

Jesus, Once in Galilee

Jesus, once in Galilee
You called sinners to God's way;
Show us what real life can be
When we follow you today.

As you fed the multitude
Hungering in a desert place,
Give to us the living bread:
Let us know God's truth and grace.

Lord, restore to us our sight,
As you healed at Jericho.
Teach us how to do the right,
As you taught crowds long ago.

Traveling to Jerusalem,
You foretold the pains you'd bear.
Fit us, Lord, for what may come,
If your sufferings we must share.

Help us yield our will to God
With you in Gethsemane,
By our deeds proclaim your word
And your death at Calvary.

Risen Christ, redeem our life,
As we take up our own cross,
Work and pray and sacrifice
To advance your kingdom's cause.

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TUNE: MERCY ("Holy Ghost, with Light Divine")
or CANTERBURY (*United Methodist Hymnal*, 465)

Jesus Christ, God's Risen Son

Jesus Christ, God's risen Son,
Place our lives in your clear light.
May the victory you have won
Help us walk by faith, not sight.

By your grace we'll not lose heart
When the wrong seems to prevail,
But rise up and play our part
In response to your "All hail!"

We would walk the Emmaus Road,
Understand the things you said.
Stay with us, now as of old;
Savior, bless and break our bread.

We would go to Galilee,
And, as followers, near you keep.
Lord, we would your servants be,
When you tell us, "Feed my sheep."

Christ, your reassuring voice
Causes all our fears to cease.
When we make your way our choice,
We are blest with joy and peace.

Breathe on us your Spirit, Lord;
Move us then to work and praise,
In accord with your last word:
"Lo, I am with you always."

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TUNE: INNOCENTS (*United Methodist Hymnal*, 675)

Thanks and Praise

Jesus, for your mercies
We give thanks to you.
Nurture us in faith, Lord,
Bless the works we do.

We are your disciples,
Subject to your call;
Help us meet each challenge,
Whether great or small.

For your love unbounded,
For your saving grace.
For your life's example
We give thanks and praise.

For the Abundant Life

Lord, thank you for the bright sunshine
And for the gentle rain.
Fit us into your grand design;
We would not live in vain.

You sent your only Son to earth
To help us do your will.
By faithfulness he conquered death;
He lives within us still.

Be with us, Lord, in all events;
Uphold when times are hard.
Give faith and friends and sustenance;
Our pathways guide and guard.

Grant us the grace to strive for good
While we are here below,
As servants of the living God
From whom all blessings flow.

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TUNE: ST. ANNE (*United Methodist Hymnal*, 117,
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past")

Thanks for Blessings

We thank you for our blessings, Lord,
And for the hope found in your Word.
Faith, hope, and love in us renew;
Guide us in all we say and do.

This Is Our Father's World

This is our Father's world;
We join in nature's song,
Our voices raise to sing God's praise
In tones both sweet and strong.
This is the world God made;
We each must play a part
With sympathy and harmony
Arising from the heart.

This is our Father's world,
And music is God's gift;
It can express our feelings best,
Our sagging spirits lift.
This is the world God made,
And holy is God's name.
Lord, give us grace to run our race
And spread abroad your fame.

This is our Father's world;
May we know how to guide
Those who are lost, or tempest-tossed,
For whom the Savior died.
This is the world God made;
Let us our talents bring,
Faith to renew, good works to do,
Serving our heavenly King.

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TUNE: TERRA BEATA (*United Methodist Hymnal*, 144)

Grateful Praise

Now unto God the Father
Our thanks we gladly give;
And to God's Son, our Savior,
Who died that we might live.

For daily bread and healing
We render grateful praise,
And for the Holy Spirit,
Who guides us all our days.

Lord, walk beside your servants,
That we may worthily
Bear witness to the gospel
And faithful stewards be.

God of Grace, We Thank You

God of grace, we thank you
For our daily bread.
By your Word and Spirit
Have our souls been fed.
Jesus Christ, our Savior,
Guide us on our way;
Show us how to serve you
In the world today.

We would follow you, Lord,
Helping those in need,
Reaching out to others
In both word and deed.
We would use our talents,
All the gifts we have,
As we share the gospel
And your steadfast love.

When we meet with trials,
Tasks too hard for us,
Give us strength to face them
As you faced the cross.
But if we prove willful,
Ruled by fear or pride,
Savior, then remind us:
For our peace you died.

By your resurrection,
Lord, your people raise,
That our lives may bring you
Honor, thanks, and praise.
Jesus, stand among us,
Take away our fears;
Fit us for our mission
As your judgment nears.

In this world of turmoil,
Grant us inner calm
As we seek your kingdom,
Care for earth, our home.
May your church, undaunted,
Scripture teach and learn,
Faith and hope preserving
Until you return.

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MUSIC: HERMAS ("On Our Way Rejoicing"; omit refrain)
or ARMAGEDDON ("Who Is on the Lord's Side"; omit refrain)

An Advent Prayer

O Christ, we hail your holy birth,
Of which the angels told.
With shepherds we find grace and truth,
Your glory we behold.

As prophets in the temple knew,
You came to light the way.
As wise men gave, we give to you
Heart, mind, and soul today.

While yet a child you heard the call,
Your Father's work to do;
We too would serve the Lord of all,
And to this task be true.

You came to save the human race
From selfishness and greed;
Help us to see you in the face
Of human souls in need.

If we should falter on the path,
Strengthen our hearts; may we,
Like you, be faithful unto death
And gain the victory.

Lord, let the Scriptures speak to us,
The Spirit guide our ways,
That we may live to do your works
And to declare God's praise.

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TUNE: WINCHESTER OLD (*United Methodist Hymnal*, 603)