

English Devotional Songs

Vedanta Society of St. Louis

July 2022

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1)

**The king of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
And he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
With gentle care he leads me,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
Will heavenly food he feeds me.**

**Confused and foolish I have strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.**

**And so through all the length of days
Your goodness fails me never;
Good shepherd, may I sing your praise
Within your house forever.** (repeat first verse)

Henry W. Baker (1868) Psalm 23 Old Irish melody

2)

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

**Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word,
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord,
Thou my loving Father, and I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee One.**

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

**Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou art my treasure now and always;
Heart of my heart whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Lord of all.**

Old Irish song (ca.700) Translated in 1905

3)

**O Rāmakrishna, Thou art my All in All, my ev'ry need,
my only hope, my one desire art Thou.
Thou art my Mother, whose love protects me,
Thou art my Father, compassionate and kind.**

**Thou art my only friend, my constant companion,
Thou art my only wealth my only wisdom.
O Rāmakrishna, O my beloved Lord,
my heart can never find rest, until it rests in Thee.**

**O Rāmakrishna, Thou art my All in All, my ev'ry need,
my only hope, my one desire art Thou.
Thou art my Mother, whose love protects me,
Thou art my Father, compassionate and kind.**

**Thou art my breath, the very air that I breathe art Thou,
Thou art my eyes, the only light by which I see art Thou.
O Rāmakrishna, O my beloved Lord,
my heart can never find rest, until it rests in Thee.**

**O Rāmakrishna, Thou art my All in All,
my ev'ry need, my only hope, my one desire art Thou.
Thou art my Mother, whose love protects me,
Thou art my Father, compassionate and kind.**

**Thou art my words, the only sound by which I speak art Thou,
Thou art my strength, the only power by which I move art Thou.
O Rāmakrishna, O my beloved Lord,
my heart can never find rest, until it rests in Thee.**

4)

**O Rāmakrishna here is pleasure and here is pain
Take them both and give me pure love for Thee.**

**O Rāmakrishna here is praise and here is blame
Take them both and give me pure love for Thee.**

**O Rāmakrishna here is virtue and here mistakes
Take them both and give me pure love for Thee.**

**O Rāmakrishna here is loss and here is gain
Take them both and give me pure love for Thee.**

5)

**To thee, Lord, I have join'd my heart;
Thou art all that doth exist.
Thee alone have I found O Lord,
For Thou art all that doth exist. (repeat verse)**

**O Lord, beloved of my heart,
I see Thy face where-e'er I look,
For Thou art all that doth exist.**

**Show me the heart where Thou dost not dwell;
Thou art all that doth exist.
Whether wise man or whether fool,
Thou makest all to do Thy will. (repeat verse)**

**O Lord, beloved of my heart,
Thou alone art the home of all,
For Thou art all that doth exist. (Repeat first four lines)**

6)

**Great Spirit, grant me vision, that I may not go wrong,
I find myself in the prison of the things I have done.
Teach me the secrets, clear my eyes that I may see;
Fill my heart with compassion to love my enemy.**

**And the winds of life will blow in four directions
And the sacred water flow to the sea
The eagle flies as high as any mountain,
Oh - Great Spirit, keep us free.**

**Mother Earth will feed our hunger,
Father Sky will love Her well;
Make me worthy of a vision that no human tongue may tell;
Make me wise to learn the lesson, make me strong to understand,
What it takes to walk in beauty, as I cross this sacred land.**

**And the winds of life will blow in four directions
And the sacred water flow to the sea
The eagle flies as high as any mountain,
Oh - Great Spirit, keep us free.**

Robby Romero and Bobby Neuwirth

7)

**Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord;
And where there is doubt, true faith in you**

Refrain

*Oh Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

**Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is despair in life, let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there is sadness, ever joy.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

Prayer of Saint Francis

8)

**Holy, holy, holy, mother almighty
Deep from my heart this song shall rise to you
Holy, holy, holy, beautiful and mighty
God in her glory, blessed deity.**

**Holy, holy, holy, all sages adore you,
Worshipping forever at your blessed feet
All created beings bowing down before you,
Who was, and is, and always will be.**

**Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide you,
Though we, through ignorance, your glory may not see
Only you are holy; there is none beside you,
Perfect in mercy, love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy, goddess almighty
All the worlds shall sing your praise,
the earth, the sky, the sea;
Holy, holy, holy, beautiful and mighty
God in her glory, blessed deity. (repeat)**

Adapted from Holy, Holy, Holy by Reginald Heber

9)

**O Thakur, grant us true dispassion
For the fleeting things of this world.
This mad game which seems to have no end
Can never satisfy the yearning of our hearts.**

Jai Thakur, Om Thakur.

**Lone we came, lone shall we depart.
Alas ! To whom shall we cry for help ?
You are our only friend, our only guide and solace,
We are your helpless children, we take refuge in you.**

Jai Thakur, Om Thakur.

**O Thakur, this is our prayer,
That we may have pure love for you,
May our thoughts dwell on you alone,
May all our deeds be offered up to you.**

Jai Thakur, Om Thakur.

10)

**As I walk through the world, looking here, looking there,
At the wonders of Maya's illusion,
And I try to control all the waves of my mind
And I stumble midst all the confusion,
Let me never forget Thee; Let me never forget Thee;
Fill my heart with undying love, and show me, show me the Way.**

**Though I start out each day with a strong solemn vow
To remove all the darkness that binds me,
Yet I fall in the clutches of bondage once more,
And the playthings of Maya beguile me,
Let me never forget Thee; Let me never forget Thee;
Fill my heart with undying love, and show me, show me the Way.**

**And whenever the veil is cast over my eyes,
And I run to the pleasures in blindness,
And whenever I stray, even though miles away,
Come and show me Thine infinite kindness!
Let me never forget Thee; Let me never forget Thee;
Fill my heart with undying love, and show me, show me the Way.**

11)

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy Cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

Henry Francis Lyte (1847)

12)

**'Tis a gift to be simple, 'Tis a gift to be free
'Tis a gift to come down where we ought to be
And when we find ourselves in the place just right
It will be in the valley of love and delight.**

**When true simplicity is gained
To bow and to bend, we shan't be ashamed
To turn, turn, will be our delight
'Til by turning, turning, we come round right.**

Shaker song (1848) Elder Joseph Brackett

13)

**My love, my treasured one are you,
My sweet and lovely son are you.
You are my love, my darling, you;
Unwornthy I of you. Alleluia (x4)**

**Your mild and gentle eyes proclaim
The loving heart with which you came;
Tender, helpless tiny babe
With countless gifts of grace. Alleluia...**

**Radiant child, most holy One,
God the son, eternal One.
You are my God and helpless son,
Great Lover of mankind. Alleluia...** (repeat 1st verse)

“Christ Child’s Lullaby” Ancient Gaelic Christmas carol

14)

**Love is little, love is low,
Love will make our spirits grow,
Grow in peace, grow in light,
Love will do the thing that’s right.**

**Love is gentle, love is small,
Love will find the best of all,
Find the peace, find the light,
Love will do the thing that’s right.**

**Love is silent, love is strong,
Love will sing a quiet song,
Sing of peace, sing of light,
Love will do the thing that’s right.**

**Love is wonder, love is grace,
Love will bind all in its place;
Bind the peace, bind the light,
Love will do the thing that’s right.** (repeat 1st verse)

Traditional Shaker song

15)

**Forget each kindness that you do
As soon as you have done it.
Forget the praise that falls to you
The moment you have won it.**

**Forget the slander that you hear
Before you can repeat it.
Forget each slight, each spite, each sneer
Wherever you may meet it.**

**Remember every kindness done
To you, in whatever measure.
Remember praise by others won
And pass it on with pleasure.**

**Remember every promise made
and keep it to the letter.
Remember those who lend you aid
And be a grateful debtor.**

**Remember all the happiness
That comes your way in living.
Forget each worry and distress;
Be hopeful and forgiving.**

**Remember good, remember truth,
Remember heaven is above you.
And you will find, through age and youth,
True joys and hearts to love you.**

Priscilla Leonard

16)

**Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

**Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
darkness be over me, my rest a stone;
yet in my dreams I'd be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

**There let the way appear, steps unto heaven;
all that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
angels to beckon me
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

**Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
so by my woes to be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

**Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!**

Hymn by Sarah Flower Adams (1841) about the story of Jacob's dream (Genesis 28:11-12)

17)

**Who will bow and bend like a willow,
Who will turn and twist and reel
In the gale of simple freedom,
Who will bow and bend and kneel.**

Refrain

*I will bow and be simple
I will bow and be free
I will bow and be humble
Yea bow like a willow tree.*

**Who will bow this is the token
Who will wear the easy yoke
Who will bend and not be broken
Lean their back against the rock.**

**I will bow this is the token
I will wear the easy yoke
I will bend and not be broken
Lean my back against the rock.**

Traditional Shaker song (1847)

18)

**We must be meek
We must be low
Or God will never own us.**

**Lord, lord, lord, lord,
Only your grace
Can keep us low.**

**We must be true
We must be strong
Or God will never own us.**

**Lord, lord, lord, lord,
Only your strength
Can keep us strong.**

Shaker song

19)

**My life goes on in endless song
Above earth's lamentation
I hear the real, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.**

**Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing
It finds an echo in my soul
How can I keep from singing?**

**What though my joys and comforts die?
I hear the truth, it liveth
And though the darkness 'round me close
Songs in the night it giveth.**

**No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that refuge clinging
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing?**

**I lift my eyes the clouds grow thin
I see the blue above me
And day by day the pathway clears
Since first I learned to love it.**

**The peace of God keeps fresh my heart
A fountain ever springing
All things are mine since I am His
How can I keep from singing. (repeat last verse)**

Author unknown music by Robert Wadsworth Lowry (1868)

20)

**In this world I walk alone
With no place to call my home
But there's One who holds my hand
Through rugged roads through barren lands.**

**The way is dark, the road is steep
But she's become my eyes to see
The strength to climb, my griefs to bear
The Mother lives inside me there.**

**In your love I find release
A haven from my unbelief
Take my life and let me be
A living prayer, my God to thee.**

**In the trials of life I find
Another voice inside my mind
She comforts me and bids me live
Inside the love the Mother gives.**

**In your love I find release
A haven from my unbelief
Take my life and let me be
A living prayer, my God to thee.**

**Take my life and let me be
A living prayer, my God to thee.**

Adapted from "A Living Prayer" by Alison Krauss

21)

**Mother dearest, Mother fairest,
Help of all, who call on you.
Goddess purest, brightest, rarest,
Help us, help, we call on you.**

Refrain

*Mother, help us, help we pray.
Mother, help us, help we pray.
Help us in all care and sorrow.
Mother, help us, help we pray.*

**Mother, help in pain and sorrow,
Soothe the hearts of those in pain,
May your golden light tomorrow,
Bring them peace and joy again.**

**Mother, help the absent loved ones,
How we feel their presence here.
May the hand of your protection
Guide and guard them far and near.**

**Mother help us, we're your children,
Ever till our last day,
We are yours, O Holy Mother,
Keep us faithful to the end.**

Adapted from a Marian hymn

22)

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill
He treasures up His bright designs
And works His sovereign will.

Refrain

*God of mercy, God of grace give us eyes to see;
Eyes to see your smiling face within the mystery.*

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face. (Refrain)

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err
And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
And He will make it plain. (Refrain)

William Cowper (1773)

23)

Lay me low, lay me low, lay me low.

Where no one can see me
Where no one can find me
Where nothing can hurt me.

Where Mother can find me,
Where Mother can hold me,
Where Mother can bless me.

Traditional Shaker song

24)

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.**

**Tw'as grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.** (repeat 1st verse)

John Newton (1779)

25)

**Life is a dream.
Time, like a stream,
Carries our burdens away.
Never despair:
Hope's everywhere;
Love can befriend you today.**

**Free from all care,
Like birds in the air,
Soar above grief and worry
Seek Truth and be free.**

**Often on earth
Things of great worth
Worldly ambitions defy.
Sometimes a friend
Helps us ascend
Up from life's cares to the sky.**

**Love is a star:
Though shining afar,
It will guide our soul
And God to draw nigh.** (repeat 1st verse)

Adapted from 'Life is a Dream' by Swami Kriyananda

**Sometimes a light surprises
 The seeker while she sings;
 It is the Spirit rising
 With healing in its wings:
 When comforts are declining,
 He grants the soul again
 A season of clear shining,
 To cheer it after rain.**

**In silent contemplation,
 We gently then pursue
 The theme of God's perfection,
 And find it ever new:
 Set free from present sorrow,
 We cheerfully can say,
 E'en let the unknown tomorrow
 Bring with it what it may.**

**It can bring with it nothing
 But He will bear us through;
 Who gives the lilies clothing
 Will clothe His people too:
 Beneath the spreading heavens,
 No creature but is fed;
 And He Who feeds the ravens
 Will give His children bread.**

**Though vine nor fig-tree neither
 Their wonted fruit should bear,
 Though all the fields should wither,
 Nor flocks nor herds be there,
 Yet, God the same abiding,
 His praise shall tune my voice;
 For, while in Him confiding,
 I cannot but rejoice.**

William Cowper (1731 – 1800)

27)

**It was Jayrambati and Kamarpukur
The two holy places chosen by the Lord
Where out of compassion they were born again
The child and the mother came down to the earth.**

Ramakrishna Ramakrishna Sri Sarada Ma.

**The gods in the heavens, the sages and saints,
Were singing and dancing for joy at the advent
For their earnest prayers were answered at last
The child and the mother were bringing the light.**

Ramakrishna Ramakrishna Sri Sarada Ma.

**The breeze is now blowing, the breeze of their grace
Let's launch our vessels unfurling the sails
For then it is certain, we shall reach a place
Where free from all shackles we shall be with them.**

Ramakrishna Ramakrishna Sri Sarada Ma.

28)

**O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed**

Refrain

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear your silence beyond nature's sound;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And feel your living presence all around.**

**When Thou shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"**

Carl Boberg (1885)

29)

**Whence comes this bright celestial light,
What cause produces this?
A heaven opens to my sight,
Bright scenes of joy and bliss.**

**O Great Spirit art Thou here?
This light proclaims Thou art.
"I am in deed I'm always near
Unto the humble heart.**

**The proud and lofty I forsake,
And bless the meek and low.
I hear the humble soul that cries,
And comfort I bestow.**

**Of all the trees among the wood
I've chose the little vine;
The meek and low are nigh to me,
The humble heart is mine."**

**Tall cedars fall before the wind,
The tempest breaks the oak,
While slender vines will bow and bend
And rise beneath the stroke.**

**I've chosen me a pleasant grove
And set my lovely vine
Here in my vinyard I will rove,
The humble heart is mine.**

**Of all the kinds that range at large,
I've chose one little flock,
And those I make my lovely charge,
Before them I will walk.**

**Their constant shepherd I will be,
And all their ways refine,
And they shall serve and rev'rence me,
The humble heart is mine.**

Shaker song

30)

I'd rather have Mother than silver or gold,
I'd rather be hers than have riches untold
I'd rather have Mother than houses or land,
I'd rather be led by her unerring hand.

Refrain

*Than to be the king of a vast domain
And be held in ignorance's sway
I'd rather have Mother than anything
This world affords today.*

I'd rather have Mother than men's applause,
I'd rather be faithful to her high cause
I'd rather have Mother than worldwide fame,
I'd rather be true to her holy name.

She's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom;
She's sweeter than honey from out the comb;
She's all that my hungering spirit needs;
I'd rather have Mother and let her lead.

Adapted from a song by Rhea F. Miller (1922)

31)

Chant the name of the Lord and his glory unceasingly
The mirror of the heart will thus be wiped clean,
And quench the raging fire within.

Stream down in moonlight on the lotus heart, (O name)
Drown deep in the waves of his bliss, (O self)
Chanting his name continually.

Various are your names; each name contains your power.
No times are set, no rites are needfull
For chanting of your holy name.

Be humbler than the grass and forbearing like the tree;
Take no honor to yourself, give honor to all;
Chant unceasingly the holy name.

Mine is no prayer for pleasure or wealth;
If I must be reborn, grant me pure love for you
For you're my heart's beloved.

Prostrate at your feet let my mind ever be,
Do with me whatever you will,
I surrender to you. (repeat)

Adapted from Chaitanya's Prayer

32)

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To come down to this world for my soul, for my soul,
To come down to this world for my soul!**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down;
when I was sinking down beneath man's righteous frown,
You came to lift my soul, lift my soul,
You came to lift my soul, lift my soul.**

**To God and to the Light, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Light, I will sing;
to God and to the Light, who is the great I AM,
awakened from the dream, I will sing, I will sing,
awakened from the dream, I will sing!**

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!**

Christian folk hymn (1811)

33)

In the morning when I rise (x3) , give me Jesus.

Refrain

**Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus,
You can have all this world
Just give me Jesus.**

And when I am alone...

And when I am to die...

Fernando Ortega

34)

**Be not dismayed whatever betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath her wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.**

Refrain

*God will take care of you,
Through every day, O'er all the way;
She will take care of you, God will take care of you.*

**Through days of toil when your heart fails,
God will take care of you;
When grave danger your path assails,
God will take care of you.**

**All you may need she will provide,
God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.**

**No matter what might be the test,
God will take care of you;
Her loving embrace will give you rest,
God will take care of you.**

Civilla D. Martin (1904)

35)

**Softly and tenderly Mother is calling,
calling for you and for me;
see, on the portals she's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.**

Refrain

*Come home, come home;
you who are weary come home;
softly and tenderly, Mother is calling,
calling her children, come home!*

**Why should we ignore her when Mother is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not her calling,
calling for you and for me?**

**Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
passing from you and from me;
shadows are gathering, farewells are coming,
coming for you and for me.**

**O for the wonderful love she has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have strayed, she has love and mercy,
mercy for you and for me.**

Adapted from a song by Will L. Thompson (1880)

36)

**O mind, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light if you look at the Mother,
And life more abundant and free.**

Refrain

*Turn your eyes upon Mother,
Look full in her wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of her merciful grace.*

**Through death into life everlasting
She passed, and we follow her there;
Over us Maya has no dominion
For we are in the Mother's care.**

**Her Word shall not fail you—She promised;
Believe her, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
Her life-giving message to tell.**

Adapted from a song by Helen Howarth Lemmel (1922)

37)

**The lone, wild bird in lofty flight
is still with you, nor leaves your sight.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me, too.**

**The ends of earth are in your hand,
the sea's dark deep and far off land.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me, too.**

**In secret depths you knit my frame,
before my birth you spoke my name;
Each secret thought is known to you,
the path I walk my whole life through. (repeat first verse)**

Henry Richard McFadyen (1925)

**The Christ child's asleep
 The silence is so deep
 That round about, with hope in their eyes,
 The animals await;
 Their breathing they abate:
 They know their time has come to arise.**

**For Jesus came on earth
 To offer second birth
 To all who would the blessing receive.
 The inner peace he brings
 Can lift us on soul-wings
 To soar in light, and heaven perceive.**

**Our pleasures and pains,
 Our losses, our gains
 Have kept us long bound
 In Maya's playground.
 We dreamed of imposing on desert sand
 Flower gardens of beauty, verdant vales of delight:
 Imagination misted our sight!**

**The freedom we would know
 Christ offered long ago,
 And even from his slumber flows peace.
 All creatures here on earth,
 Alive to their own worth,
 Can welcome love, and win their release.**

**The Christ child's asleep
 The silence is so deep
 That round about, with hope in their eyes,
 All creatures stay awake;
 Their breathing they abate:
 They know their time has come to arise.**

Swami Kriyananda

39)

**Salutation to you, compassionate Mother;
You are our refuge, bringer of all good. (repeat verse)**

**Mother of the universe, guide and protect us. (repeat)
Take away all obstacles barring our path. (repeat)**

**Salutation to you, of infinite aspects,
Worshipped by all, pervading the whole cosmos.**

**Mother of the universe, guide and protect us.
Take away all obstacles, show us our path.**

**Salutation to you, our goal in meditation,
Perfect in union, wisdom and bliss.**

**Mother of the universe, guide and protect us.
Take away all obstacles, bring us to you.**

**Salutation to you, sure help of the helpless,
Refuge of the poor, the bound and the hopeless.**

**Mother of the universe, guide and protect us.
Take away all obstacles, show us your face.
Take away all obstacles, bring us to you.**

John Schlenck

40)

**Sri Ramakrishna, Sarada Devi
Knowledge and love complete.**

**Sri Ramakrishna, Sarada Devi
Refuge we take at your feet.**

Refrain

*Throughout the years, laughter and tears
Let it be for you we smile or cry.
Open our eyes, love of our lives
Let it be for you we live and die.*

**Sri Ramakrishna, Sarada Devi
Father and mother so sweet.**

**Sri Ramakrishna, Sarada Devi
Refuge we take at your feet.**

Subrata

41)

**I have seen the land where there are no seasons,
I belong to that land where all is joy.
I have seen the land without near or far,
I am of that land and am fulfilled.**

**I have seen that land without day or night.
I come from that land of light without sun or moon.
I come from that land where the Lord always shines.
Come to that land and soar beyond all bounds.**

Wonder of wonders I've seen. (x3)

**I have seen the land beyond life or death,
I belong to that land beyond earth and sky.
Enter there and ceaselessly you will flourish
Enter there and dryness will never come.**

**Filled with joy lose yourself in the One,
Soar in the Infinite, fearless and free.
I come from that land where the Lord always shines,
Come to that land and soar beyond all bounds.**

Wonder of wonders I've seen. (x3)

Subrata

42)

**O keep me not waiting at your door!
O keep me not waiting at your door!
I am weary; I am worn with longing.
You know my yearning soul,
Then why keep me waiting? (Refrain)**

**If you want to make me cry,
Then I will shed tears of joy,
If it is your pleasure to keep me in anguish,
Then let my heart be burning with anguish.**

**O Beloved, for you I am mad,
It is for you I am mad,
It is for you I am silent,
It is for you I am sad. (Refrain)**

**My heart leaps like a flame in joy
O Master, when I am with you;
You are my life; you are my soul's passion
You are my heart; you are my only love. (refrain)**

**All things are contained in you,
O Lord, all things are in you,
In you I live, I move, I breathe,
In you alone I find my delight. (Refrain)**

Adapted from a poem by Swami Paramananda

43)

Refrain

**Holy Light, revealing Light
Giver of pure sight,
Do thou abide with me.**

**Thou hast made my heart,
Like unto a cloudless sky.
Glory unto thee, thou all glorious Light,
Do thou abide with me.**

**Without thee my soul has no life,
Without thee my heart has no love
And my mind wanders in confusion. (refrain)**

**Thou hast made my life
Like unto an ocean wide.
Glory unto thee, thou all glorious Light,
Do thou abide with me.**

**Without thee my soul has no life,
Without thee my heart has no love
And my mind wanders in confusion. (refrain)**

**Thou hast made my soul,
Soar unto the mountain heights.
Glory unto thee, thou all glorious Light,
Do thou abide with me.**

**Holy Light, revealing Light,
Giver of pure sight,
Thou hast removed all my dark confusion.**

Adapted from a poem by Swami Paramananda

44)

**Listen my heart, that voice again is calling
From far away, beyond all time and space
The night is gone and the sunlight is falling
Upon your head awakening your soul.**

Refrain

**It's time to rise and follow that sweet melody
It's time to trust that gentle voice within
It's time to fly to freedom in infinity
Free like a bird in the blue sky; forever free.**

**And if you find the journey is long and trying
And if you fear you may have gone astray
Remember all the saints that walked before you
They pray for you and will show you the way. (refrain)**

**And in the end you will fulfil your destiny
And in the end you will be crowned with peace
No more to chase the fleeting passing shadows
Nothing but light will illumine your heart. (refrain)**

45)

**The Shield from every dart;
The Balm for every heart;
The Sharer of each load;
Companion on the road
Is Rāmakrishṇa.**

**The Door into the fold;
The Anchor that will hold;
The Shepherd of the sheep;
The Guardian of my sleep
Is Rāmakrishṇa.**

**The Friend with Whom I talk;
The Way by which I walk;
The Light to show the way;
The Strength for every day
Is Rāmakrishṇa.**

**The Source of my delight;
The Song to cheer the night;
The Thought that fills my mind;
The Best of All to find
Is Rāmakrishṇa.**

Om namo bhagavate Rāmakrishṇāya.

46)

**Life never dies although we live
In midst of change and death
Only the forms shall pass away
And not the spirit's breath**

**The consciousness can never die
Although it seems to fade
It does but pass to other forms
Which thoughts and acts have made**

**"There is no death" all nature says
The rose will reappear
Its petal will more perfect be
After the winter drear**

**The tiny bird that lifeless falls
A victim of the day
Returns again in higher forms
Upon its upward way**

**From life to life more high and free
The myriad forms evolve
O may we learn to know the truth
This mighty riddle solve.**

47)

**There is a treasure deep in your heart
There is a refuge deep in your heart
Be humble and you will see
The Jewel in your heart
Om maṇi padme hūm. *(repeat)***

**The abode of peace deep in your soul
The highest wisdom deep in your soul
Be gentle and you will find
The Jewel in your soul
Om maṇi padme hūm.**

**Bliss and fulfilment deep in your heart
Joy without limits deep in your heart
Be selfless and you will see
The Jewel in your heart
Om maṇi padme hūm.**

**Unity of vision deep in your soul
True understanding deep in your soul
Be loving and you will find
The Jewel in your soul
Om maṇi padme hūm.**

**The light is shining deep in your heart
Absolute stillness deep in your heart
Surrender and you will see
The Jewel in your heart
Om maṇi padme hūm.**

48)

**Young sannyasi pure and bright,
Selfless Teacher full of might.
Roaming freely far and wide,
Seekers walking by his side.**

*Shankara, jaya Shankara,
Jaya Shankara, So'ham.*

**Giving freely from his mind,
Gems of wisdom to mankind.
“You are Ātman, you are ever free
Never touched by misery.”**

**The chandala helped you realize
There is no one to despise.
Saint and sinner are the same,
“All is Brahman” you proclaim.**

49)

**When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary;
When troubles come and my heart burdened be;
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence,
Until you come and sit awhile with me.**

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains;
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas;
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders;
You raise me up... To more than I can be.*

**There is no life - no life without its hunger;
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly;
But when you come and I am filled with wonder,
Sometimes, I think I glimpse eternity.**

50)

**I don't know about tomorrow
I just live from day to day
I don't borrow from its sunshine
For its skies may turn to grey.**

**I don't worry o'er the future
For I know what Mother said
And today I'll walk beside her
For she knows what lies ahead.**

**Many things about tomorrow
I don't seem to understand
But I know who holds tomorrow,
And I know who holds my hand.**

**Well every step is getting brighter
As the golden stairs I climb
And every burden's getting lighter
And every cloud is silver lined.**

**Oh there the sun is always shining
And there no tear will dim the eye
At the ending of the rainbow
Where the mountains touch the sky.**

**Many things about tomorrow
I don't seem to understand
But I know who holds tomorrow
And I know who holds my hand.**

**Yes I know who holds tomorrow
And I know who holds my hand.**

51)

**Whatever you do to the least of my people
That you do unto me.**

When I was hungry, you gave me to eat;
When I was thirsty you gave me to drink.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

Whatever you do to the least of my sisters...

When I was tired, you helped me find rest;
When I was worried, you calmed all my fears.
Now enter into the home of my Mother.

Whatever you do to the least of my brothers...

When I was homeless, you opened your door;
When I was naked, you gave me your coat.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

Whatever you do to the least of my people...

When in a prison, you came to my cell;
When on a sickbed, you cared for my needs.
Now enter into the home of my Mother.

Whatever you do to the least of my children...

When I was laughed at, you stood by my side;
When I was happy, you shared in my joy.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

**Whatever you do to the least of my people
That you do unto me.**

52)

Upon a gloomy night,
With all my cares to loving ardours flushed,
O venture of delight!
With nobody in sight
I went abroad when all my house was hushed.

In safety, in disguise,
In darkness up the secret stair I crept,
O happy enterprise!
Concealed from other eyes
When all my house at length in silence slept.

Upon that lucky night
In secrecy, inscrutable to sight,
I went without discerning
And with no other light
Except for that which in my heart was burning

It lit and led me through
More certain than the light of noonday clear
To where One waited near
Whose presence well I knew,
There where no other presence might appear.

Oh night that was my guide,
Oh darkness dearer than the mornings pride
Oh night that joined the lover
To the beloved bride
Transfiguring them each into the other.

Within my flowering breast
Which only for himself entire I save
He sank into his rest
And all my gifts I gave
Lulled by the airs with which the cedars wave

**Over the ramparts fanned
While the fresh wind was fluttering his tresses,
With his serenest hand
My neck he wounded, and
Suspended every sense with its caresses.**

**Lost to myself I stayed
My face upon my lover having laid
From all endeavour ceasing:
And all my cares releasing,
Threw them amongst the lilies there to fade.**

St John of the Cross

53)

**Now I see, Mother, now I see
Now I see, Mother, now I see
Now I see, Mother, now I see
And now there's peace, within my soul,
For You are all I see.**

**Yesterday, war clouds hung so low,
Yesterday, war clouds hung so low,
Yesterday, war clouds hung so low,
And now there's peace, within my heart,
For You have come to me.**

**Love of God, finally turned the tide,
Love of God, finally turned the tide,
Love of God, finally turned the tide,
And now there's peace, within my soul,
Your love has set me free.**

**Rest my soul, you are safe and sound,
Rest my soul, you are safe and sound,
Rest my soul, you are safe and sound,
And now there's peace, within my heart,
For You have set me free.**

54)

**Through bushes and through briars
I lately made my way
Oh, far to hear the small birds sing
And the lambs to skip and play.**

(repeat last two lines)

**I overheard a milkmaid
Her voice did sound so clear
Long time I have been waiting
For the coming of my Krishna.**

**Sometimes I am uneasy
And troubled in my mind
Sometimes I think I'll go to my love
And tell him of my mind.**

**But if I go to Krishna
I fear he may say, "Nay"
If I show to him my boldness
He'll never love me again.**

**Through bushes and through briars
I lately made my way
Oh, far to hear the small birds sing
And the lambs to skip and play.**

55)

**Hide me lord, in your holiness
Everything I now confess
Praise to you, my loving lord
Hide me in your holiness,
Hide me in your holiness.**

**Take my life an offering;
All of me to you I bring.
Praise to you, my constant friend,
Hide me in your holiness. (x2)**

**Hold me lord in your embrace
May I always feel your grace.
Silent blessing in my soul,
Hide me in your holiness. (x2)**

Repeat first verse

56)

**I love you, Lord
And I lift my voice
To worship you
O my soul rejoice.**

**Take joy, my dear
In what you hear
May it be a sweet sweet sound
In your ear.**

**O lord divine
You are wholly mine
May this poor heart
Be your lowly shrine.**

**Accept my lord
I seek no reward
Other than to be one with you
Forevermore.**

Repeat first verse

57)

**When we walk through the world in the light of God's word
What a glory he sheds on our way.**

**While we do his good will, he abides with us still
And with all who will trust and obey.**

***Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy and peaceful, but to trust and obey.***

**Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil he does always repay.**

**Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
But is blessed if we trust and obey.**

**Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies
But his smile quickly drives it away.**

**Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear
Can abide when we trust and obey.**

**Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet
And we'll walk by his side in the way.**

**What he says we will do, where he sends we will go
Never fear, only trust and obey.**

58)

**Sri Ramakrishna, we worship and adore you
Help us to love God with all our heart.**

**Help us to love God, help us to love God,
Help us to love God with all our heart.**

**Sarada Devi, O Mother full of mercy
Show us how to love all as our own.**

**Show us how to love, show us how to love,
Show us how to love all as our own.**

**Vivekananda, O Master full of wisdom
Teach us to be strong and to be free.**

**Teach us to be strong, teach us to be strong,
Teach us to be strong and to be free.**

**Gracious Guru who shows the way to freedom
Guide us on the way towards the light.**

**Guide us on the way, guide us on the way,
Guide us on the way towards the light.**

59)

**All to Mother I surrender
All to her I freely give
I will ever love and trust her
In her presence daily live
I surrender all, I surrender all
All to you my loving mother
I surrender all.**

**All to mother I surrender
Make me, mother, wholly yours
Let me feel your holy presence
Truly knowing we are one
I surrender all, I surrender all
All to you my gracious mother
I surrender all.**

**All to mother I surrender
Guide me, mother, with your light
O the joy of revelation
lighting up the darkest night
I surrender all, I surrender all
All to you my loving mother
I surrender all.**

**All to mother I surrender
Humbly at her feet I bow
Worldly endeavours all forsaken
Take me mother, take me now.
I surrender all, I surrender all
All to you my gracious mother
I surrender all.**