what to us you do show
Light of the world shining bright
Dawn now on our human sight
Forgive sins, darkness be gone
Through Christ Jesus, God's own Son

Light and love and fellowship
United in whole worship
May we be, and follow you
And your clear way may we view
Lord of Jews and Gentiles too
Salvation to not a few
Woerthy of our highest praise
Melodies to you we raise

Creator and Creation

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Psalm 33 v.6-11

By the word of the Lord were made
The heavens, all displayed
All the host of them by Hi breath
Created as He saith

He gathers waters of the sea
Appoints their bounds, so be
His storehouses are oceans deep
He watch o'er His world keeps

Let all the earth fear the Lord, let
The peoples fear Him yet
Stand in awe of him, mighty, strong
He sustains day, night long

For He did speak and it was done
he made each thing, each one
He commanded and things stood fast
Established, they shall last

The Lord brings man's counsel to nought
Who their own ways have sought
But His counsel stands for ever
To generations, fails never

Peaceful Progress - Ye Olde Prayers Series (1)

Tune: Newcastle

('Eternal Light! Eternal Light!')

Based on a prayer by St Augustine (354-430AD)

Look upon us, O Lord, and let
Any darkness which yet
Remains within our sould be gone
Vanish before beams of your Son
Light of the world, bright one

Fill us with holy love, open
Your treasures to us then
Of your wisdom, for all of our
Desire is known to you each hour
Come fill us with your power

Therefore perfect* what you began
In us, mere mortal man
And what your Spirit awakened
Us to ask in prayer, answers send
Work in us to the end

We seek your face, Lord, turn your face
To us by your good grace
And show us your glory, then shall
Our longing be satisfied well
Our lives perfect peace** tell

* Here it is 'per-fect': make whole, complete.

** Here it is 'per-fict': flawless, entire.

Though the two are similar really.

Needs Named - Ye Olde Prayers Series (2)

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Based on a prayer by St Clement (1st Century AD)

We beseech you, Master, to be
Our help, protector, company
Save the afflicted, have mercy
On the lowly by your grace free

Raise up the fallen, and appear
To the needy, to them draw near
Heal the ungodly and restore
Wanderers to your fold e'ermore

Feed the hungry, and ransom too
Our prisoners, they known to you
Raise up the sick, and comfort bring
To faint-hearted, strength 'neath your wing

Heart-Matters - Ye Olde Prayers Series (3)

Tune: Louvan

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Based on a prayer by St Ambrose (c.339 - 397AD)

O Lord, who has mercy on all do take
Away from me my sins, clean within make
Mercifully kindle in me I pray
The Holy Spirit's fire for every day

And take away from me hard heart of stone
Give me a heart of flesh, your words be sown
In it, a heart to love and adore you
To be my only God, holy and true

A heart to delight in you, choose your way
To follow and enjoy you every day
And too through each night here my guide still be
In Christ's name I ask, hear my humble pleas

Deep Peace - Ye Olde Prayers Series (4)

Tune: Old Yeavinging

('Like a mighty river flowing')

Based on a prayer - source unknown - early Scottish

Deep peace of running wave to you

May its energies you renew

Deep peace of flowing air to you

May fresh breaths to you ensue

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you

As you the creation all view

Deep peace of shining stars to you

Sustain you all the night through

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to

You for ever, the best peace true

Wholesome, pure, peace in mind and heart

God fill you in every part

Desirous Dwelling - Ye Olde Prayers Series (5)

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Based on a prayer by St Jerome (c.342 - 420AD)

O good shepherd, come, seek me out
Inspire me with faith, remove doubt
Bring me home to your fold again
You who are Saviour of all men

Deal favourably with me here
According to your good pleasure
Till I may dwell in your house all
The days of my life and ne'er fall

And to praise you for evermore
Joining in glad company sure
With them that are there by your grace
From each nation, country, and race

Grace And Favour

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Psalm 84 v.11

The Lord God is a sun and shield
And all power He does wield
The Lord will give grace and glory
So we shall comforted be

Psalm 84 v.11

And no good thing will He withhold
There shall be blessings untold
To them that live upright, righteous
His favour will come to us

Psalm 85 v.1-2

Lord to your land you have favour
Shown, brought back your people sure
Who were in captivity, you
Have forgiven their sins true

Psalm 85 v.8

I will hear what the Lord will speak
Find our hearts, Lord, humble, meek
For you will unto your people
Speak peace, encouragement all

Psalm 85 v.8-9

But let them not return unto
Foolishness, but follow you
Surely your salvation is near
To those who fear you, revere

Psalm 85 v.9-10

So glory shall dwell in our land

We shall see of God's good hand

Mercy, truth, righteousness, and peace

May they be joined, never cease

Sure Safety - Ye Olde Prayers Series (6)

Tune: St Leonards

('May the mind of Christ my Saviour')

Based on a prayer by St Columba (c.521-597AD)

O God, alone with none but you
I do sense your presence true
I journey on my way with you
In all I say, do

What need I fear, when you are near
O King of night and day here
More safe am I within your hand
I so understand

Safer than if human hosts were
To gather, to my help stir
Yet you too work through them by your
Grace from your rich store

Leading Light - Ye Olde Prayers Series (7)

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly light')

Based on a prayer by St Jerome (c.342-420AD)

Lord, you have given to us your Word for

A light for sure

A light to shine upon our path to show

The way to go

Grant us so on that word to meditate

To follow its teaching so wise and great

So that we may find in it the true light

That shines e'er bright

Shines more and more until the prefect day

Showing your way

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we ask humbly

Come light the way, then we may clearly see

Blessings Bestowed - Ye Olde Prayers Series (8)

Tune: St Anne

('O God our help in ages past')

Based on a prayer by Aethelwold (C.908-984AD)

May God the Father here us bless

Forgive sins we confess

My Christ the Son of God take care

Of us, His life we share

The Holy Ghost us enlighten

All the days of all men* (*mankind)

The Lord be our defender, keep

Safe in His fold His sheep

He keeper of body and soul

In Him we true made whole

His lasting keeping now and e'er

Through all ages fails ne'er

Constant Creator - Ye Olde Prayers Series (9)

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! hearts to heaven and voices raise')

Based on a prayer by St Patrick (c.389-461AD)

Our God, you God of all mankind
God of all things, so we find
God of heaven, earth, rivers, seas
Making all as you do please
God of sun and moon and each star
Things that be near and be far
God of high mount, lowly valley
You the great Creator be

God over heaven, and in heaven
Life unto all you have given
God under heaven, for you dwell
In heaven, earth, sea, we tell
And live in all things that therein
Are, let fresh praises begin
He inspires, give life to all things
Of Him His creation sings

He over all things, He supports
All things, different kinds and sorts
He makes the light of sun to shine
He surrounds the moon, stars fine
He has made wells in the dry earth
Islands in seas brings to birth
Father, Holy Spirit, and Son
Three in One while ages run

Unity Utterance - Ye Olde Prayers Series (10)

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Based on a prayer of the Liturgy of St Mark (2nd Century AD)

O sovereign and Almighty Lord
Bless your people, give your word
And all your flock give your help, peace
Us from our sins, fears release

Give your love to us your servants
We the sheep of your fold hence
That we may be united in
The bond of peace here within

And united too in body
And in one spirit may be
One hope of our calling in your
Divine and boundless love sure

Now look.... woof!

Now look, woof! says Fido
I can tell this is not gonna be
A hymn-poem from olde nor newer days
But an episode - No. 5763 I think it is
Of 'Life with KP'

Now, c'mon KP, I say to her
Your latest gimmick just to get publicity
We couldn't make it up
But you say a ghost tickled your feet at bedtime

Well, it certainly wasn't me
I would only swoon!
You know it was Fido brushing past you
Tickling you with his tail

What you doing with your feet
Out the end of the bed at this time of year?

Then again, it could have been me
With a white sheet over me head
And two holes cut out for eyes
I'll scare ya off
Go 'Whooo!!' and things like that
Fido will go 'Whoo-woof' too

Much more of this madness
And they'll take me away
The men in white coats
KP will probably think they are ghosts too
Or anyone that wears white
Will they tickle her feet too?! heehee.

Perpetual Presence - Ye Olde Prayers Series (11)

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Based on a prayer by St Patrick (c.389-461AD)

Lord, this day be with us

Within purify us

Be above to draw us

Beneath to sustain us

Be before to lead us

Behind to restrain us

Around to protect us

Ever do stay with us

Creation Capturings - Ye Olde Prayers Series (12)

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Based on a prayer, source unknown, early Scottish

I rise today, it through
Strength of heaven's renew
Your creation, Lord, me to aid
Your wondrous works displayed

Light of the sun's bright beam
Radiance of moon's gleam
Splendour of fire, speed of lightning
Of these we speak and sing

And too the wind's swiftness
Grains of sand numberless
Depth of sea, earth's stability
Firmness of rock and tree

Of each thing may we learn
And more of God discern
His life, power in creation
Shown to every nation

Faithful Fellowship

Tune: Wareham

('Jesus where'er thy people meet')

Philippians 1 v.3-7

Paul thanks God on each remembrance
Of the Philippians, does sense
Their love and care, and in each prayer
For them all he in joy does share

Remembering their fellowship
Since the first day of their worship
And sharing in the gospel too
Proclaiming still the message true

He confident of this very
Thing, that God who has begun, see
A good work in them, that He will
Perform, complete it in them still

Even as it is right that he
Should think this of them all, so be
Having them in his heart, for they
Partake of his grace every day

For they support him in his chains
His bonds, for the gospel his pains
And in his defence, confirming
Of the gospel loyalty bring

Service Shown - Ye Olde Prayers series (13)

Tune: St Botolph

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Based on a prayer by Origen (c.185-254AD)

Jesus, my feet they dirty be
Come as servant to me
And pour water into your bowl
Wash my feet, make me whole

In asking such a thing I know
It seems as if I show
Over-boldness, but you did say
To Peter there one day

Said, If I do not wash you, you
Have no place in me true
These words I dread to hear, so I
Accept, to me draw nigh

Wash my feet then, for I long for
Your companionship sure
And teach us to serve as you serve
Though none it we deserve

Help For Humans - Ye Olde Prayers series (14)

Tune: Finlandia

('We rest on thee, our shield and our defender')

Based on a prayer in the book of 1 Clement (c.96AD)

We ask you, Master, be our help, defender
Rescue those in distress, to their aid stir
Raise up the fallen, and assist the needy
Heal the sick, and turn back who wanderers be
Feed the hungry, release captives, revive
The weak, so strengthened by you they may thrive

Encourage those who lose hearts, and let all
The nations realise you are God and call
Upon you, and have faith in Jesus your Son
Who the great work of salvation has done
And give to us your Holy Spirit, here fill
Us your people, sheep of your pasture still

Positive Praises

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Psalm 57 v.7-11

My heart is steadfast, O God, fixed
Not with worldly things mixed
I will sing and give praise to you
Worship and honour true

Awake up my tongue, for to sing
And too instruments bring
To play, to make the pleasant sound
May it worthy be found

I myself will awake early
To offer you praise free
O Lord, among the people, see
And serve you faithfully

For your mercy is great unto
The heavens with high view
And your truth to the clouds reaches
Your word it us teaches

Be you exalted, God, above
The heavens in your love
Let your glory be above all
The earth, we on you call

Beseeching Blessings - Ye Olde Prayers series (15)

Tune: Bunessan

('Morning has broken')

Based on a prayer by Clement of Rome (c.35-99AD)

May God who sees all things, who is Ruler
Of all spirits, grace on us confer
And Lord of all flesh, He our Lord Jesus
Did choose to be the Saviour of us

God called us through Christ to be His special
People, may He grant unto souls all
That call upon His glorious holy
Name, the Spirit's fruit for His glory

Faith, peace, patience, and too longsuffering
Self-control, purity may He bring
And sobriety, to the well-pleasing
Of His name, worship in every thing

We pray through our High Priest and Protector
Jesus Christ, who does to our help stir
By whom to God be glory, majesty
Power, honour now, e'erlastingly

Paraclete's Presence - Ye Olde Prayers series (16)

Tune: Saffron Walden

(one tune to 'Just as I am')

Based on a prayer by St Anselm, 11th Century

O holy Paraclete*, sweetest (*the Holy Spirit)

Consoler of the sad, them bless

Gracious Spirit, come to us here

With your power appear

Your mighty power come unto

Depths of our hearts and us renew

And gladden us with your brightness

Each dark retreat, no less

And enrich with the dew of your

Abundant comfort to us sure

Kindle our inward parts with your

Holy favour e'ermore

So incense of our prayers, praises

Ascend to you as each raises

Them to you, may we glorify

You God through Christ here nigh

Crowned Creator

Tune: Diademata

('Crown Him with many crowns')

Psalm 89 v.11-18

Lord, the heavens are yours
Your rule from shore to shore
The earth also is yours, you made
It, your good works displayed
You created it all
Filled it with creatures full
North, south, east, west, where'er we be
Your gracious hand we see

Tabor, Hermon, mountains
They too shall rejoice then
You have a mighty arm and strong
Your power all life-long
Justice and judgment be
The foundation we see
Of your throne, and truth and mercy
Go before your face free

Blessed the people that know
The sound of joy, 'tis so
In you they rejoice all the day
Your light shall with them satay
Light that shall show the way
As they follow and pray
Light of your face, your countenance
Shall give them sustenance

And in your righteousness
They shall exalt, you bless

Them, for you are the true glory
Of their strength completely
in your favour we shall
Be strong, can know this well
For the Lord id our defence, He
The Holy One e'er be

Days of Wine And.....

.....Roses, as the film says?!

Nope.....Water, says Fido!

He says - Orchi's coming out of the woodwork

Gonna let his hair down

Gonna fill up his syphon

Not with soda, but water

And pop round to ya

I admit I don't know much about that film

But it relates to alcohol use disorder

Dunno why ya complain about the water

Added to ya tipples

It only means the tipple will last longer

Ya won't have to pour so much

Out of the bottle each time

I have to add water anyway

Cos of one day KP hid it

She gave me tipples and got me tipsy

Then I said 'I do'

Would never have said it otherwise!

One Halloween it was - when else?

She wore, not a scary mask

But a beautiful mask to deceive me

So we married

And me life's been downhill since

Days of Trout and Rosie

Not Cider with Rosie

You're waxing literary here Orchi, says Fido

Oh, it's about the only book I know
Though the line 'Days of Wine And Roses'
Is also in a poem from 1896

Ooh, there's a song of it too, from 1962
By a crooner - Andy Williams
I'd better sing or croon it then! Arrgghh!
Heehee - Got earplugs in?

I've never been the same again
It all turned for the worse, you realise

Hope Of Help 3

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

Psalm 61 v.1-4

Hear me, O God, attend to
My prayers made unto you
From the end of the earth I will
Call to you, hear me still

When my heart is overwhelmed, lead
Me to you, I you need
You are the rock higher than me
There my security

For you have been a shelter for
Me, my protection sure
And strong tower from enemy
My guardian still be

I will abide in your tent e'er
I find you always there
I will trust in the coverings
Of your protective wings

Lighten Our Darkness - Ye Olde Prayers series (17)

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Based on an Ancient Collect/Prayer

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray
Shine your light and it shall be day
And in your mercy us defend
Us from all dangers to the end

All dangers and perils of night
That seek to us oppress, affright
Hear our prayer, through the love of your
Son Jesus Christ who lives e'ermore

And so waking fresh to each day
Guide us in all we do and say
To do your will, not self-will do
But grow more daily knowing you

Comforting Creator - Ye Olde Prayers series (18)

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Based on a prayer by Thomas á Kempis (15th Century)

In confidence of your goodness
And great mercy, O Lord, me bless
I draw near to you, healing need
You our healer, your sheep you feed

I come as one hungry, thirsty
To you, fountain of life you be
I come as a creature unto
You great Creator, only you

I come as a desolate soul
Tou you, who I trust make me whole
You my tender comforter here
Your consolation to me dear

Behold, in you is all whate'er
I can or ought to desire, ne'er
Forsake me, you my salvation
And redemption, you e'er God's Son

You too my hope and strength, make glad
The soul of me your servant, sad
I shall not there remain, to you
I lift my soul, Lord, me renew

Resolve To Rest

Tune: Ewing

('Jerusalem the golden')

Psalm 37 v.5-11

Commit your way to the Lord
Trust in Him and His word
And He shall bring things to pass
On Him your burden cast
He shall your righteousness
Bring forth, you shall Him bless
He shall give light and judgment
As clear as noonday sent

Rest in the Lord, wait patient
For Him, and not relent
Fret not yourself of they who
Prosper and evil do
Cease from anger, wrath forsake
And harmony, peace make
Fret not yourself to do sin
It shall cause harm therein

For evildoers the ysa'll
Be destroyed, know it well
But they that on the Lord wait
Shall inherit estate
Of the earth, it be the due
Of meek and lowly too
They shall have abundant peace
Delights that never cease

Pursuing Peace - Ye Olde Prayers series (19)

Hymn & Tune: Make me a channel...

Based on a prayer of St Francis of Assisi, 13th Century

Lord, make me instrument of peace
Where hatred rules, let me there bring your love
Where there is malice, forgiveness
Where disputes, [let] reconcilings be

Chorus

O Master, let me strive more to comfort
Than to be comforted, to understand
More than to be understood, and to love
Others more than myself to be loved here

Where there is error may I bring
Truth, where there is doubt, may I bring belief
Where there is despair, to bring hope
Where darkness, light, where sorrow, joy - Chorus

For they who do give do receive
They who forget themselves, they themselves find
They who forgive, forgiveness receive
Dying, we rise to eternal life - Chorus*

* The Chorus after the last verse is optional.

Comfort of the Spirit - Ye Olde Prayers series (20)

Tune: Melcombe

(New every morning is the love')

Based on a prayer of Thomas á Kempis (15th Century)

Write your blessed name, Lord, on my heart

There to be yours in every part

To be graven indelibly

Your presence there eternally

So that no prosperity move

Nor adversity, from your love

Be unto me a strong tower

Of defence from perils each hour

Be comfort in tribulation

Save me from distresses, each one

A true present help in trouble

A guide to heaven through life all

Be my comfort and guard, for see

Many temptations here there be

And dangers, keep me, see me through

So shall I praise, glorify you

Hope of Help 4

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Parts of Psalms 40 to 44

I waited patient for the Lord
He inclined to me, heard my word
Brought me up from horrible pit
Set me on a rock, my path lit

Though poor and needy, even yet
The LORS thinks on me, not forget
He my help, my deliverer
Tarry not LORD, help not defer

By this I know you favour me
My enemy not triumph, see
Not gain victory over me
For the LORD shall my helper be

Why cast down O my soul, disquiet
You have within your mind and heart
Hope you in God, soul, for I shall
Still praise Him, all will turn out well

The LORD to me He will command
His loving-kindness by His hand* (*Spirit)
And songs of praise I shall Him give
Each day and night I through Him live

Send out your light, LORD, let it lead
Me with your truth too, you me feed
As shepherd to the sheep you tend
And shall defend them to the end

In God we boast all the day long
And praise His name with joyful song
Even for ever, and always
See, Him our help, our fear allays

You know Val?

You know Val? St Valentine
He lived up to around 270AD.
Did you meet him in person
As Goldfinch and I did?

It's a swoony day for me and KP
But wait - no! It never is....
On Valentine's Day and any day
I have to face the horror
Of kissing an old trout

I say to her each day, words of love:
'Morning, Mrs Blubbery Botox
You're looking more trout-like each day!' heehee.

But she tickles me with her tickling-stick
I can't give ya full details of that
Or it'll be YOU swooning!
It's a ghastly sight

'Oh go on!' says Fido
'Give them all the details
But be sure to mark poem 18+ if you do!'
Here's a friend of his in the video.

Well, it all began.....
I've run out of time - heehee.

Just Judgements

Tune: Church Triumphant

('The Lord is King, lift up thy voice')

Psalm 75 parts

To you, O God, do we thanks give
You are the Lord, you ever live
How do we know your name is near?
'Tis that your wondrous works are here

The Lord says to fools*, O be wise (*boastful)
Your ways to me are no surprise
And to the wicked He does say
Be not haughty or proud today

For promotion, exaltation
Of any one, any nation
Comes not from east, west, south, or north
But from God the Judge it comes forth

Yes, He the Judge, He does put down
One, even one of high renown
And sets up another, does raise
One up, e'en humble in his/her ways

I will sing, praise to Him declare
For ever, He is just and fair
Strength of the wicked shall be gone
But righteous exalted, each one

This the Lord's doing, He Judge, King
Unto Him we our worship bring
He Omnipotent, Almighty
Eternally His reign shall be

Prayer Providings

Tune: Hereford

('O thou who camest from above')

Psalm 40 v.1-5 and v.16-17

I waited patient for the Lord
He looked upon me, heard my word
That I did speak, unto Him pray
He came to be my help and stay

He brought me up out of deep pit
With His light once again He lit
The path before me, He my guide
His Spirt in my heart resides

He on a rock did set my feet
Did not allow me be defeat[ed]
And a new song has given me
Even praise to my God it be

So many shall see, trust and fear
And declare that the Lord is near
Blessed they be that the Lord they make
Their trust, and for their hope Him take

Many, O Lord, my God, we see
Your wondrous works, all great they be
And your thoughts to us numberless
Your will, your intent, us to bless

Let all that seek you here rejoice
And be glad in you with one voice
Let such as love you salvation
Say, Lord, be great o'er each nation

But look to me, poor and needy
Lord, think on me, from troubles free
You my help, my deliverer
Delay not Lord, to my aid stir

Going Forth...

Tune: Rivaulx

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Church, but not only church it be
Where we can serve you fervently
Lord, but in daily living we
Your people, your witnesses be

Of ourselves we have no power
But we may serve you every hour
With your power and strength supplied
In you we trust and do confide

Loving in deed, not only word
What of your salvation have heard
Others, through what we do and say?
Bringing to them good news today

Partaken of the bread of life
Have we, gives peace, absence of strife
Food to sustain us, and the wine
Quenches our thirst, your fount divine

So you send us forth, sheep amid
Wolves, we are seen, and are not hid
Wise as serpents are we to be
And innocent as doves too, see

O that all taste food heavenly
'Tis resources scant ne'er shall be
Praying that all will come to find
You life, forgiveness, mercies kind

21 Again - Ta-Dah!

Blow the trumpets
I'll blow me own too!
Announce it everywhere....
Orchi is 21 again
About 3 million times over!

Woof! Happy Birthday! says Fido
He hopes it won't be too swoony for me
He will still check the 18+ poems for me

Goldfinch is as old as me
We've seen some times, such as...
At Hastings in 1066
And WE were the first ones on the Moon
Long before 1969 AD

We've seen wars too
The Boer Wars, that is
They're quite old!
Of course, where things have gone wrong
It's always been my fault!

Now to resume a hobby
Helping in Antiques Show
Do I know them? Why, yes, I'm in them
As an exhibit!

And how many years have I been married to KP?
Life had been all downhill since that day
She hid the water from my tippie
And being tipsy, I said 'I do'!

Wish me many more days

Though they'll be (old) trout-like
But wishing me many days won't help
Cos they won't be happy! heehee.

Here's a video if ya wanna sing to ME
I been torturing ya for years
Singing to YOU! lol.

Saving Strength

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 28 v.7-9

The Lord is my strength, shield
My heart trusted, did yield
To Him, and I am helped, therefore
My heart rejoices sure

Great praises I do give
My song make while I live
The Lord our strength, our salvaiton
E'en to every nation

And He the saving strength
Of His Son, all the length
Of the Messiah's days He be
God's anointed one, see

Save your people, O Lord
Prosper them in your word
[And] Bless your inheritance, us feed
Sustain, we e'er you need

What you think?

Though I feel I'm playing Devil's advocate here
What with me hymn-poems, etc....

But I'm talking about rebuilding churches
Not here in the 'spiritual' sense of 'building up'
But the bricks and mortar of it

I know a place - shall remain nameless
Rebuilt their Church Centre building
Which was not even 70 years old
Dunno why - it's not used that much
Other than on Sundays, and it's semi-rural too
Not many people pass that way
They want to 'get more people through their doors', they say
Erm, why not just widen the Entrance Doors? Doh!

But, this is how it is
Appeals for dough (money) of over a million quid
And more than once!
Well, it's gotta be paid for

But, wait, that don't mean you can include it in your tithe
If you choose to give 10% weekly
Oh no - it means tithe AND extra on top of that!
As if passing round TWO hats for the collection
In the same service sometimes!

Doh! I heard it myself
They say 'We're in a lot of debt now'
They would be!
But with the customary 'Have faith'
And 'The Lord will provide'
Well, that can be true

But we can't live off fresh air alone

You rich? You got lots of dough?

Just pop along to that church

You'll soon be broke, I'll guarantee

Or pass it to me, and I will pass it to them

(Or will I be tempted to keep it myself? Ooh!)

It sounds awful

I've not contributed one penny to it

Well - I tell a lie

When I was with them a few years ago

I contributed the cost of about 8 to 10 bricks

I wants me money back!

Take those bricks out

Though there'll be a hole in the wall then!

They'll be paying for it for years to come, including loans

What do I care? I'm not even with them now!

Here's their bloomin' theme-song, I reckon

In this video!

Committed Calling

Tune: Moscow (or 'Italian Hymn')

('Thou whose Almighty word')

Psalm 86 v.6-10

Give ear, O Lord, to me
Look on me, here me see
Praying simply
Attend unto the voice
Of my prayer, you my choice
For you will me answer
I trust for sure

In day of my trouble
I shall trust to you all
And on you call
Among the gods there are
None like you, for by far
You do them all excel
O Lord, I tell

Neither are there any
Works like yours, none there be
To compare, see
All nations you have made
View your wonders displayed
They shall come, worship you
Holy and true

And they shall glorify
Your name, shall know you nigh
Not you deny
For you are great and do
Wondrous things not a few

You are God alone e'er
Help with us share

Praise Proclaimings

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Parts of Psalms 46 to 48

God is our refuge and strength, He
A very sure help be
He present in our troubled times
Through life's verse and rhymes

Be still and know He is God, see
He will exalted be
Among the peoples of the earth
Praise Him, give Him His worth

O clap your hands, raise joyful shout
You peoples, praise ring out
Let the vice of triumph be heard
It be His living word

For He o'er all the earth is King
Your worship to Him bring
Sing praises with understanding
Be grateful for each thing

Great is the Lord, His residence
His people, they do sense
It be mount Zion, His temple
Give thanks now, one and all

His enemies did flee away
They saw Zion that day
They troubled at His greatness, might
Defeated in His sight

As is your name, Lord, so your praise [is]
We to you anthems raise
You good and righteous, us you bless
Your mercy we confess

Desirous Dwelling

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scene of life')

Psalm 102 v.12-16

You, O Lord, shall endure ever
Your years shall cease never
You shall be remembered through all
Generations great, small

You have arisen, have mercy
On Zion, it you see
For the time of her favour is
Come, 'tis appointed this

For your servants do take pleasure
In her stones, her treasure
Even the dust is precious for
You inhabit there sure

So the nations shall your name fear
Shall reverence you here
The name of the Lord, people too
Shall worship you anew

When the Lord His dwelling uptakes
He shall appear, He makes
His glory seen, it the city
Zion His choice, so be

Greatness Gloryings

Tune: Sharphorne

('What does the Lord require?')

Parts of Psalms 45 and 46

You throne, O God, does last
Ever from ages past
Never has been downcast
And kingdom's sceptre
Is of righteousness sur
This you do us assure

My heart shall think on you
Holy Lord God and true
I shall speak and shall write
That pleasing in your sight
My tongue a pen it be
Of ready writer, see

Be still, my soul, and know
The Lord is God below
And in heaven does show
He will be exalted
Among the peoples, He
Will in earth rule strong, free

God our strength and refuge
Through all troubles deluge
A very help present
His Spirit to us sent
Fear not, you His people
He shall guide us through all

Creation Clarity

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 19 v.1-6

The heavens declare the glory
Of God, and the skies, see
Show His handiwork, day to day
And night to night, they show His way
Speech, knowledge they display
Speech, knowledge they display

For He does speak through His works great
They not of luck or fate
And we may have knowledge as we
His wonders in creation see
The Lord God Almighty
The Lord God Almighty

There is no speech or language where
They do not in this share
But all do see, He has measured
Out all the world, we are assured
His wondrous grace outpoured
His wondrous grace outpoured

In the skies he has set the sun
It reaches to each one
'Tis as a bridegroom, who ready
Comes to marriage gloriously
And as strong man sure be
And as strong man sure be

Nothing is hid from the sun's heat

Each day we do it greet
Sometimes hidden behind the clouds
Which too God's glory do enshroud
His blessings sure endowed
His blessings sure endowed

Prayer Requests

Tune: Beatitudo

('O for a closer walk with God')

Almighty God, you have promised
Us your grace to assist
And to hear prayers made in Christ's name
He ever stays the same

We pray what we have asked here now
That you will answer how
Most effectively for glory
That shall be yours, all see

For you have inspired us aright
To ask what in your sight
Is pleasing to you, so faithful
We pray in Christ's name all

Grace Guardian

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

The love of the Lord true
Jesus, draw us to you
The power of the Lord be shown
And His strength to you known

The joy of the Lord strong
Fill your hearts all day long
And guard through each night His people
We His sheep shall not fall

And blessing of God here
Father, Son, Spirit dear
Be among us and e'er remain
Prosperity we gain

Love Longings

Tune: Hendon

(one tune to 'Take my life, and let it be')

Based on a prayer by Thomas á Kempis, 15th Century AD

Lord, deepen your love in me
That my inmost heart may see
How sweet it is to love free
Wholly devoted to be

Let me in your love dissolve
Each deed, word, from you evolve
Plunge me in that fount sublime
Possess my life for all time

May I know fervour, wonder
Holy desires my soul stir
Let me sing the song of love
Aid me Spirt, holy dove

Let me follow you each day
Going higher in your way
Inspire me, myself to spend
In your praises, life no end

Let me love you more than me
More than myself, who I see
Daily, but for you deny
You my heart see, test me, try

Let me love myself only
For your own sake, let it be
Not in selfishness nor greed
That I not self's vain pleas heed

And too love those who love you
Love for God and neighbour too
As you law of love commands
Which was written by your hands

Boo Hoo!

Boo Hoo!

Abandoned today's poem

Was quite a long one

Got a dreaded blip

A '403' error message

Computer said No!

Don't ya just love it

When it does that!

You've typed out your poem

Chosen the clip(s)

Made your own remarks about the poem

Then it's all cut orf!!

It's painful being cut orf

Don't ya know?!

Fido says - Woof!

Did KP put a gremlin in

So ya wouldn't slag her off again?

Or tell of 'Adventures of KP and I, No. 5,846'?

Normal service resumes tomorrow

I hope

But what is 'normal'?

Meanwhile, this old rubbish for today! lol

Wisdom Ways

Tune: Charity

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

James 3 v.13-18

James' practicality

In all events of life, see

Asks who are the wise midst you?

Who has knowledge too?

Let such show good way of life

Not bitter envy or strife

But show works from wisdom meek

Ever the Lord seek

Wisdom with that envy, strife

Is not true to godly life

Glory not if having this

Never promotes bliss

Earthly, sensual, devilish

Is such wisdom, no relish

There confusion, works evil

Such shall fail and fall

But the wisdom from above

Given to us in God's love

Is pure, peaceable, and calm

Wholly free from harm

And too gentle, easily

To be entreated, such be

Without partiality

No hypocrisy

And the fruit of righteousness
Is shown by such who do bless
Sown in peace of them that make
Peace for the Lord's sake

Winsome Worship

Tune: Guiting Power

('Christ triumphant, ever reigning')

Songs and praises everlasting
Bring to Christ your King
Melodies pleasant now raising
Above everything
He the Lord for evermore
He reigns for sure
We Him adore

Scriptures they to us are written
All contained therein
We may grow so, ever learning
With thoughts discerning
Led by His Spirit to know
His trust, 'tis so
Grace here bestowed

Lifting hearts and hands and voices
We worship in this
Trusting to His presence daily
To continual be
With us, in us, all around
The solid ground
In Christ we [are] found

All shall come to obey your rule
None shall doubt or stall
But you shall show yourself as Lord
True, it be your word
And each enemy submit
In every whit

'Tis meet* and fit

* 'meet' in the sense of suitable, appropriate.

Listening Lord

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear Sacrament')

Genesis 16 v.6-14

Lord, hear us now, we ask today
And even every day
Through night watch keep, guard us your sheep
Here night and day, we pray

Help us to listen unto you
With us your grace endue
Speak message clear, cause us to hear
Obey with godly fear

For you did unto Hagar hark
Her situation stark
Sarah cast her out, there no doubt
Her state abandoned, dark

Yet you Lord, found her, desert land
Where she escaped the hand
Of stern mistress, who caused distress
To her, no more did bless

You promises to Hagar gave
You did visit and save
She would bear son, Ishmael the one
"God shall hear", it be done

And well nearby she did then name
Beer-lahai-roi, the same
"Well of Him, He the God, He be
Who does live and see me"

Must you.....?

'Must you always insist?' Says Fido to me
'On certain things'
And steal the thunder
Or dilute the meaning, of certain poems
Which have heavy, dark themes

Along you come -
You phantom whisky-waterer, you
Taking the edge of some serious stuff
Or bringing KP into it
Mentioning one of your
8,476 Adventures or so with her

Must you say? 'Ooh, not suicide
Don't want to meet Ms Sue E. Side
She's dangerous'
So I ask - 'suicide - will it hurt?'
Not when you've snuffed it, it won't

'Behave Orchi!' says Fido
Three times more wiser than me
'What do you mean, three?' says Fido
'More like three thousand times!' lol

And must you ruin some dark poems
By saying stuff like:
'Oooh a bad hair day for you then?
I should try a new shampoo!'

Can't have ya living in the dark
All morose and gloomy and grim
Come to the light!
And see where you're going

And don't put out my candle!

'Must you carry on being eccentric?' asks Fido

Yep - and I know folk believe in you...

A talking, reading, censoring dog

Barking where poets should mark poems 18+

But 'forget' to do so!

Woof! Mark this 'dark humour' poem 18+

Says Fido!

Presence Providence

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 105 v.1-11

O give thanks to the Lord, sing
Call on His name, praise bring
Make known His deeds among all
People, and on Him call
Sing unto Him psalms, tunes make
E'en for His good name's sake
Talk of all His works wondrous
His ways shown unto us

Glory in His holy name
That ever stays the same
Let the heart of them rejoice
That seek the Lord, their choice
Seek the Lord, his strength always
Continue nights and days
Seek His face sure evermore
His presence e'er adore

Remember His works marvellous
That He has done for us
His wonder and His judgement
He speaks to penitents
You are of Abraham the seed* (*descendants)
His servant, he does heed
You, and of Jacob*, His chosen (*or Israel)
Praise Him now once again

His is the Lord our God, He
His judgement in earth, see

His covenant He remembered
Has not His grace deferred
For it does stand for ever
And it shall fail never
To thousand generations
Made unto all nations

With Abraham, Isaac, did make
Was for His own name's sake
Covenant, and Jacob too
Granted these blessings true
Said, Unto you I will give
Canaan's land, you will love
There reside, your inheritance
By His good providence

Confident Comfortings

Tune: Ellers

('Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise')

Isaiah 26 v.1-9

We shall this song sing throughout Judah's land
That a strong city we have by God's hand
Salvation for walls, bulwarks, He appoints
He shall not leave us, us not disappoints

Open you the gates, that [the] righteous nation
Which keeps the truth sure now may enter in
You will keep them in perfect peace whose mind
Is stayed on you, confidence they shall find

Such shall have minds set on you for always
Because they trust in you all night and days
Trust in the LORD for ever, to Him hold
In the LORD JEHOVAH be you strong, bold

For in Him is strength, it everlasting
'Tis found in Him, the great eternal King
Forgive where we doubt, mistrust, faith grows dim
Restore, renew our trust only in Him

For He brings down the high ones, the lofty
Brings them down to the ground, to the dust, see
Even the feet of poor, needy shall tread
The mighty down, for God the word has said

With my soul I desire you in the night
Lord, come to me, and dawn now on my sight
Early I will seek you, for when there be
Your judgement on earth, then righteousness free

Deceitful Desires

Tune: Heinlein

('40 days and 40 nights')

James 4 v.1-4

From whence come conflicts, fightings?
Among humans, different things?
Do they not come from desires
For pleasure, stirred in you fires?

You desire, lust, yet have not
Things you want, for greed your lot
You have not, for you not ask
Rightly, but spend on wrong task

So you receive not, for you
Ask that you may selfish do
What you please and be consumed
With what you want, you presumed

It is like adultery
When you thus so worldly be
Friendship with the world is sure
Enmity with God, impure

Whosoever will be friend
Of the world, on it depend
They do make self enemy
Of God, this their state truly

Fossilised?

Aww, why they call me 'Fossil'?

It's my middle name

So it's not all that well known

But Goldfinch and I

Are millions of years old, so we say

We go to Hastings Reunions annually

The only condition for attending

Is that you have to have been there in person

In 1066!

Dunno how old Fido is!

Woof! He says it's like asking

A lady her age - it's not done

So we'll never know!

KP must be even older than us

But how can we tell

Beyond the layers of botox?!

Is there any way we can gauge

The age of trouts (old ones)

Like we can with trees -

Counting the number of rings on the trunks?

Goldfinch and I

Were the first men on the moon

We stepped out from its dark side

To greet the first astronauts

We arrived there in 5 million BC

We took a trip there on the No.7 bus!

But we return to Earth at times

We knew the dinosaurs too

Aww, they say....

You Fossil, you

You dried up prune, you piece of rock

You ancient monument....

Sounds like a description of KP!

Heehee

Cleansing Cure

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul and with the sun')

Matthew 8 v.1-4

Behold, a leper came unto
Jesus, who did Him see, did view
The leper worshipped Him and said
In simple words his prayer he pled

He said, Lord, if you will, you can
Make me clean, though I be mere man
Jesus, compassionate, put forth
his hand, valued the man's true worth

He touched the man and said, I will
Be you clean, and free from your ill
And immediately he was cleansed
Was heed, within himself he sensed

Jesus said, Tell no man, but go
Unto the priest, and your self show
And offer gift as in the law
Testimony of healing sure*

Though he did the more blaze abroad
Went out to others, spread the word
But doing so in that case he
Made life harder for Jesus, see

* a sort of ritual, a confirming of
one's healing or cleansing.

Glory Gleams

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

Matthew 17 v.1-5

Jesus transfigured on the mount
He of life is the fount
His face did shine as the sun bright
His raiment white as light

Behold, Elijah, Moses, they
Appeared with Him that day
Spoke of His death for people all
Who hear salvation's call

Peter did there desire to stay
On the mount-top always
But was not to forever be
They returned to valley

Yet while on mount a voice they heard
It was to them God's word
Said, This is my beloved Son
He still my will has done

In Him I am well please, Him hear
And stay to Him close, near
He was strengthened for suffering
That future days would bring

Grant us, Lord, in prosperity
And too adversity
To be balance, to be prepared
Follow you unimpaired

Mercy Missive

Tune: Richmond

(one tune to 'Praise to the holiest in the height')

Psalm 119 v.76-78

Let, I pray you, Lord, now let your
Mercy come to me sure
Your merciful kindness, and let
It be my comfort yet

According to your word spoken to
Me, it shall me renew
Let your tender mercies come to
Me, they flow all from you

So that I may live, for your law
Is my delight clear, pure
Let the proud be ashamed, who do
Oppress those who love you

Though they deal wrongly with falseness
I will trust you, me bless
In your precepts I meditate
I do, for they are great

Lord Laudings

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Psalm 93

The Lord reigns, clothed with majesty
And ever shall He be
Clothed with strength, he has girded self
From treasures of His wealth

The world too established, unmoved
His power He has proved
As great Creator of all things
All to Him worship brings

Your throne is established of old
Each works of yours is told
You are Lord from everlasting
Let all Him praises sing

The floods, O Lord, have up lifted
Their voice, from you not hid
You Lord on high are mightier
Than noise of sea waves stir

Your testimonies very sure
Are, and you very pure
Holiness becomes your house e'er
Lord, none with you compare

Everlasting Exhortation

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Psalm 103 v.13-18

As a father pities his children
So does the Lord pity them then
That fear Him, show awe and reverence
They do His holy presence sense

For He knows our frame, He remembers
That we are dust, though He assures
Us with His help and comforts, our days
Are blessed if settled in His ways

As for mankind, their days are as grass
As flowers of fields in seasons pass
Flourishes for a while, then wind blows
Over them, place gone, none it knows

But the mercy of the Lord it be
From everlastingly constantly
And even unto everlasting
He shall His people good things bring

To they that fear Him, and righteousness
To their descendants, shall them bless
They who obey, and His commands do
They favoured with His life anew

Humbly Hoping

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

Psalm 131

Lord, my heart not haughty
Nor are my eyes lofty
And nor is my concern
Matters too great to learn

Not things too high, profound
But simplicity found
As I child-like behave
The lowly, meek you save

I have quieted my soul
When burdened by life's toll
My soul is as weaned child
Of mother kind and mild

Let all people hope sure
In the Lord evermore
Trusting in Him secure
Blessed they in spirit poor

Why? asks Fido

A poem by Fido.

Why did ya wanna join this site?
There's a character on it, you'll meet
Always singing, so he thinks
It's more like screeching

They call him Orchi, or Porchi (Porky)
Or they call him whatever - within reason!
Thinks he is married to KP
In a love-hate relationship
Or a trout-hate one! heehee

He (and Goldfinch) are millions of years old, they say
I'm nearly as old as them
He dunno what he's on about half the time
He's too busy watering down tipples
You'll hear his water syphon - Psstt!
No, that's not p****d (ooh!)
That's what I bark to save ya from. Doh!

He's had a sheltered life
He's prone to swoons
If anything 'hot' is printed in poems
But I'm here to save him from swoons
In case he falls

Yes, I'm a reading, talking, barking dog
I will only bark at ya
If ya forget to mark certain poems 18+
I can't have ya conveniently 'forgetting'!
Me bark is worse than me bite
But it won't shut me up

Tossing me a few dog biscuits
Greetings and woofs to ya!

A Prayer of Daniel

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Daniel 2 v.20-23

Blessed be the name, God's name
The name of endless fame
For ever and ever
His glory fades never
For wisdom, mercy, they be His
They be found in Him, true is this

And He changes the times
And seasons in life's rhymes
He removes, and does set
Up kings in His plans yet
His gives wisdom unto the wise
His gifts to them He not denies

And He gives knowledge to
Them that understand too
He reveals of the deep
And secret things, does keep
Us in His way, and he does know
What is in the dark, it does show

And the light with Him dwells
I thank you, each tongue tells
Your praise, God of ages
Through history's pages
You reveal dreams, you wisdom's fount
Knowing all things without a doubt

Praise Prosperings

Tune: Monks Gate

('He who would valiant be')

Psalm 117 v.1-2 and 118 v.1-6

O praise the Lord, all you
Nations, he God true
Praise Him gentiles and Jews
Share gospel good news
Praise Him and glorify
Him, all peoples draw nigh
He worthy of our praise
Throughout all our days

For His mercy, kindness
Is great toward us
And His truth endures e'er
He does with us share
O give thanks to the Lord
He is good, gives His word
His mercy endures e'er
In His love and care

Let all peoples now say
Today, every day
That His mercy endures
For e'er, us assures
All that do the Lord fear
Who reverence Him here
Say so, for He is great
Of royal estate

I called on the Lord when
In my distress, then

He answered m, dos set
Safe, not me forget
The Lord is on my side
I will not fear, not hide
For what can man do to
Me, you me renew

Guide And Guard

Tune: *Michael*

('All my hope on God is founded')

Psalm 71 v.1-5

In you, O Lord, I put my trust
Though I be mere man and dust
Let me never be confused, shamed
I you as my Lord have named
Save me, you righteous be
Show way of **escape** to me

Incline your ear to me, save me
Out of hand of enemy
Be you my strong habitation
Lord of each race and nation
To you I continual
Resort, you my **safety** all

Save me, O God, out of h hand
Of the wicked, so I stand
With you as my rock and fortress
Come unto me, and me bless
For you, Lord, my hope be
No and through **eternity**

Faithful Family

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Matthew 13 v.54-58 parts, and part of a Collect/Formal Prayer

For St Joseph's Day: March 19

Lord God, who called Joseph to be
Earthly father truly
Of your Son Jesus here on earth
Mary gave to Him birth

He full human and full divine
He born of David's line
Born of the Holy Spirit He
The Son of God true be

He the first-born son, He had see
Brothers, sisters, so be
James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas
Shares human life with us

Learnt the labours of father's trade
Carpenter's works displayed
Open our inward eyes, we pray
To see, follow your way

And open our inward ears too
Messages may we know
Of your holy will, and give too
Courage that will to do

So Mary, Joseph's examples
Help us to hear your calls
Send your blessings on families

Living lives to you please

Trusting Tale

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 146

Praise ye the Lord, O my soul praise
Him, and to Him your songs raise
While I live I will praise the Lord
Trusting in Him and His word
I will praise while I have being
Until final breath shall sing

Put not your trust in humankind
Salvation there you not find
For man lives, then his breath goes forth
When he dies, so goes his worth
Then he has no more human thought
And in vain then he is sought

Happy are they who do have for
Their help the Lord God for sure
And their hope is in Him, He be
Maker and Creator, see
Of heaven, earth, sea, e'en all things
He truth ever to us brings

He does judgement for the oppressed
Hungry feeds, and they are blessed
He frees prisoners, opens eyes
Of the blind, and too arise
They that are bowed down, for He lifts
Them up, grants righteous good gifts

He protects the needy, and cares

For vulnerable, He shares
With them of His providings, though
Way of wicked he does know
And turns them upside down, and He
The Lord reigns eternally

Healing Help

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Matthew 8 v.5-13 parts

At Capernaum there came one
To Jesus, centurion
Beseeched Him, said, My servant lies
At home sick, no denies

He paralysed with the palsy
With grievous torments he
Jesus said, I will come, him heal
Have peace in heart, be still

Centurion he did reply
Lord, worthy that you come nigh
I am not, but speak word only
And he shall be healed, see

For I also I am a man
Under authority, can
Say to one, 'Go', and he does go
My commands he does know

And to another I do say
'Come', and he comes that day
And to my servant I do say
'Do this', he does, no delay

Jesus marvelled, said, I have no
Found so great faith, no lot
As this, said to centurion
Go, for it shall be done

Be done, as you have sure believed
Servant healing received
The same hour he was healed, so
Restoration did show

Healings Here

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Matthew 8 v.14-17

Jesus to Peter's house did come
Entered into his home
Saw his wife's mother, fever-bound
Laying in bed there found

He touched her hand, rebuked fever
The illness did sever
And she arose and did them serve
From service did not swerve

When evening was come, then they brought
Many to Him, they sought
Him for those who were afflicted
By devils, they not hid

And too other sick folk, and He
Did heal them all, so be
And so Isaiah's prophecy
Came to pass, so we see

The prophecy, He Himself took
Our infirmities, look
And bare our sicknesses, that we
Through Him might healed, whole be

Joining The Journey

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Come, let us join in journeying
With Jesus, though with suffering
The road be paved, yet it shall lead
To resurrection life indeed

Jesus shall bring God's kingdom in
With humbleness and free from sin
Palms of peace waved and garments laid
On ground, people's worship displayed

Though later they cry, Crucify
And care not that their Lord shall die
But it His plan of salvation
To reach e'en to every nation

Let us follow Jesus the Way
To grow more like Him in each day
The Spirit's abode be our hearts
To serve to the end our life's part

Palms Processional

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Luke 19 v.28-40 parts

Chorus

Our King, He rides a donkey

Enters triumphantly

Into Jerusalem, see

In lowly majesty

He sent two disciples, they

Found a donkey that day

At His word, owner released

Creature to King of Peace - Chorus

Not riding on a war-horse

But meekly on His course

Did ride, crowd palm branches waved

Their garments His way paved - Chorus

And then upon arrival

At Jerusalem all

Rejoiced, praised God, exulting

For Christ's good works, each thing - Chorus

Said, Blessed be the King, comes He

In the Lord's name, so be

Peace in heaven, and glory

In the highest now be - Chorus

Some Pharisees they displeased

At this praise, wished it ceased

But Jesus said, Without doubt

If this stops, stones cry out - Chorus

Confirming Cockerel

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Luke 22 v.31-34

The Lord said, Simon [Peter], behold
Satan desires, it be told
To have you, that he as wheat
May you sift, shake you complete

But I have prayed for you, see
That your faith fail not but be
Sustained, and when you do turn
Back to me, do of me learn

And strengthen your companions
Your brethren, my daughters, sons
Then Peter did say that day
Lord, I will go in your way

I ready to go with you
To prison, e'en to death too
But Jesus said, I tell you
Peter this you shall not do

For before cockerel shall crow
Mark my words, and them do know
That you shall thrice me deny
That you know me, this no lie

Whose Will To Do?

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Luke 22 v.39-46

Jesus came to Gethsemane
Garden, disciples followed free
He said to them, Pray that you do
Enter not in temptation true

He went from them a little way
Then to kneel down, and then to pray
Saying, Father if you willing
Remove this cup of suffering

Remove it from me, yet not my
Will be done, I do know it nigh
Then angel did to Him appear
Strengthened Him and to Him drew near

And being in an agony
He there did pray more earnestly
And His sweat was if drops great
Of blood falling*, such was His state

When He to disciples returned
They were sleeping, sad, not discerned
To do as Jesus said, Rise, pray
Lest you tempted fall from my way

Jesus, who for me sweated blood
Yet your blood it a cleansing flood
Help us to follow in your way
Whate'er may come to pass each day

* A rare medical condition called hematomidrosis.

Types of Trees

Tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

Luke 23 v.26-31

Chorus

If they do these things when a tree be green

What, when it is leafless, what shall be seen?

As they led Jesus to be crucified

Simon made to carry cross, not denied - Chorus

There followed Jesus a great company

They bewailed, lamented His sufferings, see - Chorus

But Jesus said, People, weep not for me

But for yourselves and your children, so be - Chorus

For the days are coming when they shall say

Blessed be the childless in these dreadful days - Chorus

Then shall they say to the mountains, Do fall

On us, and you hills, now cover us all - Chorus

So people shall wish to escape evil

In their troubles they unto God shall call - Chorus

Favoured Feet

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

John 13 v.1-5

Now before the feast of Passover
When Jesus knew His hour sure
Had come, that He should to Father go
He loved His own to the end so

Supper ended, devil already
Put into Judas' heart, so be
To Jesus betray, but this He knew
Who would this treacherous deed do

He knew the Father had given all
Into His hands, obeyed His call
And that He was come from God, and He
Was going back to God, so be

He rose from supper, and His garments
He laid aside, and did then hence
Took a towel, and water in bason
Washed the disciples feet, each one

Give us grace, Lord, so to serve humbly
For your example do we see
Of service to us, your life you gave
All for to from our sins us save

Golgotha Gathering

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, sore wounded')

John 19 v.17-30 parts

At Golgotha crucified
Our Saviour bled and died
Place of a skull the land formed
Darkness in day o'erstormed*
Two others with Him, they too
Crucified, people view
Title on Jesus' cross read
These be the words it said

'Jesus of Nazareth, He
The King of the Jews be'
Then His clothes they did share out
And seamless coat, no doubt
Thus more Scriptures were fulfilled
The Prince of Life they killed
Women stood by there weeping
Vigil faithful keeping

Jesus committed to care
Of John His mother there
Mary took him as her son
As the cross-work was done
Jesus said, 'I am thirsty'
One gave Him drink, so be
Though it was a bitter wine
For Him, human, divine

When He it then had taken
A cry He then maken** (**made)

Said, 'It is finished', bowed head
In moment He was dead
Yet it a cry of victory
O'er evil's powers be
For soon came resurrection
Hope for every nation

* Darkness over the land from 12 noon to 3pm -
a rain-storm?

Tomb Tale

Tune: Horsley

('There is a green hill')

Matthew 27 v.57-66 and 28 v.11-15 parts

Joseph of Arimathea
With Pilate did confer
That Friday evening when Jesus
Had died, gave life for us

He asked that he might Him bury
Pilate said, 'To it see'
He in clean cloth wrapped the body
Laid in tomb securely

He rolled a great stone to the door
Of the rock-tomb, it sure
Was made by soldiers, they sealed stone
And set a guard, was known

Later when Jesus risen, they
Were given bribes to say
His disciples came here by night
Stole Him then from our sight

For we did sleep, did not them see
Some Jews today, so be
Believe that this was true the way
Things happened on that day

Easter Expectations

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

Early on first Easter day - Alleluia!
Two women, they came that way - Alleluia!
Approached unto Jesus's tomb - Alleluia!
Found it there an empty room - Alleluia!

And two angels did appear - Alleluia!
Said, Jesus risen, not here - Alleluia!
Go from here to Galilee - Alleluia!
Him there risen you shall see - Alleluia!

For great stone was rolled away - Alleluia!
Bright the morn, not dark and grey - Alleluia!
Jesus, Light of the world seen - Alleluia!
He who died, buried had been - Alleluia!

It be as Scriptures foretold - Alleluia!
Harking back to years of old - Alleluia!
And too Jesus He had said - Alleluia!
He would suffer, rise from dead - Alleluia!

Resurrection hope for all - Alleluia!
Who by faith will hear His call - Alleluia!
To come unto salvation - Alleluia!
Whoe'er be, whate'er station - Alleluia!

Emmaus Explainings

Tune: Lancashire

(*'The day of resurrection'*)

Luke 24 v.13-36 parts

On the road to Emmaus
Jesus appeared to us
So said two disciples, as they
Did see him on that day
They explained events to Him
In truth, no passing whim
He said, You foolish and slow
Now hearken and this know

You slow of heart to believe
And prophets words receive
Ought not Christ to have suffered
These things, they not deferred
And enter into His glory
And in the scriptures, see
He showed them things of Himself
Treasures of life and wealth

When they arrived, He then stayed
With them, a meal was made
He took bread, broke it, and they
Recognised Him that way
Then He vanished from their sight
Though causing pure delight
They said, Did not our hearts burn
As we did from Him learn?

They returned the same evening
And glad tidings did bring

To those at Jerusalem
Disciples, women, men
Saying, The Lord is risen
Indeed, hope for us then
And Jesus then did appear
Said, Peace to all you here

Gospel Given

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.44-48

The risen Jesus did appear
To disciples drew near
Said, These are the words I to you
Spake, that all must come true

That all the things must be fulfilled
As the Father has willed
The law and prophets and psalms too
Which tell of me, here view

He opened their understanding
To so discern each thing
In the scriptures, and to them said
It is written, is read

That it was necessary for
Christ to suffer for sure
And to rise from dead the third day
He e'er the Life, Truth, Way

And that repentance, remission
Of sins to us be given
And should in His name be so preached
Until all nations reached

Going To Galilee

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven....')

Matthew 28 v.1-10

As the first day of the week dawned
Two Marys came, as they mourned
To see the tomb of Jesus, when
There was a great earthquake then
Angel of the Lord descended
Rolled back stone from door, rended
And there sat, appeared as lightning
Raiment white as snow, dazzling

And for fear of Him guards did shake
As dead men it did them make
To the women said the angel
Fear not, glad tidings I tell
I know that you do seek Jesus
Who was crucified for us
He is not here, He is risen
See place where He was laid then

And tell disciples, go quickly
He is risen from dead, see
And, behold, he goes before you
Into Galilee, 'tis true
There you shall see Him, I have told
You, take courage and be bold
They left tomb with fear and joy great
Ran, told disciples not late

And as they went, Jesus them met
Said, Greetings, they had not yet

Reached the disciples, but then they
Bowed and worshipped Him that day
He said as the angel said, Be
Not afraid, to Galilee
Go, tell disciples to there go
There they shall see me, shall know

Victory Verified

Tune: Vulpus

('Christ is the King, O friends rejoice')

1 Corinthians 15 v.55-58

O death, where is your sting? Where be
O grave, where is your victory?
Christ is risen from dead now, see
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The sting of death is sin, what be
The strength of sin? 'Tis the law, see
But thanks to God, who gives vic'try
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This be through our Lord Jesus Christ
He of great value us has priced
His work of salvation sufficed
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

So be you steadfast, unmoving
Abound in the Lord's work, each thing
It not vain, but Him glory brings
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Wholesome Wordings

Tune: Harewood

('Christ is the corner-stone')

Psalm 19 v.7-11

The Lord's *law* is perfect
In it there no defect
And it converts the soul
Does restore and make whole
Testimony of the Lord be
Sure, making wise the simple, see

The Lord's *statutes* are right
Rejoice the heart, make bright
The Lord's *command* is pure
Enlightens eyes e'ermore
Fear of the Lord is clean, endures
For ever, saves from sin's allures

The Lord's *judgments* are true
And they be righteous too
More to be desired than
The fine gold which man can
Find, and sweeter than honey be
To keep them brings prosperity

Rejoicing Repertoire

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalms 145 - 150 parts

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised
His greatness unsearchable, hymns be raised
One generation shall praise His works unto
Another, and sing His mighty acts anew

Teh Lord is gracious, full of compassion
Slow to anger, great mercy to each one
The Lord is good to all, His tender mercies
Are over all His works, the captives He frees

Put not trust in man, in him no help be
He lives for a while, temporarily
But happy are they who the Lord God have for
Their help, He eternal, comes to our aid sure

Great is our Lord, and He be of great power
His understanding infinite each hour
He lifts up the meek, casts wicked to the ground
Sing to the Lord with thanks, let praises resound

Praise the Lord, earth, sea, sky, where'er you be
Bring voices, instruments, join joyfully
Let all things that have breath unite in accord
To praise the Almighty and eternal Lord

Food And Drink

Tune: Corpus Christi

('Jesus, in thy dear sacrament')

John Chapter 6 parts

O bread of heaven, come us feed

You daily do we need

Physically and spiritually

So we satisfied be

We find in you that you supply

Our food and drink, you nigh

Your promise that who comes to you

Shall ne'er hunger, 'tis true

And who believes on you shall ne'er

Thirst, shall refreshment share

Enough for all, no scarcity

Ample resources be

So may we feed and drink from you

You shall our lives renew

Jesus, the bread of life you be

Now and eternally

O Abundant Spirit

Tune: Langran

('Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face')

Adapted with permission, based on poem by

David Wakeling: 'Let me teach you how to pray'.

O Abundant Spirit, now let me be
With you and live my life purposefully
And as I face the Fires of Evil you
Will cloak me in your Love safe, secure too

Let the storms of pettiness rage for I
Will not be afraid, and not you deny
I will follow path of the courageous
The pathway to your glory planned for us

The darkness, it will not engulf my hope
With your help and providings I shall cope
I know that when Death comes I will welcome
It, my wish to be welcomed to your Home

Simplicity Sentiments

Tune: Quam Dilecta

('We love the place, O Lord')

A hymn sung fast or slow
But ensure that you know
The words, and understand
They all from God's good hand

Though pace of life may rush
Quieten heart now, and hush
Approaching Communion
Holy, with Christ be one

He has the way opened
And did His Spirit send
To us, we forgiven
Offer sweet praises then

Dor meditate a while
If life is calm or trial
Yet your Lord present still
Shall show you His good will

Eat, drink, at table spread
Christ the food, living bread
His blood the wine to drink
On these symbols now think

Not transubstantially
Bread, wine her simply be
Thye representatives
Of Christ's life he us gives

For Christ did institute
These gifts, the vine's good fruit
And bread, a staple meal
They will our souls true heal

His invite made to all
Whoe'er shall hear his call
Be saved by Him, redeemed
Loved by Him, high esteemed

Counting Cost of the Cross

Tune: Breslau

('Take up thy cross, the Saviour said')

Mark 8 v.34-37

Jesus said, Whosoever will
Come after me, follow me still
Let them deny themselves, and take
Up their cross daily for my sake

Take up their cross and follow me
For whosoever of you be
Who will save their life shall it lose
But whosoever of you choose

Choose to lose your life for my sake
And for the gospel's, they shall take
Up their life, and shall true it save
God shall the path for them clear pave

For what shall it profit a man
If gaining while world if he can
And loses his own soul in this?
He the way of true life shall miss

Or what shall a man give ,exchange
For his soul? Whate'er be the range
We cannot buy back our soul though
Dying to self, life we shall know

Saving Safety

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalms 9 and 10 parts

The Lord will be a refuge sure
For the oppressed and poor
A refuge in times of trouble
Will hear them when they call

And they that know His name, they shall
Put their trust in Him well
For you, Lord, have not forsaken
They that seek you again

Sing praises to the Lord, which dwells
In Zion, each tongue tells
Among the people His doings
How He does work good things

Arise, O Lord God, lift your hand
Help needy in the land
Forget not the humble, for they
Follow you in your way

The Lord is King for evermore
E'en to earth's farthest shore
His enemies they perished be
We them no longer see

Lord, you have heard humble's desire
And what they to aspire
You will prepare their heart, them hear
Their prayers to you be dear

You will judge for orphans, and care
For needy, they shall share
In good things, no more be oppressed
By men, but in you blessed

Olive Oil

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 52 v.8-9

Lord, by your grace I be
Like a green olive tree
In your house, O God, your temple
Where you do welcome all

I trust in your mercy
Everlasting it be
For eve and for ever shall
It remain, this I tell

I will praise you for e'er
You great works do you share
With us, and I will call upon
Your good name, holy one

May oil of the olive
Help others, so they live
The oil of your Spirit to flow
So others too you know

Argh! Pain

Now there's a few poems on 'ere Lately
On the theme of pain
Fido and I popped in
To tell ya our experiences

Woof! Better mark it 18+ then, says Fido
Cos it's quite a scary and horrific poem!
Will ya recover after reading it?! lol.

But ya know I brought it on myself
That Halloween night
When KP hid the water from my tippie
I got tipsy, and said 'I will' (marry ya)
And me life's been downhill since
Full of pain, agony, misery
Those sort of things!

It's said, it's easier to go downhill than uphill
Less energy, etc
That'll be right
Downhill I went from that day on
I sank fast - dunno where it will end up
Might be a bottomless pit. Doh!

I married an Old Trout, you see
But lately, cos of the botox
I may have to call her an Old Bloater

Now c'mon, at election time
Vote for the Trout & Bloater Party
Even though KP leads it
And it gives her even more attention
For 'me, me, me'

About one of the only three words she says
The other words being 'botox' and 'money'

We may as well give that Party a try
I dunno what it can offer ya though
Probably nothing
But it'll increase KP's ego, of course

Yep, it's a painful time
Fido has to live with her too
And yet - sometimes we hardly see her in person
But on TV, in newspapers, magazines, etc
Including fishing magazines too! heehee

I will write her a letter - it begins
Dear Trout, or Dear Bloater.....!

Heavenly Help

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Psalm 106 v.43-48

Many times the Lord delivered
His people, to their aid stirred
But they with their counsel provoked
Him, His displeasure invoked

And were brought low for their sinning
Nevertheless in this thing
He regarded their affliction
When He hear their cry, each one

And He remembered covenant
He made with them, did relent [to punish them]
According to the multitude
Of His mercies, thus renewed

He made them that they be pitied
Of those who discomfited
Them, those who carried them captive
Set them free, and so they live

Save us, O Lord our God, gather
Us from heathen, grace confer
So we give thanks, your holy name
Triumph in your praise, your fame

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel
For ever and ever, tell
Through all ages, let peoples say
Amen, Praise the Lord today

Prayer Pleas

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus, I have promised')

Colossians 1 v.9-14

Praying for one another
Christian sister, brother
Desiring that each be filled
With knowledge of God's will
In all wisdom and spiritual
Understanding, the call
Of Christ to faithfully follow
And more of His life show

That we might live worthy here
Knowing the Lord is near
Be pleasing to Him, fruitful
In good works daily all
And increasing in knowledge
Of God, and encourage
Each other on to in Him grow
On this earth here below

Strengthened with all might, in accord
With His power assured
It glorious is, and unto
Enduring trials through
With all patience, longsuffering
Whatever life may bring
Accompanied with joyfulness
When troubled, pray and bless

Giving thanks to the Father
For He has made us sure

To take part of inheritance
Of saints in the light hence
Has delivered us from power
Of darkness, saved each hour
Translated us to kingdom
Of His dear Son, fulsome

In His Son we redemption
Have, 'tis true for each one
Through His blood, e'en forgiveness
Of sins, He does us bless
So labouring on daily
Spirit, fill completely
Our lives to serve and honour
You, on us grace confer

Gospel Given

Tune: Fulda

('We have a gospel to proclaim')

Romans 1 v.16-17

Be not ashamed of the gospel
Of Christ, go forth and do it tell
For it is the power of God, see
Unto salvation to all be

To all that believe, Jew and Greek
And Gentile folk, lowly and meek
For in the gospel is revealed
The righteousness of God appealed

Appealed to us, 'tis by faith all
From faith to faith, who on Him call
For 'tis written, The just shall live
By faith in Christ, Him glory give

Christ-Like Living

Tune: Wetherby

('Lord, I have made thy word my choice')

Colossians 3 v.12-17

Put on therefore, as God's chosen
Ones, children, women, men
Holy and beloved, tenderly
Mercies and kindness be

Humbleness of mind and meekness
Longsuffering, do bless
Forbearing one another, too
Forgiving each one true

If having quarrel, argument
Not bitter, not resent[ful]
But as Christ forgave you, so do
You also forgive too

Above all put on love, which be
Bond of perfectness, we
Living as one, God's family
Others Christ in us see

And let the peace of God rule in
Your hearts, reside within
Tot his peace you are called in one
Body, thanks to His Son

Let the word of Christ richly dwell
In you, in wisdom well
Teach, admonish one another
Each sister and brother

With psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
Graceful song do prolog
Sing to the Lord in your hearts here
worship in lowly fear

Whate'er you do in word or deed
Do all, so be agreed
It be in the Lord Jesus's name
And thanks to God proclaim

Comforting Concerns

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 41 v.1-3

Blessed they that help the powerless
And the poor in distress
The Lord will save them in their own
Troubles, they to Him known

Show some compassion, some good deed
To the afflicted heed
And the Lord will keep and preserve
They who the needy serve

The Lord will strengthen them when they
Encounter troubled days
If in their sick bed, He will heal
Them, work for their good weal* (*well-being)

Come to us, Lord, revive, restore
In you is healing, cure
Raise us if in sickness, then lo
We restortaion know

Perpetual Presence

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 73 v.23-28

I am continually with you
Lord, you hold me by my hand. true
You shall me with your counsel guide
I find there no wiser beside

And afterwards you shall receive
Me up unto your high glory
Whom have I in heaven but you?
On earth I desire none but you

My flesh and heart they may me fail
But God's strength does to me prevail
Strength of my heart, my portion e'er
I am without your presence ne'er

It is good for me to draw near
To God, put my trust in Him here
So I may all His works declare
Each good thing He with us does share

Wise Waiting

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 27 v,4-5 & v.14

One thing have I desired
With passion my heart fired
I will seek it, 'tis that I may
Dwell in God's house alway

It be the Lord's house where
I desire to stay there
All the days of my life, and to
Behold His beauty true

And in His temple to
Enquire of Him, this do
For in troubles He me shall hide
My rock, I here reside

Wait on the Lord, and be
Of good courage, and He
Shall strengthen your heart, in faith wait
On the Lord strong and great

Reigning Ruler

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 47 parts

Clap hands, all you people
Shout to God, on Him call
Raise voice of triumph, Lord He be
Now and eternally

He is the Lord most high
Above, yet to us nigh
He be terrible, awesomely
King o'er all earth He be

He shall subdue our foes
His presence them each knows
Shall show his rule o'er all nations
To they of all stations

Sing praise to God, sing
To Him your worship bring
For He is King o'er all the earth
Come, give Him now His worth

Sing praises, let us sing
And with understanding
For He reigns over all, Him bless
His throne is holiness

Omnipotent Observations

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Revelation 19 v.1-6

Great voice of much people was heard
In heaven, this be their word
Alleluia, Salvation be
To the Lord and too glory
And honour and power unto
Him, He be our Lord God true

For true, righteous are His judgement
He has done with wisdom's sense
Judges the earth, all sin, evil
And does away with it all
The response, Alleluia be
All His works done faithfully

Elders and beasts around God's throne
His judgements to them are known
They Him worship, before Him bow
Saying, Amen, you rule now
And a voice from the throne did sound
Saying, Let praise all redound

Praise our God, you servants small. great
Whate'er your status, estate
And all you that do here him fear
Come, approach to Him, draw near
Join your praises, celebration
All from each tribe, race, nation

Hark, a voice of great multitude

As many waters ensued
And as voice of mighty thunderings
Praise from all creation rings
Alleluia, for the Lord He
God, reigns omnipotently

I remember when....

Aghhh! Another poem
In a possible occasional series
A mind-numbing, blow-by-blow account
Bit like when relatives show ya
The dreaded photo album -
Won't take long to see it, dear
Only about 3 hours!

But this is about when I (maybe Goldfinch too)
Met St George in person one day
Patron Saint of England
Was ya there in person too?
I recall meeting some of ya there.....
Bit daft though - did he fight a real dragon?
I did - KP's mother-in-law! heehee.

A story of some guy around the 2nd Century AD
Killing a dragon
Probably a Komodo Dragon or summat
If the truth's known

Pop into the George & Dragon Pub later
For a celebratory drink
With Goldfinch and me
I'll be there to add water to ya tipple though
It was Goldfinch and me
That killed the dragon really!
See ya in the pub! lol.

Sort of Struck Down

This is not the same angle as a poem
By Goldfinch on here recently
But we've been ill here - or recovering
Life's 'on hold' or partly
I been unwell
And not well enough to visit someone else in hospital
It's gone round the household
In one form or another

Me singing's dried up
Aww! Why ya say?
'Good, as least you won't be singing!' (lol)
Though there's some Psalms
That are not very praise-y
But expressions of troubles, miseries
Pains, illness, utterly downcast, etc
Yet still trusting, hoping, in the God the Psalmists pray to

There's the saying:
There's often someone worse off than you
'Tis so, though our problems are no less real
I heard a horror story
A guy got a flesh-eating bug on his leg
Three days later he had to have the leg off
Oh woe!

A Prayer of King Nebuchadnezzar

Tune: St Helen

('Lord of Lords and King eternal')

Daniel 4 v.34-37

Nebuchadnezzar, he the King
Of Babylon, he did bring
Praise and worship to God most High
And did sense His presence nigh
Honoured Him who lives for ever
His dominion fades never

And all of earth's inhabitants
Are counted as nothingness
In their pride and selfish glory
As too did apply to me
He does according to His will
In the heaven and earth still

None can restrain His hand, nor can
Argue with Him as mere man
Then Nebuchadnezzar's reason
Returned, though for a season
The Lord God had him humbled, for
He was proud, selfish, for sure

Now he praised and extolled the King
Of heaven, tributes did bring
And thanks for his restoration
He great King of the nation
Knowing now the Lord's ways are true
And He just judgement does do

Night Sweats

Now, nope, not an 18+ poem
Despite the title
Of anything hot, sleazy, or swoony
Nothing too 'exciting' now, advises Fido!

It's me in my illness
Not knowing if I will have a night sweat or not
And I'm not the only one
Infirm in the house
I know the real cause for me -
Nightmares of KP and her trout-like advances!
Sends me into a twirl
A sort of hot flush

Have to wash the sheets yet
All yucky and soaking
Even change them in middle of the night

I've resumed some singing though
Ahh - 'so you're not getting better', you say
We're all mucking in
The sick, or just-recovered ones
Helping the other sick ones

We can't blame the month in itself
As a 'mensis horribilis'
(Mensis - Latin for month, singular)
Though it happened
It all started off the end of last month

Resorting to Refuge

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

Psalm 91 v.1-4

They who in the secret
Place of the most High yet
Do dwell, such shall abide under
The shadow of God sure

He be the Almighty
We may say to Him, see
He is my refuge, my fortress
Shall save me from distress

in Him will I trust, He
Shall our protector be
Shall save us from traps and perils
They shall not o'ercome us

He shall cover you here
With His feathers, draw near
To you, under His wings shall you
Trust, take refuge, 'tis true

His truth shall be your shield
His power He shall wield
On your behalf shall show Him[self] strong
We may trust all life long

Communion Concerns

Tune: Solothurn

('Now let us from this table rise')

1 Corinthians 10 v.14-17

Let us approach whole-heartedly
Unto Communion table, see
Any false gods shall counted be
As idolatry, them now flee

The cup of blessing which we bless
Wine, symbol of Christ's blood, no less
It is fellowship, communion
In Christ we united in one

And the bread here of which we break
Symbol of Christ's body partake
It too a sharing, communion
Of holiness in Christ, God's Son

For we being many are one
Body, Christ's atoning work done
For we all partake of one bread
By Christ we spiritually fed

Gospel Givers

Tyne: Albano

('Once, only once, and once for all')

Psalm 40 v.8-11

Lord, may your will be our delight
And pleasing in our sight
Your laws be within our hearts, we
Your humble servants be

May we proclaim your righteousness
Reach out to others, bless
Not refrain to gospel news share
Treasures beyond compare

Not hide your righteousness within
Our hearts, show kith and kin
And too declare your faithfulness
And salvation, no less

Not conceal your loving kindness
But witness and confess
To all people, and Lord, withhold
Not your grace, us enfold

Continue your tender mercies
To us, each still them sees
Let them and your truth us all keep
Preserve us, we your sheep

Wise Way

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

John 14 v.1-6

To disciples you said
Lord, this is how it read
i go to prepare place for you
Heavenly mansions new

And if I go prepare
Place for you, I will share
it with you, and return again
Receive you to me then

So that where I am, there
You may be also, where
Where I am, and whither I go
And the way too you know

Thomas said, Lord, we know
Not where you go, us show
For how can we then know he way?
Reveal, we pray this day

These words Jesus replied
It cannot be denied
I am the way, the truth, and too
The life, I say to you

And no one comes unto
The Father, it is true
Except by Jesus, good Shepherd
May we His voice have heard

Enduring to the End

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Hosea 6 v.4

For St Philip & St James Day - May 1.

Is our love like a morning mist
Which lasts a while, yet not persist?
Love for our Lord, who His life gave
In His love, sinners for to save

Philip and James, apostles they
Followed Christ daily in His way
He Himself the way, the world's Light
Giving to us spiritual sight

Will we stay with Him, He our Friend
Who loved and cared until the end
Then died and rose again, loves still
Ever doing His Father's will

They who unto the end endure
Shall be saved, this be true for sure
Lord, inspire us afresh that we
Follow, e'en if small our spark be

Liking?

Now, lookie here!
The 'Like' Button was broken temporarily
We could not 'Like' anyone's poems
Not even our own!

That's cheating a bit, says Fido
But he also says - You can only 'Like' any poem once
It reverts back to the previous number of 'Likes'
If you try more than once
Give it a whirl and see!

So yes, let's all 'Like' our poems - and others!
Press that 'Like' button
Now it's mended -
On my PC anyway, it is!

What's not to like in life?
Only one thing - all ya gotta not like
Is an old KP trout! lol.

Helpful Hopings

Tune: Saffron Walden

('Just as I am')

Psalm 10 v.12-18

Arise, O Lord, lift up your hand
Forget not humble of each land
Wherefore do the wicked condemn
You God, they evil men

They think you do not see their deeds
But you, Lord, all their works do heed
Mischief and spite you do requite
Banishing sin's dark night

The poor commit themselves to you
Helper of orphans, you renew
Break now the doing of wicked
On them your judgement shed

The Lord is King for e'er and e'er
Heathen from His land perished, ne'er
To return, to despoil, or mar
God's victory shown far

Desire of humble you have heard
Unto them aid you have now stirred
Their heart you will establish sure
To you, holy and pure

You will cause you ear to them hear
Judge them righteously, and draw near
To help the orphaned and oppressed
So they in you be blessed

Creation Considerations

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 104 v.1-9

Bless the Lord, O my soul, Him bless

All that is within me confess

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Bless His holy name, O my soul

He has made all things entire, whole

His majesty, honour extol

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He covers Himself with the light

As a garment exceeding bright

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Stretches out heaven as curtain

And lays beams of His chambers then

In the waters, works shown to men

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He makes the clouds His chariots

In the skies celestial things set

Alleluia, Alleluia!

He walks upon the wind, its wings

Appoints the seasons, what each brings

All creation unto Him sings

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He makes His angels spirits fair

And His ministers flaming fire

Alleluia, Alleluia!

They who do serve Him, who had laid

Foundations of earth, here arrayed

So it not shaken e'er, but staid
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He covered the earth with the deep
When floods their limits did not keep
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Yet if was of His ordaining
Waters in Noah's time did bring
The Lord did show Himself as King
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

At His rebuke thy fled away
Leading to all gradual dry day
Alleluia, Alleluia!
He has set a boundary so
The waters do their limits know
Further than He says they not go
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Access to Asking

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

John 16 v.23-28

For Rogationtide - rogare: to ask.

Jesus said, when disciples shall
See Him again, they would know well
That it was Him risen from dead
This hope did hold them in good stead

And then truly, Whatsoever
They and we ask, denied never
What we shall ask the Father in
Jesus' name, He shall give therein

Until then they had asked nothing
In Jesus name, but now to bring
Requests, ask, and they shall receive
That their joy be full, they beleive

Jesus shall to the Father go
And send the Spirit, we can know
To continue His works of grace
Always His Sprit's presence trace

Prayer Petitions

Tune: St Hugh

('Lord, teach us how to pray aright')

Matthew 6 v.5-15 parts

Jessu said, When you pray, not be
As the hypocrites, see
Who love to pray that all folk view
Their piety anew

Such have their rewards as from men
No further reward then
But when you pray, to your room go
And close your door then so

And pray to your Father, he be
In that place secretly
And He who sees you praying there
Open reward shall share

But when you pray do not use vain
Repetitions, no gain
They bring, though some think they shall be
Heard for much speaking free

Be not you therefore like them, for
Your Father knows for sure
What things you need before you ask
Yet join here in prayer's task

After this manner, so do pray
As 'The Lord's Prayer', each day
His is the kingdom and the power
And the glory each hour

Possessing Peace

Tune: Old Hundredth

('All people that on earth do dwell')

Philippians 4 v.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord for always
Again I say, Rejoice all days
Let your moderation be known
Balanced life to all folk be shown

For the Lord is at hand, so be
Anxious for nothing, He will see
To your needs, so in everything
Your requests unto the Lord bring

In your supplications and prayers
With thanksgiving, needs with Him share
And the peace of God you shall find
And that His true mercies are kind

His peace passes understanding
It shall keep your hearts, minds, each thing
Through Christ Jesus our Lord, His Son
God will hear, answer you, each one

Prayer Persevering

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Mark 11 v.22-24

Jesus said, Have faith in God, for
I say to you true, sure
That who to this mount shall say
Be you removed this day

And be you cast into the sea
Thence ne'er to rise, so be
Whoso shall not doubt in their heart
From belief not depart

But if believing that those things
Which they say, no doubtings
But believing that what they say
Shall come to pass some way

Such ones shall have whate'er they say
So Jesus says today
What things soever you desire
When you to prayer aspire

Believe that you those things receive
Hold on, and still believe
And you shall have them, God's good time
Be seen in life's fine rhyme

Ascension Acclamations

Tune: Llanfair

('Hail the day that sees Him rise')

Acts 1 v.8-11

You shall receive power when - Alleluia!

The Holy Ghost is come then - Alleluia!

Upon you, and you shall be - Alleluia!

Christ's witnesses, so said He - Alleluia!

Even unto ends of earth - Alleluia!

Telling the gospel's true worth - Alleluia!

They there with Him did behold - Alleluia!

He ascended, it was told - Alleluia!

Cloud received Him out of sight - Alleluia!

Then two men in clothing white - Alleluia!

Asked them there, Why do you stand - Alleluia!

Gazing to heaven on land? - Alleluia!

The same Jesus, ascending - Alleluia!

Shall be the one descending - Alleluia!

In like manner shall return - Alleluia!

And all shall Him then discern - Alleluia!

Though defying gravity - Alleluia!

Yet He resurrected be - Alleluia!

Returns to His Father's throne - Alleluia!

Until second coming shown - Alleluia!

Birdman!

Now here's an adventure
A break from a song.....

Fido and I decided to be The Birdman and Bird-Dog
But Fido didn't want to chance it
He said to me 'You go first
And I'll think about my turn'

So I strapped on my wings
Not for the first time
The wings snapped again
'Aiiieeeee! D'ya hear me
Jumping off this cllliiffff?'

Fido replied 'Good acting from you there, innit?'
But I was not hurt
I had tried some of KP's stuff
And landed on my botox botty
Which cushioned the fall

Fido said' It wouldn't have made any difference
If you had landed on your head
There's nothing in it
Only 3 brain cells!
He knows these things....
Heehee

Favourable Faith

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Faith, trusting, believing
And to God praises sing
Not solely from head nor from heart
But balanced in each part

It not be visible
Not as material
But faith in the gospel, we saved
For Christ the way has paved

Not trusting to our own
Christ saves, and He alone
The Way, Truth, Life, He does atone
And makes God to us known

Faith as a gift He gives
Who believes ever lives
We bring all to you Lord, your way
Sure leads to lasting day

Believers Blessings

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Psalm 103 v.1-6

Bless the Lord, O my soul

And His name extol

All that is within me

To Him glory be

Bless the Lord, O my soul

he shall make you whole

And not forget any

[Of] His benefits, see

He forgives all your sins

Cleanses yo uwthin

heals all your diseases

Works as he pleases

Redeems your life, saves you

He is good and true

Crowns you now with His love

[And] Mercies of His dove* (*the Spirit)

Satisfies you with good

Things, and so we would

Give Him praise and thanks here

Worship, godly fear

Renews your faith, refreshed

You shall be, and blesse

Ris up on eagle's wings

Your soul to Him sings

He carries out justice

He does not us miss

Works for poor and needy
He righteous, we see
Acts for the poor, oppressed
His name they confessed
Comes to their aid, strong, sure
They helped evermore

Thirsting And Trusting

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 63 v.1-5

O God, you my God are
You be near, and not far
Early will I seek you, my soul
Thirsts for you, make me whole

My flesh longs for you here
O do to me appear
I long as in dry thirsty land
To see your guiding hand

A land, no water left
Yet I not be bereft
But I long to see your power
And glory every hour

For I have them so seen
In sanctuary have been
And too your loving-kindness be
Better than life to me

So shall my lips praise you
I will bless you anew
Will bless you while I live, and raise
My hands to your name praise

My soul it shall be sure
Satisfied with your store
Abundantly you will provide
Praise to you I not hide

Collective Communing

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Parts of Psalms 13 - 17

13 v.5

I have trusted in your mercy
O come to me, and my help be
My heart it shall rejoice in you
In your salvation good and true

13 v.6

I will sing now unto the Lord
Will praise Him, and will trust His word
Because He has with me dealt so
Bountifully, my heart does know

14 v.7

O that Israel's salvation
Were come from Zion, each nation
It would reach, the Lord He would bring
His people back they to Him sing

15 v.1

Who shall abide in this your tent?
Your tabernacle, come, repent
Turn to the Lord and so live right
Enabled by grace in His sight

16 v.6

The lines have fallen unto me
In pleasant places, here now see
And I too have a heritage
Goodly, as turns o'er each day's page

16 v.11

The path of life you will me show
Love, joy, contentment, I shall know
Fullness of joy in your presence
Pleasure at your right hand from hence

17 v.5

Hold up my goings in your ways
As each soul humble watches, prays
So shall my footsteps they not slip
I worship you in deed and lip

Praise Prelude

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 117

O praise the Lord, all you
Nations, come praise Him true
All you people, Jews and Gentiles
Manifold worship styles

For His loving-kindness
His mercy we confess
'Tis great toward us, we do say
He shall show us His way

And the truth of the Lord
Endures, His living word
For ever it be, ne'er does cease
Praise Him, the Lord of peace

This here a call to praise
Joyful songs, anthems raise
He Lord of all, Almighty be
Blessings has for you, see

Redemption Rejoicing

Tune: St Magnus

('The head that once was crowned with thorns')

Isaiah 44 v.22-24

The Lord has blotted out as cloud
Your sins, they now enshroud
You no longer, and this be true
The Lord has redeemed you

Return to Him, and make your praise
Let all their anthems raise
Sing heavens and earth, the Lord has done
His work, the saving One

You mountains, forests, every tree
Unto Him glory be
For the Lord His people redeems
Nature with His life teems

For it does share the joy of man
Man's blessings shares, it can
Let all be glad, each living thing
To the Lord worship bring

Christ Our Peace

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Ephesians 2 v.11-22 parts

Christ is our peace, He reconciled
Us to Him by His mercy mild
Jew and Gentile, they both may meet
As one around His mercy-seat* (*throne)

For He on the cross did the wall
Broke down that separated all
Taht caused partition, division
The restoring work He has done

We were at one time far away
And could not see salvation's day
But now made nigh by Christ's blood shed
Upon the cross, our living Head

For He took on Himself those things
That enmity, prejudice brings
They now abolished, for all found
By His grace true on common ground

Lord, help us build in unity
And expressing diversity
For you build us, your house, no less
Which you inhabit and do bless

Lowly Lines

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 131

Lord, search my heart today
And lead me in your way
May my heart not be haughty, proud
But with your grace endowed

May my eyes not lofty
Nor I conceited be
Nor taken up with things too high
But with meek things here nigh

For some things sure they be
Too difficult for me
Or too profound to comprehend
For my ears to them lend

For what I am 'fore* you (*before)
That I am, it is true
No false pretence nor vanity
Can make a greater me

I have behaved quited
Myself, am contented
As a child of its mother weaned
Knowledge of you have gleaned

Hope in the Lord, people
Call on Him, one and all
Comforted, knowing He us knows
His wisdom He gives, shows

So may we grow in grace
Until we see Christ's face
Then all shall be known perfectly
With Him we ever be

Pentecost Promise

Tune: Down Ampney

('Come down, O love divine')

Come, Holy Spirit, come
And make our hearts your home
Be pleased to take up here your residency
Prophecies made of old
Now fulfilled, it be told
Living in your people now permanently

You are the One in Three
And Three in One, so be
Father, Son, and Spirit, e'er unitedly
And Jesus' promise made
Not that we be afraid
But trust to the Spirit's presence faithfully

Spirit of truth He be
Guiding in all truth, see
Empowering us to continue those things
Which Christ in ministry
Did say and do, so be
And e'en greater things by Him us enabling

So evangelising
And too the gospel bring
To all nations, that they may have salvation
Being born from above
The Spirit of His love
Grants blessings to peoples of every station

Comforting Certainty

Tune: All for Jesus

('Holy Spirit, come, confirm us')

John 14 v.26-27

Jesus said, The Comforter, He
The Spirit, our Helper be
Our Advocate, the Paraclete*
Shall come to us, shall us greet

The Father sends Him in the name
Of Jesus, from heaven He came
He shall teach us all things, guiding
Us with wisdom in each thing

And shall bring to our remembrance
Whatsoever, give us sense
What things Jesus has to us said
In His way we shall be led

And Jesus His peace with us leaves
Each may of that peace receive
Not as the world gives, does he give
But lasting peace, so we live

Let not heart be troubled, afraid
Jesus, He for us has prayed
That the Spirit us empower
For to serve Him every hour

** Paraclete - one called alongside to help.*

Just Judgement

Tune: St Agnes

('Jesus, the very thought of thee')

Psalm 52 parts

Why boast yourself in mischief, you
Who betray me? you do
The goodness of God does endure
Continues evermore

Your tongue plans mischiefs, evil deeds
Planting poisonous seeds
It is as a sharp razor, see
Working deceitfully

God shall destroy you for ever
Your words He shall sever
Shall pluck you up and root you out
He righteous judge no doubt

The righteous ones shall see and fear
Shall laugh at him and jeer
Shall say, Look here now the man be
Who trusts his own way free

Makes not God his strength, but trusts in
All his riches within
And strengthens self in wickedness
God shall not favour, bless

But I am like green olive tree
In the house of God, me
I trust in His mercy for e'er
And in His comforts share

I will praise you, O God for e'er
In my state do you share
Will call on your name, good it is
With your saints share such bliss

Prosperous Presence

Tune: Coe Fen

('How shall I sing that majesty?')

Lord, may my heart your dwelling place
Be, come to every race
Give repentance, spiritual light
Darkness clear from our sight
And open ears to hear you true
And thus to follow you
Sensing, sensitive may we be
Your guiding footsteps see

Here by your grace, your salvation
Shown to every nation
You who know the hearts of all men
All children all women
Remind, refresh us, forgiveness
You bring us, us do bless
Sharing with us your love, mercies
Working as how you please

Peace, peace, my heart, and quiet mind
Rest in Christ you shall find
In faith help us to trust in you
And come to you anew
Lead us your way, your paths be plain
That we shall see again
Clearly, and so to you praise give
In you we move and live

Praise - study word Barak

Tune: Richmond

('Fill thou my life, O Lord, my God')

Various verses where 'Barak' occurs.

'Barak', to kneel down, to God bless
And His good name confess
As an act of adoration
Tribute from each nation

Psalm 96 v.2

Sing to the Lord and His name bless
And His great works confess
Show forth His salvation each day
The good news share and say

Psalm 103 v.1-2

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all
Within me on Him call
And bless His holy name, forget
Not His benefits set

Psalm 18 v.46

The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock
It shall withstand each shock
Of life's troubles, and let God be
Exalted, He saves me

Psalm 95 v.6

O come let us worship, bow down
Yet not 'neath angry frown
For he the Lord our maker is
Let us kneel, confess this

Psalm 34 v.1

I will bless the Lord at all times

Through life's seasons and rhymes

His praise shall continually

Be in my mouth, whole, free

Commission Call

Tune: St Bees

('Hark, my soul, it is the Lord')

Jeremiah 1 v.1-4

Word of the Lord came to, see
Jeremiah, prophet he
Said, before I did you make
Set you apart for my sake

Even before you were born
I knew you before that morn
When you were born on this earth
To share of my message-wroth

Jeremiah, he replied
I a child, it not denied
O Lord God, I cannot speak
E'en if my state humble, meek

The Lord said, Say not tath you
Are a child, for I shall too
Empower you for to go
Speak my words, so people know

Fear not, for my words I give
Unto you, and you shall live
I shall save you and shall keep
You within my fold, my sheep

I have set you o'er nations
Men and women, all stations
To root out, pull down, destroy
Rescue you from evil ploys

And to throw down, and to build
Speaking of all I have willed
And to plant, good things shall grow
My prospering blessings flow

Trusting Testimony

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Various Psalm verses

Psalm 52 v.8

I am like green olive

Tree in Lord's house, I live

I trust in His mercy for e'er

In His goodness I share

Psalm 53 v.6

O that the salvation

Were come from the nation

Of Israel, Zion, city be

There God restores them, see

Psalm 54 v.1

Save me God, by your name

It be always the same

Judge me by your strength, and forgive

By your mercies I live

Psalm 55 v.22

Cast your burden upon

The Lord who is the one

Who shall sustain you, never let

You fall, nor your forget

A load of rubbish!

Argh! A blip again
Do you get them
Just as you've typed up a poem
Short or long?

It'll have to be a tale again
Probably No. 4874783462
Of Orchi, KP, and Fido
That eccentric family

You know - where KP always asks Orchi
For botox money
And Fido continues to check
For any poem not marked 18+
Where they should be so marked!

Or is a 'blip' my excuse
For doing a poem on Trinity Sunday?!
Though we can't fully humanly understand it
How one can be 'One in Three' and 'Three in One'

There's three of us
Me, KP, and Fido
Sometimes it seems like there's only one of us
KP with her motto -
'Me, me, me - first, last, and always!'
lol

Creaturely Celebration

Tune: St Clement

('The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended')

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all lands
He has made all things by His hands
Serve the Lord with gladness, come before
His presence with singing, praise sure

Know you that the Lord He is God who
Has made us, and us does renew
We have not made ourselves, but we are
His people, sheep, from near and far

Enter in His gates with thanksgiving
And in His courts your praises bring
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name
It be worthy, of endless fame

For the Lord is good, and His mercy
Is everlasting, so shall be
And His truth endures through all ages
All generations, all stages

What's Up?!

Now lookie here, what's going on?!
A blip here and a blip there
I've not got hours on end to fix things
If I could, that is!
Sometimes don't know what buttons to press
To fix things

It's KP's fault
I'll blame her anyway, even if it isn't. lol
Well, she had a hissy fit
I didn't give her enough money for her botox
Now she looks like half a trout!

What made you marry her, asks Fido?
Well, one day she gave me a gin or ten
And hid the water from me
And I said 'Yes, I do' to marriage
Being a bit tipsy

How to get out of it?
She's put a ball and chain on my leg
And thrown away the key!
This all may be true
So I won't mark it 'Fiction'. lol.

Communion Considerations

Tune: Consolation

*('Not worthy, Lord, to gather up the crumbs';
also fits to tune of 'Abide with me')*

You Lord call us to your Communion feast
Invite is to the greatest and the least
Your Supper you did institute, begin
That the lost souls of mankind you might win

It may appear as bread a small morsel
And as wine given, a small sip for all
But it a rich feast spiritual to share
By your grace we may approach it, well are

It a memorial of your love shown
For greater love the world has never known
Than one to lay down His life for us all
And restore us to state whence we did fall

Help us Lord, share gospel of salvation
You now the risen Lord o'er each nation
Jews and Gentiles, so all humanity
Saviour of the world, even unto me

Virtuous Visitation

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Luke 1 v.41-45

Mary arose, went into hill country
With haste, unto Judea, for to see
Her cousin Elisabeth, and her greet
And Zacharias, husband, too did meet

And when Elisabeth heard the greeting
Of Mary, it did great excitement bring
Her unborn babe in womb did joyful leap
John Baptist was he, shared in feelings deep

Elisabeth filled with the Spirit spake
With loud voice, proclamation she did make
Saying, Blessed are you among women, see
And blessed fruit of your womb shall ever be

And why is this to me, that the mother
Of my Lord should come to me? It be sure
That as soon as your greeting reached my ears
The babe leaped in my womb, thus joy appears

And blessed are you, Mary, who have believed
The promise from the Lord you have received
For there shall be a fulfilment, 'tis true
The Christ-child, Jesus, shall be born of you

Cooeee!

Alternative title for this poem:

'Load of Rubbish No. 483974652'

Or summat like that!

Cooooee! Bit of an eccentric greeting

Meaning 'hello' of sorts!

Cooooee! Poets, come join me

I'm sitting in this room - or on this site

All alone at present - boo hoo!

Well, not completely

Fido's here with me

Though KP's gone out

Probably to another photo-shoot

Or something dafter to improve her own ego

Remember her motto is

'Me, me, me - now and always!' (lol)

Fido won't hurt ya

Don't be afraid to post 'hot 'poems

If ya 'forget' the 18+ button

He won't bite ya

He will bark ferociously at ya though

His bark is worse than his bite!

I'm getting meals ready today

KP can have the dog's bone

And Fido can have her roast dinner

I can't afford proper dinners for KP AND me

I've had to give her much money for botox

Doh! (heehee).

PS. Now the spell-check suggested 'buxom' for 'botox'

Swoon! lol.

Christ Pre-eminent in Creation

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

Colossians 1 v.15-18

Christ, pre-eminent, Lord be
And is the image, see
Of the invisible God
This earthly path He trod
He the first in rank over
Every creature He, sure
For by Him were all things made
Created, formed, outlaid

All that are in heaven, too
All that on earth we view
Visible and invisible
Earthly, celestial
Whether they thrones, dominions
Rulers, powers, each ones
All created by and through Him
Not by luck, fate or whim

And He is before all things
Let praises joyful ring
And by Him all things consist
A thing He has not missed
He the head of the body
The church, the truth this be
He the beginning, first raised
From dead, his power displayed

Jesus' Reward

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Matthew 16 v.24-26

Jesus did say, If anyone
Will follow me, bar none
Let them deny themselves, and take
Up their cross for my sake

For whosoe'er will their live save
Shall lose it, this be grave
And whosoe'er will their life lose
Shall be for them good news

For if they lose life for my sake
They shall find it, and make
True progress in life, for it be
State as I now show, see
[i.e. as in the next verse]

For what is any profited
If [they] gain whole world, misled
And lose their own soul? What can they
Give for soul's exchange? say

The Year's Adieu In Song

*Based on a poem of the same title
with permission from Alan S. Jeeves.*

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus, I have promised')

Just as the year is ending
As winter snows the leaves
The autumn glow pretending
The winter chill deceives
As squirrels start defending
Their caches underground
December's shivers pending
And swallows southward bound

The cool of day is blending
It frosts the forest floor
Into the sunset tending
It sooner than before
The boughs of treetops bending
As gale race through their form
They spiralling and wending
Propelled by winter's storm

And so the nightfall sending
As shadows shade the sky
The cool of night and rending
The fair of day awry
With winter's shroud descending
To cause the season's drear
Just as the year is ending
The closing of the year

Sealed By The Spirit

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Ephesians 1 v.13-14

Trusting in Christ after you heard
The gospel, the true word
Of your salvation, then too you
Received the Spirit new

In Christ after you so beleived
The Spirit you received
And were sealed by Him, for he is
The Spirit of promise

He the deposit, down payment
From God to us is sent
First part of our inheritance
Taste of what follows hence

Given until full redemption
Of each God's daughters, sons
We His purchased possession be
To praise of His glory

Security and Safety

Tune: St James (Courteville)

('Thou art the way, by thee alone')

Parts of Psalms 30 to 33

30 v.11

You, Lord, have worked, have turned for me

My mourning to dance free

You have put off my sackcloth* too (*worn in mourning times)

And girded me anew

30 v.11-12

Girded me with gladness, that I

Praise you, to you ally

I shall sing and not be silent

To me you be attent[ive]

31 v.20

You shall hide us in secret place

From enemies we trace

Kept from pride of man, what they say

You our shelter today

31 v.7

You are my hiding place, you shall

Protect me, I fare well

My sings to you they be of praise

You save me, me up raise

33 v.8-9

Let all the earth fear, stand in awe

Of the Lord evermore

For He spake, it was created

All by Him established

Matter of Mercy

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Psalm 123

Unto you lift I up my eyes
O Lord, come to us, hear our cries
You that do dwell in heavens above
Come help us with your comfort, love

Behold, as the eyes of servants
Look to hand of their masters hence
As eyes of maids look to mistress
For help when they are in distress

So our eyes look unto the Lord
We wait upon Him, hear His word
Wait until He have mercy on
Us, the Lord, the merciful one

Have mercy on us, Lord, we do
In our troubles call unto you
For we are filled exceedingly
With contempt of our scorers, see

They be as ease, and us revile
Contempt against us they compile
They be proud, boast in their own ways
But soon shall come their downfall days

Ready For His Return

Tune: Cross of Jesus

('Come, thou long expected Jesus')

1 Thessalonians 5 v.1-11

Know perfectly day of the Lord
Comes as thief in night, His word
Does say, so be ready, waiting
Not deceived in anything

For when they shall say, Peace, safety
Sudden destruction shall be
As a woman in childbirth pains
No escape. such are the deigns

But believers not in darkness
That this day should them distress
Not caught out, nor as unready
On their guard, vigilant be

They be all children of the light
Having spiritual sight
Children of the day, not of night
Their path be shining, clear, bright

So not sleeping as in the night
But living sober, aright
Self-controlled, faith and love's breastplate
Putting them on, and not late

And wear helmet of salvation
God has appointed no one
To wrath, but to surely obtain
Hope of salvation, their gain

It be through our Lord Jesus Christ
He died and rose, does suffice
As our Saviour, we with Him live
Comfort to us He does give

Tears And Joy

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

Psalm 126

When the Lord our captivity
Did turn, then we were free
Were like those who did dream, for yet
He did us not forget

Then did we laugh and sing and prise
To Him our worship raise
Even the heathen they did see
The Lord's good works, so be

They too with us did say, The Lord
Kept His promise, His word
And for us He has done great things
We are glad, our tongue sings

Turn again our captivity
So as streams we shall be
That flow, and they that in tears sow
Shall joy in reaping know

Seeking Sparks

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Lord you did choose to me befriend
To help and me defend
Though I did not care, to you turn
'Til of grace I did learn

That spark, that seed, you planted in
My heart, sought it to win
In your love, called me to yourself
I partake of your wealth

You died for me, did take my place
And for the human race
Did bear our sins, then rose again
No end of glories then

Though for a good man one may dare
To die, that way to fare
Yet I here all unworthily
Trust you to save fully

Your plan, your purpose, here reveal
Help us persevere still
Through all of life, varied events
Seek you with good intents

You found me, who was sheep astray
Brought me from night to day
Fan the flame of love in my heart
To serve you all, each part

Prayer Prosperings

Tune: Song 1

('Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round')

Parts of Psalms 140 to 145

140 v.12-13

I know the Lord, He will maintain the cause
Of the afflicted, help them, shall not pause
To come to their aid, and too help the poor
Uphold their right, humble of every shore
Surely the righteous shall give to your name
Thanks and praise, abiding in you the same

141 v.8-10

For you remain the same, Lord, and my eyes
O God the Lord are to you, and I rise
in spirit, and my trust it is in you
Leave my soul not destitute, it renew
Keep me from the wicked's traps, gins and snare
I seek not their ways nor their ill affairs

142 v.5-6

I cried unto you, Lord, and I did say
You are my refuge and portion each day
In the land of the living here I dwell
Attend to my cry, that I your help tell
For I am brought very low, downcast here
Save me from enemies, your power appear

143 v.6-7

I stretch forth my hands unto you O Lord
My soul thirsts for you and your every word
I be as a thirsty land needing rain
O come to me with fresh showers again

Hear me, help quickly, for my spirit fails
But I shall be upheld, your grace prevails

144 v.9-10

I will unto you sing a new song true
Voices and instruments employ for you
For its you who gives us salvation
You deliver us, great works you have done
Protecting us from harm of enemy
Your strength and victory we share and see

145 v.13

Your kingdom it be of everlasting
Endless praises and worship shall we bring
To you, the King of Kings, and Lord of all
Open to hear prayers of those who do call
Upon you, and too your dominion sure
Endure through all generations e'ermore

Beneficent Barnabas

Tune: Morning Hymn

('Awake my soul, and with the sun')

Acts 11 v.22-24

For St Barnabas Day - June 11.

Barnabas, a good man and full
Of the Holy Spirit, heard call
Of God, and too he full of faith
Words of encouragement he saith

To church at Antioch, he saw
The grace of God, they were not poor
He was glad, encouraged them all
To progress on, so they not fall

So that they have purpose of heart
And from their Lord not to depart
But cleave to Him, continue on
And more souls to salvation won

Lord, light our heart and minds we pray
To console, encourage each day
To be known as good, godly live
And freely of your gospel give

That as Barnabas' life inspired
Others, unto holiness fired
Sharing of love, grace, all good things
Sweet fruit for God's glory each brings

Blip again

Oh no! A blip again
I don't how far I will get with this one

In a hymn it says
'Oft in danger, oft in woe
Onward Christians, onward go'

Keep going on, going through
Whatever your situation - or others may be
That you are concerned about

Some - even many - trust to a God, a belief
Whether as a Rock (as in the video)
Or to call on in 'emergencies'
Or anything in-between

I'm not too keen on modern songs
Though many have real spiritual truths in them
Pointing us to God - or 'god' - or some 'being'
Above being only human

There's prayers and supplications
'Supplications' being short, at-the-moment prayers
Giving ourselves or others
Some 'supply' - God's grace, strength, etc.
We need not struggle on only in our own strength.....

Places of Peace

Tune: Dove of Peace

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Parts of Psalms 55 to 58

55 v.22

Upon the Lord cast your burden
You he shall sustain then
He shall the righteous never
Suffer to be moved e'er

55 v.6

Though times I wished for wings of dove
To take off, fly above
Troubles and trials escape, be blest
Then I would be at rest

57 v.1

I cry to the Lord God, mercy
Show me, hear now my plea
For my soul it does trust in you
Under your wings safe too

57 v.1

While these troubles last here i stay
You my refuge each day
And night, until calamities
Be gone, o'erpast I see

58 v.7

My heart, O God, is on you fixed
My faith, with none else mixed
I will sing and give praise to you
With peace you me endue

Progression Pleadings

Tune: Dundee

('God moves in a mysterious way')

Where fretful I may lose your peace
Though your mercies ne'er cease
Your Spirit's residence within
Guard me, keep me from sin

O to progress, not e'er stand still
Nor worse, retreat downhill
But with your power, persistence
Go in in penitence

Though need not repeat of the same
Sins, me from guilt and shame
You do release and do forgive
By your grace I shall live

'Tis true for each one, every man
You He alone who can
Forgive, restore, and make us whole
Your kingdom be our goal

Not fancy fad or world's vain show
We here seek you to know
Give wisdom in each daily task
Fulfil prayers that we ask

Come search my heart, you know me true
Strengthen me, me renew
Kindle flame, that I evangel
To others your love tell

Persevering Possibilities

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Help us, O Lord, to persevere
Trusting that you are near
Through toil and calm, hope and dismay
May we still watch and pray

Along the way guard us that we
Not dull, complacent be
But seeking to grow in you still
And know all your good will

For you, Christ, the path you have trod
Before us, Son of God
Experiencing life in full
Obeyed your Father's call

To bring salvation unto men
Your way not easy then
But you our yoke do make easy
Light our burdens shall be

The weight of sin you bore it al
In you we shall not fall
We forgiven, relieved can be
Your presence pleasantry

Mild propitiation, you gave
Your life us for to save
Thene rose again that we may share
That life, and so die ne'er

For death shall be our sleeping mode
Until in your abode
We shall awake, eternal morn
In heaven on us shall dawn

We pray for those who not see light
Have dim spiritual sight
O shine upon them, you the Way
To resurrection day

Help Hymnings

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Parts of Psalms 60 to 63

60 v.11-12

Give us help from trouble, Lord, for vain
Is the help of man, there no gain
'Tis through God we shall do valiantly
For He shall tread down enemy

61 v.4

I will trust in your tabernacle
For ever, and will to you call
I will trust in cover of your wings
Safe thee, my soul to you it sings

62 v.2

The Lord alone my salvation be
And my rock firm, steadfast is He
My defence, I shall not be greatly
Moved, for He comes to help me, see

62 v.8

Trust in Him at all times. you people
Pour out your heart before Him all
For He a refuge for us still is
We confident and sure in this

63 v.1

O God, you are my God, I will seek
You early, you to humble, meek
Will show yourself, my soul thirsts for you
Come to me, refresh me anew

63 v.1-2

And dry I be, as if in parched land
Provide me water by your hand
I long your power, glory to see
As I have seen in sanctuary

63 v.7

Because you, Lord, here my help have been
I have your graces, mercies seen
Therefore in your wings shadow I rest
In you find joy, am truly blest

Following Faithfully

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Parts of Psalms 23 to 25

23 v.1

The Lord my Shepherd is
He is mine, I am His
I shall not want, lack anything
His grace He does me bring

23 v.6

Surely goodness, mercy
Shall always follow me
And in God's house for evermore
I shall dwell, I be sure

24 v.1

The earth, the Lord's it is
And His the fullness, this
We know, and too is all the world
By Him made, all unfurled

25 v.4-5

O Lord, show me your ways
And your paths all the days
Lead me in your truth, and teach me
God, you my Saviour be

25 v.14

The Lord's secret it be
With those who fear Him, see
He will His covenant them show
In Him they daily grow

Drying Up?

Nope, don't mean drying up the dishes!
But when ya have a dry patch in poetry

I been posting some older poems
Though not repeats
Though ya could sing a hymn over again
Sing it 20 times if ya wish!

Sometimes - just pick up the pen and paper
Or pencil and paper, as I do
Though I don't make that many alterations

Could I make it a bit easier to rhyme
If I used ye olde language
Lines of - ye and thee and we and see
And thou, and how now brown cow!

Nothing too swoony now, says Fido
No tales of 'concupiscence' - that's too hot
So Fido says! heehee
He only says it to save me - and maybe you too
From swooning!

Or do you go straight to the computer
And type up poems from there
Ad libbing as ya go?

And now a series of poems from me - all blank pages
'1,001 joys of life with KP!'

Secure Steps

Tune: Leibster Jesu

('Dearest Jesu, we are here')

Parts of Psalms 10 to 13

10 v.12-14

Arise, Lord, lift up your hand
Forget not humble of each land
Wherefore do wicked they say
You will not bother, will delay
Yet you see all mischief and spite
With your hand you do it requite

11 v.7

For the righteous Lord He be
And He loves righteousness, here see
His countenance does behold
The upright, the sheep in His fold
His face turns to on them bright shine
Such do their lives to Him align

12 v.6

Teh words of the Lord are pure
Trusting in them we can be sure
They are as silver, 'tis tried
In furnace, and He does preside
Over His words, purified they
Be seven times, e'en perfectly

13 v.5-6

I your mercy have trusted
In your good way you have me led
My heart in you shall rejoice
I shall sing to you with my voice

Because you have bountifully
Dealt with me, I delivered be

Jingle Bells!

And now, another digression
And a mini-quiz for ya!
Just to say - I dunno what day it is sometimes
Or what month, year, or century!

Now I can't say a certain word
Though you'll guess it from me poem's title
If I say the word except in December
Goldfinch will shoot me!
It's the Ch..... word!

Ohhh, we're nearly halfway there again
Just over six months to go
But let's not wish the year away
Nor be all doom and gloom
By saying -
In the Northern Hemisphere, it's all downhill now
The nights start drawing in again
After the Longest Day!

Though sometimes the days seem longer
In July or August even
Depends if it's rainy in the evenings
With dark clouds I suppose

You got that turkey in yet?
Put it in the deep freeze ready
You got that Ch..... tree in yet?
You seen that fat guy in a red suit
Welly boots and white beard yet?

Why do I hate Ch..... Day morning?
Cos Santa always comes down the chimney

And me lounge is full of soot!
Though Fido barks at him
And he brings Fido bones
And brings KP botox presents

I have to spend all morning
Cleaning it up
By the time I've done that
We don't have Ch..... dinner until about 9pm!
Heehee

Life for Living

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

Lord, come inspire our live today
Some words to say, some words to pray
Some songs to sing to worship you
The only God and only true

Bringing salvation to each one
Who believes in you through your Son
Jesus, and too the Spirit, He
Takes up in us residency

So praises old and praises new
Are always worthy unto you
Help us to do your will, not ours
And send blessings of your showers

Thus on we go, if sometimes dry
Yet knowing you are e'er us nigh
Our Rock and stay through endless days
Attune our hearts unto your ways

Onwards with Omnipresence

Tune: Ruth

('Summer suns are glowing')

Lord, lift heart when downcast
Or my joys seem past
Turn me to your light sure
It shines evermore
Where pains varied linger
May our spirits stir
To trust you anew through
All, not lose our view

Our view of you as Lord
With your living word
This our faith in you is
Nought else gives true bliss
Yet not all calm, cosy
Troubles may there be
But with peace abiding
In hearts as we sing

Growing in you daily
To your image, see
Through your Spirit working
Help we need does bring
Not a fantasy flight
You are our delight
You our Saviour risen
Not escapism

So whate'er our season
Highs, lows, in each one
May we trust, hold to you

you send grace anew
Where our light burns dimly
Spirit come to be
Comforter, Strengtheners
Love on us confer

Beams of your light shining
Out of dark us bring
Help us choose your good way
Going on each day
Labouring through thick, thin
Your Spirit within
Hearts open unto you
With your power endure

Passover Psalmings

Tune: Deus Tuorum Militum

('Awake, awake, fling off the night')

Parts of Psalms 113 to 118 - Psalms sung at Jewish festival of Passover

113 v.3

From the rising of the sun to
Its going down each day, 'tis true
That the Lord's name is to be praised
And unto Him fresh anthems raised

114 v.8

Tremble you, earth, at God's presence
Presence of God of Israel sense
Who turned rock into water pool
The flint to fount of waters full

115 v.1

Not to us, O Lord, but to you
To your name be the glory true
Praising you for your mercy sure
And for your truth's sake evermore

115 v.16

The heavens, e'en the highest realms
Are the Lord's, He is at the helms
But the earth He has to us given
Let us partake, care-take it then

116 v.7

Return to your rest, O my soul
The Lord has helped you, will whole
He has with you dealt bountifully
His good plans and ways you do see

118 v.24

This is the day the Lord has made
Let us Him trust, be unafraid
We will rejoice in it, be glad
Remain not always mournful, sad

117 v.1-2

Praise Him all nations, all people
Look unto Him and on Him call
His merciful kindness is great
To us, truth ever is His state

Repentance Reality

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Luke 3 v.10-15

For St John Baptist's Day: June 24.

At Jordan John Baptist did preach
He did unto each soul there reach
Preached repentance for forgiveness
Of sins which Christ grants unto us

The people asked, What shall we do?
And John replied, I say to you
Who has two coats, let them then give
To they who have none, so do live

And if having food it do share
With the hungry, show loving care
Tax collectors said, What shall we
Do? We here appeal unto you

John said, Collect no more than be
Right and correct, so not greedy
To extort, but live fair and clear
Knowing that God's kingdom is near

Soldiers said, And what shall we do?
John said, Do no violence, not you
Neither accuse any falsely
And content with your wages be

John said, I am not the Christ, see
But He will appear here shortly
Repent and be baptised, prepare

So in His true life you shall share

Aggh! the heat!

Oh no, not temperatures warming up, says KP
It ruins me botox
Makes it all melt, ya know!

It changes her appearance
From an old trout to - Oh I dunno what
But it's a ghastly sight to see her
At any season!

Now, are ya hoping it won't be the proverbial
'Summer in the UK was (is) two days in June*?
(*or insert another summer month here)

We were beginning to say, maybe:
'What's that big yellow thing in the sky?'
Sometimes making front page news

But some days there can't be much news
We had Uri Geller saying something about aliens and Stonehenge
As potty as David Icke and such like
It's most embarrassing
Uri only lives about 3 miles from us
I got no spoons left - he bent them all
When I saw him on a road trip!
(Didn't really see him - too boring)

I give Fido plenty of bowls of water
And he keeps cool, wearing his shades
While checking poet's poems
The 18+ thing, ya know!

God's Power in Judgement

Tune: Belmont

(slower tune to 'There is a fountain filled with blood')

Nahum 1 v.3-8 (Old Testament)

The Lord is slow to anger, see
And great in power be
Will not the wicked acquit, those
Who evil ways have chose

The Lord has His way in whirlwind
In storm does not rescind
His power, and the clouds they be
The dust of His feet, see

He rebukes the sea, makes it dry
Dries rivers by and by
The land languishes if no rain
Parches the earth again

At sight of the Lord the mounts quake
Hills melt at His name's sake
The earth is burned at His presence
Till He favours it thence

Who can before His anger stand
When it stirs o'er the land?
Who can endure it, fierce, fury
Like fire, rock-falls it be

The Lord is good, He a strong hold
In day of trouble, fold
Of His people shall be secure
he helps them evermore

He knows them that do in Him trust
Though they mere human, dust
But with a flood overflowing
He judgement sure will bring

To enemies, and he shall make
And act for His name's sake
And utter end of their place, true
Darkness shall them pursue

Always With Me

Yep, it's about KP and I
Unfortunately she's always with me

I'll never leave you, dear, she says
'Just keep giving me money for botox'
'I'll hang around like a good apple'
Methinks, hang around like a bad apple, or smell, or penny, more like
And 'I know you don't see me much in person, honey
But you can always see me
In the papers; on the telly; in magazines
Almost anywhere, in fact'

You know my motto:
'Me, me, me, now and always!'

She drives Fido mad too
He thinks there's a trout in the house
Well, there is - an old one! lol

Note to self: What is this?
This slagging off KP daily?
Fido replies - 'It's a pity you married her
Though 'twas that day
She hid the water from your whisky
You got tipsy and said, Yes'

I thought she said
'Do you want a ride
In a horse and carriage, dear?'
But she said 'marriage'

There's no escape
She's tied a ball and chain to my leg

And thrown away the key!

I've chosen a dark picture

There's KP and I

On the dark road to nowhere!

And the video shows one of our wedding hymns

(Note the first line!)

This is all true, ya know! heehee

Faith confronts the wayward

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

James 5 v.19-20

Brothers, sisters, if any do
Bring back to the faith true
Know that a wanderer you save
For whom Christ His life gave

They who convert, who do turn back
One who sins, they no lack
Have, but a blessing they sure are
They reach out near and far

For they from death that soul they shall
Save, and it shall be well
Multitude of sins not revealed
But erring one be healed

Faith Foundation

Tune: Halton Holgate

('Firmly I believe and truly')

Matthew 16 v.13-18 parts

For St Peter's Day - June 29.

Lord, give us as Peter, firm faith
He believed in you, he saith
You are the Christ, you be the Son
Of the living God, the one

You Jesus did say, Blessed you be
Peter, for revealed this, see
To you not by human means for
My Father showed you it sure

For He, God my Father revealed
This to you, it not concealed
And upon you, Peter, I will
Build my church to prevail still

For you be a rock, foundation
Salvation for each nation
Is found in who does true believe
In me, new life shall receive

Teacher, Soldier, Athlete

Tune: Charity

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

2 Timothy 2 v.1-5

Be strong in the grace that is
In Christ Jesus, here found this
Sharing of the gospel true
Be good teacher too

Commit teaching to faithful
Ones, so they shall profit all
Others in their turn then share
In the gospel fair

Endure hardship, good soldier
Of Jesus Christ, so confer
With Him, leaving worldly things
Distraction such brings

Single-minded, please the one
Jesus, who is God's own Son
Chosen in His army band
Going to each land [in mission]

And be as an athlete, you
Train with the sure end in view
No short cuts, but lawfully
Then the prize yours be

Missive For Mercy

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Psalm 6

O Lord, rebuke me not in
Your anger, though I do sin
Nor chasten me in your hot
Displeasure, maintain my lot

O Lord, have mercy on me
For I am weak, O Lord, see
Heal me, my bones are troubled
Yet unto you I have called

My soul very troubled is
But, O Lord, how long be this?
Return, O Lord, save my soul
By your merices make me whole

For in death no memory
Of you, in grave how can be?
That mortals thanks to you give
Though you, Lord, do ever live

I am weary with groaning
I do weep and not much sing
My eyes are sore through grieving
Enemies me oppressing

Depart from me, you who work
Iniquity, secret lurk
To me trap, but the Lord He
Heard my weeping mournfully

The Lord my prayer He has heard
He will true receive each word
So let enemies ashamed
Be, the Lord's mercy has reigned

Prosperous Prayer

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Philippians 1 v.9-11

I pray your love abound
In deed and word resound
Yet more and more in true knowledge
Established, encourages

And grow in all judgement
Wisdom and discernment
That you may the things excellent
Approve with good intent

That you may be sincere
And without offence here
Until the day of Christ appears
When each His return shares

Being filled with the fruits
Of righteousness, pursuits
Holy and good may you follow
And glorify Christ so

Thomas' Tale

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

John 20 v.24-29

For St Thomas Day - July 3.

Lord, if was to strengthen our faith
You allowed Thomas [to] saith
Except I see the risen Lord
I not believe, [that is] my word*

Jesus did then appear again
He had once appeared when
Thomas was not with disciples
Not within the house walls

Jesus said, Peace be unto you
Look, see it is me true
Touch me, Thomas, be not faithles
But believing, no less

Thomas said, My Lord and my God
You this earth sure have trod
'Tis you the same, then Jesus said
'Tis me risen from dead

And Thomas, because you see me
For you now no doubts be
Yet blessed are they that have not me
Seen, who believe faithfully

* Verse 1 is based partly on a Collect - a Formal Prayer.

Scary!

Now I gotta mark this one 18+
Cos it's very scary
Well it is, if you think
Those critters in my picture here
Are hamsters or rats

They're guinea pigs
Squeak, squeak!
If they're hamsters or rats
They're giant mutated ones
'Invasion of the giant hamsters / rats'
Arrggghhh!

If ya see any
Best to run for ya life
They'll eat you up
Ya can't keep them as pets

Now that's that all cleared up
Ya need not be scared of piggies
They'll squeak to ya
Eat plenty of food
But no lettuce, thanks
Cabbage, grass, etc - yes!

Here's plenty piggies in the video
So that you'll recognise them
If you don't recognise them
Go to Specsavers!

Leading Light

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Where hearts, minds be filled with sorrow
Each heart and mind you do know
Shared a human life on earth here
You, Lord, as man did appear
Light of life to guide us always
Through our nights and through our days

If we here with sickness burdened
You, Lord, us heal and defend
Help us wait your time, watch and pray
After dark shall dawn the day
But your light still there though seeming
At times no changes does bring

But you do uphold us, strengthen
E'en if troubles seem lengthen
Holding to you in prayer trusting
And human help, many things
Of your gifting and providing
From sorrow to joy, we sing

Peace Promises

Tune: Uplifted Eyes - or Davos

('I lift my eyes to the quiet hills')

John 20 v.19-23

Peace, peace, the risen Lord appears
To quell the disciples fears
he stands in the midst, Peace, unto you
'Tis me, my hands, feet, side view

Then were they glad when they Him saw
Alive now for evermore
Again He says, Peace unto you
It is me, my presence true

As my Father has sent me, now so
I send you out for to go
Receive the Spirit, He holy, pure
And full rich of treasure-store

Whose sins you forgive, forgiven
They shall be so, even then
Whose sins you retain, they retained
Be, by your word these [things] ordained

Seek First...

Tune: Hereford

('O thou that camest from above')

Luke 12 v.22-34

Lord, help us seek your kingdom first
That it be our hunger and thirst
Not worrying o'er food, drink, clothes
Though you know we have need of those

Help us consider birds, they fly
Not sow or reap, but you their stay
Lord God you feed them all daily
And so it to your children be

Help us consider lilies fair
We can all in their beauties share
Lord God you clothe them here today
Then tomorrow they go their way

Will you not much more us provide?
We can in you trust and provide
You tend unto your creation
And too folk of every nation

Worry and anxious care be gone
Your kingdom here through Christ your Son
You will give us, your flock little
Help us to hear your loving call

Not treasure on earth, vanity
For where our treasure is, shall be
Our hearts also, so may we meek
Your true riches in heaven seek

Promise To Penitents

Tune: Tyrol

('A man there lived in Galilee')

Joel 2 v12-18

Now says the Lord, Turn you to me
with all your heart, so be
And with fasting, and with weeping
Suspending joyful sing
Come with mourning, and your heart rend
To repentance attend
Not outward acts of rending clothes
But what [your] inward state shows

Turn to the Lord your God, for He
Gracious, merciful be
Slow to anger, of great kindness
Seek Him, he will you bless
He will relent, let not evil
Have its way or its will
Who knows if he will rest content
Return to [the] penitent?

He may leave blessings so that we
Can give Him offerings free
Fruit of the land, or wholesome grain
We shall then give again
Blow trumpet in Zion, to call
People to Him, yes all
Consecrate a fast, and Him seek
He shall tend humble, meek

Call a solemn assembly here
And gather people near

The congregation sanctify
Set them apart, God nigh
Elders, children, and babies
And those just married new
Men and women, and priests that weep
Confess we wayward sheep

Priests pray, say, Lord, your people spare
You the Lord just and fair
Give us not over to reproach
That heathen not us broach
Nor say, Where is your God, where He?
Now you deserted be
But then the Lord will jealous be
And His land restore, see

Birth Blessings

Tune: Hyfrydol

('Alleluia, sing to Jesus')

Psalm 139 v.13-18

O Lord, you have my reins* possessed (*conscience)
My inward parts, so I blessed
You covered me in mother's womb
You lived, died, rose from the tomb
Each son, daughter born may now be
A child of salvation, see
I will praise you, for I am made
Fearfully, wonderful, staid

Marvellous are your works, my soul
Knows full well, entire and whole
My substance was not hid from you
My frame, bones, you know all too
When you did make me in secret
Each creation, no regret
Curiously, skilfully you wrought
Then to new life you me brought

You did see me when imperfect
My members you did inspect
E'en when unformed, they were written
In your book, till time comes when
I would be made by your working
You continued, Lord and King
Fashioned me as it did please you
Then on earth a life born new

How precious your thoughts to me be
O God! Them I not all see

How great be their sum! I cannot
Count their total, vast their lot
If I try, they be more than sand
Grains scattered over the land
Waking, sleeping, I still with you
You with me eternal, true

Pursuing Peace

Tune: Gott Ein Vater

(one tune to 'Faithful vigil ended')

Lord help me (us) to bring peace
And cause strivings cease
To do what we can, see
Promote harmony

Fears and stresses be gone
Praeyr and praise be done
Seeking your peace to bring
Unto everything

Calm our anger, fretful
We may be, but all
In your plans are working
You our Lord and King

Comfort and restoring
On your healing wing
You do bring, and forgive
Us, so we shall live

Where there be confusion
Deceit, delusion
Bring your truth, clarity
That we all plain see

How Long?

How long, O Lord?
Some of the Psalmists and other Bible writers
Ask this of the Lord God

Also - how long must you poets
And anyone really
Have to put up with my ridiculous nonsense?!
But it's all true, you know
My marriage to KP
And our 1,001 mad adventures!

Fido says to you
Just humour old Orchi
That'll keep him quiet
And he is very old
About 5 million years old, he says
And his friend Goldfinch too!

Fido also says
Orichi dunno what day it is half the time
Or what year or Century even
He still thinks The Battle of Hastings
Is going on since 1066
Cos he was the in person - so he says!

But he did warn you
That his picture is not giant rats or hamsters
Though he can't afford to visit you
He has to pay out for KP's botox! heehee

Promises Prophesied

Tune: Adoration

('Arise my soul, arise')

Amos 9 v.11-15 (Old Testament)

The Lord He will up raise
It shall come in His days
David's tabernacle
Restore dynasty all
Will close the gaps, his house repair
And they shall again gather there

That they may sure possess
Lands of heathen, no less
Such as Edom, they be
Called by the Lord's name, see
The Lord He will act and this do
His people be reclaimed anew

The days shall come when they
Who plough, it be the way
They then shall overtake
The reapers, and peace make
Shall outdo those who do grapes tread
And those who sow seed, daily bread

The mounts and hills shall flow
With sweet wine, all shall know
The goodness of the Lord
According to His word
He will sure bring back the captives
Of His people Israel, each lives

They shall build the cities

That were waste, liberties
They shall know, and shall dwell
There, the Lord's mercies tell
And too plant vineyards, drink the wine
Blessed with presence of grace divine

And too shall gardens grow
Planting, fruitfulness so
For the Lord He will plant
They shall sing to Him, chant
No more from their land they be moved
The Lord's word true, it shall be proved

Sheep Story

Tune: Wareham

('Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Luke 15 v.4-7

If one having a hundred sheep
That in the fold he there does keep
And if one is lost, the Shepherd kind
Shall search for it 'til he it find

And shall leave others, ninety nine
Sheep, though they be protected fine
But he goes to find sheep, the one lost
He puts in effort, time, and cost

And when he has found it he lays
It on his shoulders, there it stays
He rejoices and brings it home
Saying to others be glad, come

Come join in the celebration
For sheep is found, and lost is none
Likewise joy shall be in heaven
When a sinner repents midst men

More joy than o'er the ninety nine
Joy that is human and divine
They all be just, have repented
And the lost sheep found that had fled

Emmaus Experience

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.13-35 parts

It was on the Emmaus road
Two disciples, they trode
Jesu drew near, they did not know
It was Him present though

But He to them, He did explain
And made the Scriptures plain
That they of Him did prophesy
And were all true, no lie

Lord, stay with us now, they did plead
And He to them agreed
When they had once Emmaus reached
He had spake to them, preached

At the breaking of bread they knew
Said, Lord, it is e'en you
The Lord arisen from the dead
And now our living Head

He then did vanish from their sight
Though they had inward light
Said, Did not in us our hearts burn
When of Him we did learn

They returned to Jerusalem
And did say unto them
Gathered there, The Lord is risen
The Saviour of all men

Hazardous

Some things we may only see
In a big city - London, for example
I saw such a thing....

A man in a manual push-wheelchair
And one-legged at that
In the middle of a very busy road
Going up to some cars
As they stopped for traffic lights

I don't know what he wanted
Begging? Knew someone in the car?
But he went up to more than one car
So he couldn't have know all the drivers at random
Very hazardous.....

Cars and buses and motor cycles about
Could have got run down or killed
Should I have approached him and warned him?

But in the middle of a very busy road
A zebra crossing was fairly nearby
But it all looked hair-raising to me
Hazardous enough even to reach him
In the middle of the road
Going up and down in his wheelchair

Some things we may only see
In a big city.....
I told you the one about
A man walking backwards with two bags of shopping
I presumed he was practising for
'The Annual 5 km Walking Backwards Race'!

But I didn't ask him

We were going in opposite directions

Proverb Pieces 5

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Proverbs 16 v.16-20

How much better it is to wisdom get
Than gold! Its value does exceed it yet
And to get understanding, rather choose
it than silver! You shall not fail, not lose

The highway of the upright it sure be
To depart from evil, 'tis wise to see
They that keep their way, they preserve their soul
Growing in wisdom, progress to be whole

Pride goes before destruction, and haughty
Spirit goes before a fall, so it be
Better to be of a spirit humble
With the lowly, and so you shall not fall

They that do handle a matter wisely
Shall find good, and shall know prosperity
And whoso trusts in the Lord, happy they
Be, and they have His presence night and day

Silver Searching

Tune: Ratisbon

('Christ, whose glory fills the skies')

Luke 15 v.8-10

What woman has pieces ten
Of silver, her dowry then
As a garland round neck worn
What if one piece lost, forlorn
She shall be, she lights candle
And then takes broom, sweeps house all

She does seek diligently
Until she finds it, so be
When she has found it, then she
Calls her friends, neighbours, says, We
Can rejoice for I have found
Lost coin, let praises sound

So, likewise, there is joy in
Heaven, with angels therein
Over one sinner who turns
To God, repents, of Him learns
As lost coin is restored
So we now found with our Lord

68,000 or thereabouts

68,000 reads of my poems by poets, or thereabouts?!

I never knew it was so many

Now that you can find some stats on your profile

Just click on your user name to find out!

Who is this person? Is it you?

Visited my poems 68,000 times

I assume it's one person

Or was it 68,000 different poets?

If so, I never knew there were so many poets here!

Noooo, says Fido, not one person

It was me, Fido, who looked in

67,999 of the times!

Cos I had to check

You had written nothing too 'hot' or swoony

But if so, to make sure

You had ticked that 18+ box

And you know I save you from swoons

For your own good!

What's your numbers.....?

Just click on your user name to find out!

Heavenly Help

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 46 v.1-5

God is our refuge and our strength
He helps soon and at length
A very present help is He
When troubled hours be

Therefore we will not fear whate'er
Matters in life we share
Even though the earth be removed
God's help shall still be proved

And though the mountains be carried
Into the sea, no dread
Shall we have, and though waters roar
And clouds pour their rain-store

There is a river, its streams shall
Make glad, so we shall tell
Shall bring gladness to God's city
Where He does dwell, so be

God is in the midst of her, see
And unshaken shall be
They who there with Him live, for He
Shall help them, and early

Drying Up?

Noooo, not a poem about the weather
If it turns sunny
Aww, let's not say it:
'Summer this year was two days in June!'
(Or other Summer month)

Not a poem either about drying the dishes
Though I chain KP to the sink
Well, she put a ball and chain on me
When we married - and threw away the key!
She's planning to do a book on her life history (true)
It'll be in the 'Horror' section in libraries

Apparently she accepted to do this
With F-ing and B-ing
'F-ing great!' she said
And of course, with a pic of her
Living up to her motto:
'Me, me, me, now and always
And trample over everyone else!'

That's why I have to keep her in line
And be horrible to her regularly. lol
Saying things like:
'You're looking more old-trout-like these days, my dear!'

What IS this poem about? Asks Fido
Stop waffling, man!

Well, I've dried up a bit on poems
The hymn-type ones
Even with a reserve of some older poems
That had not been posted

Unless I sort out some more old notebooks
Though you say: 'Hooray, Orchi's not gonna sing!'
I probably will again soon. heehee

Glory Be!

Tune: Aurelia

('The church's one foundation')

1 Corinthians 1 v.26-31

For here, do see your calling
The lord works through each thing
You see how not many wise
In worldly ways comprise
Those who are called, nor many
Who are noble, mighty
But God has chosen they who
Foolish by world are viewed

This to confound worldly-wise
Who proud in their own eyes
And He has chosen weak things
Of the world, to shame things
Which are mighty in world's sight
But they not follow right[eousness]
He brings to nothing what be
Seen by world as worthy

'Tis so that no humans boast
In His presence from coast
To coast, but in Him glory
His Son our wisdom be
And too He our righteousness
Sanctification, yes
And our redemption, praise we
God all for his glory

Witness Of The Word

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 119 v.145-149

I cried with my whole heart
Sought you, that be my part
Hear me, O Lord, I will keep your
Statutes for evermore

I cried to you, Save me
I your testimony
Shall keep, I rose before morn's light
Cried for help, do me right

I hoped in your word great
My eyes they in the state
Of openness through watch of night
You ever in my sight

I may not all night sleep
But meditation keep
In your word, hear my voice for you
Are loving, kind, and true

O Lord, do me revive
And in you I shall thrive
Your judgements and your justice be
Done all acceptably

Seed Sprouting

Tune: St Cecilia

('Thy kingdom come, O God')

Luke 13 v.18-19

Jesus said, What like be
The kingdom of God? see
What shall I it compare
To resemble and share?

'Tis like a mustard seed
Which a man took, did heed
And cast in his garden
And waited for growth then

From small seed it did grow
Became a great tree so
And the birds of the air
Lodged in its branches there

Proverb Pieces 6

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger. oft in woe')

Proverbs Chapter 20 parts

Counsel in the heart of man
Is like deep water, who can
Draw it out? it be they who
Understand, find it out do

Most people they will proclaim
Every one their own good name
But faithful one who can find?
Be they of a rarer kind?

There is gold, many rubies
What can compare unto these?
The lips of knowledge they be
A precious jewel used wisely

Say not you, I will repay
Evil, do my will my way
But wait on the Lord and He
Shall deal with it, save you, see

The spirit of a man is
Candle of the Lord, true this
A lamp searching inward parts
Knowing thoughts of minds and hearts

Way Of The Word

Tune: Repton

('Dear Lord and Father of mankind')

Psalm 119 v.33-40

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your
Statutes, and I for sure
Shall keep that way unto the end
O with your power me defend
My Saviour and my Friend
My saviour and my Friend

Give me understanding, and I
Shall keep your law e'er nigh
I shall observe it with whole heart
Seek to follow it, very part
And not from it depart
And not from it depart

Make me to go in path of your
Commandments, for there sure
Therein do I delight, and too
Incline my heart, so I do view
Your testimonies true
Your testimonies true

I not turn to covetousness
Nor to things here worthless
Turn my eyes away from things vain
Renew me in your way again
And in my heart e'er reign
And in my heart e'er reign

Establish your word unto me

Your servant here I be
Who is devoted to your fear
And long after your precepts dear
O come to me, draw near
O come to me, draw near

In Our Hours

Tune: Hawkhurst

('Come gracious Spirit, heavenly dove')

Come to us, Lord, in hours of need
We be your sheep, you still us feed
Give courage, strength, for what we face
You who know all the human race

Grant good outcomes and to us show
Your workings so that we may know
Your presence, you our guard and guide
With and within us you reside

Calm fears, bring peace, and healing too
Our bodies, spirits, souls renew
Trusting in you, we ne'er alone
Your love and mercies to us shown

You shall not leave us comfortless
But you will help and will us bless
Our prayers and thanks shall be to you
To us you ever faithful, true

Forgiveness Freedom

Tune: St Asaph

('Through the night of doubt and sorrow')

Psalm 51 v.1-8 and v.16-17

O God, have mercy upon me
Look on me, be gracious, see
Tend me with your loving-kindness
Come to me, forgive and bless
According to mercies tender
Many they be, me render
Blot out my sins, my transgressions
You do hear penitent ones

Wash me thoroughly, for I be
Here in my iniquity
Cleanse me from my sin, for I do
Confess I have sinned 'gainst you
Against you only have I sinned
Done this evil, love has thinned
Lord, you justified when speak you
And clear when you judge, 'tis true

Behold, I was brough forth, nature
Of sin had I from birth sure
Behold, you desire truth to be
In the inward parts, you see
And in the hidden part you shall
Make me to know wisdom well
Purge me with hyssop, so I be
Clean, washed, whiter than snow, me

Make me to hear joy and gladness
Once again, your peace no less

The sacrifices you desire
Are not burnt offerings by fire
But they are a spirit broken
And heart broken, contrite, then
You O God will not them despise
Forgiven by grace we rise

Prayers In Perils

Tune: Rivaulx

(Father of heaven, whose love profound")

Psalm 57 v.1-7

O God, be merciful to me
For my soul does trust in you, see
In the shadow of your wings here
I will make my refuge, not fear

Here I will stay till troubles cast
On my path shall be overpast
I will cry unto God most high
He performs all for me, He nigh

He shall send from heaven and save
Me from reproach, the way shall pave
God shall send His truth and mercy
I by His grace shall be helped free

My soul it is among lions
They roar against me, evil ones
Their teeth as arrows, tongues sharp sword
I look to you, my living Lord

Be you exalted O God o'er
Above the heavens evermore
Let your glory be above earth
Your creatures give you your true worth

My heart is fixed, it be steadfast
Your help to me will surely last
I will awake and you praise give
Trusting in you, you ever live

Safety Sure

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 121 v.5-8

The Lord is your keeper, and He
Your shade, protector sure shall be
Things of the day and of the night
Shall not harm, you e'er in His sight

The Lord shall preserve you from all
Evil, shall hear when you pray, call
Upon Him, He shall too preserve
Your soul, not wasted, but conserve

The Lord shall keep you when you go
Out, and when you come in, 'tis so
From this time forth, for evermore
And you shall know His presence sure

Presence Prosperity

Tune: Charity

('Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost')

Psalm 60 v.9-12

Who will bring me to strong hold?
So your power shall be told
Will not you, O God, though we
Cast off by you be?

Yet return, and to us look
Leave us not bereft, forsook
We pray help us, deliver
Unto our help stir

Will you not, O God, forth go?
Wit hour armies, we shall know
Your help, presence all along
Shall rejoice in song

Give us help from trouble for
Vain is the help of man sure
Through God we shall battles win
And have peace within

Through God we valiantly
Shall do, and too we shall see
He it is that shall tread down
Enemies renown

A trout tale....

Now here's a naughty thing...
In my marriage to KP - they are true things
Well, some of them!

She was gonna buy herself a mansion
But now she's very naughty
Not turning up in court
And missing it more than once
She's 46, so reports say

Oh yeah?! That's like saying
I will stop adding water to whisky!
Pull the other leg.....
It's the botox, you see
Makes her look younger
Like a younger trout, that is
She's age 146 really!

Why this incessant putting KP down?
Fido asks me
Well, I gotta do it -
Or she gets too big for her boots
(I never knew trouts wore boots! heehee)

Oh well, it's more publicity for her
Whether she attends court or not
Another page in her book entitled:
'Me, me, me, now and forever'

I gotta lay down and recover for a week now
Why? Well, I saw a pic of her in the papers
I might never recover completely from that! lol

Trusting Times - Part 1

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Psalm 56

O God, be merciful to me
For man would swallow me up, see
He fighting daily does oppress
Me, and does not your name confess

My enemies would me swallow
For they do not your way follow
They be many that 'gainst me fight
Come to me, help me by your might

What time I am afraid, I will
Trust in you, confide in you still
In God I will His words sure praise
And songs of worship to Him raise

I will not fear what flesh can do
To me, I trust in God anew
Though each day they my words do wrest
They think to me evil, no rest

They gather together, and hide
And mark my steps where I reside
They lie in wait for my poor soul
And would cast it down to Sheol*

* Sheol - a shadowy world of the dead -
but not Hell.

Trusting Times - Part 2

Tune: Herongate

('It is a thing most wonderful')

Psalm 56, continued

Shall [the wicked] escape by their sins done?

In your anger, God, deal each one

Of you right judgements, and remove

Those that to me enemies prove

You tell my wanderings, my tears

Put in your bottle, tend my fears

Are they no in your book, you wrote

For all of my ways you can quote

When I cry unto you, then my

Enemies shall turn back and fly

This I know, for God is for me

His help in my fears shall I see

In God will I here praise His word

The Lord's word which I sure have heard

I vow to you, and shall praise still

You have delivered me anew

Have delivered my soul from death

Precious to you my vital breath

Keep my feet, so I wait before

You in light of the living pure

Proceeding To Praise

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 108 v.1-5

O Lord, my heart is fixed
Steadfast on you, not mixed
With worldly things, I will sing, praise
You, and will you up raise

Awake, instruments, make
Joyful noise for His sake
I myself will awake early
To praise the Lord, so be

I will praise you among
The people, praise be sung
To you among the nations, for
You are great God, 'tis sure

For your mercy is great
Above the heavens your state
Is that your truth reaches unto
The clouds, for high are you

O God, exalted be
Above heavens, lands, seas
Your glory [is] above all the earth
Be honoured, given worth

Comforting Consolings

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

2 Corinthians 1 v.3-6

Blessed be the God, the Father He
Of our Lord Jesus be
He the Father of mercies, too
The God of comfort true

Who comforts in all our troubles
Gives help, each on Him calls
So that we may be able to
Comfort those troubled too

It is by the comfort which we
Are comforted, so be
By God, so we ourselves may share
With others comfort, care

For as Christ's sufferings abound
So comfort does resound
By Christ, and consolation we
May have by His grace free

Wholesome Worship

Tune: Dominus Regit Me

('The King of love my Shepherd is')

Psalm 95 v.1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord
And joyful noise be our word
To the rock of our salvation
Who rules o'er every nation

Let us come before His presence
With thankfulness and Him sense
Make joyful noise to Him with psalms
This be from our hearts our alms* (*our giving)

For the Lord He a great God is
Great King above all gods, this
Be so, and in His hand He holds
Earth's deep places, it be told

The strength of the hills is His too
He mad sea and dry land view
We His creation, O come, let
Us worship, bow down, e'en yet

And come, let us now kneel before
The Lord, He our maker sure
He is our God, we His people
Of His pasture, praise Him all

Comforting Concerns

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 138 v.6-8

Though the Lord be high, He does see
And has respect to the lowly
But the proud He knows from afar
He not near them, the Morning Star

Though I am in midst of troubles
You will revive me, I your calls
Do hear, and you will stretch your hand
Against enemies in the land

You will quench their wrath and bring peace
Your help to me it shall not cease
Your hand shall save me, me up raise
And I shall offer to you praise

The Lord will complete here for me
That which does concern me, so be
Your mercy, Lord, endures for e'er
O forsake me not, leave me ne'er

Word Wholeness

Tune: St Francis Xavier

('My God, I love thee, not because')

Psalm 119 v.146-152

I cried with my whole heart, hear me
O Lord, look on me, see
I will your statutes surely keep
You take me for your sheep

I cried to you, Lord, come save me
And it shall certain be
I shall keep your testimonies
With them my soul agrees

I rose before the morning dawn
Cries of help to you borne
I hoped in your words, I awake
During night for your sake

So that I then might meditate
In your word, it be great
Hear my voice, O Lord, according
To your mercy, each thing

Revive me, bring me your justice
So I secure in this
For they draw near that mischief seek
They far from humble, meek

You Lord are near, all your commands
Are good and right demands
I have known your testimonies
Remain ever, true this

Now lookie here....

Now lookie here....

How many more times must I tell ya?

I've postponed a hymn-poem cos of this

A matter of vital importance.....

They are NOT hamsters, rats, mice, wombats, or whatever

In my pic - they are guinea pigs

If otherwise, they must be mutated giant species

(Except for the wombats, which have shrunk)

So be afraid, be very afraid!

Though we've seen a big rat or two

Is it the same rat each time?

In our garden it scurries off

It's quite a size, I admit

About the size of half a small cat

Well, ya stopped me singing a hymn today!

Heehee.

Here's those guinea pigs again

So you'll recognise them

You'll know them....Four little feet

Furry critters - might squeak

Eat quite often -

Cabbage (never lettuce), fruit, carrots, seeds, etc.

Seasons And Times

Tune: Crimond

('The Lord's my Shepherd')

Ecclesiastes 3 v.1-9

To all things there is a season
All has rhyme and reason
There is a time to each purpose
Under heaven to us

A time to be born, time to die
Time to plant, days go by
Time to pluck up what is planted
If that best advantaged

A time to kill, a time to heal
What works for out for good weal* (* i.e. well-being)
Time to break down, time to up build
Good purposes shall yield

A time to laugh, a time to weep
Things high, low, shallow, deep
A time to dance, a time to mourn
To all on this earth born

A time to cast away stones be
Time to gather stones free
Time to embrace, time to refrain
From embrace where it vain

A time to gain, a time to lose
Sincere, no trick or ruse
Time to keep, time to cast away
Whate'er is best the way

A time to rend, a time to sew
Through daily states to grow
Time to keep silence, time to speak
Graciously, humble, meek

A time to love, a time to hate
Where evil is in spate* (*i.e. a flood of evil)
A time of war, a time of peace
Theses seasons, times, ne'er cease

What profit be all this to man?
And yet he surely can
Live out life under God, for he
Our guide, strength, through life be

Healthful Humility

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us')

Philippians 2 v.1-5

If any consolation be
In Christ, let it be shared, see
And if any comfort of love
Solace, strength of holy dove
And fellowship of the Spirit
Show to each other, 'tis fit

If any affections, mercies
If such be found, so agrees
It that we should be like-minded
In all that is done and said
So have the same love, be of one
Heart and mind in Christ the Son

Let nothing be done through striving
Nor vain glory, those not bring
To be contributed toward
Service to our humble Lord
But with lowly mid esteem so
Others better than self know

Look not only on your own things
Let unity spread its wings
Look also on things of others
Interests of brothers, sisters
Let the mind of Christ be in you
Humbly serving Him anew

Greatness of God

Tune: Thornbury

('Thy hand, O God, has guided')

Psalm 89 v.1-7

I will sing of the mercies
Of the Lord, sureties
He gives, and with my mouth will
I make known His name still
His faithfulness unto all
Generations, none fall
For He does uplift, sustain
Comes to their help again

I said, Mercy shall be built
Up for ever, not wilt
Your faithfulness, Lord, you shall
Establish, and do well
Even in the heavens it seen
Unchanging you have bee
Covenant He makes with people
Come to Him, on Him call

David's line He will bless sure
His seed rule, true and pure
Unto all generations
Blessed among the nations
And the heavens, Lord, shall praise
Your wonders, each one says
That you are great, and you faithful
Among your people all

For who in heaven is like you?
Lord, faithful, holy, true

And who can midst human race
Anyone like you trace?
You are greatly to be feared here
We unto you draw near
And reverence and worship give
To you who do e'er live

Water Well-Springs

Tune: Wareham

('Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Isaiah chapter 12 parts

Behold, God is my salvation
To us and to every nation
I will trust and not be afraid
The Lord's help is to me displayed

The LORD JEHOVAH He sure be
My strength, and my song He is, see
As is become my slvation
His presence her for everyone

If dry and dull we with joy may
Draw waters from the wells this day
The wells of salvation, a flow
Of His blessings to us we know

And then we all shall His name praise
For great His doings, wise His ways
Worship, rejoice, and even shout
That He is your Lord e'er, no doubt

Return Rapture

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

1 Thessalonians 4 v.14-18

If we believe that Jesus died
And rose again, not denied
Even so them which also sleep* (*have died)
In Jesus, God will them keep
And bring with Jesus when He comes

We which are alive and remain
'Til the Lord does come again
We shall not precede them who died
But the Lord He shall provide
That He shall descend from heaven
With shout, archangel's voice then
To take His saved people home

And the trumpet of God shall sound
The dead in Christ shall be found
In Him, and then they shall rise first
In that glorious victory burst
Then we which are alive, remain
Shall meet loved ones once again

For we shall be caught up in clouds
With them, God's presence enshrouds
And shall meet the Lord in the air
And His blessings ever share
We shall be with Him for ever
Comfort that ceases never

Childlike Character

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

('Faithful Shepherd, feed me')

Psalm 131

Lord, my heart not haughty
Nor conceited be
Keep me lowly, humble
Patient unto all

And my eyes not lofty
They not proud things see
Nor do I concern me
In things too high, see

Surely I have myself
Calmed, and find true wealth
In being a s weaned child
Trusting mother mild

Let Israel, all people
Hope in you and call
On you Lord for ever
You forsake never

Blessing of Peace

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Based on a Collect - a Formal Prayer.

The Lord bless, watch o'er you
His face shine on you true
And He too be to you gracious
Look kindly now on us

The Lord His peace you give
Through Him you now shall live
His graces be to you always
Through endless nights and days

The blessing of the Lord
God, the Almighty Word
The Father, Son, and Spirit too
Remain e'er among you

Bounteous Blessings

Tune: Warwick (Stanley)

('My God, I know, I feel thee mine')

Psalm 115 v.9-18

O Israel, trust you in the Lord
He is the living Word (x2)
He is their help and shield always
E'en unto endless days (x3)

O house of Aaron* in Him trust {*the priestly line}
Though you mere men and dust (x2)
All you that fear Him trust Him too
He will come, you renew (x3)

The Lord of us has been mindful
He shall bless us, us call (x2)
He will bless all, both small and great
Not abandoned to fate (x3)

The Lord shall increase you more
And grant you blessings sure (x2)
Reaching to you, your children too
With mercies not a few (x3)

The heavens, they the Lord's own true
The sun, moon, and each star (x2)
Btu earth given to people here
To serve with godly fear (x3)

Travelling Tales

Tune: Harwich

('My God, I am thine')

Give thanks to the Lord
He is the living word
For He is the Lord true
He does us renew
And His mercy endures
To you and to yours
For ever does last
On Him your burdens cast

Let the Lord's redeemed
Say so, he has deemed
To come and to save you
From troubles not a few
For you He has rescued
With mercies endued
Saved from enemy hands
He drew you from all lands

In the wilderness way
They roamed there night and day
No city to dwell in
Desolate they therein
Hungry, thirsty, fainting
To the Lord their troubles bring
Cried unto Him there
He did answer, did care

He them delivered
To them His heart was stirred
And brought them out He did

From distress, them hid
Under His shelter sure
They resided, for
He the right way led
Went before as their Head

And so to city
Of habitation, see
They went, praised His goodness
He did them there bless
Too His works wonderful
He does show them all
Satisfies our soul
Feeds them and makes us whole

Hasten My Help

Tune: St Cuthbert

('Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed')

Psalm 70

Make haste, O God, deliver me
Make haste to help me, see
O Lord let them all be ashamed
Who me defamed

Ashamed, confused, all they that seek
My soul, though I am meek
Turn them away backwards, retreat
For that is meet* (*suitable)

Meet for those who desire my hurt
Let them be turned back, curt * (*cut short)
And quickly, they who me trouble
I shall not fall

Let those that seek you so rejoice
They have made you their choice
Let such as love your salvation
Praise you, the one

The one, God, to be magnified
Though here am I beside
You, poor and needy, Lord, swiftly
Deliver me

Consoling Comforts

Tuen: Contemplation

('When all thy mercies, O my God')

Matthew 11 v.28-30

Come unto me, Jesus did say
If labouring night or day
And if you laden heavily
In me your rest shall be

Take my yoke on you, of me learn
Not to your own ways turn
For I am meek, lowly in heart
Will meet your needs, every part

So rest unto your souls shall be
For my yoke easy, see
And my burden light to up take
Bear such for my name's sake

Thus if yoke does seem difficult
If heavy burden halt* (*hindering, stopping you)
Your progress, it is not from me
I the Son set you free

Comfort I bring, not grievous task
Hearing prayers that you ask
Learn of me here, I will you guide
You, with, [and] in you reside

Profitable Pleadings

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 109 parts

Hide not your peace, God of my praise
My prayer to you I raise
For wicked have against me spoke
They oppress, my soul choke

I love, but they against me turn
And hot their spite does burn
They reward me evil for good
Did hate me as [much as] they could

I call down wrath, your righteousness
But come to me, me bless
Act now for your holy name's sake
Let them not in vain it take

They unmerciful, persecute
And they curse, are not mute
But lively to afflict the poor
Their judgement lingers sure

Help me, O God, like shadow me
When sun goes down, look, see
Save me, I pray, by your mercy
From dangers set me free

I will the Lord with my mouth praise
Continue all my days
For He shall help poor needy souls
His grace they shall extol

Salvation Strength

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

Psalm 28 v.6-9

Blesséd be the Lord, for He
Voice of my prayers has heard, see
He is my strength and my shield
Unto Him I will true yield

My heart trusts in Him, and so
I am helped, His grace I know
Therefore my heart greatly here
Rejoices in Him, He hear

With my song I will Him praise
On through endless nights and days
The Lord our strength, salvation
Appears unto each nation

He the saving strength shall be
Of His anointed*, bold, free
Save your people, Lord, and bless
Your inheritance no less

Feed them also as your sheep
You will defend them and keep
Do for ever them up lift
Grant to them each gracious gift

* 'His anointed' could mean 'His people'.
It could also mean Christ, 'The Anointed One',
though not yet come in person in the Old Testament days.

Woof, Woof!

It's Fido here
My talking and reading dog!

Now he's not barking cos of any poets
Forgetting to mark certain poems 18+
But he is barking to draw your attention
To my pic once again

He says - Nnooooooooo, they're not giant hamsters
Nor rats, nor mice, nor even elephants!
They are guinea pigs, don't ya know
Though I admit they may look
A bit like hamsters
But they're too big to be hamsters!

They'll squeak when they're hungry
They'll be your friends
They won't be demanding
But lead simple lives
But don't give them lettuce -
Carrots, muesli, dandelion leaves, fruit, etc - yes!

If you insist they're hamsters
Then they're giant ones
And will give ya nightmares! heehee
Here's some for ya in the video
So you'll recognise them

A mystery

What to call this one?

A mystery from some years ago

On this day - 17 years ago now

A person fell to their death

From a balcony abroad

If it wasn't so serious

We might say:

'Did he fall or was he pushed?'

No one knows - we'll never know....

An open verdict at the Coroners

I think of you, C.F.* (*initials disguised)

Whatever happened that day

And however it happened

A lovely Funeral Service - spoke of faith, trust, etc

Even all 8 verses of 'Abide with me'

It's not often sung in full

But then a terrible outpouring of grief

Such as I had hardly known before

I didn't stay long at the graveside

I even got snubbed for trying to comfort some

Though I didn't know the friend that well

But not even reaching age 25

'Go away; who are you?' some said to me

I explained, but had the thought that they were saying

'Shut up, you ridiculous little man'

It was oppressive

They were from a rather 'common' area of town

But their social background is only one factor

A feeling of darkness; an atmosphere of death
Mostly of No Hope

I made my own 'closure'
A visit to the graveside on my own
Apart from the nastiness
Some due to grief
But that's no excuse to be plain offensive...

In Limbo

Is it chilly these days?
Or is it me shivery with various emotions
And tiredness at times?

Not a 'dark phase' I'm entering
More of a limbo - waiting - not knowing.....

A relative poorly in hospital
Will he 'make it' or 'not make it'?
The outcome will affect all of us
All who know him - family, relatives, etc

Will the 'worst' come to pass?
Or will it be a 'peaceful release'?
Could be a bit of both, I suppose

There's still hope -
Unlike the 'anniversary' of the mystery
Of the friend who fell from a balcony
A terrible tragedy
(from my recent poem)

Faith, hope, and love...
With love being the greatest

We can do no more
Yesterday's gone, and tomorrow's not here yet
All any of us can do
Is live for today - come what may.....

Proverb Pieces 7

Tune: Mannheim

('Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us')

Proverbs 27 v.1-6

Boast not yourself of tomorrow
You know not what it shall show
Let another praise you, and not
Praise yourself in selfish lot
So it brings to God the glory
Ever worthy He e'er be

A stone is heavy, sand weighty
But foolish ones wrath it be
Heavier than them both, and too
Wrath is cruel, and anger true
Is an outrage, but who can stand
Before envy in the land?

Open rebuke it better be
Then secret love hidden, see
Faithful are the wounds of a friend
But if enemies do tend
You kisses they are deceitful
If trusting them you shall fall

Water of Life

Tune: St Michael

('The Lord is risen indeed')

John 4 v.13-15

The water Jesus gives
Whoe'er drinks ever lives
For the water of life it be
Now and eternally

They who of this water
Do drink, shall it is sure
Never thirst, for it a supply
Is that never runs dry

It shall be as a well
Or fountain, we may tell
That springs up from within us to
Everlasting life true

A woman Jesus met
Said, Give me even yet
Of this water, so then I shall
Not thirst from this life-well

May we, Lord, drink of you
As that woman did too
So fed and watered we shall be
Each day perpetually

Two Now...

Two relatives in hospital just now...
One recovering from a heart attack
One elderly, hopefully getting over infections

It's a limbo still - not knowing
Hoping the 'worst' won't come to pass
Yet hardly seen one of the relatives
For over 16 years - some relationship break up

Finding comfort in faith, though we can't 'see' faith
Finding comfort too in people
And in pets - our two cats - they know....
They come to you when feeling down or sad
Whoever said they are not sentient?

Some have not a lot of time to visit the sick
They have to work, tend to the family, etc
I DO have the time thankfully

{A daft digression:}
But - I best not sing to them
When I visit them
Who can bear that - whether well or unwell?!
And I won't bring KP along
One sight of her will make them feel worse (heehee)
Aww, but they won't let Fido in!
{End of digression}

Humour helps, but not as escapism
Nor ignoring the reality of situations

Onwards - faith as a rock, foundation, always giving hope
Onwards - through the tunnel; along the path....

Step by step; day by day.....

Leading Light

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

O dawn on us, O heavenly Light
Illuminate our sight
Guard us and guide us, feed us, keep
You take us for your sheep

You who died for us, rose again
The Saviour of all men* {*mankind}
Trusting for our salvation true
We have in you life new

Your promise us to forsake ne'er
But your presence to share
With us through each day and each night
Your glories always bright

Come to they who with heavy load
Do find their hearts bestowed
Your burden light, your yoke easy
Thus may our sure state be

To Sing Or Not..

Fido here - writing this poem.

To sing or not to sing....

That is the question

Now, c'mon says Fido

Writing your hymn-poems

But must ya sing every one of them about 20 times

Just for the sake of hearing yourself sing?

Cos ya know it don't bring

Any enjoyment to anyone else

With ya screeching and wailing! (heehee)

Make up ya mind, says Fido to me

If ya must write hymn-poems

Go sing 'em in a soundproof room

Or 'over the hills and far way' as one song says

And why do ya think I wear ear phones all day?

It's so I don't hear ya

But I'll always be loyal to ya

My friendly master! lol.

Bread of Life

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

('The royal banners forward go')

John Chapter 6 parts

O bread of life, come to us, feed
Then shall we ne'er have hunger need
For you, Jesus, ample supply
Do give daily, it ne'er shall die

As we pray, so daily bread you
Give us, physical, spiritual
Enough for each day to sustain
Us with this staple food here plain

As you fed more than five thousand
To the crowd's hunger you did tend
With two fishes, five loaves bread, when
E'en twelve baskets left over then

You are the bread of heaven, you
Came down from heaven, it is true
And you give life unto the world
Your plan, purpose to us unfurled

Psalm Poem

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the Lord shall be
A mount Zion, it great and free
Which cannot be removed away
But abides firm ever alway

As the mountains are round about
So the Lord is without a doubt
Is round about His people there
E'er His eternal life they share

Rod of the wicked shall not rest
Upon lot of the righteous, lest
The righteous shall put forth their hand
To iniquity, evil bands

Do good, O Lord, unto those good
Who in you trust, surely you would
Do good to those upright in heart
Who follow you, take better part

As for such as who turn aside
Their crooked ways they cannot hide
The Lord shall lead them, they shall be
With workers of iniquity

But peace shall be on Israel
And all His glories they shall tell
He shall protect them day and night
They shall be precious in His sight

Trinity Trust

Tune: Rangoon

('Trumpet of God, sound high')

Praise to the King of Kings
Creation to you now sings
You, Lord, Redeemer high
To you all your people cry
Come assist us by your grace
That by faith we may see your face
Praise to the King of Kings

Praise to Christ Jesus, the Son
The Saviour, the only one
Who makes our salvation sure
He is worthy for evermore
Come repenting, turn to Him true
He forgives you, and makes you new
Praise to Christ Jesus the Son

Praise to the Spirit free
Changes us to Christ's image, see
Each small thing of life's tapestry
Woven by Him lost gloriously
Wind of God, dove, oil, and fire*
Your bright beams shine, you Morning Star
Praise to the Spirit free

O God great Three in One
Holy mystery, Trinity
Yet revealed here for us to see
And your children, family we be
For the gospel message sounds
Now proclaimed to all lands, abounds

O God great Three in One

* All symbols of the Holy Spirit

Cats Comforts

This may sound like a hymn-poem title
With the often alliteration
(long word there for this time of the morning, says Fido!)

But cats - and dogs - as well as people know
Know when we may need comfort
They will jump up on your lap
If they can fit on your lap
Or on to your bed

They'll come to you
Not only for food!
They'll stay a while
Your furry friends!

They might not all be talking, reading
Or checking poems for 18+ tick-box omissions like Fido does....
But pets for company in old age
Or whatever age one is

Feed them fresh or luxury foods too often
Adn they may get fussy
And may not eat anything else

They're sentient, feelings beings
Never 'dumb' animals.....

Growing In Grace

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly Light')

Rest, quietened soul, now in your Lord do rest
In Him be blessed
Or with praise high, his glories now express
And Him confess
Retain sweet melody within your heart
Yet also share His life in every part

He great Creator, Lord of life, of all
Now hear His call
All beauteous made through Christ's salvation sure
Made clean and pure
Redeemed, restored, unto your Saviour dear
His presence e'en within souls, He is near

Peace now be bid to troubling anxious thoughts
Him you have sought
And called upon Him, prayed for peace serene
It shall be seen
In lives submitted, seeking now His will
He gives that peace and guides through good and ill

Light of life true, your bright beams shine around
And you are found
In each life's page, each corner turned, each way
Each fresh new day
O to grow more into Christ's image whole
Transformed, change, body, spirit, and our soul

So our each step, assured for us His plan
[For] Each woman, man

Child, young or old, whate'er our status be
He does us see
Encaptured in His love, His grace each day
Welcomed, accepted, none e'er turned away

Explaining KP & Co

Sorry that some of you don't get my jokes
Or my eccentric stuff about KP & Co

Not all of you know I married Katie Price one Halloween
And that she always has botox
Or so I say.

And not of all you know I have Fido
A talking, reading dog
Who checks poems
And barks at any folk omitting the 18+ tick box!
Or so I say.

But it's only humour
You only have to ask
If you don't understand some of my daftness
It's harmless

Though I could seem
Like some nasty hypocrite
With my hymn-poems one day
Then humour of KP and Co the next day
And 'doing her down'

It's only fantasy
I would be horrid if it was true
A horrible misogynist (woman-hater)

I'm not meaning to be offensive
Some might say 'There you go again...'
If I say -
I'm a furry friend really
Though I'm 'half human, half guinea pig'

Comment - 'A load of rubbish' to this

If you wish

I can see how silly contributions to fusioned poems

Could spoil them

I rarely contribute to them anyway though

If you don't like my humour

Don't read my 'humour' poems at all.

Fusions?

Do you respond much to Fused Poems invites?

I don't.

I often seem to mess them up

Not really having much to contribute to them

But we can keep writing

Our own personal poems

Fido helps me too

You know that!

If I mention him and KP enough

I will come to believe they are real (heehee)

And be deluded

Aww - why they reply:

'No change there then for you!' (lol)

But if I got nothing much to say

Then maybe I shouldn't say it

If I'm gonna be facetious

(Quite a long word there!)

Then again, sometimes:

Why use 5 words

When 50 will do?!

You could waffle on and on.....!

Psalm Praise

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 145 v.14-20

The Lord He does uphold
Those that fall, does enfold
Them, and too up raises
Those bowed down, so praises
To Him for His help, sustenance
For we through troubles may Him sense

The eyes of all do look
Wait on Him, not forsook
Are they, and He does give
To all food, so we live
He opens His hand, satisfies
Desire of all things, no denies

The Lord He is righteous
In all His ways to us
In all His works holy
And with wisdom they be
The Lord is nigh to all who call
On Him in truth, shall hear them all

He will desire fulfil
Of those that fear Him still
With godly awe, and He
Will hear their prayers, so be
And He will save, preserve those who
Love Him, He will surely so do

Worship Worthiness

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Aloft the skies, ascend your praises high
To God, great Lord of all, for He is nigh
The Lord, Creator, reigning over all
Salvation to whome'er on Him does call

Swet incense rise, express your worthy scent
Of glory, honour, thanks, make no relent
The ever-living Lord of heaven and earth
Your needs He meets, no fear of meagre dearth

With rapturous tunes, extol Him all the while
His holy presence, pure, without defile
Trust in His love, His grace, His promise sure
To save, redeem, and cleanse, and make you pure

Banners unfurl, flags, streamers, all employ
And myriad instruments sound forth the joy
Of His salvation, graciously He gives
That whome'er turns to Him, such ever lives

What praise, what thanks, abounding from within
Can full express my freedom from my sin
Though perfectly we can ne'er reach the end
Yet humbly we adore, worship our Friend

A great crescendo, praise and honour due
To Him, great God of all, He will renew
Sing forth, mine heart, mine mind, of graces bright
'Til time eternal, 'til faith turns to sight

Giant Hamsters!

Note from Fido:

Grouches, humourless, and un-eccentric people

Need not read this poem!

Though you can read it, if you're only slightly eccentric

Oh well, if ya want to believe

They are giant hamsters in my pic

I can't stop ya believing that!

Dang it! I told ya a thousand times

They are guinea pigs

If they're hamsters to you

They're giant mutant ones

Fido's gone mad barking

Trying to tell you too

That they're guinea pigs

Though a relative thought

Our real two guinea pigs

Were rats, and said

'How's those rats in that cage?' (lol)

Take ya pick

They can be anything ya like

I dunno - elephants, giraffes, bears, etc

Now you're being silly, I say to myself

Btu some of you made me do it

Saying they are hamsters!

Ohh, hyperbole, exaggeration, tall stories, etc!

Heehee.

I best post a hamster video for ya again

So ya know what they look like

Cycling Connections

Tune: Divine Mysteries
('Sweet Sacrament Divine')

Comes full the cycle round
God's blessings do abound
Be filled with [the] Spirit pure
The Holy Spirit, for
Person of God, shall us indwell
And grant us power that we may tell
His praises, all His deeds
Us He His people feeds

Then go to pour out free
That others too may see
His wise salvation plan
'Tis like no other can
By systems or rules formulate
He in His word He does it state
That He the Way, Truth, Life
None other shall suffice

As vessels filled, made whole
Witness to each poor soul
That they in Him may find
Healing to lame, sick, blind
Then on return to Him again
Needing continual supply, then
Go forth once more empowered
With heavenly graces showered

Arise, cast sloth aside
His glories do not hide
Leave all passivity

For Christ does set you free
Free in His service to partake
And live unto Him for His sake
That all the world may know
How He does love us so

Life Liberation

Tune: Wolvercote

(one tune to 'O Jesus I have promised')

Spirit of life, your power pour
On this our country, town
The gospel spread from shore to shore
We [be]'fore you humbly bow
Souls touched, restored, redeemed from sin
Made pure and clean within
Your kingdom in their lives set up
In friendship with you [they] sup

Send forth your ministers to preach
The lively evangel
That they hungry, lost souls reach
And your true gospel tell
Anointed with your Spirit they
Proclaim salvation's day
Share you the Life, the Truth, the Way
And watch with you and pray

So souls into the light are brought
Bought by your precious blood
Showers of grace, for you have sought
To fill them with your flood
Of graces bright, forgiveness free
For you wish all to see
The Lamb, the Lion, Christ the Lord
In Him be full assured

Dedication Delights

Tune: Westminster Abbey

('Christ is made the sure foundation')

Noble edifice outstanding
From you myriad praises ring
Fifty years, nine centuries standing* (*950 years)
Countless voices from you sing
Dedicated to God's service
House of God, fine place of bliss

Built of stone of wise men's crafting
Skills brought, talents, everything
To employ with humble hearts free
That to God the glory be
Here in wonder, joy, amazement
Gaze we still with sweet content

Christ that spiritual stone belongs
Corner-stone for building strong
We His people built upon Him
Polished stones shine bright, ne'er dim
Living stones of living temple
Stand firm, solid, none shall fall

Bright the new Jerusalem shines
Heavenly city with pleasant lines* (*boundaries)
Here on earth in our aspiring
We that city seek for, long
'Til we there for everlasting
Worship you our heavenly King

Death And Life

Tune: Melcombe

('New every morning is the love')

Genesis 2 v.15-17; Genesis 3 v.4-7; John 11 v.25-26

Why does one die, why do all die?
'Tis sure in life, there no deny
Adam and Eve in Eden there
Presence of the Lord God did share

They could eat of each tree but one
Of that tree to partake fruit none
It was the tree of knowledge, see
Of good and evil it sure be*

The Lord said if they of that tree
Did eat then the outcome would be
That they would surely die, but they
Tempted by serpent ate one day

Yet Jesus comes as Saviour to
Redeem mankind from death's curse, true
We all descend from Adam, Eve
Death comes to all and so we grieve

But Jesus the resurrection
And life He be, He God's own Son
Who lives in Him, in Him believes
Eternal life in Him receives

* but they could eat of any other tree,
including the tree of life.

Now we are three....

No, not about an addition to the family...

We were four of us, here at home

Now we are three

Now you, Dad, have departed

You had visitors in hospital

Whether recognising them or not

And prayers said with you

And Bible verses read to you - the word of life

Rest in peace now - awake to eternity

If, we trust, you had at least

Some Christian belief

Sometimes it's 'Whose faith is known to God alone'

You said to me near the end 'I am thirsty'

So did Jesus near His end

I sort of sensed the end was near

When you looked poorly and alone

Moved to a separate hospital bed

We're numb - it's a bit unreal

Believing you're still in hospital ward

And yet you're not now.....

R.I.P.

In the hymn -

Eventide comes, then the night

Then the morning of eternal life....

Comforting Certainties

We're downcast, grieving, mourning at times
Though not for ever
There's the hope of a new Jerusalem
A new heaven and a new earth

In this world, this vale of tears
Called sometimes 'This side of heaven'
Sometimes seeming so, sometimes not
There are things.....
Sorrow, mourning, crying, pain, death
Yet one day they shall be no more
They shall be 'former things'
Things which have passed away
All gone - giving great comforts to us

God' promise of His dwelling with us
With all believers
On a new earth
For ever and ever.....

Saving Scenes

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Psalm 31 v.1-4

In you, O Lord, I put my trust
Though I mere man and dust
O let me never be ashamed
Though enemies me blamed

Come, save me in your righteousness
Turn to me, and me bless
Bow down your ear to me, and hear
Assure me you are near

Save me speedily, for you be
Strong rock even to me
A house of defence, a refuge
You give grace and courage

For you are my rock and fortress
I will trust you, do bless
Me, and for your name's sake lead me
And too guide me freely

Save me from snares, and from the nets
That my enemy sets
To trap me, for you my strength be
My Saviour constantly

Not Always Winter

Brrrr! It's cold emotionally at times
Here with us at present
Or for any going through grief
It won't forever be Winter though

I feel more upset at times at other's grief
Or some sentiment or condolence
Starts me - starts us - weeping a bit

We're experiencing it at the loss of my Dad -
A father, grandfather, and great-grandfather

You'll know the grief, if you've experienced it
We did over 25 years ago
When our beloved Mum departed
And so have some relatives
Where both their parents have now departed

It's not forever dark either
With a Christian faith to hold to
To share it, at least a bit where we can
With one another

A Funeral Thanksgiving Service?
Can the two be combined somehow?
It may be a while yet
Relatives to inform, to arrive
From different places of the country, etc

But it won't be gloomy, depressing, downcast
It's the best thing to hold to
The only thing really -
A Christian faith - Humanist things are not enough

Though there's much human help and support too, of course

One said - Christianity
Not a crutch to lean on
To hold us up, lest we stumble
But it's the ground to stand on
A rock - the Rock....
Jesus has been all the way before us

There's massive comfort
God, the source of all comfort
Yet comfort is sometimes used
In the sense of 'discipline, strengthening,' etc

'Rest in Peace, and Rise in Glory'
Dear departed one.....

We're not millions of years old really
But in our Cuckoo Land
Goldfinch and I are - and you too?
It's quaint
Just humour us! (heehee)

Meanwhile...

Meanwhile... in my Cuckoo Land
Where I'm married to KP
And have a talking dog, Fido

I will have to be nice to KP
But only for one day, mind you
Or maybe only or 5 minutes! lol.

Fido goes for walks
He takes ME for walks
Tells me where to go
And he checks those poems still
In case anyone has forgotten the 18+ box
Where it should be ticked

Oh, I've seen all of life
Well, I'm millions of years old
Goldfinch is too!
We remember the dinosaurs
Adn we were at the Battle of Hastings in person in 1066

And he and I were the first people on the moon
Centuries before 1969
We greeted those astronauts when they arrived
We knew the moon is made out of cheese

If you met me, you would see a sight
I'm half human, half guinea pig
Half like the piggies in my pic

All this is true of course -
In Cuckoo Land! lol

Notice

Notice from Orchi

My poems may be suspended for a little while.

as we deal with bereavement matters.

Or I may call in different times of the day

to read and comment.

Thank you for your king thoughts, prayers, etc

at this sad time. :)

Believe in the Light

There's themes, concerns, thoughts, of Hell, the state of the world, etc
But hold to the light
If having Christian beliefs

Jesus says that:
While we have the light (He is the Light of the World)
Believe in the light
That you may be children of the light

At times we may not be able to think straight
Nor enter into complex theological arguments
Simplicity is best, I say
Though there are difficult, complex, involved things in life

Hold to a faith - a Christian faith
It's a Rock to defend, protect, support us
An anchor for our souls too
There's human help also
In bereavement, or whatever we may face

On through the tunnel

On through the tunnel of bereavement
Give ourselves enough time to mourn
Yet with all the busyness
This and that to attend to

It's a tunnel with light
Various expressions, support
Of people and groups available

Time to sing again sometime
Though maybe suppressed just now
As a hymn says:
'The voice of prayer is never silent
Nor dies the strain of praise away'

You'll welcome me with open arms
When I sing - or screech - again
Or you'll run a million miles away!

Fido will howl a bit for you too
Are we The Dreadful Duo?!

Comes the Day.....

The day of the Funeral / Thanksgiving Service, that is...
We've called it both names for the service soon
RIP now Dad, and Rise in Glory

But not 'Funeral' alone
Dark and black and hopeless
Don't want people in black veils there

It's a comfort and healing, in a way
A Christian belief, I trust, of all who attend
At least to some degree or level of belief

Praying, wanting it to be comforting, consoling
Joining together to say our 'Goodbyes'

One said to me one day -
A visitor from America -
'See you next in the Rapture'
I thought, 'Why yes, I suppose that will be so
Unless we meet again on this Earth before then!'

Our final words to one departed may be
'See you in the Rapture; see you in Heaven'
It's what we felt to say to Dad
And then our lives continuing on
Day by day.....

Thank you poets
For all your condolences, good wishes, etc.

From Without, From Within

Singing will resume sometime....

'As long you're not singing it, Orchi', you reply? (lol)

Mark 7 v.18-23

Thoughts on some Bible verses -

Jesus saying - it's not the things from 'outside' that defile a person

But the things from 'within'

Yet humans are capable of doing a lot of good

As well as a lot of evil

But it's from within, He says

Come evil thoughts, adulteries, murders, etc

There's thirteen things listed in all

Maybe part of the origin of superstitious number thirteen

Probably all springing from 'evil thoughts'

The only way our hearts and minds can be changed

Is by salvation through Jesus

Only way to be made new within

The phrase 'born again' or 'born from above'

Our spirits dead in sin before we come to Christian faith

But our spirits 'born' as we repent and turn to God

Because - the beginning of a life is birth - one is born

Yet also being alive in the womb before birth too

This is how I see it

Though it may seem a 'spiritual' answer or remedy

I can't see no other way

No lasting way anyway

That true peace can or will come to this world

A Matter of Faith

Something to shake our faith
Or attempting to shake it?
We know the sort of things
Death, suffering, calamity, etc

Yet it need not always be so
Things can strengthen our faith
Easy enough to say it
When it relates to 'others'
We can forget their sufferings at times
As in 'Out of sight, out of mind'

Not forgetting on purpose
But things slip our minds
Or we're busy with other things....

Let's hold to faith
We can't see it visibly-
That's why it's 'faith'
If we could see faith, it would be 'sight'
It's a ground to stand on - a Rock
Not as one said - a crutch to hold us up
So that we limp through life

Sufferings and troubles could turn us away from God
But they can also draw us nearer to Him
Not that they're good in themselves though
There's the hymn lines
'God works in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform'

Holding On; Being Held

I'm not singing much just yet
What more do ya want?
What could make ya happier than to hear those words:
'Orchi's not singing'. (heehee)
It's not the words of songs that are awful
In the sense of 'dreadful, horrible' etc
Not in the sense of 'awe-ful'

But it's the fact that I'm singing them!
Or are YOU the world's worst singer?! (lol)

But hold on to faith
Or it may be -
Hold me, Lord, hold us
When we're tempted to fall, to fail
To let go of you

Where we're not strong
Or don't feel strong
You won't ever let us go...
You're the Light
That darkness can never put out
Not entirely - always a light
If ranging from only a glimmer at times
To a blaze of glory!

Compassionate Concern

Tune: Serenity

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Mark 9 v.20-27 parts

Jesus did meet a father's son
Who was a troubled one
Afflicted by spirit evil
Not settled life at all

The father asked Jesus if He
Could do anything, see
His plea, Have compassion on us
Help us, you see us thus

Jesus said, If you can believe
And do this truth receive
All things are possible to they
That believe in this day

In anguish the father with tears
Said, I believe, appears
My unbelief here, help it do
I full want to trust you

Jesus did then the man's son heal
Compassion did He feel
Restored him to a healthy state
Showed His love, power great

Prayer And Peace

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Philippians 4 v.6-7

Lord, you promise to hear
Our prayers when we draw near
To you, help us not to fear, for
We may trust you for sure

Guide us to pray your will
Our selfish desires still*
May we be anxious for nothing
Hope and help to us bring

Having prayed, with thanks too
Your peace to us renew
The peace of God, which shall keep our
Hearts and minds calm each hour

Beyond understanding
It be, how in each thing
God's peace shall keep us through His Son
Jesus Christ, He the One

* 'still' in the sense of 'quieten'.

Time To Grieve

You will know
Having experienced any bereavements yourselves
Time needed to grieve
Yet so many things to do, to sort out

Other things may dry up a while -
Poems, hobbies, sports, social life, etc
Many things won't dry up altogether though
Love, care, compassion, humour, singing
Amongst many things

It's a process, taking time
Holding to any faith we may have
Large or small
Whether 'feeling' we have faith or not
Whatever level or degree

Harvest Thoughts

Can't let Harvest season go by completely
Without a few thoughts here
Though I can't seem to put pen to paper much just now
To do more hymn-poems

Hymn - We plough the fields and scatter

Yet - remember this....

'Plough those fields' first

Then 'scatter the good seed on the land'

Don't scatter first, then plough

Or you'll churn up all the seeds. Doh!

Hymn: To thee O Lord, our hearts we raise

Hope your crop is as those golden sheaves

Where the valleys are so full of corn

That they appear as if 'even they are singing'

"It'll be better for ears of corn to sing

Than for me to sing," you reply?!

Hymn - Come, ye thankful people, come

So come, be thankful to the Lord

We haven't got anything

Apart from what He gives us

Which is all things

'All the world is God's own field

Fruit unto His praise to yield'

A physical harvest of crops

A spiritual harvest of souls

A festival to celebrate

I may do a hymn-poem or two yet

Harvest season seems to run any time

Throughout September and October

Meanwhile, here's one the harvest hymns....

1066 Reunion

Have I beaten Goldfinch to it?
Inviting you to the 1066 Reunion
It's tomorrow, the 14th October

It's eccentric, I know
But like Goldfinch and I
You may join the reunion
If you were at the Battle of Hastings in 1066
In person!

It's the 958th anniversary this year
Never knew it was so long ago
Btu probably seems like 5 minutes ago
When you're millions of years old anyway

So you must be very old to qualify
Millions of years old, as we both are
Remembering the dinosaurs
Seeing them in person
Those sort of old things!

The history video is not true
It was all my fault!
I said to King Harold 'Look up, Sire', and he did
And 'the rest is history', as they say

See ya there! (lol)

Good Writes

'Good write' - or 'Fine write'

My often repeated comments

Sometimes because I can't elaborate more

I don't always follow

The flow of cryptic things in poetry

Or I don't always get the meanings of some poems

Can you settle for 'Good write' or 'Fine write'?

Better than nothing, I suppose

Though you may wish 'And.....' was added

To some of my comments

Something extra, something different maybe

But that's us - each unique

Each with our own style of poetry

No use us all being the same!

Woof! I agree, says Fido

And KP agrees too, I expect

Turning to Song?

Turning to Song?

I don't seem to be doing much

Not just yet

Caught up in some dry patch

Words not coming to mind

A tuneful outcome not seen

Not knowing what to write

I continue for now

Just commenting

Or some prose pieces occasionally...

Stuck

Stuck here for now
Not many words come to mind
Some of you look forward to my hymn-poems
But not me singing them! lol. (screech screech)

It'll have to be Fido howling for now
Does he sing better than me?

Getting out of a depressive state
A nearly blind artist's works seen in a show
Using giant magnification on computer
Good for her mental health she finds
So for us, if we can be creative
If we can 'break through'
If something on our mind is troubling us

Yet. for example, not all the Psalms are jolly and joyful
And it says to pray if 'afflicted'
And to be joyful if 'merry'
Nooo - not that sort of merry
I will add water to your tipple
So no danger of being too 'merry'!

Horrors!

It's not a bird or a plane
It's not Superman - nor Superwoman - either
It's KP on her broomstick
Going at 200mph!

I will feed her those things
Little boys are supposed to be made of
Slugs and snails and puppy dog's tails
And a broth of wing of bat and eye of newt
Or is it eye of bat and wing of newt?!

She needs no make-up nor witchy mask
It would only improve her appearance
Though you might take ages to recover
If you saw her natural face - heehee

You'll recognise her tonight
How? You may ask
She'll be that rather trout-faced botox woman
Cackling as she flies.....
Of course she only does it for publicity
She'll be in 7,463 newspapers the next day
And in 8,452 magazines
And on 6,847 TV channels round the world

She'll have a banner with her - her motto -
'Me, me, me first, ever and always!'
LOL.

Time of Day or Night

What time of day or night
Do you usually type up your poems?
Same time every day?
Daylight or night-time hours?
And every day?
Or 'as and when'?

Maybe have a change
Write - and/or type
A different time of day
If rushed first thing in the day
Wait until afternoon or evening
Or too tired at evening
Then write in the morning

Maybe seeing things differently next day
If 'sleeping on' something
But sleep on a pillow, of course (lol)

Or stay with a daily regular poem
Whatever suits you
Whatever you find best.....

We could post 6,483 poems in one go
Or some random high number
All in one posting!
But no one could read them all at once
Or possibly comment all in one go

How are your iambic pentameters these days?
Your Sonnets? Your Haikus? Or whatever!

Remembrances

Tune: Supreme Sacrifice

('O valiant hearts')

John 15 v.12-17 parts

There no greater love one can have than this
To lay down their life, sanctifying bliss
Lay life down for their friends, as Christ did say
And fullness of His love to us display

And in remembrances of battles, wars
Troubles and conflicts reaching to the shores
Of this earthly land, King of Peace, your peace
Send to us, kingdom that shall never cease

We now your friends if we do you obey
Obeying your command to love, you say
Shown in many ways here in deed and word
Your voice, the good Shepherd, we true have heard

You the sacrifice, offering for our sins
In you we trust, and so new life begins
Give us grace to in your service down lay
Our lives, self deny, follow in your way

Hooray, it's Ch.....!

Now I can't say the word yet
Not until December
Or Goldfinch will shoot me!

But yes, a Christmas card
(Oops, I've said the word!)
Arrived in the post for me
I never knew Christmas was in November
I thought it was some card maybe
Relating to Remembrance or something

But you know how it is
Christmas trees in shops in September
Or thereabouts
And hot cross buns and Easter eggs around January

Oh, I dunno what day, what year,
What century it is sometimes
I must have forgotten
To add water to my tippie
And it made me confused

You got that Christmas tree up yet?
You got those decorations up?
Now I'm sure....
It's Christmas next week - Eh?! (lol)

I told ya it's Ch.....

I told ya I'm sure it's Christmas next week
It must be
I got another card today
And - believe it or not -
From the SAME person!

Now look, this is getting silly
I've not even written any Carol-Poems for this year yet
And understandably
As there are about 40 days to go!

It will cost a fortune on stamps
And sending them out this early
But - you know - we're all ready now
KP, Fido, and I here -
Expecting an Easter card in January!

This is true - yes!
Not in the genre of 'fantasy'

Let's go the whole hog
Such as - Bonfire Night in May
Midsummers Day in February
Put the clocks forward in June
Spring Bank Holiday in September
{Add your own ones here}
And Christmas every November!
LOL

A word from Fido to me about Ch....

Now look, Fido says to me
This can't go on for ever
Thinking it's Ch..... already
There's about 40 days to go yet
And you've got two cards already
From the SAME person!
He wishes they would send him a bone early. lol.

Also he says to me
You know Ch..... will be over by December 1st
Cos you're sure it's next week
Though you've not seen Santa's sleigh yet
And you've not had that annual morning yet
When you find the lounge full of soot

Fido knows why that is so -
It's some fat beardy bloke
In a red costume, hat, and welly boots
Now none us knows how he gets down the chimney
But he always fills the lounge with soot. Doh!

I shall buy KP nothing
I got no money left
She has it for her botox
Though it's done no good
Even after 5,743 appointments!
I say to her
'You're looking worse these days, my dear!' (lol)

I will fool her....
And say - Ch..... was around November 20th this year
So it's all over now
I will say to her on December 25th

Getting those two cards already has thrown me
I dunno what day, what year, what century we are in -
No change there then for you, Fido tells me! lol.

Did I mention the full word once in this poem?!

Fido speaks again

Now Fido's OK, if ya humour him
A talking, reading dog
But don't ya forget that 18+ box
If poems should be so marked
Or he'll go mad

He won't bite ya
But he'll bark fiercely at ya!
He'll sit by the fireside
In his carpet slippers and dressing gown
Of an evening, checking them poems

He has a pipe - just for comfort
But he don't have any baccy in it
And he don't smoke either

He sleeps on my bed
Sleeps in it, in fact
He barks at me if I try to turf him out
I have to sleep in his dog basket. Doh!

Meanwhile....

Meanwhile.....

'Tis what I put on some comments

A fantasy land - me, KP, and Fido

If you spot that word in my comments

It usually means something daft is to follow

I use it as an indication

In case I just blunder in

And the humour may seem inappropriate

And so I get told off

For putting my big foot in it

Appearing insensitive, crass, ignorant, etc

The replies may be in words such as

'You cad; you bounder' 'you.....'

Or 'tally ho, jolly hockey sticks,' etc

If it's a milder reply

Summat like that anyway

'Ooh - mind your language' says Fido!

A couple of examples:

'Oohh, don't try suicide

It will hurt

And you can't try it again if you succeed first time'

'I phoned the Samaritans -

They were permanently engaged!' Doh!

'I raided KP's money box

Not a penny in it

It was full of Botox supplies!'

'For those terrible dark humour jokes

You may need to mark this 18+, ' says Fido
'Or I will bark at ya!'

Jokers, Clowns, and Santa

Jokers and clowns - no thanks!
They're hideous when you really look
A false smile painted on a face
And they tend to be spooky and scary
Some are in horror films too

Even Punch and Judy
That wife-batterer, or partner-batterer (?)
Yet people laugh at it
That Punch looks evil, I say

But on the other hand - sort of
There's old miseries at Christmas, saying
'Tell your child Santa does not exist
It's only some fat bloke dressed up
And the 'fat' may be extra padding'

And the fun and innocence
Of 'nice' clowns in a circus
But circuses with animals in are another matter

Though I never did find out
How Santa got down the chimney!

But to be ultra-religious
Santa is an anagram of Satan
And has he got 'Claus'?
It's St Nicholas really of old
Or Kris Kringle, so it says
Christ-ingle?!
You know Mr K. Kringle?!

There's a grating line in a hymn of 'For all the saints'

Where modernised, it reads, verging on blasphemy:

'The Clown of Glory tumbles in the way'

Instead of 'The King of Glory passes on His way'

KP, she say....

Not many hymn-poems lately
So I will write more fantasy 'rubbish!' (lol)
Confucius, he say...
KP, she say.... what does she say?

'Lend us - or give us - more money for botox, dear'
I reply - 'You're looking more trout-like each day, dear'
I feed her Fido's bones at meal times
Fido has her dinners!

I have to be horrible to her sometimes, you see
To take her down a peg or three
But it don't do any good
She says - 'I'm off for a photo shoot again
The 7,483rd one this year so far'

I can't keep up with her antics
But in her infinite wisdom, she says, as her motto:
'Me, me, and me always, now and for ever!'

She's a fount, a well-spring of wisdom
With anything to do with botox
Just consult her - she's an expert on it!
Heehee

KP Nuts

Write sense, that man!
Not garbage about KP
No, not the KP nuts of old
(Can you still get them today?)
But me wifey - you knows her
Must have seen her 10 million times
In papers, magazines, on TV
Everywhere in fact!

Dunno why I write this rubbish about her
She's laughing really
Cos it gives her even more publicity
Nope, I'm not a misogynist - woman hater
But I have to do horrid things to her sometimes
To keep her down a peg or three

I'm the guy, she says
Who got M&S mixed up
And called it S&M - Doh!
She gets her own back
She's tied this ball and chain to me ankle
And thrown away the key!

Now what you doing knowing about S&M? asks Fido
He says - it will only make you swoon!
Though it's TMI - Too Much Information
To tell ya any details
If I been a 'dark horse' or not - have I?! Oooh!

Woof, mark this one 18+ says Fido! lol.

Ohhhh ranting!

Oohhh, it's time for a rant
But don't decode this or translate it! lol

Ooohhhh FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF and F
And furthermore FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF and even F
And then *&^%\$£(!!!!)(*&
And also (*)*&^%\$£%()
And even *&^%~~~{}^\$£"))!!

I've gone acronym mad
With the BBC and ITV and Radio 4
And TMI and M&S!
Aldo CRND, BKRM, VFOJ
(I dunno what they mean)

It's waste of a poem, I know
But - XXXXXXXXXXXX and X
And - ZZZZZZZZZZZ and Z
Even IRHDKFPEGOFRPQ
Could be a bit of algebra there
And all that rubbish!

I dunno what I'm on about here
Nothing new there then, you reply!
Are ya ears burning?
I'll mark it 18+ (heehee).

Silent Poem

Here's a silent poem - or a waste of a poem again...

Verse 1

.....
.....
.....
.....

Verse 2 - up to last verse - 5,496.

Same layout as verse 1.

I dunno what format it is
Can't see it - it's invisible!

Could it be an 8.8.8.8?
Or a 6.6.8.6.?
Or even a 10.10.10.10.?
It might be a 9.5.7.8.
Whatever you want it to be
And how long or short you want it to be!

I want no grumbles of
'Oh, I can't write poetry'
See - Silent Poems - the simplest sort
Am I pulling your leg?!
And if I pull the other leg
Has it got bells on? lol.

Do shut up now, Orchi, says Fido
You're beginning to ramble again
Keep taking your tablets! heehee.

We Are Piggies.....

Now I gotta write AGAIN, ye another poem on the theme.....

It's written by us piggies in Orchi's pic

We are GUINEA PIGS (cavies) for the millionth time of telling ya

We are not rats, hamsters, mice, or rabbits

Nor are we them jerboa, chinchilla, or meerkat thingys

Nor elephants, daffodils, or pork pies (!?)

We've added some random things in there

Cos -Don't ya know us, who we are?!

Ever heard an elephant squeak?

Or seen a pork pie eat grass?

Or a daffodil eat hay?

Then again, if we are giant hamsters

Be afraid, very afraid

Cos we've mutated

And we're in a film:

'Invasion of the Giant Hamsters!'

You'll know we're piggies

If ya go to a pet shop

If our owner is working in the shop he'll sell ya, for example

A giraffe if you want a mouse

A bear if you want a cat

Or a tiger if you want a dog

If you want guinea pigs

Just ask for hamsters! lol.

Your Most Un-Favourite Saying

What's it for you?

Your most un-favourite saying, word, sentence, phrase, etc?

Could it be 'At this moment in time'?

But in the next moment 'this' moment has gone!

Or people who always says 'basically' or 'why?'

Someone daft always replied 'why?'

Even if it was not a question

Or reading a book and it suddenly lapses

Into some French, Latin, or other foreign phrase

That you don't understand

Or has endless footnotes

'As you see' - but I don't see, I don't know

But my most annoying phrase is from KP

She says it ten times a day

'Got any money you can give me for botox, dear?!'

Heehee

Amiable Andrew

Tune: St Andrew

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

John 1 v.35-41

For St Andrews Day: November 30.

Andrew and Simon Peter, two
Of John's [Baptist] disciples were true
John saw Jesus and said, Behold
The Lamb of God! it be told

They two then did Jesus follow
Jesus turned around, did know
They were there, and said, What seek ye?
In His sight He did them view

They said, Rabbi, where do you dwell?
Will you unto you now tell?
Jesus said, Come and see, and they
Did stay at His place that day

Andrew unto Jesus he brought
His brother Peter, him sought
Said, We have the Messiah found
The Christ, hear the joyful sound

Jesus said to Peter, You shall
Be called Cephas, know it well
A stone, having sure foundation
Preaching unto the nation

Return Readiness

Tune: Merton

('Hark, a herald - or thrilling - voice is sounding')

Matthew 24 v.36-44

Are we ready, have we here heard
Of the Lord and in His word
Of His return, though no one know
When it shall be He shall show

God the Father He knows only
When return of Christ shall be
But shall be as in Noah's days
Mankind continue their ways

Eating, drinking, and marrying
Till flood disaster did bring
And took them all away, so shall
Christ's return be, time shall tell

One shall be taken, and one left
One saved, and one left bereft
Watch, therefore, for you know not when
The Lord's hour shall come then

If one knew when a thief would come
One would watch, protect their home
And so the thief would not ruin
The home, take nothing therein

So be ready as one who home
Guards, for Christ he shall come sure
At an hour that you think not
Preparedness be your lot

Xmas and other stuff

Now lookie here, says Fido
Writing some lines today
It's not Xmas - it's Christmas

Say it 10 million times or more this month, December
And you won't incur Goldfinch's wrath!

But some write 'Merry Xmas'
It might be that they still believe
The true meaning of Christmas
But 'Christmas' is quite a long word
And could take up a lot of ink
If ya got about 6,843 cards to write

And folk say 'Oh, it saves me 2 seconds per card
To write 'Xmas' instead of 'Christmas' every time'

Woof! A couple of conundrums from Fido
If Jesus was born in 1 AD
How did they work out all the years 'BC'?
But how, as some say, was He born in 4BC?!

And was it December 25?
It may have been, Oh I dunno, random...
May 23; August 6; November 13
Take your pick maybe!

And what about these months?
September - 7th month (it's our 9th month)
October - - 8th month (it's our 10th month)
November - 9th Month (it's our 11th month)
December - 10th Month (it's our 12th month)
Did they leave out two months?

If so, which two?

Goldfinch and I should know these things really
As we're both millions of years old
Though Fido knows 99% of everything
He is asking you about some of the 1% things
That he don' know!

Insulting KP Again?

Will this ever stop? Fido asks me?
Putting down KP?

Well, it has to be done sometimes, I reply
To keep her down a peg or three
I'm writing this book about her and others:
'The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Trouts- Old Ones'

There's no pictures of fish in it
But plenty of botox
And some giant hamsters too
(In a book about fish?!)

I've wasted hours on that book
A load of rubbish -
It will only backfire on me
Cos it will give her even MORE publicity!
Heehee

She's done it again
Caused me to write this poem about her - another one
Now it promotes her motto -
'Me, me, me, now and always!'

Who reads this rubbish?

....My dafter poems, I mean!
It's enough to make you comment
As one poet did on a site, with several poems
'I don't care much for this write'

He/she used to do it regularly
Incurring poet's wrath
And rightly so

But me - I don't mind if ya say that
On my 'digression into daftness'- type poems
That's sounds like a good title to me
For a book on humorous poems

I insist ya agree with me
When I take KP down a peg or three
'Haven't you got anything better to do?' asks Fido
And he says:
'You should "get your coat"
And 'get out more'
As the sayings go!

Do ya know
Ya could waste an average of
Ohh, about 47 seconds or summat
Reading one of my dafter poems!
LOL

Day Dawning

Tune: Bristol

('Hark, the glad sound')

Matthew 4 v.15-17

Lands of Zebulun, Naphtali
In northern countries lie
Beond River Jordan you be
Near Galilee, we see

The people which sat in darkness
They saw great light, no less
To them which sat in the region
And shadow of death one

One comes to you, and light is sprung
Up, let praises be sung
This one He Jesus, God's own Son
Day has dawned, has begun

Message of salvation, Repent
The Son from heaven sent
Proclaims, for kingdom of heaven
Is near, be ready then

Victory Venture

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

('O come, O come, Emmanuel')

Revelation 19 v.11-16

Heaven opened, behold, white horse
Ready to go forth in his course
He that sat on Him, Faithful, True
Was His name, right judgements shall do

Chorus

Rejoice, you righteous, Christ shall come
And take you to His heavenly home

In righteousness He judges, makes war
Enemies incur His wrath sore
His eyes a flame of fire, and on
His head many crowns, He God's Son - Chorus

He had name written on Him, though
No one but Himself it did know
Was clothed in a robe dipped in blood
Yet brings salvation, cleansing flood - Chorus

His name, The Word of God, and see
Him follows the heavenly armies
On white horses, and clothed they be
In fine linen, white, clean, holy - Chorus

Out of His moth goes a sharp sword
To smite the nations with God's word
He shall rule them with iron rod
Treads the winepress of Almighty God - Chorus

The winepress of the fierceness, wrath
Of God, 'gainst enemies shown both
On His robe and thigh name written
KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS, Amen - Chorus

Temple Message

Tune & Hymn: 'Come, thou long expected Jesus'

Luke 1 v.11-17

Angel of the Lord did appear
To Zacharias drew near
He was troubled, on him fear fell
Angel this message did tell

Fear not, Zacharias, your prayer
Is heard, and your wife shall bear
Wife Elisabeth, shall have son
And you shall call his name John {Baptist}

And you shall have joy and gladness
Many shall rejoice, you bless
For he shall be great in the sight
Of the Lord and in His might

He shall drink no wine nor drink strong
He shall be filled all along
With the Holy Spirit even
Before his human birth then

Many of Israel he shall turn
To the Lord their God and learn
Of Him, John shall go before, he
As Elijah of old be

Shall turn hearts of fathers unto
The children, and them renew
Turn disobedient to be
Wise, ready for the Lord, see

Repentant Readiness

Tune: Helmsley

('Lo, he comes with clouds descending')

Luke 3 v.7-18

John the Baptist at the Jordan
Preached the coming of God's Son
Said to people wanting baptism
Repent, and believe in Him
So be ready, so be ready, so be ready
Kingdom of heaven comes, see

He said, You vipers, who warned you
To flee from wrath to come true?
Bring forth therefore fruits good, worthy
Of repentance, humble be
Living, showing; living, showing; living, showing
Good deeds, words, in every thing

Every tree which bears fruit not good
Shall be hewn down from the wood
And be cast into the fire sure
Be consumed, and be no more
Axe laid to root, axe laid to root, axe laid to root
Of trees, removed trunk, branch, shoot

John did say he not the Christ be
But that He would come soon, see
Greater than John, fan in His hand
To winnow people of land
Wheat be gathered, wheat be gathered, wheat be gathered
But the chaff burned, be assured

354 Presents - Doing the Maths!

Now look here, KP

I wish you wouldn't send me the same

354 presents each year

If I've got my calculations right

I mean the 12 Days of Christmas

That's Day 1 - A partridge in a pear tree (Total so far: 1 present)

Day 2 - Two turtle doves AND a partridge... (2 presents on Day 2. Total so far: $1+2 = 3$ presents)

On Day 3 add the totals for each day so far: $1+2 = 3$

Day 3 - and so on (3 presents on Day 3. Total so far: $1+2+3 = 6$ presents)

On Day 3 add the totals for each day so far: $1+3+6 = 10$

And so on up to Day 12

See the video

Save me writing out each day's presents!

When you get to day 12 you should be adding

$1+3+6+\dots$ up to Day 12's total

It should give you a grand total of **354**, I think

I wouldn't mind if they were different gifts each years

But I got about 5,483 partridges

12,846 swans a-swimming

15,637 geese a-laying

And thousands of other things now

All in the song!

LOL

Optimist or Pessimist?

You know the saying:

'Is your glass half full or half empty?'

It might be both!

But with the seasons

After the Shortest Day -

The nights are drawing out again

After the Longest Day -

The nights are drawing in again

Just after Christmas -

That's that done for another 12 months

Or in mid-June -

Only 6 months to go until Christmas

In January -

Spring will follow in about a couple of months

In October -

Winter's soon on it's way

Take these which ways you will

And - Can you please all the people all of the time?

Or will you have to make do with

Pleasing some of the people some of the time?

Two men in a prison - one looks down, the other looks up

One saw mud, the other saw stars

(This rhymes somehow - not a verbatim quote here)

'There's nowt so queer as folk', the saying goes

And I'm rambling on again

'No change there then' you say?

'Still waffling, spouting, proclaiming

In your daft times

Things of no importance at all!

LOL

Preparing The Way

Tune: Winchester New

('On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry')

Luke 7 v.24-28

When you John Baptist went to see
Jesus asked the people, so be
What went you to desert to see
A redd shaken by wind freely?

Or to see one in soft raiment?
When you went was this your intent?
Behold, they who are dressed richly
They found in kings' palaces be

Or went you for prophet to see?
Yes, John Baptist a prophet he
And much more than a prophet for
He be my messenger for sure

As Isaiah of old did say
Behold, I send him you this day
Before Christ comes, he shall prepare
His way, then you shall see Christ there

Foe among those born of women
No greater prophet than John then
But who in God's kingdom least be
It true, such is greater than he

The Angel Message

Based on Luke 2 v.15-20 - Precis.

The Angel Message

The message of the angel of the Lord unto the shepherds at the birth of Jesus. As the angels went back to heaven, the shepherds that night then said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us".

So they came, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the baby Jesus lying in a manger [an animal's food trough]. And when they saw the family, they told them what the angel had said to them, "We were in the country keeping watch over our sheep, and angels appeared to us. The angel of the Lord said to us, "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David [Bethlehem] a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord; and that this would be a sign unto us, that we would find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, laying in a manger. And then 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, good will towards mankind'".

All those that heard these words wondered, but Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned to their sheep, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was just as the angel of the Lord had said unto them that night.

Dang Tree!

I'm having a spot of bother
Why isn't this Christmas tree growing?
I've put it in soil
Gave it some water
Clipped off any dead-looking branches
Given it bells, baubles, etc
And stuck KP on the top of it
The botox fairy, she is
Rather trout-like!
And why no loose pine needles
That I usually have to sweep up?

Woof! Says Fido to me - Have a bit of sense
It's an artificial tree! (LOL)

Mary's Magnificat (Song of Praise)

Tune: Woodlands

('Tell out my soul')

Luke 1 v.46-55

My soul does magnify the Lord and praise
Him, and my spirit has rejoiced these days
In God my Saviour, for He has seen then
The lowly state of me His handmaiden

For, behold from henceforth all peoples, they
Shall call me blessed, for comes salvation's day
For He that is mighty has done to me
Great things, and holy His name always be

And His mercy is on them who Him fear
Each generation who to Him draw near
He has showed strength with His arm, has scattered
The proud in their hearts thoughts, has not deferred

He has put down the mighty from their seats
And exalted the lowly, done great feats
He has filled the hungry with His good things
And the rich are empty, this their greed brings

He has helped his servant Israel, for He
Has remembered His mercy, does them see
As He promised to Abraham and seed
His descendants He does keep, ever feed

Born A Babe

Tune: Sussex Carol

('On Christmas night all Christians sing')

Matthew 1 v.20-23

The angel of the Lord did say
To Joseph, Now fear not today
The angel of the Lord did say
To Joseph, Now fear not today
Take Mary to wife, begotten
Of the Spirit is her child, son

For she shall sure bring forth a Son
To be called JESUS, He the One
For she shall sure bring forth a Son
To be called JESUS, He the One
Saviour sent forth from God to earth
Making possible man's new birth

Shall save His people from theirs sins
Forgive, make them all clean within
Shall save His people from theirs sins
Forgive, make them all clean within
As spoken by prophet of old
Now let the good tidings be told

Isaiah said, a virgin shall
Bring forth a son, we know it well
Isaiah said, a virgin shall
Bring forth a son, we know it well
Shall call His name Emmanuel
God with us, rings through hill and dale

Benediction on the Baptist

Tune: Est Ist Ein Ros = Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

('A great and mighty wonder')

Luke 1 v.76 - 79 [part of the 'Benedictus']

John's father, Zacharias
Spoke the Benedictus
Said, You child, shall be prophet
Of the Most High God se
For you shall go before
The Lord's face to prepare sure
His ways, and our soul's cure

Give knowledge of salvation
To each, every nation
By forgiveness of sins all
To they who hear His call
Repent, or kingdom near
Kingdom of God on earth hear
Christ His Son does appear

It through the tender mercy
Of our God to us, see
Whereby the Dayspring, [the] Dawning
Brings us our bright morning
Visitation displayed
Messiah to us arrayed
From on high, Light ne'er fade

Gives light to those in darkness
Sent to earth to us bless
And light to those in shadow
Of darkness, hope shall know
To guide our feet into

The way of peace, by faith view
He who makes all things new

Shepherds Shown

Tune: Personent Hodie = Let resounding happen today

('Long ago, prophets knew')

Luke 2 v.8-14

Shepherds with sheep one night
In the field saw great sight
The angel of the Lord
Brought them a message, word
This the truth that they heard

Chorus

A Saviour born be
In Bethlehem, see
Great joy to all people
E'en unto nations all

God's glory did appear
Fear not, you shepherds here
Angel said, I do bring
Joyful, wondrous tidings
Heavenly host too sings - Chorus

This to you be the sign
You shall find the babe fine
Wrapped all in swaddling clothes
In manger, thus each knows
This how Christ to man* shows - Chorus
(*mankind)

Hosts above, they God praised
To Him gracious songs raised
Glory to God on high
On earth peace was their cry

Good will to men hereby - Chorus

Martyr Mission

Tune: Tempus Adeste Floridum = The time for flowers has come
(*'Good King Wenceslas'*)

Acts 7 v.54-60 - For St Stephen's Day: Dec 26.

They to whom Stephen did preach
Whom his message did reach
They stubborn, impenitent
Did not change or repent
When they heard him, in fury
Cut to the heart they be
Teeth to him gritted in rage
None did abate or assuage

But he full of the Spirit
Looked to heaven, eyes lit
Saw the glory of God, too
Jesus there he did view
Said, behold, heavens I see
Opened, and Jesus be
Sone of man at God's right hand
There He be, there He does stand

People cried out with loud voice
Blocked their ears, that their choice
Rushed upon him together
As in one angry stir
Cast him out of the city
Stoned him violently
He called on God, saying, Lord
Jesus, do hear my prayer's word

Receive my spirit, he prayed
Kneeled down, with loud voice made

It to be heard, said, Lord, lay
This sin not to them, may
It not be to their charge laid
He bold and unafraid
Holy martyr then did sleep* (*die)
God his faithful soul did keep

The Light of Love

Tune: Winchester Old

('While shepherds watched')

1 John 3 v.16-19 - For St John's Day, Dec 27.

Hereby we God's love do perceive
In it we do believe
That He laid down His life for us
In his Son sent to us

And we ought to lay down our lives
For each other, so thrives
The love of God, so we do share
With each other His care

But who has this world's goods, its store
And sees the needy, poor
And closes heart of compassion
To them their fellow-men

How in them does love of God dwell?
It does not, we do tell
Let us not love in word only
But in actions too, see

So do we share God's love, His light
It appears to man's sight
May we His love show, word and deed
His command to love heed

Holy Innocents Horror

Tune: Puer Nobis

('Unto us a boy is born')

For Holy Innocents Day: Dec 28.

Wise men to King Herod they
Did not return that day
When they saw the young Christ-child
Abiding with mother mild
Abiding with mother mild

Then Herod, he with rage filled
Sent forth decree, he willed
To kill Bethl'em's children, they
Little boys under two be
Little boys under two be

Then was fulfilled prophet's word
Lamentation sore heard
Jeremiah said, Israel
Would weep, mourn, for children wail
Would weep, mourn, for children wail

Comforted they would not be
Babies, toddlers gone, see
But Jesus, Joseph, Mary
In safety in Egypt be
In safety in Egypt be

Holy innocent children
Murdered by Herod's men
Light of Christ upon us shine
Dispel dark by rays divine
Dispel dark by rays divine

A load of more rubbish!

It's more rubbish again!
Or 'Another Adventure in Cuckoo Land'
I'm still trying to get this artificial
Christmas tree to grow
Can't understand why it's not growing - hmmm

And Fido wants his dinner - his bones too
And KP wants her botox

Some fat beardy bloke came down our chimney
A few nights ago
He saw KP and dashed back up it again
Couldn't stand the sight
Of the old trout! lol.

Mark them poems 18+ in the new year
If they need to be so marked
Fido will continue to check them
Don't forget now
Or he'll bark ferociously at you!

Is the anything much worse
Than people laughing at their own jokes?
Well, we may have to
Cos no one else may laugh at 'em. Doh!

It's like on TV - 'New comedy coming soon'
I reply 'Where?'
And 'Laugh at the trailers? I never even started'

It'll be a horrid new year for me again
Cos I gotta spend it with KP!
LOL

Fido Musing

Fido's trying to understand the strange ways of humans
Though I tell him
'You may as well give up, Fido
You won't get anywhere
Or at least not very far in trying to understand
Though then again
Maybe, you a reading, talking dog
Will understand more than us
Cos I know that you know 99%
Of all there is to know!'

Fido is trying to understand the scenario
At the start of a year - 'Happy New Year', humans say
But at the end of the year - 'Good riddance to it
Next year should be better', humans say
And so it goes on year after year. Doh!

And he tells me
'I wish you would stop watering
That artificial Christmas tree still'
'And what's that bit of French they sing?' asks Fido
'Auld Lang Summat or other' (heehee)
But then again, he knows about 4,683 languages!

And he asks me
'Why on earth did you marry an old trout?'
'Marrying one of my bones would have been better'

So he concludes:
'There's nowt so queer as folk!'
LOL

A Cheery Prospect?

Woof! says Fido
Don't wish my master a Happy New Year
Cos he know that married to KP
It can only get worse. Doh!

How it came about was
KP hid the water from the sherry one night
Which Orchi usually adds to his tipple
Orchi got tipsy and said 'I do'
Said he would marry her
It happened one Halloween
It couldn't have been any other night of the year
Such a horror, spooky, weird time

Now he's stuck with an old trout
He don't see her much in person
But he always sees her every day
On TV, or in a paper, or in a magazine, etc, etc
Anywhere in fact

She insists on not changing her motto for a new year
It's still ' Me, me, me, now and for ever!'
My master says to her
'You're looking uglier each day, my dear
My Botox Queen!'
(Ooh, my master's horrid to her! heehee)

Life Limitless

Tune: Moscow

('Thou whose Almighty word')

Mark 6 v.35-43 parts

Jesus from dead did raise
Jairus' daughter, give praise
To Him all days
She his only daughter
Her parents distressed sure
But life Jesus did bring
Let all now sing

Though at the home there be
Weeping and agony
God had mercy
She was of age twelve year
Unto her parents dear
The resurrection see
Jesus He be

He said, Damsel, I say
To you arise this day
There did they pray
Jesus and others there
In miracle did share
Family whole again
God be praised then

Thirsty Times

Tune: St Peter

('How sweet the name of Jesus sounds')

Psalm 63 v.1-5

O God, you are my God, early
Will I seek you, so be
I long for you as in land dry
Thirsty, to you draw nigh

Land needing water desperately
Living water you be
And my desire to see your power
And your glory each hour

Because your loving-kindness be
Better than life to me
My slips shall praise you, I you bless
While I live, this confess

I have seen in your sanctuary
Your temple-house, so be
Your goodness, mercy unto me
Shown by your grace freely

My soul, it shall be satisfied
Good not to me denied
My mouth shall praise you day and night
Who are the world's true Light

Epiphany Expressions

Tune: Stuttgart

('Earth has many a noble city')

Matthew 2 v,8-11

From the East came wise men*, Magi
Unto Bethlehem drew nigh
Followed the star till their journey
Ended where the Christ-child be

Seeing the start they did greatly
Rejoice, e'en exceedingly
To worship the Saviour they came
Jesus, God's Son, be His name

The Epiphany, the showing
Of the Christ, the revealing**
To them, with Mary mother too
There they precious sight did view

Opening their treasures they made
Homage, gifts, to Him displayed
Gold and frankincense and myrrh fine
To the King human, divine

* The text does not say they were Kings, but they may have been. Nor how many there were.

** The revealing to the Gentiles, i.e. non-Jews.

Star Shining

Tune: Dix

('As with gladness men of old')

Matthew 2 v.1-6 parts

Jesus in Bethlehem born
Bringing us salvation's morn
Then came from the East wise men
Unto Jerusalem then
Saying, Where is He that be
Born King of the Jews to see?

For we have in the east seen
His star, there it former been
We are come to Him worship
Honour Him in word and lip
People did to them reply
He is not too far, but nigh

For the prophets words they
In Bethl'em of Judah, see
You be not least among towns
But you be of high renowns
For from you a Governor
Shall come and shall be Ruler*

Shall rule His people Israel
And too message Gentiles tell
He shall shepherd them and lead
Them to good pasture, them feed
Thus revealed, Epiphany
The Christ-child for all to see

* 'Ruler' here is sometimes translated as 'Shepherd',

so this leads on to the next verse.

Praise Profession

Tune: Laos Deo

('Bright the vision that delighted')

Psalm 147 v.1-5

Praise you the Lord, for it good be
To sing praises to Him free
For it is pleasant and comely
Beautiful, joyful it be

The Lord Jerusalem does build
Hill and vale and town and field
Gathers the outcasts, forsaken
Restores them now amidst men* (*mankind)

He does heal the broken in heart
Wholeness brings to every part
Binds up their wounds, comforts sorrows
Thus each His peace, presence knows

He counts the stars, knows their number
Call them by their names, each were
Created by Him, every thing
In heaven and earth, praise bring

Bring unto Him, for He is great
And of great power, estate
His understanding infinite
Doing justice, goodness, right

Bounteous Blessings

Tune: Regent Square

('Light's abode, celestial Salem')

Psalm 103 v.17-22

The mercy of the Lord it be
From everlasting, here see
And to everlasting to they
Who fear Him, follow His way
His righteousness unto children's
Children, they His presence sense

To they who His covenant keep
In His pasture hey His sheep
And who remember His commands
To do, people of all lands
The Lord in heaven has prepared
His throne, grace with us has shared

His kingdom it rules over all
Unto Him we may pray, call
Bless the Lord You His angels who
Excel in strength, holy, true
You do His commands, hearkening
To his word He does you bring

Bless the Lord, all you His hosts great
Ministers, servants, and wait
Upon Him, you do His pleasure
Finding in Him your treasure
Bless the Lord all places where He
Has dominion strong and free

Praise Proclamation

Tune: Sandys

('Teach me, my God and King')

Psalm 47 v.1-7

Clap hands, all you people
Shout unto God, extol
Him, for He is the Lord most high
We may to Him draw nigh

He is a great King o'er
All the earth, it be sure
He shall subdue our enemies
He from oppression frees

And our inheritance
He shall choose, His presence
Shall be e'er with us, He encoves
His people who He loves

God is gone up with shout
Let praises now ring out
And trumpets too His praise proclaim
Acknowledge His great name

He King o'er all the earth
Praise Him, give Him His worth
Sing praises with understanding
And Him your worship bring

Majestic Marvellings

Tune: Doncaster

('Put thou thy trust in God')

Psalm 93

The Lord reigns, He is clothed
With majesty bestowed
Clothed with strength, He has girded self
By His own power, wealth

The world is established
On sure foundation pitched
So it cannot be moved, shaken
'Tis the dwelling of men* (*mankind)

The Lord's throne too it be
Established firm, truly
He the eternal Lord, He e'er
Lives, and His reign fails ne'er

The floods their voice do raise
And cause scenes of amaze
The Lord on high is mightier
Than all waters strong stir

His words are very sure
And He be holy, pure
Holiness adorns His temple
People, come praise Him all

Sir Orchi NS

Now a tribute to Doggerel Dave
Who has knighted me
As 'Sir Orchi NS' - Non Sequitur

Cos I'm the guy
Who sometimes leaves daft, irrelevant
Non-sequitur comments on poems
Nothing to do with the real theme of the poems at all, you understand
Just me - Sir Orchi, rambling on in 'asides'

Not that I understand many cryptic-type poems
Though they can be open to different interpretations
So then I resort to customary
'Good write' or 'Fine write'
Cos I sometimes can't think
Of what more too add

Well, it's better than saying
'Rubbish write' or 'I hate this poem!'
Has anyone actually commented that to YOU?

Woof! Enough says Fido
You knew he'd make an appearance again
He says - Never mind your mad ramblings
Take ME out for my ramble
And leave KP in my kennel
Where she belongs!
(You are horrible to her, Fido says)
LOL

Hopeful Help

Tune: Franconia

('Blest are the pure in heart')

Psalm 28 v.6-9

Blessed be the Lord, for He
Has heard my prayers, so be
The Lord is my strength and my shield
Great power does He wield

My heart in Him did trust
I who and mere man, dust
And me He helped, therefore my heart
Rejoices, every part

With my song I will praise
Him, to Him anthems raise
The lord is our strength, for he be
Saving strength, sure, truly

And He too shall anoint
His Son, He shall appoint
Him as Messiah, Promised One
His will it shall be done

Save your people, O Lord
Uphold them by your word
Bless your inheritance, them feed
Lift them up, meet their need

Healing Help

Tune: Southwell

('Lord Jesus, think on me')

Psalm 6 parts

Have mercy on me, Lord
Come heal me by your word
Or touch of compassion and love
O gentle heavenly dove

For I am weak and frail
Let sickness not prevail
Though I be without strength, restore
Me in my state here poor

My soul, as body too
Is vexed, troubled, O you
Lord return to me, have mercy
Save me, grant help to me

You, Lord, my prayer will hear
Will unto me draw near
Will restore, heal, and comfort me
So your graces I see

Plentiful Providings

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

2 Corinthians 9 v.8-11

God is able to make all grace
Abound, whate'er you face
That you provided completely
With all sufficiency

Always in all things, that you may
Abound throughout each day
Unto every good work, as He
Has dispersed abroad, see

God has given unto the poor
And He remains true, sure
He who gives to you daily bread
With daily supplies fed

He too multiplies your seed sown
You shall find produce grown
For you being enriched in all
Things shall prosper, not fall

You shall be bounteous to share
Liberally here, there
Which causes many thanks, God be
Praised, for generous He

Commitment Call

Tune: Epiphany

('Brightest and best of the sons of the morning')

Mark 1 v.14-18

Light of the world, you did call your disciples
They left all, followed you, obeyed your calls
Forth they did go, shared the news of salvation
Gospel message spread to every nation

Fishermen you called to be fishers of men
Appointed of your choosing of them then
Twelve chosen and by your spirit directing
Giving them wisdom and grace in each thing

So send forth us, your church, people of today
That we evangelise and watch and pray
Preaching and teaching as your proclamation
Repent, each person, your message, God's Son

For the time is fulfilled, kingdom of God be
At hand, now is the time to repent, see
And believe in the gospel open to all
Let us too follow, respond to His call

(The last verse of the hymn is traditionally repeated at the end, and so here also)

Light of the world, you did call your disciples
They left all, followed you, obeyed your calls
Forth they did go, shared the news of salvation
Gospel message spread to every nation

Wait a While

Tune: St Bees

('Hark my soul, it is the Lord')

Psalm 27 v.11-14

Teach me your way, O Lord, lead
Me in a plain path I plead
Because of my enemies
Who oppress me, would me seize

Give me not over to them
And so I shall praise you then
They speak lies, do violence
But I will trust in you hence

I had fainted, unless I
Had believed your presence nigh
And to see your goodness' store
In land of the living sure

Wait on the Lord in faith, be
Of good courage constantly
And He shall strengthen your heart
Wait on the Lord, choose good part

From Mourning To Joy

Tune: Church Triumphant

('The Lord is King, lift up thy voice')

Psalm 30 parts

Sing to the Lord, you saints of His
Find in Him your contentment, bliss
Give thanks too at remembrance
Of His holiness, pure presence

For His anger it does endure
A moment, then His mercy sure
And in His favour there is life
His help through earthly trouble, strife

Weeping may endure for a night
But then comes morning's promised light
And joy comes, tears are dried, rejoice
For they who make the Lord their choice

You have turned for me my mourning
Into dancing, new hope you bring
My sackcloth, mourning garments you
Have put off, gave me gladness true

So that my tongue may sing praise to
You, be not silent, worship you
O Lord my God, I will thanks give
To you who save me, I shall live

Pleasant Praise

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 33 v.1-11

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, for praise
Is comely, beautiful, here anthems raise
Praise the Lord with voices, and instruments play
Sing to Him a new song, whether night or day

Play skilfully with a loud noise, with art
Each one contribute, taking a full part
For the word of the Lord is right, His works all
Are done in truth, trusting Him you shall not fall

He loves righteousness and justice, the earth
is full of His goodness, give Him His worth
By the word of the Lord were the heavens made
By the breath of His mouth, creation displayed

He gathers up the waters of the sea
Lays them in storehouses, great deep be
Let all the earth fear the Lord, here stand in awe
For His sake, it was done, lasting evermore

For at His command all things do sure stand
Heaven's counsel brought to nought in each land
But His counsel stands for ever, He the Lord
His thoughts to all generations, true His word

Meek Musings

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

Psalm 37 v.8-11

Cease from anger, and wrath forsake
And humility take
Fret not yourself to do evil
Trust the Lord, on Him call

For evildoers they shall sure
Be cut off, be no more
But those that wait upon the Lord
It shall be as His word

His word that they shall inherit
The earth whole in each whit
For yet a little while, and see
Wicked ones shall not be

But the meek it is they who shall
Inherit the earth well
Shall delight themselves in great peace
Abundance shall not cease

Little Life

Tune: Buckland

('Loving Shepherd of thy sheep')

Psalm 39 v.4-7

Lord, make me to know my end
And throughout life to me tend
And the measure of my days
Keep within my sight always

So that I may know how frail
I am, but your strength prevail
Behold, you my days have made
Short as a hand's span arrayed

My age is as nought before
You who live for evermore
Truly each person at best
State is vanity professed

Surely man lives, gives vain show
As a vapour, as shadow
Surely they are disquieted
In vain, in a fragile stead

They make uproar for nothing
Gather riches, everything
But know not to whom they shall
Pass on to, they cannot tell

And now, Lord, what wait I for?
My hope is in you, 'tis sure
Mankind so small, God so great
I shall trust Him, on Him wait

A Piece by Paul

Tune: St Timothy

('O Holy Ghost, thy people bless')

Ephesians 2 v.8-13 parts

For St Paul's Day: Jan 25.

For by grace are you saved through faith
It is as God's word saith
And that is not of yourselves, see
It the gift of God be

Not of human works, lest any
Should boast good deeds many
For we are God's workmanship, we
Created in Christ be

Created for good works, God, he
Has before ordained, see
That we should do them, ready they
To be done in each day

You once were outside salvation
But now God's daughter, son
Sometime you were far off, now near
Christ's blood shed for you here

Glory Giving

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen = Let us Rejoice

('All creatures of our God and King')

Psalm 96 v.1-7

O sing to the Lord a new song

Sing unto the Lord all day long

Alleluia, Alleluia!

All the earth praise Him, bless His name

Show forth His salvation, His fame

He Creator of wild and tame

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Declare His glory here among

The heathen, and let songs be sung

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Proclaim His wonders midst people

For the Lord is great, above all

Greatly to be praised, on Him call

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He is to be feared, for idols

Are gods of the nations, each falls

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Before the Lord, but He has made

The heavens and the earth displayed

They by His good hand are arrayed

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Honour and majesty they are

Before Him, strength, beauty not far

Alleluia, Alleluia!

From Him, but in His sanctuary

Give to the Lord peoples freely

Glory and strength ever, so be
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Salvation Security

Tune: Richmond

('City of God, how broad and far')

Psalm 44 v.1-8

We have with our ears, O God, heard
From ancestors your word
What work you did in days of old
It was rehearsed and told

How you did drive the heathen out
With your hand strong, no doubt
And planted your people safely
Enemies cast out be

But they got not land by themselves
Nor came to its true wealth
But you, O Lord, your strength, your might
Saved them and gave them light

The light of your countenance, they
Knew salvation that day
Because you favoured them, so they
Did prosper in their way

You are my King, O god, command
Salvation by your hand
Through you we shall our enemies
Tread down till none them sees

We shall not trust to self alone
But your great workings shown
In you, O God, we boast all day
Praise your name great, we say

Help Here

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Psalm 34 v.14-19

Depart from evil, and good do
Seek peace, pursue it too
The eyes of the Lord are upon
The righteous, e'en each one

His ears are open to their prayer
He comes to their welfare
But His face is against they who
Wickedness, evil do

He shall cut off the memory
From the earth, they nto be
Recalled, but He will judgement do
Deal with the evil true

The righteous call, and the Lord hears
And unto them He nears
Saves them out of all their trouble
For He does hear their calls

The Lord is nigh to them that be
Of broken heart, sadly
And saves such who be contrite, low
He each one's spirit knows

Reigning Ruler

Tune: Christchurch

('Now is eternal life')

Psalm 97 v.1-7

The Lord reigns, earth rejoice
And praise Him with one voice
Let all the isles be glad
Not now downcast or sad
For He reigns, judgement and justice
He shall do faithfully, true this

Clouds and darkness surround
Him, enfold Him around
Righteousness, judgement be
His habitation, see
Of His throne, a fire goes before
Him, burns up enemies, 'tis sure

His lightnings they lightened
The world, He does them send
The hills like wax did melt
The Lord's presence they felt
The Lord of the whole earth is He
Now and e'erlastingly shall be

The heavens they declare
His righteousness, it fair
And all the people see
his glory, majesty
Let all be ashamed who idols
Serve, but prosper who on Him calls

Promise of Providing

Tune: Ravenshaw

('Lord, thy word abideth')

Psalm 78 v.52-55

You, Lord, made your people
To go forth like sheep all
Through wilderness guided
And for the provided

Uou led them on safely
Not fearing but surely
Trusting you, but then the sea
O'erwhelmed enemies, see

You brought them to the land
You had promised, by your hand* (*Spirit)
You sanctuary, dwelling place
Your mountain they did trace

They your purchased people
Redeemed from enemy's thrall
Heathen cast out, they did live
In land, and praise you give

Firm Foundation

Tune: Michael

('All my hope on God is founded')

Psalm 125

They that trust in the Lord shall be
As mount Zion, set firmly
Which shall not be removed, abides
For ever, there none besides
Jerusalem, city
Built upon the strong mount be

As the mountains are round about
Jerusalem, so no doubt
The Lord is around His people
From henceforth e'en for time all
Wickedness shall not stay
There, nor evil have its way

Lest the righteous fall into sin
Evil shall not rest therein
Do good, Lord, to them that good be
And upright in heart, true, free
The wicked, they shall cease
But God's people blessed with peac

Confident Calling

Tune: University College

('Oft in danger, oft in woe')

Psalm 119 v.145-149

I called with my whole heart to
The Lord, hear me, hear me do
I will keep your statutes here
I prayed, save me, to me near

And I your testimonies
Shall keep, this my soul agrees
I rose before dawning day
To call on you, watch and pray

I called for help unto you
Hoping in your word, it true
And am awake in the night
Meditate on your words light

Hear my voice, Lord, me revive
Longing for you I do strive
You, Lord, show loving kindness
Save me, do justice, me bless

Candlemas Celebration

Tune: Engelberg

('All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine')

Lukw 2 v.25-32

For Candlemas Day: Feb 2.

Dedication festival here unfolds

Jesus brough to Temple, forty days old

There in Jerusalem was Simeon

Elderly, godly one

He was just and devout, and waiting for

Israel's comforting to come about sure

The Spirit upon him did there reveal

Christ-child he would see still

By the Spirit Simeon to Temple

Came, and did see holy family all

Took Christ up in his arm, and did God bless

These were his words no less

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace

Now that my earthly life it soon shall cease

According to your word, for my eyes they

Salvation see this day

'Tis in your Son, the Christ-child who I hold

You have prepared Him before all, it told

A light to lighten the Gentiles, and be

Of Jews He the glory

Protection Pleas

Tune: O Waly Waly

('An upper room did our Lord prepare')

Psalm 31 v.19-22

O how great, Lord, is your goodness true
You lay up for them that fear you
You have wrought it for them that do trust
In you before mankind, though dust

You shall hide them in the secret place
Of your presence, they no disgrace
Shall have from the pride of men, who boast
Of their evil doings the most

You shall keep them in a shelter, they
Protected from what man may say
Blessed be the Lord, for He has shown me
His great kindness in strong city

For I said in my haste, Now I be
Cut off, for enemies taunt me
But you heard my voice, my fervent prayer
When I called you helped me, did care

Living in the Light

Tune: Rivaux

('Father of heaven, whose love profound')

Ephesians 5 v.14-20

Awake, you sleepers, rise from dead
Christ over you His light has shed
See then that you live diligent
Redeeming the time God has sent

Because the days are evil, short
Guard against traps, you may be caught
So be you not unwise, be this
Understanding what God's will is

Be not drunk with wine, wherein be
Excess and dissipation free
But be filled with the Spirit sure
Attuned unto serving Him pure

Speaking to yourselves in psalms, hymns
And spiritual songs, ne'er dims
The flame of praise rising from hearts
From whence Christ's presence ne'er departs

Sing and make melody unto
The Lord, giving thanks to Him true
Always for all things, to God He
And Christ His Son blessed ever be

Hasten to Humility

Tune: St Botolph

('I come with joy to meet my Lord')

Philippians 2 v.1-4

If there any consolation
In Christ, He God's own Son
If any encouragement fair
With fellow mankind share

And too if there any comfort
Of love let it be sought
If any fellowship there be
Of the Spirit freely

Share these too, and be like-minded
Holding to Christ our Head
Have the same love, being of one
Accord, of one mind run* (*run = live, behave)

And let nothing be done through strife
Or vain-glory, the life
Of Christ show, be lowly in mind
Tender-hearted and kind

Let each esteem other better
Than themselves, so defer
From thinking of self only, do
Consider others too

The Eternal Pessimist

Nope, not a hymn-poem
But some worldly wisdom
On the theme of: 'If anything can go wrong, it will!'
Here's some examples - add on your own

Mirror, mirror on the wall
Who is the fairest of them all?
Mirror replies: "Dunno, but you're the ugliest!
I just cracked, cos you looked at me
Seven years bad luck if you break a mirror'.

If one door closes, another one slams in your face
Or there may be a wall behind it

If at first you don't succeed - give up
No use keep bashing your head against a brick wall

To one who was wanting Summer to continue:
Don't worry, it'll be Winter again soon

To one who wanted a sunny day:
Cheer up, it'll probably rain again tomorrow

To one downcast:
Cheer up, it may never happen
The reply was: It has already happened, Doh!

On the day after the Longest Day in June (in UK):
Be happy! The nights are starting to draw in again now.

A ditty on money-grabbers
(e.g. some churches, but not necessarily only churches):
"Ohh, have you got plenty of cash, then to us come

We'll welcome you with open arms, make you feel at home
Give us your money, you'll soon broke be
But you'll know the joy of deep poverty"
(Dunno what you're complaining for!)
Ooh - heehee.

Only 10 months and a bit to Ch.....
I can't say the word -
Only in December!

Freedom Flight

Tune: Hursley

('Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear')

Psalm 124

If it had not been the Lord who
Was on our side, it would be true
That our enemies would have sure
Devoured till we be no more

Their anger against us would show
Water our soul would overflow
Waters of pride, hatred of men
They would have o'ercome, drowned us then

Blessed be the Lord, for He has not
Given us to them, but our lot
Is that our soul it is escaped
As a bird, and we not disgraced

Set free as a bird from the snare
Of the hunters who set traps there
For the snare is broken and we
Are escaped, the Lord our help be

Mourning Misery

Tune: Lux Benigna

('Lead, kindly light')

Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon there we
Sat down, there be
Yes, we wept when we remembered Zion
Compared to none
We hung our harps upon the willow trees
The sounds of joy and mirth they stopped, did cease

For they that carried us captive away
Did in those days
Required of us a song, and they who too
Destruction do
The said, sing us one of the songs you know
Of Zion, unto us now do it show

How shall we sing the Lord's song in strange land
While be disband[ed]
If we forget Jerusalem out joy
Let none employ
Us, but let us be cast off, and not sing
Nor have offerings unto the Lord bring

Remember, Lord, Edom our enemy
And their plans see
Seeking to destroy your land to the ground
Whate'er is found
O Babylon, who are to destroyed be
Happy they who haste your end completely

They who reward you as you have us served

It all deserved
Happy they who take your little children
And murder them
For you the same have done to us, it fair
That you should in such harsh judgements so share

Morning Prayer

Tune: Binchester

('Happy are they, they that love God')

Psalm 5 v.1-4

Give ear, O Lord, unto my word[s]
I trust you have them heard
Consider my meditation
O Lord of each nation

Hearken unto voice of my prayer
My King, my God, I share
My petitions with you, and pray
Whether it night or day

My voice you shall hear in morning
To you my prayer I bring
Will direct it to you, my eyes
Raise to you, and you praise

For you are not a God that be
Pleased with wickedness, we
Know, nor shall evil dwell with you
Lord, you holy and true

Worship Wholeness

Tune: Laudate Dominum

('O praise ye the Lord')

Psalm 95 v.1-7

O come let us sing unto the Lord, let
Us make joyful noise, for He worthy yet
Sing unto Him, the rock of our salvation
Come worship Him peoples of every nation

Let us with thanksgiving now come before
His presence, and there find His mercies sure
Make joyful noise to Him with psalms and hymns raise
For the Lord is a great God, to Him give praise

And a great King above all gods he be
in His hand are deep paces of earth, sea
The strength of the hills is His also, for He
Made sea and dry land, He great Creator be

O come let us worship, bow down unto
Him, let us kneel before our Maker true
For He is our God, we people of His care
Sheep of His pasture, in His flock we well fare

Join In Joyfulness

Tune: Hanover

('O worship the King')

Psalm 98

O sing unto the Lord a new song, for
He has done marvellous things, it is sure
His right hand and His holy arm victory
Have gotten for Him, He reigns eternally

The Lord has made His salvation here known
His righteousness He has openly shown
In the sight of the heathen, and has, so be
Remembered His mercy and truth faithfully

All the ends of the earth, they have all seen
The salvation of our God, it has been
Revealed to us, make joyful noise unto Him
Make loud noise, rejoice, and sing praise with a hymn

Sing unto the Lord, bring all instruments
And praise Him with understanding and sense
With harp, voice of song, trumpet, sound of cornet
Make joyful noise before Him, He worthy yet

Let creation join in, earth, sea, and sky
Rivers, hills whate'er does walk, swim. or fly
Be joyful together, the Lord shall judge, see
The earth with His righteousness and equity

Random Ramblings

Nope, not a poem about a walk
Not that sort of ramble
But you'll have to put up with
Some of my mad 'ramblings' again, and some 'Doh!' moments.

Things like:

I was awake half the night, full of bubbles from fizzy pop. Full of hot air? No change there then for me. lol.

A naughty one: When the s**t hits the fan, ensure you're standing in the opposite direction.

When I eventually found out what 'Carpe Diem' meant, it was night time, and no day left to seize.

When a notice on a Fire Door says 'This door must be kept closed at all times', how we gonna get out if there's a fire?

Do I (we) 'cheat' by 'liking' our own poems? We only do it once per poem though. heehee.

I read of a law of an upper-class person - in days of renting pews in churches. He said it was OK for him to snooze during sermons, but if he awoke and found anyone else dozing, he would send his servants to them, to wake them up!

An old Admiral in church sat at the front. He placed a pile of coins on the pew shelf ready for the collection. But he took off coins from the pile at intervals, the longer the sermons went on, and gave what was left at the end of the sermons.

You found Bill Stickers or Bill Posters? They're gonna prosecute them ya know. Why, what have they done?!

Woof! Fido enjoys eating KP's food, while I feed her the dog food. When will I stop being horrible to her?! lol

Gor plenty of dough (cash)? Come see us, say some churches (or other places) - you'll soon be broke then!

We best laugh at our own jokes, cos maybe no one else will!

I could sub-title this poem 'Mad Adventures of Orchi, No's 4538 to 4545' - or summat like that!

Zeal For Zion

Tune: Wareham

('Jesus, where'er thy people meet')

Psalm 102 v.12-17

You, O Lord, shall endure ever
And shall be forgotten never
You shall arise, and have mercy
On Zion, it your city be

For the time to favour her, yes
Is come, the set time to her bless
For her servants they take pleasure
In her store, e'en dust, her treasures

So the heathen shall fear your name
Manoe of the Lord of endless fame
All rulers of the earth they too
Shall fear you, worship you anew

When the Lord shall build up Zion
He shall appear, glorified one
Will regard prayer of destitute
Not despise it, not it refute

Leading Of Love

Tune: Bishopsthorpe

('Immortal love, for ever full')

Psalm 107 v.1-8

O give thanks to the Lord for He
Is good, and His mercy
And love they endure for ever
Resources end never

Let the redeemed of the Lord say
So, in salvation's day
They who He has redeemed from hand
Of enemy in land

He has gathered them from east, west
From north and south the rest
They wandered in the wilderness
Desolate, comfortless

They found there no city to dwell
Hunger and thirst did tell
Their soul fainted, they to the Lord
Prayed, to Him spoke their word

He saved them out of their trouble
When they to Him did call
He brought them out of their distress
He guided them and blessed

He led them forth by the right way
And with them He did stay
That they may find a city sure
To dwell there safe, secure

O that people would praise the Lord
For His goodness assured
His loving-kindness, works wondrous
To mankind, even us

Praise Piece

Tune: University

('The church of God a kingdom is')

Psalm 111 v.1-4

Praise you the Lord, I will Him praise
With my whole heart, songs raise
Midst His people, congregation
He saves from each nation

The works of the Lord, they are great
And of royal estate
They are sought out by they who do
Find pleasure in them true

His work is honourable, fine
And glorious, divine
His righteousness endures for e'er
His people in it share

He had made His works wonderful
To be recalled by all
He gracious, full of compassion
The promise-keeping One

Graces Given

Tune: Lyngham

('O for a thousand tongues to sing')

Psalm 113

Praise, praise the Lord you His servants

Come into His presence

Come into His presence

Blessed be His name for evermore

The name of the Lord sure

The name of the Lord sure

The name, the name of the Lord sure

From rising of sun to its setting

Unto him your praise bring

Unto Him your praise bring

The Lord is high above nations

People of all stations

People of all stations

People, people of all stations

And His glory above the heavens

Who is like to Him then?

Who is like to Him then?

He dwells on high, becomes humble

To see things in earth all

To see things in earth all

To see, to see things in earth all

He raises up poor from the dust

In Him they put their trust

In Him they put their trust

And raises needy from ahs heap

He provides, dies them keep

He provides, does them keep

He provides, He provides, does them keep

Sets them with those who honoured be

They prosperity see

They prosperity see

Gives family unto childless

They rejoice and Him bless

They rejoice and Him bless

They rejoice, they rejoice and Him bless

Poor and Needy

Tune: Duke Street

('Fight the good fight')

Psalm 70

Make haste, O God, to come save me
Make haste to help me, my strength be
Let my enemies be ashamed
Be confused, they I have them named

Let them be turned back, not prosper
They who would confound me for sure
Let all those that seek you rejoice
Be glad in you, praise with one voice

Let such as love your salvation
Praise your name, from whate'er nation
But think on me, I poor, needy
Save me and help me speedily

22 Today!

Argh!! I must be 22 today
I surely can't be 21 - again!!
I been 21 for about 5 million years
I might even be 23 - that's very old!
Yes, some young people worry
About reaching age 30 even!

But you know Goldfinch and me
We're both about 10 million years old, so we say
We've lost count of our birthdays
We met dinosaurs in person
Lived through the Ice Age, Stone Age, etc
And were at Hastings in 1066 in person
We were the first ones on the Moon
Not those in 1969
Cos we had already been there for ages

Now - 21 again - how many times over?!
There's a 'zettabyte' - 10 to the power of 21.
10 followed by 21 zeros (in the UK anyway)
That's probably how old us two are
LOL.

I gotta sing the video to myself
Don't listen to me screeching
Put those earplugs in!

Why So Horrid?

Fido asks me -
Why you so horrid to KP
After all, you married her?!

But you forget, Fido
The day she asked me, she poured me a drink - or ten
And she hid the water that I would add to it
I got tipsy and said 'I do'
Cos I thought she said:
'Do you want me to jump off a cliff?' Doh!

But why you feed her horrid stuff? asks Fido
Sewage, Maggot Pie, left-overs from a week ago
And those slugs and snails and puppy dogs tails
That little boys are supposed to be made of?

But it's gotta be done
Else she gets even bigger than her boots
Though she's becoming more trout-like
I say to her: 'You're look more trouty every day, dear'
But she still spends my money on more botox
She's just off out now
For her 6,735th treatment

Fido's happy though
He and I have roast dinners
While I give her the dog food
And she sleeps in the kennel!
You bounder, you cad, you.... they reply!

KP says to me
'You think more of that dog than you do of me'
I reply: 'Always!'

LOL

Word Wholeness

Tune: Sussex

(one tune to 'Father, hear the prayer we offer')

Parts of Psalm 119

v.18

Open my eyes, Lord, that I may
Behold in your law this day
Wondrous things, your word shall I keep
I within your fold a sheep

v.33

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your
Statutes, and I shall keep sure
Them unto the end, persevere
And knowing your presence near

v.77

Let your tender mercies come to
Me, that I may live, 'tis true
That your law it is my delight
Pure and holy, good and right

v.105

Your word is a lamp to my feet
A light to my path completer
So I see each step now clearly
Whate'er on life's journey be

v.130

The entrance of your words gives light
Dispelling darkness of night
It gives understanding unto
Those needing wisdom anew

Morning Walk

...Or maybe Afternoon or Evening walk
Taking Fido for walkies, that is!

Woof! he says - it's time
Leave KP in my kennel with an old bone
I've eaten her breakfast again
Quick let's go, before she wakes up
And asks you for more money for botox

She won't be recognisable soon
Except as an old trout
They'll chuck her in the river
That's the place for trouts!

And when we get back
I'll get my pipe
(no baccy in it - it's just for show - makes me look good)
My carpet slippers, and reading glasses too
And check if anyone's been naughty
And not marked poems 18+ when they should be!

Not to self: Old Fido, he's a one
But when will this stop, Orchi?
This horridness to KP?
Will you give it up for Lent?
At least for Lent, if not for ever?
LOL

Forgiveness Found

Tune: Southwell

'(Lord Jesus, think on me)'

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I
Cried, Lord, to me raw nigh
Lord, hear my voice, and let your ears
Hear my prayer, and draw near

If you, Lord, should mark our
Sins, each day hour to hour
Who shall stand? But there forgiveness
Be, your grace unto us

'Ti so you may be feared
In awe we to you neared
I wait for the Lord, my soul wait
He shall help me not late

As they that wait at night
For coming morning light
So my soul it waits more than they
For your salvation's day

Hope in the Lord, there be
Mercy, redemption, see
Plenteous, He shall redeem sure
Us from all sins, make pure

Confused?

Are you a confused laddie or lassie?
Winston Churchill once said of someone
Something similar to this:

'When he is about to say something, he has nothing much to say really
When he says it, it's not worth hearing it
When he's said it, he forgot what he said!'

Or it could be:
'I will tell you this once
Then you relay back what I just said to you
Then I tell you again what I said to you the first time!'
(Long-winded!)

Oh yes, why use 5 words when 20 will do?
You could waffle on and on!

We're having dinner now -
Fido and I are having a roast
KP's having Fido's old bone in the kennel!
LOL

Creation Praise

Tune: Darwall

('Ye holy angels bright')

Psalm 148

Praise you the Lord, Him praise
To Him your anthems raise
To Him in heavens height
All open to His sight
Praise Him, all you angels, and all
His hosts, worship, before Him fall

Praise Him, sun, moon, each star
Which dwell from the earth far
Praise Him all heavens, clouds
Which do the earth enshroud
Let them praise His name, for He spake
His word, them created, did make

He has them established
Each as He willed and wished
Set them for ever, placed
Them sure, and each has graced
Praise the Lord all on earth, in seas
Fire, hail, snow, vapours, winds, and trees

Mountains, hills, animals
Cattle on land, in stalls
Creeping things, birds, too kings
Each Him their praises brings
And princes, rulers, young and old
Praise Him, let His glory be told

For His name it lone

Is excellent, it known
His glory great, strength He
Gives to His people, we
His saints, praise our strength it be here
We a people to the Lord near

People Praise

Tune: Regent Square

('Lord of beauty, thine the splendour')

Psalm 149 v.1-6

Praise you the Lord, sing to the Lord
Come, join, praise Him, true His word
Among the great congregation
Folk gathered from each nation
Let His people Israel rejoice
In Him, He made them His choice

Let the children of ion sing
Be joyful in their Lord, King
Let them praise His name in the dance
Music, instruments enhance
Praise Him with the timbrel and harp
In sweet sounds, none rough or sharp

For the Lord He does take pleasure
In His people, His treasure
And He will beautify the meek
With salvation, they Him seek
Let saints be joyful in glory
Sing loud on their beds, so be

Let the high praises of God be
In their mouth, and His word, see
As a two-edged sword in their hand
Bringing justice to the land
Working vengeance* on enemies
Till all evil from them flees

* With the theme of vengeance in some Psalms (Old Testament), it is said that good cannot triumph

without the overthrow of evil. This somehow balances out with the New Testament emphasis on 'love one another'. Though loving God and one's 'neighbour' is also in the Old Testament.

Eccentricities

Here's some examples - add your own

Some true - some may not be.

A person actually did not dot his 'i's when writing

As he said he wanted to save ink (true)

A Lady to a servant -

Now, look, you've forgotten

To dip those strawberries in sugar

For my pet monkeys (true)

If a Fire Door notice says

'Keep Closed at all times'

How we gonna get out if there's a fire?

I always save money

I find the Pound Shop - £1 (or Dollar Shop \$1?) very expensive

I always go to the 99p shop (or 99 cents shop?)

And save 1p each time (or 1 cent?)

What I want to know is:

Why is 'abbreviation' such a long word?

Can't it be abbreviated?

How did you spend that extra second we had one year?

I spent it well -

I flew round the world 5,493 times

Went to the Moon and back 3,846 times

And took 8,483 trips on the No.7 bus

All in that one second!

A person sort of held a church to ransom -

Let me show my holiday slides of the Holy Land

During a service

[Though it may bore ya - most of the photos show me, me, me]

Or else I will withdraw a grant of money I made to ya (true)

Meanwhile - I'm trying to hack off

This ball and chain KP put on me leg

She threw away the key to the lock on it!

LOL

All Praise!

Tune: Camberwell

(one tune to 'At the name of Jesus')

Psalm 150

Praise you the Lord, Him praise
To Him worship raise
Praise Him in His temple
Come join, one and all
Praise Him in His heavens
And His presence sense
Praise Him for His mighty
Acts, they wondrous be

Praise Him according to
His works, they not few
But they excellent, great
Let all proclaim, state
Praise Him with trumpet's sound
Joyfulness abound
Praise Him with psaltery* (*psaltery - lute or lyre)
And harp skilfully

Praise Him with the timbrel
And dance, on Him call
Praise Him with instruments
Stringed, with good intents
Praise Him with organs, praise
Him, loud cymbals lays* (*'lays' in sense of 'freely given')
Let everything with breath
Praise Him, e'en till death

Returning And Reviving

Tune: Heinlien

('Forty days and forty nights')

Psalm 80 v.14-19

Return, O Lord God, look down
On our country, on our town
Behold, visit us, your vine
And bestow graces divine

Your hand has planted us here
In your vineyard, come, draw near
To us, for vine you made strong
For yourself, forgive our wrong

The vine it now burned with fire
We sure in a crisis dire
You look on us, we perish
If destruction is your wish

But have mercy, come, us save
Your Son for us the way pave
To salvation, so shall we
Return to you faithfully

Revive us, and we will call
On your name, and shall not fall
O Lord God, turn us again
We saved by you, Light of men* (*mankind)

Way Of The Word

Tune: Gwalchmai

('King of glory, King of peace')

Psalm 119 v.97-104

How I love your law, it be
To me pure, free
My meditation all day
True is your way
O Lord, through your commands you
Guide me anew
I wiser than enemies
E'er they with me

I have more understanding
Here in each thing
Than all my teachers, for your
Laws they are sure
My meditation, and I
Keep your laws nigh
I understand more than they
Who agéd be

It is so because I keep
Your ways, your sheep
Am I, and I have refrained
Myself, disdained
From every evil way, so
May your word know
I have not departed, see
You have taught me

How sweet your words to my taste
I do make haste

To keep them diligently
For they here be
Sweeter than honey to me
Your precepts daily
Give me understanding, I
To you ally

Lent failed!

Arghh! Me Lent resolution failed
After just one day - well, five minutes really!
It was 'Be nice to KP in Lent'

Woof! says Fido
'You knew it wouldn't last', he says to me
'Dunno why you bothered to make that promise
You knew you would break it
Cos KP's still in my kennel, for one thing
While I'm in the lap of luxury
And when will you stop feeding her my old bones?
That's all she gets to eat these days'

'I know you greet her each morning, saying
'You're looking more trout-like each day, my dear'
'That's how you failed Lent after five minutes!'

What if the boot was on the other foot? as the saying goes
Well, it can't be
Cos KP has put this ball and chain on my ankle
And thrown away the key
So I can't put any boots on anyway!
LOL

Tempting Times

Tune: Breslau

('Take up they cross, the Saviour said')

Matthew 4 v.1-11

Jesus led to the wilderness
For forty days and nights no less
To be tempted of the devil
Though He did overcome them all

Fasted those forty days and nights
Was hungry, there no food in sight
Tempted to turn stones int obread
Satisfy hunger, so be fed

But He said, Man, he shall not live
By bread alone, what earth does give
But lives by every word that sure
Proceeds from the mouth of God sure

Tempted to throw self from Temple
Promise, angels would guard Him all
But He said, You shall not the Lord
Your God tempt, nor misuse His word

Tempted to bow down to devil
Who would give Him earth's kingdoms all
If he would bow and so worship
Give allegiance in deed and lip* (*in words)

But Jesus said, Get you hence, you
Satan, you shall worship, 'tis true
The Lord your God, and Him only
Shall you serve, none other but He

Then the devil he did Him leave
No temptations did Him deceive
And angels came, to Him did tend
Jesus, who o'ercame to the end

Will This Stop?

Fido gave me a talk, a lecture
He said, Woof, when will this stop?
This incessant nastiness to KP?
I know your Lent resolution to be nice to her
Failed after only 5 minutes!

But you know she deserves it, I said to Fido
It's to take her down a peg or three
Or else she will continue
To be too big for her boots

Why don't you get some help then? Asks Fido
Well, I tried
But The Samaritans were engaged
(A help group in the UK, including help for the suicidal)
And the train was cancelled
When I was going to end it all on the railway line
And someone had filled the swimming pool with water
It was empty - I was going to dive in and finish myself off
Doh! And Double Doh!

It could only happen to you, says Fido
And those are terrible dark jokes there
You're getting nuttier by the day!
Woof! mark this poem 18+
Because of those dreadful jokes
LOL.

Tick or Tock?

Tick or tock?

Which do you prefer of a clock?

And how do we know the difference? (Eh?)

With several poems about clocks, time, etc

I will tell ya how I spent that extra second we had one year

Remember I travel at the speed of light (lol)

In that second I:

Sailed round the world 5,483 times

Travelled to the moon and back 4,885 times

Went shopping for enough last me 2,746 years

Wrote 6,492 poems

And 4,508 books

It's s full life I'm having, ya know

Have ya accomplished as much as me?

Of course, I've not done all the calculations

To see if all that would be true

If we travelled at 186,000 miles per second

Could work it out, I suppose

How far is that in 1 minute? in 1 hour? 1 day?

How long does it take to sail round the world once?

How long does one moon trop take, there and back?

How long does one shopping trip take, on average?

How long to write one poem?

How long to write one book?

Then multiply it by the relevant numbers

There's another second coming up right now....

How we gonna spend it?!

LOL

Today, Tomorrow, Last Year?

I'm a confused laddie!
Is it today, tomorrow, or last year?
Today, this very day, I mean
What day is it? What year? What Century?!

I dunno
I dunno if I'm coming or going
On the way to town, I met myself coming back (eh?)

Here's a saying - not original by me though:
'Tomorrow is the day you worried about yesterday'
Or summat like that
One version has it as:
'Tomorrow is the day you worried about tomorrow'
Eh? Work that one out!

Told ya I'm confused!
Fido of course is never confused
Seeing as he is a fount of all wisdom
He knows 99% of all there is to know
Who knows the other 1%? - me!!
Well, I only got 3 brain cells you see
Fido has 300 trillion or more

Why can we never find 'tomorrow'?
When it gets here, it's 'today'
And why can we never find 'this moment in time'?
Cos the next moment it's, well, 'the next moment'
If we must be exact!

I'm the guy who spent so long finding out what 'carpe diem' meant
That by the time I found out, it was bedtime
And no day left to seize - Doh!

LOL

Now lookie here, humans

Now lookie here, humans
I had a check before I got online today
'Verifying you are human'
I got the result: 'Success'

Dunno how they let me in
Cos I'm half human, half guinea pig
And have to repeat it yet again -
My pic is of guinea pigs
Not mice, rats, jerboas, hamsters
Nor elephants, giraffes, rhinos, lions
(some random creatures there)
Nothing but guinea pigs - two of 'em!

They're not flying pigs
Though with repeating myself so many times
I'm seeing flying pigs going past my window! LOL

Since when were you fully human? asks Fido of me
Oh, about 10 million years ago, I think
I mutated into half g/pig, half human
About 2 million years ago!

It's all true this, ya know!
HEE HEE

KP she says.....

KP she says to me.....

So you are human!

Dunno how they let you on this site

Cos I doubted it, the way you treat me

I know secretly

That you're half human, half guinea pig

Yes, my dear, I reply

And you're half human, half trout

This slanging match must go on, you know

To keep you in your place

Then KP, she says to me

More money for botox, please

It's my 6,483rd treatment soon

I reply to her

Yes, my dear, but it's not made any difference

Except you're looking more trout-like each day

Dunno why I keep giving you money for it

And you know I always give you a warm greeting each day, saying

You're looking more uglier each day, dear wifey!

It's a horrible atmosphere in our home

Heehee.

Stormy Sea

Tune: Galilee

('Jesus calls us o'er the tumult')

Mark 4 v.35-41

Jesus and His disciples they
In the evening of the day
Took shipping across Galilee
The lake broad as open sea

There arose a storm of wind great
Waves flowed o'er the ship, their state
Jesus in back of ship asleep
Disciples in troubles deep

They came to Him, did Him awake
Said, Lord, help us on this lake
Do you care not that we perish?
Storm to cease here, this we wish

He arose and rebuked the wind
And the sea it did rescind
At His word, Peace, be still, Silence
Thus the storm did cease from thence

He said, How is it that you are
So fearful, and from faith far?
They did exceedingly fear, said
Who this man, who has us led?

For even the wind and sea they
At His word do Him obey
He the Lord of heaven and earth
We praise Him, give Him His worth

Wot You Doin' On 'Ere?

Hey - wot you doin' on 'ere?
I hope you're human
Or did a robot click that box:
'Verify you are human'?

Oh I dunno half the time
Who is human?
What is the definition of a mortal human being?
KP's not human, of course
Well, only 5%
She's 95% botox! heehee.

Now lookie here -
Since when were poets human?!

LOL

Daft Obsession

This 'verify' thingy
Here, there, and everywhere
Is driving me to an obsession. lol.

For the record, I'm not human
I'm half human, half guinea pig
But go to Specsavers
If ya look at my pic
And think they are two.....
Rats, mice, jerboas, voles, otters
Or even two elephants, dinosaurs, giraffes - whatever!

KP's inhuman
I can't post a pic of her
It's so scary, you'll never recover
Never be the same again!
Heehee

You Seen That U?

Writing this in the UK....

You seen that 'U'?

Or has it gone from your keyboard?

You know, the letter you use

In words such as colour, humour, etc

They appear often as color, humor, etc

You seen that yew tree?

Is not the same as 'you' or 'U'

Cos it's a tree!

But how do you text 'you' as 'U'

If ya go no U on ya phone?!

I'm rambling now

Rambling in this wood

Waffling on really, talking rubbish

(No change there then for me?!)

There are some yew trees

Or it could be Ewww

If I see something nasty there

Heehee

Notice from Orchi

NOTICE

We have a difficult family matter here
Which can take up some time
I may suspend poems for a while
But tune in to make comments at times
Keep writing away!
Good wishes to all.
Orchi.

It May Not Be Just Me

It may not be just me, just ourselves (meaning 'self' in the singular) if affected by some problem, difficulty, etc. Maybe we can add 'misfortune. though I don't believe in 'fortune'.

It's all of us really - all who are involved in the problem, difficulty, call it what we will. Though we ourselves can be taken up with thinking 'What about ME?' and sort of cancel out or think less of others in the same situation. Yet we may still care about others, going through, suffering, etc, the same or similar as we ourselves are.

Having a faith surely helps, though that's what it is - faith. We can't see it as a tangible thing.

And 'Out of sight, out of mind' may cause us to think less of others, though again, we may still care about them - people or animals, or both, if both are involved.

Well, the Bible says 'If we are in trouble, to pray; if we are joyful, to sing Psalms'. It's not the other way round, though I suppose we can still sing in times of trouble, and pray in times of joy. Also, not taking anything for granted, nor being in escapism.

Help or Not?

In life, we all need help
Or need to help others
Sometimes the needs are greater than at other times
Sometimes we need all the help we can get

Do we? - do I? - ask for help?
Or do we? - do I? - accept help that comes to us
Whether we seek the help first
Or the help comes to us from others first

Help wherever we need
There are levels of need, I read somewhere
Problem, Predicament, Danger, Crisis, and other 'labels'
Though I've forgotten some of them

There is 'bearing one another's burdens'
And also - could be at the same time
'Bearing one's own burdens'

Never forgetting faith - if hopefully we have a faith
Not just to see us through life, just about coping
Not as a crutch, but as the ground to stand on
As someone somewhere said (may not be an exact quote)

Justice In Judgement

Tune: St Stephen

('In Christ there is no east or west')

Romans 2 v.4-10 parts

See the riches of God's goodness
And forbearance no less
And His longsuffering, we know
He does them to us show

The goodness of God does lead to
Repentance, e'en for you
Be not despising this, nor be
Heart-hearted, grudgingly

Nor have your heart impenitent
God His grace he has sent
Treasure not up wrath to yourself
It not be your soul's health

For the day of His wrath shall come
Known to all, not just some
Revealing His righteous judgement
He shall it not relent

He will render to every one
The things that they have done
Wrath shall be to the unrighteous
Salvation to righteous

Mystery.....

It's a mystery...

A guy used to reply to everything

Whether a question or a statement

With 'Why?!'

Think of what the question or statement could have been

Could be anything

Then realise how in some cases the reply is bonkers!

A couple of examples:

'Does the No.7 bus stop here?' - 'Why?'

'It's a nice day today' - 'Why?'

'How far is it to the Moon?' - 'Why?'

'We had a roast dinner today' - 'Why?'

But an example causing great woe is:

'I married KP' - 'Why?'

Not got the foggiest idea why! heehee

Though I did see a quiz show

In which several questions needed an answer

A guy replied to every answer - 'Chicken!'

'There's nowt so queer as folk', as they saying goes

And...

'There's more nutty people outside the loony bin than in it!'

Rejoice....

A Choir anthem mainly
These are the almost actual words of it.
Here is a version I heard of it:
Philippians 4 v.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord alway
And again I say, Rejoice
Rejoi-oi-oice in the Lord alway
And again I say re-joice

Let your moderation {balance in life, etc} be known unto all men
The Lord is at hand
The Lord is at hand

Be careful {anxious} for nothing
[Echo] Be careful for nothing
But in everything [slight pause] by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
Let your requests
Let your requests be made known unto God
[Echo] Let your requests be made known unto God

And the peace of God which passes {is beyond} all understanding
Shall keep your hearts and minds
[Echo] Shall keep your hearts and minds
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
[Echo] Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Great Is The Lord

A sort of paraphrase, almost verbatim of Psalm 48 v.1-2.

The video includes v.10-12. A short song/chorus.

Great is the Lord

And greatly to be prais-ed

In the city of our God {Jerusalem}

In the mountain of His holiness {Mount Zion, one of the mounts surrounding Jerusalem}

Beautiful for sit-u-a-tion

The joy of the whole earth

Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north {though this mount is south of Jerusalem, it seems}

The city of the great Ki-i-ing

Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north

The city of the great King

Jerusalem Journey

Tune: St Theodulph

('All glory, laud, and honour')

Matthew 21 v.4-11 parts

Chorus

Multitudes cry 'Hosanna'

Jerusalem does stir

'Blessed He who comes in the name

Of the Lord,' worthy fame

Jesus makes lowly entry

Into city, so be

He rides upon a donkey

Her colt follows, all see - Chorus

Tell people of Sion, Your

King comes unto you sure

Riding on humble creature

This scene it does feature - Chorus

People they their garments spread

On road that goes ahead

And some place palm branches on

Road, or wave to God's Son - Chorus

'Hosanna in the Highest'

'Save now, Lord,' they confessed

Jesus' triumph procession

He Saviour, Holy One - Chorus

Anointing Memorial

Tune: Winchester New

('Ride on, ride on in majesty')

Matthew 26 v.6-13

Jesus was in town Bethany
Stayed at Simon's house, leper he
Then came to him a woman, she
Had alabaster box, so be

It was very precious ointment
Of great expense, with scent fragrant
She poured it out on Jesus' head
As he with the others there fed

Disciples had indignation
Why this waste? Of what purpose done
Is this? For it might have been sold
For much*, then help poor many-fold

Jesus said, Why do you trouble
The woman? For a good work all
She has done to me, the poor you
Have always, but not me, 'tis true

For she had anointed me for
My burial to follow sure
Truly where'er this gospel preached
So too her deed told, earth's ends reached

* Another of the Gospels says that the ointment could have been sold for over 300 pence - one 'pence' or one denarii being one day's wages, so 'about 10 months pay'.

Also, another of the Gospels says 'The poor you have with you always, and whenever you may, you may do them good; but me (Jesus) you have not always'. In this case, this great one-off expense could be justified.

Cockerel Crowing

Tune: Crucifer

('Lift high the cross')

Matthew 26 v.30-25

Chorus

Jesus' words to Peter, Ere cockerel crow

Twice, you thrice shall deny that me you know

Jesus and disciples after supper

Went to mount of Olives, did there then confer - Chorus

He said, You all shall be offended, for

'Tis written, I will smite the shepherd sure - Chorus

And the sheep of the flock shall be scattered

Shall be so this night, of this be assured - Chorus

But after I am risen again, I

Will go unto Galilee, it no lie - Chorus

Peter said, Though all others forsake you

I shall not be offended but stay true - Chorus

Peter, and all disciples, to Him said

E'en if to death, still your way we shall tread - Chorus

But Jesus knew they would soon Him deny

Sign for Peter, cockerel would crow by and by - Chorus

Pilate's Perturbations

Tune: Herongate

'(It is a thing most wonderful')

Matthew 27 v.15-25 parts

At Passover feast Barabbas
Prisoner released, but Jesus
Before Pilate, who asked people
What shall I do? Answer me all

What to do with Jesus? They cried
Let Him now here be crucified
Though Pilate's wife told him of dream
And said, No judgement on Him deem

Pilate asked them, What evil deed
Has he done, that I you should heed?
But they did only cry the more
Wanting Him crucified for sure

Pilate saw the tumult, and he
Washed his hands before them, said, See
I innocent of the blood shed
Of this just man who you wish dead

They answered, His blood be upon
Us, and our children, daughters, sons
Upon them in judgement, or may
Be on them in salvation's day*

* 'His blood be upon us' can be double-edged - in judgement, or in salvation and forgiveness.

Passover Ponderings

Tune: Love Unknown

('My song is love unknown')

John 13 v.12-16

Christ washed disciples feet
And then He took His seat
Said, Know you what I here
Have done to you, it clear?
You call me your Master and Lord
And so I am, true is your word

If I then, your Lord, see
And too your Master be
Have washed your feet, so you
Ought do humble deeds too
In washing ones another's feet
And so my example repeat

Do as I have done to
You, to each other too
Truly the servant he
Not more than his lord be
I not greater than my Father
But He greater than me rather

Sharing in bread and wine
At Passover divine
Bread, His body, did give
Wine, His blood, so we live
For He the Lamb of God at feast
Life given for greatest to least

The Good Of Golgotha

Tune: Horsley

('There is a green hill far away')

John 19 v.16-22

Jesus given to the people
'Crucify' was their call
He bearing His cross went to place
To die for human race

The place of a skull, so its name
Golgotha be the same
There they crucified Him and two
Thieves put to death there too

Jesus in the midst of them there
Pilate, he did declare
In Hebrew, Greek, Latin, wrote sign
That all could read clear, fine

He wrote, 'Jesus of Nazareth
The King of the Jews,' saith
This sign, and it not altered, for
The words they remained sure

He fulfilling each prophecy
How Scriptures said would be
Obtaining for us salvation
Suffered, died, rose again

The Eve Of Easter

Tune: Passion Chorale

('O sacred head, sore wounded')

Matthew 27 v. 57-66 parts

On crucifixion evening
Joseph [of Arimathea], request did bring
He Jesus' disciple
Pleased with Pilate all
That he might Jesus bury
Pilate said, So it be
He took the body, prepared
It for burial, cared

Laid it in his own tomb new
This loving deed did do
Tomb hewn from the rock, and he
Rolled great stone to door, see
Two Marys there, they sat near
The tomb, saw the scene there
Next day though a guard was set
Tomb held not Christ e'en yet

Though some thought His disciples
Would steal His body all
For He said, 'After three days
I will rise,' true He says
So guard granted, and stone sealed
Jesus He not concealed
Within tomb, but rose again
The Saviour of all men* (*mankind)

Easter Exaltings

Tune: Easter Hymn

('Jesus Christ is risen today')

John 20 v.11-18 parts

Hail the resurrection day! *Alleluia!*

Christ the Lord is risen for aye* (*ever) *Alleluia!*

Here His triumph may we share *Alleluia!*

Victory beyond compare *Alleluia!*

Mary at the tomb He met *Alleluia!*

She supposed Him gardener yet *Alleluia!*

Said, My Lord taken away *Alleluia!*

Empty be the tomb this day *Alleluia!*

Tell me where you have taken *Alleluia!*

Him, and I will place maken *Alleluia!*

For Him to be laid at rest *Alleluia!*

But 'Mary' He said, she blest *Alleluia!*

She said, Master, Rabboni *Alleluia!*

Knew her Lord, Saviour, there nigh *Alleluia!*

Touch me not, He said, for I *Alleluia!*

Not ascended by and by *Alleluia!*

Go unto the people, say *Alleluia!*

That you have seen me this day *Alleluia!*

I go to my Father, God, true *Alleluia!*

He your Father and God too *Alleluia!*

Emmaus Enlightening

Tune: St Fulbert

('Ye choirs of new Jerusalem')

Luke 24 v.13-32 parts

Two disciples on a journey
To Emmaus* they be (* about 60 furlongs or 7 1/2 miles from Jerusalem)
The risen Jesus to them neared
And unto them appeared

At first they knew not it as He
Said, How can these things be?
That Jesus of Nazareth, he
Suffered and died, so be

We trusted that it had been He
Who would redeemer be
Of Israel, and three days have passed
Since He did breathe His last

And certain a vision did see
Of angels, they said He
Was alive, some to tomb did go
But of Him was no show

Jesus said then, O foolish, slow
To scriptures believe, know
Are you, and words prophets foretold
Of Christ in days of old

How He would suffer, die, then rise
Be seen before you eyes
Again, and enter His glory
Gain o'er death victory

They recognised Him, He took bread
Christ risen from the dead
Broke it, blessed them, as Passover
Meal they shared before sure

After this they went back the 7 1/2 miles to Jerusalem again,
to tell the others.

Commission Call

Tune: Truro

('Christ is alive! Let Christians sing')

(Also one tune to 'Jesus shall reign where'er the sun')

Luke 24 v.44-49

Christ said, All things of me must be
Fulfilled, from law and prophets, see
The things concerning me, then He
Opened their {the disciples} understanding free

So they might understand scriptures
He said to them, he them assures
That it was written, and needs be
That He suffer, die, rise truly

And that repentance, remission
Be preached in His name, He God's Son
Forgiveness of sins, all nations
All may receive, e'en all stations* {* all classes, races, etc}

At Jerusalem beginning
Of this witness, good news to bring
And, behold, He sends the promise
Of His Spirit, they not Him miss

The Spirit from the Father, though
They to wait a while, then to know
Enduing of power from on
High, then soon view His ascension

Seen Or Not Seen

Tune: Vulpius / Gelobt Sei Gott

('Good Christians all, rejoice and sing')

John 20 v.24-29

When Jesus to disciples came
One was not there, Thomas his name
They to him did say, make this claim
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The said, We have the Lord now seen
He has gone, but He here has been
Though Thomas he was not so keen
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

He said, Unless I His hand see
And the print of the nails, so be
And touch His hands and side freely
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Unless I do so, I will not
Believe, but eight days thence their lot
Jesus again appeared, begot
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Begotten from the dead, and He
Said to Thomas, My hands, side, see
Peace to you all, know it is me
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thomas did so, and then did say
My Lord and my God, e'en this day
I have seen you, the Life, Truth, Way
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus said, Thomas, because you
Have seen me, you believed, 'tis true
Blessed they who have not seen me too
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lakeside Life

Tune: Lancashire

('The day of resurrection')

John 21 v.1-14 parts

Jeus appeared to seven
Disciples, fishing then
At sea of Tiberias
There did He speak, Jesus
Said, Have you caught anything?
No, they said, none to bring
Jesus said, Cast net on right
Side of ship, fish to sight

So they did, and fish many
There they did catch, so be
On land there was made ready
Food for to eat freely
Jesus said, bring of the fish you
Have caught, and it was true
Their net was full, not broken
And they did marvel then

Come and eat, He to them said
Christ risen from the dead
They asked Him not, Who are you?
For they knew Him there true
This the third time He did show
Himself to them, for so
Once with Thomas, once without
Now they all sure, no doubt

Peter's Professing

Tune: Wiltshire

('Through all the changing scenes of life')

John 21 v.15-17

Jesus said to Peter, Do you
Love me more than these* true? (* those others there at the lakeside)
He said, yes, Lord, you know that I
Love you, I not deny

Jesus said, Feed my lambs, then He
The second time said, see
Peter, do you love me> Again
Peter did reply then

He said, yes, Lord, you know that i
Love you, I not deny
Jesus said to him, Feed my sheep
With loving-care them keep

Jesus said again the third time
Peter, here in life's rhyme
Do you love me? Peter was grieved
[That] He this word thrice received

He said to Jesus, Lord you know
All things above, below
You know that I love you, [then] Jesus
Said, Feed my sheep, them bless

Following In Faith

Tune: Abridge

('Be thou my guardian and my guide')

John 21 v.20-23

Peter did turn around and see
Disciple, John he be
Peter asked Jesus, What shall be
Of this man, pray, tell me

Jesus said, If I will that he
Remain till I come, see
Till I return, but what to you
Is that? Follow me true

Then spread this saying, John should not
Die, this would be his lot
Yet Jeus did not to him say
You shall live here alway

But He said to Peter, If I
Will that he stay here nigh
Until I return, what to you
Is that? Follow me true

Goodbye Little Friend

Goodbye little friend

Bronze Bluebell - guinea pig departed

A lovely girl, black, with a bronze patch on one side

You lived quite old for a guinea pig - 5 years or more

We brought you two black-and-white girl piggies

As companions, for the last half-year or so of your life

They are still here - like twins they are

We couldn't leave just one on its own in the pet shop

But you had a good long life

You got worn out with old age

Don't some of us humans too?

Went downhill fast - as you piggies seem to do so

Eating and drinking and running about

Until about two days from the end

Then reaching the stage

Where it was cruel to let you linger on

But now - Rest In Peace

Free from any further sufferings

Gone to Guinea Pig Heaven, I'm sure

A Silent Poem

Here it is, at great expense
Took me hours to write this one
It could have an infinite number of verses - all the same!
Here's Verse 1 for you:

.....
.....
.....
.....

I dunno the metre or format of it
Could be 8.8.8.8.
Or maybe 47.63.4.82.7.49.
Summat like that anyway!

Fido checks the poems
Woof! What's this 'excuse' for a poem? he says
People will waste all of, ohh, about 23 seconds reading it!
That time adds up
If lots of people read it!
(Heehee, it's old Orchi mucking about again!)
LOL

Help! lol.

Help! lol.

There's a fire, but I can't get out

There's only one Fire Door Exit

And it says 'This door must be kept closed at all times'

So I can't ever open it! Doh!

And - You seen Bill Stickers or Bill Posters?

They caught him yet?

They're gonna prosecute him

Dunno why! Heehee.

Are these ditties humourous, or humorous?

I think it's 'humorous'

Now there's word that loses a 'u'

But 'humour' many be spelt 'humor' by some folk

You seen that 'U' yet? - from a previous poem

Woof! time for Fido's walkies

Well, he walks on his own

While I put a lead on KP

And take HER for walkies!

LOL.

Risen Rejoicings

Tune: Lux Eoi

('Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven')

Light and life and celebration
Hope and joy for each nation
Christ humankind came to redeem
Though all lost in sin did seem
But Light of the world our darkness
Did dispel, came to save us
Christ arisen, dies no more e'er
In His risen life we share

He to certain ones did appear
Resurrected, they Him there
Saw in person, life eternal
He gives, forgiveness for all
Help us, Lord, to on you focus
You the sole Saviour for us
For salvation in no other
There be for sister, brother

When two travelled to Emmaus
They said, Did not within us
Our hearts burn, when He did us show
The scriptures, so now we know
It is He who to us appeared
On our journey to us neared
And broke bread as in days of old
Risen now, gospel be told

VE Day thoughts

Linking in with VE Day.....

James 4 v.1-4

From where do wars, or conflicts, and fightings among you come from?
Don't they come from your lusts, or desires for pleasure
That war in your members {i.e. within yourselves}?

You lust, and have those desires for pleasure, and have not what you want
You kill, or murder, and desire to have, or covet
And cannot obtain what you want
You fight and war, or battle
Yet you have not, because you ask not {i.e. in prayer}

When you do ask, you don't receive what you want
Because you ask amiss, that you may satisfy it on your lusts, or pleasures

You are as spiritual adulterers and adulteresses
As if married to God and married to the world
Don't you know that friendship with the world is to be at enmity with God?
Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world and its ways
Is, or makes themselves, an enemy of God?

Not Sure I'm Human!

Now lookie here
Maybe I'm not human
Maybe I am half guinea-pig
Cos it seems to be taking longer
To verify I am human
Before I even get on 'ere
To attempt any poems!!

Are you human - or less so?
Does it seem to take you long to get in 'ere?!
Before you even get started
On a poem or a comment?

Well, I treat KP inhumanely
So she must have told 'em
She would never get on this site as a human
Only if it verifies her as an old botox trout! heehee.

Oohh, I'm 'orrible to her! LOL

Since when.....

Fill in your own answers here, to one, all, or some of these?

Since when was [name of comedian / comedienne] funny?

Since [insert a year you first saw it] when was a good comedy show actually funny?

Since when did KP start having botox? [insert a year here]

Since when was I a good singer instead of screeching? [insert a year here]

Orchi and Goldfinch are actually [insert number] years old - clue: it's in the millions!

Might add more - or add your own!

A check up!

Hi all poets!

While I wait for 'spiritual' muse to return

And them hymn-poems

Though ya wish I wouldn't sing each one 20 times

Cos ya can't stand me screeching!

Just checking, meanwhile

Are ya still human?

If not, how did ya get in here

To write poems or comment on 'em?! heehee

But don't ya know

I sneaked in 'ere

Cos I'm half guinea-pig, half human

Guess which half is which - lol

It don't let KP in

Cos it don't admit old botox trouts!

Oohh, I'm 'orrible to her!

It lets Fido in

Cos it thinks he's a super-intelligent human

Cos he knows 99% of all there is to know! heehee

And he must check all the poems

In case the 18+ box has not been ticked

If it ought to be ticked

Or else he will bark ferociously at ya!

All this rubbish is true, ya know!

??

In the name of humanity

In the name of humanity...
How does it let me in here, on to this site?
Not that again, says Fido

But it has to be said -
I'm only half-human, ya know
Well, it takes a good few seconds to let me
Maybe it has to double-check - heehee.

As I say, old trouts don't get in
So KP never get in! lol.
She might get in one day though
And read my insults and how I rubbish her - heehee

Much more of this
And I will start believing myself
That this nonsense is all true!?

This can't go on!

This can't go on!
Thinking, I mean.....
There's far too much of it going on
People being sensible, wise, prudent, etc
It has to stop!
As too much thinking (or even a little)
Can be a dangerous thing!

Of course, it don't affect me hardly at all
As I've only three brain cells
And none, when they go on holiday
I dunno half the time
When they'll be back

'No change there then for you', says KP to me
Returning an insult to me
Of one of the 5 million I give her each day!
Has to be done
To keep her from being too big for her boots

Wot? Do I discover you thinking there?
OK, you can think, I will allow it
If you think up fab poems!
Heehee.

I was gonna post a video with this
But one is over an hour long
That's FAR too much thinking! lol.

Bonkers!

Now I gotta keep checking up
Before I return to hymn-poems, hopefully soon

Are ya all still human there?
Do ya recognise two guinea pigs in my pic?
I told ya - they're piggies
Not rats, mice, rabbits
Not even elephants or giraffes!
If ya think so
Ya best go to Specsavers!

C'mon now, we can't have non-humans on here
Half-humans maybe, like me
I'm half-human, half guinea pig really

Did it take me long to write this rubbish?!
Nope, only about an average
Of 23 seconds
Words came to me naturally
Like when ya empty a dustbin! heehee

But I don't empty my dustbins
Before I've picked out the leftovers
To feed to KP, of course
While Fido and I have roast dinners
Strawberries and cream
Caviar and salmon - all that stuff

I'm horrible to her
She sleeps in the dog's kennel still
While Fido is tucked up in bed!
Heehee.

Finding Tomorrow

Nope, not some deep philosophical piece
Or about some 'destiny in life' sort of thing
Even with the maybe enigmatic title
But just some drivel, some garbage
That you might be able to help me with!

Have ya found 'tomorrow'?
If so, where did ya find it?
Can I buy it from the Co-op, Tesco
Or some local store?

Ya see, my dilemma is
I can never find 'tomorrow'
It seems to be gone for ever
Cos every time it gets here -
It's 'today'!
Hmm - strange that
And then, after each 24 hours, each 'today' becomes 'yesterday'

So there's millions of yesterdays and today's
For me - and Goldfinch too
But no tomorrows for me! Heehee.

And Fido said to me:
By the time you find out what 'Carpe diem' means
There won't be any day left to seize
It'll be bedtime!

Enough ramblings from me
'Ramblings?' says Fido
As he fetches his leash
'Where we going for walkies?'
Walkies today that is - never 'tomorrow'!

Ascension Amblings

Some amblings, or even ramblings
About Ascension Day

One defying gravity?!
Yes, but no surprise really
The same one - Jesus Christ
Who rose from the dead
So 'ascending' from a mountain is no problem for Him

But not to be sidetracked by that actual event
Not to over-emphasise that
But to realise the true reason for the Ascension
Jesus returning to His Father in heaven
Having done all that was in His Father's will for Him on Earth

Then promising to send us the Holy Spirit
In a 'few days hence'
To empower us, to enable us
To continue His ministry through us
In our words and deeds

Meanwhile, we try, KP, Fido and I
To defy gravity - but don't get far
Fido's the 'Bird-Dog', KP's the 'Bird-Trout'
And I'm the 'Bird-Man'
Do ya hear me, the echoing?
I just jumped off this clifffffff with me wiiiingggssss!
Oof! I just landed.
LOL.

A Load Of Rubbish Part 84746383

..... or summat like that

I lost count of the amount of rubbish I spout

Now look - there's no need to agree with me

And it's not ALWAYS! heehee

Aww - why they say to me: 'No change there then for you'

And they ask me - 'Does it take long to write this rubbish?'

And I reply - 'Nooooo, certainly not'

Takes me all of those proverbial 23 second to write more bilge

More nonsense, utter tripe

But of course, some of it's true

The KP adventures and Life With Fido escapades

Ohh, it's no trouble.....

Got writer's block?

Just write any old junk

But remember about that 'thinking'

Too much of it can be a dangerous thing! heehee

Eh??

Eh?? Or Wot??

Rather common expression, the latter there

But wot? Ya got nothin' to say

Writers block?

Doh! Just say it anyway

Any old rubbish - I do, well ,sometimes

I never asked ya to think of me

That I writes rubbish ALL the time!

C'mon now, waffle on and on

Always use 20 words when 5 will do

Or 50 words when 10 will do!

Make poems interminably long

Does anyone actually read to the end

Of VERY long poems?! heehee.

And if ya got a bit of time to spare

Ya an always 'like' your own poems

Only once, mind ya

Or it slips back to the previous total

If ya try to 'like' a poem twice

Ya might even waste

Oh, I dunno, summat like 42 seconds

Reading this tripe

And - Why is the answer always '42'?

As some wag said

Well, it makes maths easier:

The answer to:

7 x 6

11 x 35

3,486.34 x 4,863.76

Is 42 every time!

It's how Fido passed his maths exams!

LOL

Who are these people?

Who are these people?!

And me - one of them! heehee

They who laugh at their own corny jokes

Btu they have to -

Cos maybe no one else will laugh at their jokes! lol.

And they may even.... 'like' their own poems

Well - maybe no one else will 'like' them! heehee

KP says - what garbage ya gonna write today, Orchi?

Another of our Adventures? 'KP and I (and Fido)'

It must be time for Adventure No. 894736352

Or summat like that

Don't question me, KP

Or I'll give ya no botox money

What ya doing with that money anyway?

Cos I can't see any difference in ya

Though you've had about 68393735 treatments so far!

Woof! says Fido - it's that Orchi mucking about again

My eccentric master

He dunno what he's on about half the time

He thinks it's all true

All the 'humor' poems he writes! LOL.

Not human?

Are ya human?

Maybe I'm not

Or I'm changing more into a guinea pig

Cos it seems to take longer

To verify me these days!

'Since when did you treat me humanely?'

KP asks me!

LOL

I need answers

C'mon now, I need answers

I must have them!

Answers to questions such as:

Does anyone laugh at your jokes?

Do you laugh at your own jokes?

Do you 'like' your own poems?

(Don't tell porkies now!)

And - is Fido real?

Can he talk? Can he read?

Does he bark at you if you don't tick the 18+ box

When you should really tick it?

And - How did you send that extra second we had one year?

Hope you didn't waste it.

And - You gained 2p interest from your Bank account?

Did you spend it all at once?!

Add your own questions..... LOL

Eating the moon

What madness is this title? Fido asks me!
What bizarreness, what obscurity of title!

Well, I'm gonna eat the moon
This coming Tuesday night
In the UK anyway - dunno about elsewhere

It's gonna be a 'Strawberry full moon' - yummy!
So if the moon's made of cheese
We'll have a strawberry cheesecake
With actual cheese in it

Come and join me, they'll be plenty to have
Don't miss it
As the moon will have to re-form again
When we've eaten it - or most of it
And there's not another such moon until 2043

Of course, Goldfinch and I have seen loads of them
With us both being millions of years old
How many have you seen?! LOL

Cup o' tea and.....

Ohhh, let's not get in a whirl
Let's not stress out!
Come join me for a natter
Fido will be there too
KP will be out at a botox appointment
Where else?!
So she won't bother us

We'll sit down and have
A cup of tea, or coffee, and a slice of cake
You can tell me your troubles, your woes
I will do the same
Tell you all about my woes with KP! lol.

We'll have a slice each too
Of the Strawberry Moon for dessert
The one I mentioned in a recent poem
But that's the 'special' for this Tuesday evening only
In the UK, that is - dunno about anywhere else

If you can't make that Tuesday evening
You'll have to wait for the next Strawberry Moon in 2043
Dunno what day of the week that'll be
But it's about every 18 and half years, that certain moon
So it may be around December then
Best book early! LOL

Cake and strawberries

Yummy! Cake and strawberries

The cake is from when I invited ya for a chat

Fo a cup o' tea and a slice of cake

Pop round soon - the cake's not gone mouldy

Though I've had it for 500 years! heehee.

And the strawberries are for when

We're gonna eat that moon together

Oh, I dunno

It might be an orange or banana moon

Or even a green cabbage moon

It'll be green to ya

If ya have had too much tippie!

Ya can have cream on those strawberries

Ya can have pies too - pork pies.... whatever

See ya there at the feast! LOL.

Not Cloudy Tonight Please

Argh! Not cloudy tonight please
Or we won't see the strawberry moon
If I don't see it
I'll wait in me garden for 18 and half years
Until the next one!

It's 'sad', I know
But that's all I'll do
Sit in the garden all the time
Not make a move
Except for necessary things
I'll be there - you'll find me
Through Spring and Summer, Autumn and Winter
Well If I don't do that
I might miss the next moon
Around December 2043
Best to be prepared, I say

Or even if it's cloudless this evening
KP may distract me and say
'Any more money for my botox treatments, please?'

She'll spoil it for me
She'll ask me that
As soon as there's a break in any clouds
To make sure I'll miss the moon
But she'll suffer for doing that
I'll feed her more of Fido's bones
While he and I have roast dinner every day!
LOL.

They didn't eat cake....

Aww, we didn't eat cake
Well, we might have done
But missed the strawberry moon
It clouded over! Boohoo.

Were you there with me?
Did ya see it? or rather, did ya not see it?
That'll teach me
To want my cake and eat it too! LOL.

Only one thing for it now
I'll have to camp outdoors each day and night
Until it turns up again
Around December 2043
Yep, makes sense to me! heehee.

Since when was.....

....You can add your own ditty or two to these:

Since when.....

....was [insert name of comedian/comedienne] funny?

....did Roy in Corrie get a new shopping bag?

....did Zak in Emmerdale get a new hat?

....did proper, sensible singing cease?

....was there a good comedy programme on TV?

....did the No.7 bus stop travelling to Mars and back?

....were there 30 days in February?

....did I see that Strawberry Moon? (missed it; not until 2043 now)

....was I -and you- human (to get on this site)?

....was I nice to KP?!

....was I funny?!

(not THAT joke again, says Fido to me!)

LOL

Still Human?

I must know some things....
Are ya all still human on here?
Or am I talking to..... dunno who, or what?
Am I still human?
Took me about 3 hours to be verified
Well, it felt that long anyway!

I might be talking to a pork pie
Or ya might be half human, half pork pie
What a sight!

Come back, me hymn-poem muse
But what's that you say?
Don't come back - me singing everything! LOL

Gloomy Doom heehee

Ohh, I'm a barrel of laughs - not!
I'm all gloom and doom
Now look - here in UK it's the Longest Day soon

Cheer up though -
The nights start drawing in now
It'll soon be Ch..... again
Only 6 months to go!

Can't say the word until December
When some fat beardy bloke
In a red costume and welly boots
Comes down ya chimney!
Who is he?!

I'm wishing me life away here
Going by that timescale!
But you likes it really, I know
If ya can make someone miserable
Why hold back? What's stopping ya?
If ya got summat negative to say
And unsure whether to say it
Say it anyway!
It'll darken someone's day

And you'll say to them
If I'm miserable, I don't see why
You should be happy!

This has to stop, says Fido to me
You gloom-and-doom merchant, you! LOL

Fido wants to know

Fido wants to know certain things
Though he probably knows them already
Since he knows 99% of everything
There is to know
He's just checking if I know them.....

Things like when he asks me:
Did it take you long to write that daft poem?
Another load of rubbish!
Nooooo, I reply, not at all
Only about 30 seconds
Of utter drivel

And he asks, Did you have to think much about it
As you wrote that poem?
Noooo, not at all, I said
Cos I only got 3 brain cells!

How many mad adventures you got? Fido asks me
Ohhh, about 489373629, I reply!
Is this all true? he asks me
Why, yes, of course, I reply! Heehee

Can't get out!

Can ya help me?!
Have ya got any keys?
I'm in this room - all doors seem to be locked
Except the Fire Door
And that says 'Keep this door shut at all times'
Even if there's a fire?!
And there's no windows either

It's KP - she locked me in
For insulting her yet again
I only said to her
'You're looking uglier each day, my dear!' LOL

I will say nice things to her
Maybe she'll let me out
Btu it won't last, of course
If I get out, I'll still be nice to her...
For about 5 seconds more! heehee

Fido says to me
You and KP drive me nutty!
He's the only sane one at home. lol.

Talking more rubbish!

Note / poem to self:

There's enough rubbish in the world

Literal and metaphorical

But you always add to it

With some nutty poem!

'Rubbish' in a fun sense.

I was gonna return to singing

But 'they' won't let me

Whoever 'they' are?

They say - Oh no, not that screeching again

I'd rather watch a month of 'Neighbours'

Than listen to you

So they say to me!

And that's saying something

Cos 'Neighbours' is quite horrific

They'll go insane after only a week of it. heehee

And is Bouncer still in it?

The dog, that is - Fido's friend!

That was the last time I watched it. LOL.

Dang it!

Dang it! it's a wonder any of us
Ever get on here to write a poem
Take about 3 hours to be verified
Well, seems like 3 hours
Then when you get on here
You may have pesky adverts at intervals
Though I will read the ones
About dog food for Fido!

I told ya - we may say
I'm only half-human
Or not human at all
I am E.T. in disguise!
Heehee.

Can't stay all day

Well, I can't stay here all day
Writing rubbish of my 'Mad Adventures' series
It's reached poem now, ohh, I dunno
83736346489, or summat near that!

Why can't you stay and write more rubbish? Fido asks me
You always do! No change there then
Writing your garbage - no end of it
Which takes people, ohh, about 34 seconds to read
Why you make them waste about 34 seconds? He asks me

You know I'm a talking, reading dog
Still checking these poems
Barking at anything 'naughty' or 'hot'
Where the 18+ box has not been ticked
C'mon now, I know these things, no excuses
You 'forgot' conveniently
To tick the 18+ box!
But my bark is worse
Than my non-existent bite!
And how do I, Fido, get on this site?
Cos I'm not human!
Heehee

Happy Canada Day

.... To all Canadians!

Dating from July 1, 1867

Though sometimes I don't know all the history of it

With one employer we always had 4th July

Happy American independence Day

Whether we, non-Americans, liked it or not -

The causes of it, the history of it

'You will have tea and cake and celebrate!'

Groans of 'Oh no, it's 4th July again!'

Cringe-worthy celebrations. LOL.

Can ye not.....

Fido asks me.....

Can ye not write one serious comment to poems

At least now and then?! Doh!

He speaks old-fashioned at times

He says ye, thee, thou, etc!

Hmm, I'll try, but it might not last

Who knows?

Well, Fido says, you never get many of the cryptic meanings of poems

You just spout some nonsense

Leading the poets up the garden path!

Fido says to me, You'll have to think a bit more

Though I know it's not easy

With only 3 brain cells that you have! LOL

And he says, I suppose you'll say something 'orrible

About KP again

You'll get out your book entitled:

'1,001 nasty things to say to the spouse' heehee.

Escape from.....

Escape from..... Alcatraz?

Well, I am 'The Birdman', so I say!

Escape from.... my inane monologues

My droning on, waffling, rambling?

Escape from reading my nonsense?

Nope, cos you're reading it now! heehee

Fido says to me

I wish you'd stop making poets waste

20 seconds of their life reading this stuff

If lots read them, that's a lot of 20 seconds

It only takes 3 poets to read this

For a whole minute to be wasted! LOL.

And he says to me

How's the thinking going?

Not too much of it now

You know it's dangerous!

I forgot.....

I had not written out a poem draft
So by the time I got verified -
Going through TWO verifications - you too?
I forgot what I was gonna write! Doh!

Can ya wait about 3 hours to get in here?
Or more exactly, about 20 seconds?
I never get many cryptic meanings anyway - boo hoo!
Or if I do, I get the wrong end of the stick
Probably a stick I throw to Fido
He rushes to retrieve it!

Or - I forget...
Do I throw the stick for KP instead
And sit down to dinner with Fido?!

Meanwhile

Meanwhile....

That word of mine appears here and there

You'll know summat daft, crazy, nutty

Summat of utter nonsense - I hope!

Will be sure to follow it

Maybe 'Mad Adventure No. 8937463529'

I've lost count of how many. lol.

What with me married to KP

And having a talking, reading dog, Fido

And eating nothing much but pork pies

Using 20 words when 5 will do

Goldfinch and I being millions of years old

And other quirky stuff -

It's all true, ya know! Heehee.

I never knew....

I never knew there was so much
In some of the rubbish I write!
I mean some amazing, erudite comments
And intelligent too -
Since when did I say anything 'intelligent'? heehee

It's a case of 'I never knew all that - but I know it now!'
I never knew we could do so much in one second
You know, that extra second we had one year
How did you spend it?

Me? I certainly didn't waste that second, cos I
Flew round the world 7,483 times
Sailed around the world 7,493 times
Took a trip to the Moon and back 9,492 times
All in a time lapse?
Or I did it all at the speed of light!

I've not worked the calculations though
Of whether this is correct
Could I have done all that at the speed of light? heehee
Summat like 186,000 miles per second
So I win every Marathon I enter
26 miles - Pah! Nothing to me! lol