DON'T BE AFRAID
Refrain
Don’t be afraid, don’t be afraid, don’t be afraid.
I am prepared to protect and will not be swayed.
Don’t be afraid, don’t be afraid, don’t be afraid.
I’m with you always and with all I have made.
Verses
Bombs are falling on a world we love.
Hawks outnumber the nesting dove.
Are these the signs You warned us of? Refrain
Christ hung dying in a public place.
Black was the color of His bleeding face.
O God, have mercy on the human race. Refrain
Children starve and we ignore their cries.
O God, sustain the ones we scandalize. Refrain

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GATHER HERE
We believers, gracious God,
gather here to pray together.
We are one within Your love.
This we know we’re certain of.
Hear the praises that we sing,
as we bring our lives before You,
knowing You are sowing seeds,
sowing strength within our needs.
Sing of things we long to see.
Sing of all the world awakening
to a new awareness of
an infinity of love.

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LONG ROAD TO FREEDOM
Refrain
It’s a long road to freedom, a’winding steep and high.
But when you walk in love with the wind on your wing
and cover the earth with the songs you sing, the miles fly by.
Verses
I walked one morning by the sea,
and all the waves reached out to me.
I took their tears, then let them be. Refrain
I walked one morning at the dawn,
when bits of night still lingered on.
I sought my star, but it was gone. Refrain
I walked one morning with a friend,
and prayed the day would never end.
The years have flown, so why pretend. Refrain
I walked one morning marveling,
and all my winters turned to spring.
Yet every moment held its sting. Refrain
I walked one morning through the fray
to where dividing walls give way.
My spirit soared, but could not stay. Refrain

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LOVESONG
Love is patient, love is kind,
healing the hurt heart, haunting the mind.
Love will go with you, till one day you’ll find,
love must leave love behind.
Love is a rainbow conceived in a storm.
Love, in the cold war of life, is warm.
Love will be waiting when evening draws on,
then one day, love may be gone.
Love is a mountain, certain and strong,
sometimes a silence, sometimes a song.
Love will remember the where and the when.
Come, love, come again.
Love will go tenderly, tenderly by,
teasing to laughter, teaching to cry.
Love will watch lovingly, letting you learn:
some loves never return.
Love will flow on into love without end.
Love will continue to break, to bend.
So soon December, remembering when.
Come, love, come again.
Come, love, again.

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CHRISTMAS BALLAD
Joseph and Mary were living in Galilee,
when Caesar demanded a census by his decree.
They had to travel to Bethlehem,
which was a very long way for them,
and Mary would soon, so soon, deliver her child.
They set out at once, though the trip would be rough,
they could see.
They made no complaint, for they knew this was how it must be.
Mary went happily from the start.
She carried the love-light in her heart,
for Mary would soon, so soon deliver her child.
When they arrived, Mary knew that her moment had come.
Joseph went searching for shelter still offered to some.
But strangers were suspect and hearts were hard.
The hopes and the homes of the world were barred,
and Mary would soon, so soon, deliver her child.
So in the dirt and the damp and the dark of a cave,
took flesh all the love and the life that our God ever gave:
a beautiful burst of a brilliant sun,
a once-in-a-lifetime, seen by none,
for Mary had quietly, simply delivered her child.

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SING ALLELUIA
Jesus is God’s gift of wisdom,
who empowers and forgives.
Yes, he died, but do not weep.
He has risen from his sleep.
His spirit lives: alleluia.

Refrain
Sing alleluia, Jesus is risen.
He is risen indeed, alleluia.
Keep watch and be prepared.
There are some things that must be shared.
You will be ready when Christ returns,
if the love you have is a love that burns.

**Final Refrain**
Hurry and light your lamps.
Soon the Promised One will be returning.
Watch and wait. It’s getting late.
Be sure, very sure, that your lamps are burning!

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**GOD, GIVE YOUR PEOPLE STRENGTH**
God, give Your people strength.
If we believe in Your way,
You’re swift to repay
all those who bear the burden of the day.
God, give Your people strength.
  God, give Your people hope.
If we but trust in Your word,
our prayers are always heard.
You warmly welcome anyone who’s erred.
God, give Your people hope.
  God, give Your people love.
If we but open wide our heart,
You’re sure to do Your part,
and always the first to make a start.
God, give Your people love.
  God, give Your people peace.
When sorrow fills us through and through,
courage renew.
Come, lay to rest our restlessness in You.
God, give Your people peace.

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**LAMENT**
*Refrain*
Justice will come, but the waiting is long.
They’ve broken the brown bird and silenced its song.

*Verses*
I left a dream asleep on a hill.
It woke to the wind and danced to its will.
Hope can’t be bound. How do I know?
The dream went on dancing. I had to let go. *Refrain*
  I let a dream go wandering free,
delighting the world with its wanting to be.
Time came along with a ball and a chain,
but time could not shackle the haunting refrain. *Refrain*
  I hid a dream in a dark empty hole,
the dream of a prophet afraid of the role.
Now it belongs to each living thing.
When the brown bird is silent, the dreamer will sing.
*Final Refrain*
Justice will come, but the waiting is long.
They’ve broken the brown bird. How sweet is its song.

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**LIGHT A CANDLE**
Light a candle in your heart.
Show love from within.
Tell retaliation to depart.
Let the healing of the world begin.

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**PEACE PRAYER**
Peace is the prayer we pray
for this new world emerging,
for hastening the day
of consciousness converging.
Peace flowing from within
will alter the way we live,
repairing what has been
whenever we forgive.
  Build no restraining wall.
  Resist the violent voices.
  Extend a hand to all.
  Make conscientious choices.
  Those forces that divide,
  hostility and despair,
  will never override
  the good that’s everywhere.
  When all the world is one
  and all the wars are ended,
  new empathies begun,
  when accusations cease,
  when turbulent thoughts are stilled,
  perennial dreams of peace
  will finally be fulfilled.

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**BE RECONCILED**
*Refrain*
Be reconciled, one with another.
Now and forever,
we are brothers and sisters born of God.

*Verses*
We long for one world, linked hand in hand,
no one a stranger, no foreign land.
  When one is hurting, all feel the pain.
  Share then the freedom! Share then the gain! *Refrain*
  Work for a future when war will cease,
  when we’ll be one world living in peace. *Refrain*

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