

Modern Hymns to Traditional Tunes

Lisa Crow

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Part I

SATB Music

Alphabetical by Tune Name

A New Christmas Carol

Lisa Crow, 2013

for Ginger Howl

J. Horn's Gesangbuch

76.76 D

AVE VIRGO VIRGINUM

1. Christ the Lord is born to- day, Peace and joy are gi- ven.
 2. Ma- ry held this in her heart, Pon- d'ring through the ev'- ning.
 3. Sing praise to the Son of God On this glo- rious Chri- stmas.

Wo- men, men, and chil- dren say "Praise the King of Hea- ven!"
 Je- sus, gen- tle Babe, is bread, Ma- nna for the mor- ning.
 Let us serve Him as we should Sha- ring His for- give- ness.

Si- meon sighs with deep re- lease, "Ble- ssed sweet sal- va- tion.
 Li- sten to the pro- phe- tess Full of love and won- der.
 Praise this gift from God a- bove Name Him "God now with us,"

Ma- ster, dis- miss me in peace, Light up all the na- tions!"
 A- nna's wi- tness with- out rest: "He is our Re- dee- mer!"
 Fi- lling us with His great love, Joy- ous and vic- to- rious!

Meditation on Psalm 86

Lisa Crow, 2012

Daniel Read 1757-1836

8.7.8.7

BARTIMEUS

1. Hear our plea for gra- cious good- ness,
 2. Let us cap- ture your a- tten- tion.
 3. Your for- give- ness calms our spi- rits.
 4. There is none like you in great- ness.

As we are low in spir- it. Guard us with your
 We look to you for mer- cy. Share with us your
 Your love is all a- round us. When we call'd your
 All your works are mar- ve- lous. Ho- ly peo- ple,

sa- ving pre- sence. We are faith- ful ser- vants.
 joy- ful vi- sions. Be our hope for all to see.
 name, you heard it. You look'd for us, and found us.
 you have made us All your glo- ry to con- fess.

Meditation on Psalm 89

Lisa Crow, 2013

John Zundel

8.7.8.7.D

BEECHER

I will sing of God's com- pa- ssion And un- cea- sing faith- ful- ness,

Sing of love that is un- le- ssen'd And ex- press my grate- ful- ness.

Lord, you have been al- ways with me, Build your hea- ven in my soul.

Pour for it a sure foun- da- tion With sal- va- tion make it whole.

Meditation on Psalm 91

Lisa Crow, 2012

John Hatton, 1793

L.M. 8.8.8.8

DUKE STREET

1. All of us live with- in God's home We nest with- in His
 2. His tri- ling calls we hear and learn To use as guides for
 3. We turn to home as dark- ness nears. No pe- sti- lence in-

sha- ding tree As li- ttle birds that flit and
 when to hide When fow- ler's snares rouse his con-
 fests his nest; His gen- tle ten- ding calms our

roam We are se- cure. He makes us free.
 cern Warned off by Him, we stand a- side.
 fears. A- sleep, be- neath his wings, we rest.

Meditation on Psalm 121

Lisa Crow, 2012

Guillaume Franc

C.M.

DUNDEE

1. Fa- ther, let me walk be- side you. Take
 2. Fa- ther, watch me in- to the night Fix
 3. Fa- ther, stand here be- side me now On

my hand to hold it. Your arm is strong; my
 your eyes u- pon me. You will not sleep. I'm
 my jour- ney home- ward. Shel- tered with- in your

path is true With you; I do not slip.
 in your sight. Your vi- gi- lance brings peace.
 sha- dow, Pro- tect me near you, Lord.

Meditation on Psalm 25

Lisa Crow, 2012

James McGranahan

CM + Refrain

EL NATHAN

Your good- ness Lord is ge- ne- rous. It is so full of
 love. Your righ- teous- ness ex- tends to us An
 ear- nest call to live. *Refrain* For you guide the humble-
 hear- ted And teach us new ways, lov- ing and faith- ful. You
 turn us away from trou- ble As we keep your co- ven- ant.

Asymmetric Catalysis

Lisa Crow, 2013

William H. Jude, 1874

8.7.8.7

GALILEE

1. Lord, I am an asymmetry, A
 2. Bind me to your mercy, In this
 3. Let your love direct our movements Be the

lean-ing mass in space... Take my bulki-ness and
 great e-lec-tron sea, May I cata-lyze your
 charge that draws us near Cir-cled close-ly in co-

fold it, Hold me beau-tif-fully in place.
 pur-pose In the lives su-rrou-nding me.
 mmu-nion A-round your sy-mme-tric sphere.

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

Traditional and Lisa Crow, 2017

Afro-American Spiritual; harm. by Phil Crow, 2018

Irregular

JACOB'S LADDER

1. We are climb- ing Ja- cob's La- dder We are
 2. If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you
 3. While we serve Him, let's draw near Him. While we
 4. If you get to heav'n be- fore me. If you
 5. There in hea- ven is no so- rrow. There in
 6. We are blest to be to- ge- ther. We are

climb- ing Ja- cob's La- dder We are climb- ing
 love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him,
 serve Him, let's draw near Him. While we serve Him,
 get to heav'n be- fore me. If you get to
 hea- ven is no so- rrow. There in hea- ven
 blest to be to- ge- ther. We are blest to

Ja- cob's La- dder Chil- dren of the Lord.
 why not serve Him? Serve Him all your days.
 let's draw near Him. Ho- ly in our ways.
 heav'n be- fore me. Will you greet the Lord?
 is no so- rrow. On- ly peace and joy.
 be to- ge- ther. Ser- ving in the Lord.

Meditation on Psalm 4

Lisa Crow, 2012

William James Kirkpatrick

7.6.7.6.7.7.6

JESUS SAVES

1. Lord, at-tend me in your call. Hear my prayer; hear my
 2. Would you seek me when I call? Turn to me; turn to
 3. Righteous ones, you are my own Re-member me; re-member
 4. Of-fer up your voice in praise. Wor-ship Him; wor-ship

prayer. All my o-ther hope is gone. Hear my
 me. Here I am: your All in all. Turn to
 me. By your hol-i-ness, I'm known. Re-member
 him. Let your sa-cri-fice be grace. Wor-ship

prayer; hear my prayer. Re-move this di-stre-ssing
 me; turn to me. May your hearts with glo-ry
 me; re-member me. Be faith-ful in your du-
 Him; Wor-ship Him. In your an-ger, do not

10

grief, Warm my heart and dry my tears. Let your
shine As a light that bright-ly beams Be-cko-
ty While wor-king for my gl-ory, Be mind-
sin, But in calm-ness, trust in Him. Let His

13

hope bring me re-lief. Hear my prayer; hear my prayer.
ning all hu-man-kind Turn to me; turn to me.
ful that your serve me. Re-mem-ber me; re-mem-ber me.
Spi-rit ba-ttles win. Wor-ship Him; Wor-ship Him.

Meditation on Isaiah 11

Inspired by Alan Paton's autobiography *Toward the Mountain*

Lisa Crow, 2017

William Kirkpatrick

11.8.11.8 Refrain

KIRKPATRICK

1. The Son of Man here with hu-mi-li-ty lives
 2. With ju-stice He ble-sses the poor of the earth,
 3. The wolf meek-ly kneels by the great Lamb of God.

With righ-teous-ness, ju-stice, and peace.
 With ho-li-ness all those in need.
 The leo-pard will guard the scape-goat.

He sees with his eyes and he hears with his ears
 His faith-ful-ness marks out our hold on His heart
 The calf and the li-on are both fed by Him,

Refrain

7

And ju- dges with kind- ness his peers. 1.-2. The Spi- rit of God
 And ri- ghteous- ness binds us to heed.
 And lea- ding them is a small child. 3. No one will harm or

10

does rest up- on him, The Spi- rit of wis- dom and truth.
 de- stroy Ho- ly Love U- pon His great Moun- tain of Faith

13

For he does de- light in the fear of the Lord
 God moved that the earth be fill'd with His Love

15

And roo- ted his bran- ches bare fruit
 As wa- ters that co- ver the sea

17

And nour-ished his bran-ches bare food.
Such know-ledge of God will there be.

The image shows a musical score for two staves, likely a piano accompaniment. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves have a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The music consists of chords and single notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The first line of lyrics is 'And nour-ished his bran-ches bare food.' and the second line is 'Such know-ledge of God will there be.' The music ends with a double bar line.

Glassware: Separatory Funnel Extraction

Lisa Crow, 2013

Robert Lowry

7.8.7.8. with refrain

LOWRY

1. What can wash a-way my sin?
 2. Salt out my con-for-mi-ty.
 3. Rinse a-way dis-grace and shame. Shake me with the Ho-ly
 4. Blend me in your li-quid balm.
 5. I-mmerse me wi-thin your Word.

What can rinse my soul with-in?
 Drain a-way im-pu-ri-ties.
 Spi-rit. Se-pa-rate me in your Name. Shake me with the Ho-ly
 Emul-si-fied un-til I'm calm.
 Let me dwell with-in the Lord.

Refrain

1-4. Oh, wash me with your love. Ex-tract my bi-tter-ness.
 Spi-rit.
 5. Oh, wash me with your love, Ex-tract my sin-ful-ness,

Lift all my thoughts a-bove, Shake me with the Ho-ly Spi-rit.
 Lift up my soul a-bove. Ba-ptized in the Ho-ly Spi-rit.

Meditation on Psalm 123

Lisa Crow, 2013

L.M. 8.8.8.8

MARYTON

1. I lift my eyes to look at you. Lord, turn to
 2. Sad- ness and so- rrow fade a- way, In the glad
 3. Make me at night, faith- ful in prayer So I may
 4. Let your co- rrec- tion al- ways be Heard and ack-

me and when you do, Stretch out your hand and
 ser- vice of the day, When I can see your
 seek your will with care. Keep me a- wake to
 now- ledged o- pen- ly So I may please you

set me free To live and love, and show me-rcy.
 hand at work With hea-ling care for those who hurt.
 watch with you For ways to love and serve a- new.
 more each day And hum- bly walk your ho- ly way.

Meditation on Psalm 134

Lisa Crow, 2012

John B. Dykes, 1866

CM 8.6.8.6

ST. AGNES

1. De- clare God's pres- ence in the night, Though dark- ness
 2. As lone- ly dark- ness sett- les in, Kin- dle the
 3. Let His touch heal your wound- ed heart, So love from
 4. Serve Him with warmth where hearts are cold. Serve Him with
 5. Hold up your hands and praise His name, For He is

press- es 'round. His light is shin- ing ev- en
 warmth and light Of prais- ing all He does as
 it might flow With so- lace for be- lea- guered
 gen- tle love. Serve Him with thanks for all he
 e- ver near Dry- ing your eye of e- very

now, With hope un- dimmed and bright.
 right, For He has con- quered sin.
 souls, He brings from near and far.
 gives Bea- ring with Him each load.
 tear Ble- ssing you day and night.

The Attributes of God

Lisa Crow, 2016

Thomas Tallis, 1560s

8.8.8.8

TALLIS' CANON

①

1. When we be- lieve that God is Love Then
 2. When we be- lieve that God is Good All
 3. When we be- hold that God is Holy We
 4. When we be- lieve that God is Just If
 5. When we be- lieve that God is Wise Then
 6. When we be- lieve that God is Here Let
 7. When we be- lieve that God is Joy Our

②

all the earth and heav'n a- bove Are wrapp'd in his su-
 these things that we wish God would Are lost in our de-
 count our- selves a- mong the guilty Let Je- sus co- ver
 we can help the poor, we must. And house the stra- nger
 all the things that we sur- mise Are test- ed with the
 us ack- now- ledge he is near And be the peo- ple
 lives are ri- cher with His love And lau- ghter fills our

③

blime em- brace And we are drowned with- in his grace.
 sire for Him To bend us to his e- v'ry whim.
 all our shame Pre- sent us wi- thout a- ny blame.
 in di- stress As God would have us do no less.
 pro- phets words And His ad- vice is seen and heard.
 we should be With ge- ntle words and kin- dly speech.
 sa- ddest days With sounds that speak loud of his praise.

④

Psalm of the Limbs

Thoughts in November 2017 on the Yazidi children unable to shepherd their sheep, the people of Zimbabwe and Kenya unable to attend work and school, the Rohingya parents lifting up babes to cross through rivers and swamp waters, and the sick with caring MSF workers in tents and hospitals in Yemen, Syria, and Afghanistan.

Lisa Crow, 2017

Thomas Tallis, 1560s

8.8.8.8

TALLIS' CANON



1. How beau- ti- ful and ble- ssed are The feet of men and
 2. How beau- ti- ful and ble- ssed are The fi- ngers of bold
 3. How beau- ti- ful and ble- ssed are The lift- ed arms of
 4. How beau- ti- ful and ble- ssed are Ho- spi- tal wings and

wo- men who Walk gent- ly on the moun- tain slopes Re-
 di- plo- mats Who sign a- way pro- spe- ri- ty and
 pa- rents who Ca- rry their chil- dren out of war And
 flaps of tents That house the sick and she- lter those Who've

mo- ving land- mines from the field, So that the she- pherd
 po- wer of co- rrupt fat cats. So that the chil- dren
 fa- mine in- to the un- known, Rent from their own life's
 lost their legs and arms in war. May God co- ver with

9

child- ren may Skip safe and free a-
 in the sto- streets Be- come a- dults who
 His own ry, A- live doc- tors, po- nur- ssi-
 Wings The doc- tors, nur- ses,

11

mong their sheep. May God guide all their
 count and vote. May God guard their fi-
 bi- li- ty. May God up- hold their
 pa- tient's kin, Shiel- ding with His own

13

steps each day And guard their feet u- pon the clay.
 ngers al- ways, And grant good go- vern- ment to- day.
 arms this day, and pre- cious bur- dens on the way.
 Pre- sence guard The care they give wi- thout re- gard.

Glassware: Distillation

Lisa Crow, 2013

Robert Jackson

S.M.

TRENTHAM

1. Di- still your Spi- rit, Lord. Wi- thin our gla- ssy souls,
 2. Di- still your Spi- rit, Lord. From warm and sa- lty tears,
 3. Di- still your Spi- rit, Lord. Re- duce our sel- fish thoughts.
 4. Di- still your Spi- rit, Lord. Co- llect the words we speak
 5. Di- still your Spi- rit, Lord. Poo- ling the prayers we raise,

Ex- tract the e- ssence of your love To use as hea- ling oil.
 Con- dense the cou- rage of your truth; Drive off un- ho- ly fears.
 Su- ffuse these hard and bri- ttle walls With le- ssons you have taught.
 As drops of coo- ling e- lix- ir For ser- vice to the weak.
 Fill up the head- space of our souls With sa- cri- fice of praise.

Atomic Firmament

Lisa Crow, 2013

Lizzie S. Tourjee

8.7.8.7

WELLESLEY

1. Beau- ti- ful! The world of a- toms, Each with spi- nning
 2. Let us be joined for his pur- pose, Meet each o- ther
 3. When we reach full con- ju- ga- tion, When his light shines
 4. Let us fluo- resce e- ver lon- ger, Mul- ti- ply each

heart and will, God pulls us in- to co- mmu- nion,
 as we're one, Fill the em- pty shells a- round us,
 on our souls, We can co- lor all this na- tion
 pho- ton sent, Make His glow shine e- ver brigh- ter,

Bui- lding us like mo- le- cules.
 Form through him a sta- ble bond.
 With the love that he be- stows.
 In a- to- mic fir- ma- ment.

Meditation on Jonah

aka the Dove Matthew 3:16, 16:4, 16:18-20, 17:5.
 Inspired by Rev. Ed Light's Bible studies on Jonah and Matthew.

Lisa Crow, 2017

USA Folk Hymn; harm. by Phil Crow, 2018

12.9.6.6.12.9

WONDROUS LOVE

Alto Melody

1. When Jo- nah preach'd the word, He spoke soft as a
 2. The sign of Jo- nah comes from a- bove as a
 3. The King- dom of the Lord has these keys, these free
 4. If we would love with God, Oh, what joy for our
 5. With love and ho- li- ness, Let us bless, ne- ver

Sop. Melody

dove. Like Jo- nah, we re- sent all God's love. The
 dove. The sign of Jo- nah comes with God's Love. "This
 keys. For- give- ness, love, and grace are His keys. Let
 souls! What joy our lives on His earth would hold! What
 curse. With love and ho- li- ness, let us bless. U-

Alto Melody

8
 Spi- rit will come down and turn us all a- round, And
 is my Son, I love. Li- sten to what he says, And
 us use these keys to for- give as He for- gives, To
 friend- ship in the Lord! We ne- ver could a- fford, Like
 pon this rock we stand, sal- va- tion is at hand. The

12

o- pen up our hearts to His love, with His
 o- pen up your hearts to My love, with His
 free our cap- tives with the good news of our
 Jo- nah to seek shade all a- lone and groan,
 church must bless with a ge- ne- rous love and

Sop. Melody

15

love, And teach us how to love as God loves.
 love. This is my Son, I love, li- sten well."
 love. Un- lock our hearts with love from a- bove.
 To nurse a grudge with a curse and a moan.
 grace, For we walk with the Lord as a friend.

Part II

Words for Projector Slides

1 A New Christmas Carol

Christ the Lord is born today,
Peace and joy are given.
Women, men, and children say
“Praise the King of Heaven!”

Simeon sighs with deep release,
“Blessed sweet salvation.
Master, dismiss me in peace,
Light up all the nations!”

Mary held this in her heart,
Pond’ring through the evening.
Jesus, gentle Babe, is bread,
Manna for the morning.

Listen to the prophetess
Full of love and wonder.
Anna’s witness without rest:
“He is our Redeemer!”

Sing praise to the Son of God
On this glorious Christmas.
Let us serve Him as we should
Sharing His forgiveness.

Praise this gift from God above
Name Him “God now with us,”
Filling us with His great love,
Joyous and victorious!

2 Meditation on Psalm 86

Hear our plea for gracious goodness,
As we are low in spir-it.
Guard us with your saving presence.
We are faithful ser-vants.

Let us capture your attention.
We look to you for mercy.
Share with us your joyful visions.
Be our hope for all to see.

Your forgiveness calms our spirits,
With abounding good for all.
When we call’d your name, you heard it.
We look’d for you and found love.

There is none like you in greatness.
All your works are marvelous.
Holy people, you have made us
All your glory to confess.

3 Meditation on Psalm 89

I will sing of God's compassion
And unceasing faithfulness,
Sing of love that is un-lessened
And express my gratefulness.

Lord, you have been always with me,
Build your heaven in my soul.
Pour for it a sure foundation
With salvation make it whole.

4 Meditation on Psalm 91

All of us live within God's home
We nest within His shading tree
As little birds that flit and roam
We are secure. He makes us free.

His trilling calls we hear and learn
To use as guides for when to hide
When fowler's snares rouse his concern
Warned off by Him, we stand aside.

We turn to home as darkness nears.
No pestilence infests his nest;
His gentle tending calms our fears.
Asleep, beneath his wings, we rest.

5 Meditation on Psalm 121

Father, let me walk beside you.
Take my hand to hold it.
Your arm is strong; my path is true
With you; I do not slip.

Father, watch me into the night
Fix your eyes upon me.
You will not sleep. I'm in your sight.
Your vigilance brings peace.

Father, stand here beside me now
On my journey homeward.
Sheltered within your sha-dow,
Protect me near you, Lord.

6 Meditation on Psalm 25

Your goodness Lord is generous.
It is so full of love.
Your righteousness extends to us
An earnest call to live.

You guide the humble-hearted
And teach us new ways, loving and faithful.
You turn us away from trouble
As we keep your covenant.

7 Asymmetric Catalysis

Lord, I am an asymmetry,
A leaning mass in space...
Take my bulkiness and fold it,
Hold me beautif'ly in place.

Bind me to your metal center,
In this great electron sea,
May I catalyze your purpose
In the lives surrounding me.

Let your love direct our movements
Be the charge that draws us near
Circled closely in communion
Around your symmetric sphere.

8 We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

traditional

We are climbing Jacob's Ladder
We are climbing Jacob's Ladder
We are climbing Jacob's Ladder
Children of the Lord.

traditional

If you love Him, why not serve Him?
If you love Him, why not serve Him?
If you love Him, why not serve Him?
Serve Him all your days.

new

While we serve Him, let's draw near Him.
While we serve Him, let's draw near Him.
While we serve Him, let's draw near Him.
Holy in our ways.

new

If you get to heav'n before me.
If you get to heav'n before me.
If you get to heav'n before me.
Will you greet the Lord?

new

There in heav'n is no sorrow.
There in heav'n is no sorrow.
There in heav'n is no sorrow.
Only peace and joy.

new

We are blest to be together.
We are blest to be together.
We are blest to be together.
Serving in the Lord.

9 Meditation on Psalm 4

Lord, attend me in your love.
Hear my prayer; hear my prayer.
All my other hope is gone.
Hear my prayer; hear my prayer.
Remove this distressing grief,
Warm my heart and dry my tears.
Let your hope bring me relief.
Hear my prayer; hear my prayer

Would you seek me when I call?
Turn to me; turn to me.
Here I am: your All in all.
Turn to me; turn to me.
May your hearts with glory shine
As a light that brightly beams
Beckoning all humankind
Turn to me; turn to me.

Righteous ones, you are my own
Remember me; remember me.
By your holiness, I'm known.
Remember me; remember me.
Be faithful in your duty
While working for my glory,
Be mindful that you serve me.
Remember me; remember me.

Offer up your voice in praise.
Worship Him; worship him.
Let your sacrifice be grace.
Worship Him; Worship Him.
In your anger, do not sin,
But in calmness, trust in Him.
Let His Spirit battles win.
Worship Him; Worship Him.

10 Meditation on Isaiah 11

The Son of Man here with humility lives
With righteousness, justice, and peace.
He sees with his eyes and hears with his ears
And judges with kindness his peers.

Refrain:

The Spirit of God does rest upon him,
The Spirit of wisdom and truth.
For he does delight in the fear of the Lord
And rooted his branches bare fruit
And nourished his branches bare food.

With justice He blesses the poor of the earth,
With holiness all those in need.
His faithfulness marks out our hold on His heart
And righteousness binds us to heed.

The wolf meekly kneels by the great Lamb of God.
The leopard will guard the scapegoat.
The calf and the lion are both fed by Him,
And leading them is a small child.

Final Refrain:

No one will harm or destroy Holy Love
Upon His great Mountain of Faith
God moved that the earth be filled with His Love
As waters that cover the sea
Such knowledge of God will there be.

11 Glassware: Separatory Funnel Extraction

What can wash away my sin?
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.
What can rinse my soul within?
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.

Refrain:

Oh, wash me with your love.
Extract my bitterness.
Lift all my thoughts above,
Shaken with the Holy Spirit.

Salt out my conformity.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.
Drain away impurities.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.

Rinse away disgrace and shame.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.
Separate me in your Name.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.

Blend me in your liquid balm.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.
Emulsified until I'm calm.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.

Immerse me within your Word.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.
Let me dwell within the Lord.
Shake me with the Holy Spirit.

Final Refrain:

Oh, wash me with your love,
Extract my sinfulness,
Lift up my soul above.
Baptized in the Holy Spirit.

12 Meditation on Psalm 123

I lift my eyes to look at you.
Lord, turn to me and when you do,
Stretch out your hand and set me free
To live and love, and show mercy.

Sadness and sorrow fade away,
In the glad service of the day,
When I can see your hand at work
With healing care for those who hurt.

Make me at night, faithful in prayer
So I may seek your will with care.
Keep me awake to watch with you
For ways to love and serve anew.

Let your correction always be
Heard and acknowledged openly
So I may please you more each day
And humbly walk your holy way.

13 Meditation on Psalm 134

Declare God's presence in the night,
Though darkness presses round.
His light is shining even now,
With hope undimmed and bright.

As lonely darkness settles in,
Kindle the warmth and light
Of praising all He does as right,
For He has conquered sin.

Let His touch heal your wounded heart,
So love from it might flow
With solace for beleaguered souls,
He brings from near and far.

Serve Him with warmth where hearts are cold.
Serve Him with gentle love.
Serve Him with thanks for all he gives
Bearing with Him each load.

Hold up your hands and praise His name
For He is ever near
Drying your eye of every tear
Blessing you day and night.

14 The Attributes of God

When we believe that God is Love
Then all the earth and heaven above
Are wrapped in his sublime embrace
And we are drowned within his grace.

When we believe that God is Good
All these things that we wish God would
Are lost in our desire for Him
To bend us to his every whim.

When we behold that God is Holy
We count ourselves among the guilty
Let Jesus cover all our shame
And present us without any blame.

When we believe that God is Just
If we can help the poor, we must.
And house the stranger in distress
As God would have us do no less.

When we believe that God is Wise
Then all the things that we surmise
Are tested with the prophets words
And His advice is seen and heard.

When we believe that God is Here
Let us acknowledge he is near
And be the people we should be
With gentle words and kindly speech.

When we believe that God is Joy
Our lives are richer with His love
And laughter fills our saddest days
With sounds that speak loud of his praise.

15 Psalm of the Limbs

How beautiful and blessed are
The feet of men and women who
Walk gently on the mountain slopes
Removing landmines from the field,
So that the shepherd children may
Skip safe and free among their sheep.
May God guide all their steps each day
And guard their feet upon the clay.

How beautiful and blessed are
The fingers of bold diplomats
Who sign away prosperity
and power of corrupt fat cats.
So that the children in the streets
Become adults who count and vote.
May God guard their fingers always,
And grant good government today.

How beautiful and blessed are
The lifted arms of parents who
Carry their children out of war
And famine into the unknown,
Rent from their own life's history,
Alive to possibility.
May God uphold their arms this day
and precious burdens on the way.

How beautiful and blessed are
Hospital wings and flaps of tents
That house the sick and shelter those
Who've lost their legs and arms in war.
May God cover with His own Wings
The doctors, nurses, patient's kin,
Shielding with His own Presence guard
The care they give without regard.

16 Glassware: Distillation

Distill your Spirit, Lord.
Within our glassy souls,
Extract the essence of your love
To use as healing oil.

Distill your Spirit, Lord.
From warm and salty tears,
Condense the courage of your truth;
Drive off unholy fears.

Distill your Spirit, Lord.
Reduce our selfish thoughts.
Suffuse these hard and brittle walls
With lessons you have taught.

Distill your Spirit, Lord.
Collect the words we speak
As drops of cooling elixir
For service to the weak.

Distill your Spirit, Lord.
Pooling the prayers we raise,
Fill up the headspace of our souls
With sacrifice of praise.

17 Atomic Firmament

Beautiful! The world of atoms,
Each with spinning heart and will,
God pulls us into communion,
Building us like molecules.

Let us be joined for his purpose,
Meet each other as we're one,
Fill the empty shells around us,
Form through him a stable bond.

When we reach full conjugation,
When his light shines on our souls,
We can color all this nation
With the love that he bestows.

Let us fluoresce ever longer,
Multiply each photon sent,
Make His glow shine ever brighter,
In atomic firmament.

18 Meditation on Jonah

When Jonah preached the word,
He spoke soft as a dove.
Like Jonah, we resent all God's love.
The Spirit will come down and turn us all around,
And open up our hearts to His love, with His love,
And teach us how to love as God loves.

The sign of Jonah comes
from above as a dove.
The sign of Jonah comes with God's Love.
"This is my Son, I love. Listen to what he says,
And open up your hearts to My love, with His love.
This is my Son, I love, listen well."

The Kingdom of the Lord
has these keys, these free keys.
Forgiveness, love, and grace are His keys.
Let us use these keys to forgive as He forgives,
To free our captives with the good news of our love.
Unlock our hearts with love from above.

If we would love with God,
Oh, what joy for our souls!
What joy our lives on His earth would hold!
What friendship in the Lord! We never could afford,
Like Jonah to seek shade all alone and groan,
To nurse a grudge with a curse and moan.

With love and holiness,
Let us bless, never curse.
With love and holiness, let us bless.
Upon this rock we stand, salvation is at hand.
The church must bless with a generous love and grace,
For we walk with the Lord as a friend.

19 IziThembiso ZeNkosi

There is no tune in this book for this hymn. If you have the music, we would love to see it.

An English Translation of the Zulu Hymn “IziThembiso ZeNkosi”

Translation by Lisa Crow, July 2015

This is our hope in the Lord
That sins are forever cleansed.
Sin ended under the blood,
And now our trust is in Him.

Refrain:

We journey from earth to heaven.
The mountains may melt away,
Not fearing for we are with Him,
We trust in Jesus each day.

Like Abraham we gaze upward,
Looking to heaven for hope.
By faith, we will all be counted.
Our faith is firm in the Lord.

Hope even in the darkness,
Of black and moonless nights.
Beyond the cloudy dimness,
Shines heaven's starry light.

Hope even when hounded by evil.
Because of what we believe,
Forged in Love's fire and furnace,
God is our own to keep.

Trust as we leave our loved ones
That Jesus never leaves us,
And lives among us forever,
Through Him we all have won.

Believe no matter what's said,
This earth we leave is so small.
Our hopes on Jesus are laid,
He is our All in All.

Final Refrain:

We journey from earth to heaven.
The mountains may melt and quake,
Not fearing for we are with Him,
We trust in Jesus always.