

Kindle A Flame



Songs, Prayers & Poems
Creative Worship Volume 1

Philip Garside

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Introduction

I am passionate about being creative when leading worship, because presenting new ideas, or new twists on the familiar, help to engage people as we worship God together.

The songs, poems and prayers in this book are the best of my output over the years. They have all been used successfully in worship.

My hope is that you will dip into the book and try a new song or two in your own worship setting. When you do, please email me at bookspgpl@gmail.com to let me know how they went?

Please also feel free to adapt and re-arrange the material here, to make it your own.

Copyright licensing and payments are a hassle for churches and choirs. While I retain the copyright in my work, I really do want churches, worship and small group leaders and choirs to copy, sing and use the songs, prayers and poems in this book – for free! (See the copyright page for the fine print.)

To help you learn the songs I have provided links to midi and mp3 instrumental files, and to the Noteworthy Composer software music settings. There are also links to videos of me playing *Love Grow Within Us* and *Breath of the Spirit*.

When accessing the **mp3** files they will immediately start playing in your internet browser.

To save the **mp3** file to your computer, pause the playing, right click on the music progress bar in the middle of your screen, choose Save Audio As and specify a folder to save the file.

I will shortly publish a collection of my sermons under the title: **Let Your Light Shine Through: Collected Sermons – Creative Worship Volume 2**

This will be followed later in 2020 with a companion **Creative Worship Volume 3** containing children's talks and teasers, and ideas for crafting engaging liturgical services.

I also recommend Rosalie Sugrue's excellent resource book: **Lay Preaching Basics: A Practical Guide to Leading Worship**. This is available in print and in three eBook formats on our website: www.pgpl.co.nz

*Philip Garside
February 2020*

Psalm 63

1. O Lord dear God you are my sovereign,
With my whole being I long for you,
Like a dry worn out and waterless desert,
How my soul does thirst for you.
2. Let me see you in the sanctuary,
See how mighty and glorious you are,
Your constant love is better than life itself,
So I will always praise you.
3. I'll give thanks for all my life,
I'll raise my hands in prayer to you,
My soul will feast and I will be satisfied,
Singing glad songs of praise to you.

About this Song

This song is a paraphrase of the first few verses of Psalm 63.

Psalm 63:1-8 appears in the Revised Common Lectionary, for the third Sunday in Lent for Year C.

This setting is for two guitars, the first with the E string dropped down to D and the second with a capo on fret 7. Alternative fingerings are required for the first guitar — see the chord charts at the bottom of the music. The second guitarist can use finger picking for added contrast

Allow some ease in the accompaniment at the end of each phrase so that singers can take a breath.

The song has a strong one-in-a-bar feel and should roll along with gentle movement.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – 3 verses
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – 3 verses
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Festival Singers' recording

Heather and I are members of Festival Singers of Wellington and were delighted when the then musical director, Rosemary Russell, produced a choral arrangement, which reharmonised the melody and added a bridge section.

Rosemary's arrangement was recorded for the choir's 2007 CD *Spirited People*, which can be purchased here: <https://festivalsingersnz.org/>

Psalm 63

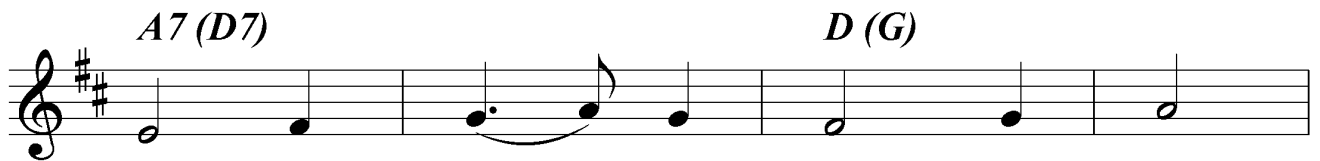
Guitar arrangement: Heather and Philip Garside

Words & Melody: Philip Garside

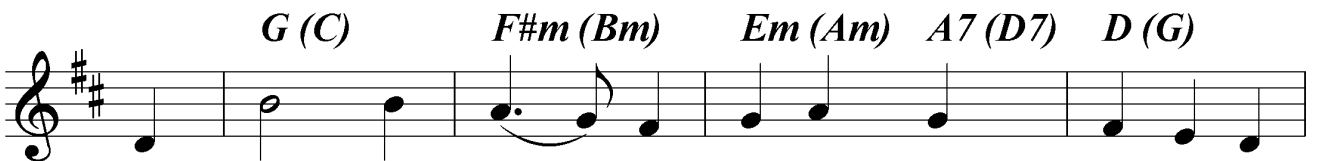
Intro: 1st guitar D / Bm / G / A7
2nd guitar (G)/ (Em)/(C)/ (D7) Bass E string tuned down to D
Standard tuning, capo 7th fret



1 O Lord dear God you are my sove-reign, With
2 Let me see you in the sanc-tua-ry,
3 I'll give thanks for all my li-fe, I'll



my whole being I long for you,
See how mighty and glorious you are,
raise my hands in prayer to you,



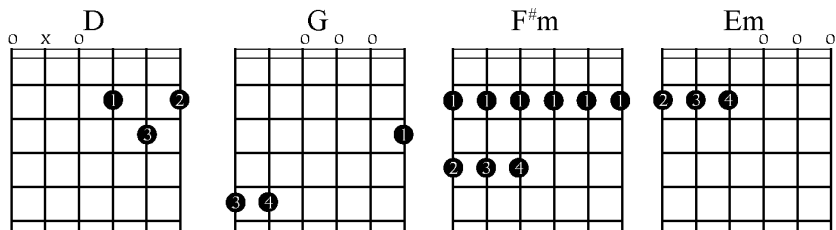
Like a dry worn out and wa-ter - less de - - - sert,
Your con - stant love is bet-ter than life it - self,
My soul will feast and I will be sat - is - fied,



How my soul does thirst for you.
So I will al - ways pra - ise you.
Singing glad songs of praise to you.

Ending: D (G)/ Bm (Em)/
G (C) / A7 (D7)/ D (G)

Chord fingering 1st guitar
with Bass E string tuned
down to D



Kindle a flame

1. Kindle a flame within our hearts
let your *light* shine through
let your *light* shine through.
2. Kindle a flame within our hearts
let your *justice* shine through
let your *justice* shine through.
3. Kindle a flame within our hearts
let your *hope* shine through
let your *hope* shine through.
4. Kindle a flame within our hearts
let your *love* shine through
let your *love* shine through.
5. Kindle a flame within our hearts
let your *peace* shine through
let your *peace* shine through.

About this Song

Kindle a Flame was written as a reflective song for worship and I have used it many times when leading services. It also works well as part of the devotions for a small group, and as an individual, private meditation (change “our hearts” to “my heart”).

The words are simple and repetitive.

How to sing/perform the song

Keep the instrumentation very simple.

When accompanying on guitar, just pluck the chords, or use a gentle, steady arpeggio picking style. If you want to strum, just play one down strum for each chord.

Flute or recorder would be great to teach people the tune first and then to support the singing.

Once you know the song, try singing unaccompanied.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – 5 verses
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – 5 verses
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Using the song in worship

- You can sing the song right through – all five verses.
- You can use just the first verse as a sung response to intercessory prayer petitions, i.e. leader speaks a stanza of prayer and the people sing the response.
- You can use all 5 verses in a prayer. The first petition focuses on *light* and then the people respond by singing verse 1. The second petition focuses on *justice* and the people respond by singing verse 2, and so on...
- As a spoken, responsive liturgy. Our minister has introduced us to lighting candles in the sanctuary early in the service. Here is a re-working of the song for use as a candle lighting liturgy. You will notice that verses 4 and 5 have been swapped around.

Lighting the candles – liturgy

As we light these candles:

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your light shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your justice shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your hope shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your peace shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your love shine through. Amen.

Matching Benediction/Sending forth

If you have used the song or liturgy during the service, try using this Benediction to close the service:

Loving God,
our time of worship today has now ended.
As we leave this sacred space,
we carry in our hearts the flame of your love,
the spark of the holy spirit,
out into the world. Amen.

Kindle a Flame

Words and Music: Philip Garside

$\text{♩} = 85$

Dm C Dm Dm Gm Dm Dm A Dm

1. Kin - dle a flame with - in our hearts let your light shine through let your light shine through.

C Dm Dm Gm Dm Dm A Dm

2. Kin - dle a flame with - in our hearts let your just - ice shine through let your just - ice shine through.

C Dm Dm Gm Dm Dm A Dm

3. Kin - dle a flame with - in our hearts let your hope shine through let your hope shine through.

Dm C Dm Dm Gm Dm Dm A Dm

4. Kin - dle a flame with - in our hearts let your love shine through let your love shine through.

Dm C Dm Dm Gm Dm Dm A Dm

5. Kin - dle a flame with - in our hearts let your peace shine through let your peace shine through.

Christmas Hallelujah

Halleluia, Christmas is coming.
Oh, let us praise the Lord.
Sing halleluia, welcome the Christ child,
Bringing hope for a peaceful world.

About this song

Here are the melody line and words for a simple round to enjoy in Advent and at Christmas.

Sing unaccompanied.

It works well in 2 or 4 parts.

I suggest that each part sings the 8 bars 4 times through.

After teaching them the melody, you could ask one side of the congregation to start and then lead the other side of the congregation singing the second part.

The tune does not resolve in the last bar.

For me this symbolises that the work of Christmas message never ends.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – once through single part
- a [midi file](#) of the melody – four times through in two parts
- a [midi file](#) of the melody – four times through in four parts
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – once through single part
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – four times through in two parts
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – four times through in four parts
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Christmas Halleluia (round)

Sing as a round in 2 or 4 parts

Philip Garside

The musical notation is written on two staves in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of ♩=120. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the round, with lyrics: 'Hal - le - lu - ia, Christ - mas is com - ing. Oh, let us praise the Lord. Sing'. There is an asterisk (*) above the third measure of the first staff. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of the round, with lyrics: 'hal - le-lu - ia, wel-come the Christ child, Bring-ing hope for a peace-ful world.' There are asterisks (*) above the first and third measures of the second staff. The notation ends with a double bar line.

Happy are we who have work to do

Happy are we who have work to do,
Come and help us serve the Lord.

About this song

This piece started out as a song for our annual Covenant service at the start of February one year, but the tune and words for the verses that I wrote were not working, so I discarded them.

That left the refrain, which I felt was quite effective.

The word “happy” deliberately calls to mind “blessed” in the beatitudes.

Our life has a purpose – Hallelujah! – and we invite others to join us in serving God.

How to sing/perform the song

Sing with a guitar or unaccompanied.

As with *Kindle a Flame*, you can use this song as a sung response to prayer – either in a small group or with a larger congregation.

A leader offers a line of prayer and the people respond singing. I have used this pattern for small group devotions.

You could also simply repeat the song a few times as a gentle meditation.

It works well sung in two parts as a round (but not in four parts.)

I suggest that each part sings the 4 bars 3 times through.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – once through single part
- a [midi file](#) of the melody – three times through in two parts
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – once through single part
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – three times through in two parts
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Happy are we who have work to do

Can also be sung as a round in two parts

Philip Garside

♩ = 95

*
Dm C Dm G Dm C G

Hap-py are we who have work to do, Come and help us serve the Lord.

Rise Up

1. Wake up, wake up, wake up God's people,
Wake up, wake up, greet the new day.
Wake up, wake up, wake up God's people,
Wake up, wake up, greet the new day.

Refrain:

The Kingdom is coming.

Ev'rything changes.

Our sins will be washed away.

2. Rise up, rise up, rise up God's people,
Rise up, rise up, greet the new day.
Rise up, rise up, rise up God's people,
Rise up, rise up, greet the new day.

Refrain:

3. Shout out, shout out, shout out God's people,
Shout out, shout out, greet the new day.
Shout out, shout out, shout out God's people,
Shout out, shout out, greet the new day.

Refrain x 2

(end with) Shout Out!!

About this Song

In 2013 we watched the film *Young At Heart* about an *a cappella* choir of older people, who perform with great passion, heart and energy. I was inspired by the film to sit down that Saturday night and write *Rise Up*. The words and a tune flowed out easily.

I shared it with our singing group at church the next morning, still in a fairly rough draft form, and they loved it. We sang it the following Sunday.

How to sing/perform the song

I suggest that you start verse 1 softly, then sing verse 2 a bit louder and verse 3 quite loud. Create some excitement by building up the volume as you go.

The song is not very fast, but you do need to keep it moving. The dotted notes give it rhythmical energy.

The final "Shout Out!!" after singing the refrain twice at the end, should be explosive.

Learn the song, then sing it unaccompanied, without the music in your hands.

As I comment in the note at the bottom of the sheet music, clapping, foot stomping and improvised harmonies are encouraged.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – three verses and refrains, with refrain repeated at the end.
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – three verses and refrains, with refrain repeated at the end.
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Rise up

Words & Music: Philip Garside

$\text{♩} = 130$
C D E Am

1. Wake up, wake up, wake up God's peo - ple,
2. Rise up, rise up, rise up God's peo - ple,
3. Shout out, shout out, shout out God's peo - ple,

C D Esus4 E

1. Wake up, wake up, greet the new day.
2. Rise up, rise up, greet the new day.
3. Shout out, shout out, greet the new day.

C D E Am

1. Wake up, wake up, wake up God's peo - ple,
2. Rise up, rise up, rise up God's peo - ple,
3. Shout out, shout out, shout out God's peo - ple,

C D Esus4

1. Wake up, wake up, greet the new day.
2. Rise up, rise up, greet the new day.
3. Shout out, shout out, greet the new day.

Refrain F G A

The King - dom is com - ing. Ev' - ry - thing chang - es. Our

(Last time - Repeat Refrain, end on...)
F G Esus4 E A *ff*

sins will be washed a - way. way. Shout Out!

Copyright 2013 + 2017 Philip Garside. Inspired by watching the film "Young At Heart."
Clapping, foot stomping and improvised harmonies are encouraged!!

Travelin' Shoes

1. Well, love come a knockin'
on that sinner's door
Said "Old sinner, are you ready to go?"
He said, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no
Because I ain't got on my travelin' shoes...
Ain't done my duty, sayin'..
No, no, no, Oh Lordy, no, no, no
Because I ain't got on my travelin' shoes."
 2. Well, love come a knockin' on that liar's door
Said "Old liar, are you ready to go?"
He said, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no
Because I ain't got on my travelin' shoes...
Ain't done my duty, sayin'..
No, no, no, Oh Lordy, no, no, no
Because I ain't got on my travelin' shoes."
 3. Well, love come a knockin'
on that gambler's door
Said "Old gambler, are you ready to go?"
He said, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no
Because I ain't got on my travelin' shoes...
Ain't done my duty, sayin'..
No, no, no, Oh Lordy, no, no, no
Because I ain't got on my travelin' shoes."
 4. Well, love come a knockin' on
the Christians' door
Said "Now Christians, are you ready to go?"
They said, "Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes
Because we just got on our travelin' shoes...
We've done our duties, sayin'..
yes, yes, yes, Oh Lordy, yes, yes, yes
Because we just got on our travelin' shoes..."
- (last time)
They said, "Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes
Because we just got on our travelin' shoes...
We've done our duties, sayin'..
yes, yes, yes, Oh Lordy, yes, yes, yes
Because we just got on our travelin' shoes..."

About this song

I first heard a version of this traditional gospel song sung by Maria Muldaur on her album *Waitress in a donut shop*. In the traditional version it is *death* that comes a knockin'.

I changed this to *love* come a knockin', which puts the emphasis on whether we accept or reject God's love for us.

Performing this song

The verses are repetitive with just a couple words different in each verse. Learn the song and perform it without music, so you are free to clap and dance your way through it.

Have one person sing the "Well" at the start of each verse. Make a meal of it and pause a fraction before everyone else joins in with the rest of the verse.

Sing without accompaniment.

Keep up an energetic tempo, until the last phrase at the end, "...just got on our travelin' shoes...", where you can do a big *rallentando*, with lots of bluesy shimmer on the last word "shoes."

Free Downloads


Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – four verses with the refrain repeated at the end.
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – four verses with the refrain repeated at the end.
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)


Travelin' Shoes

Traditional


♩=80




1. Well, love come a knock-in' on that sin - ner's door Said "Old sin - ner, are you
 2. Well, love come a knock-in' on that li - ar's door Said "Old li - ar, are you
 3. Well, love come a knock-in' on that gamb - ler's door Said "Old gamb - ler, are you
 4. Well, love come a knock-in' on the Christ - ians' door Said "Now Christ - ians, are you



read-y to go?" He said, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no Be-cause I ain't got on my trave-lin'
 read-y to go?" He said, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no Be-cause I ain't got on my trave-lin'
 read-y to go?" He said, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no Be-cause I ain't got on my trave-lin'
 read-y to go?" They said, "Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes Be-cause we just got on our trave-lin'




shoes... Ain't done my du-ty, say-in'... No, no, no, Oh Lor-dy, no, no, no Be-cause I
 shoes... Ain't done my du-ty, say-in'... No, no, no, Oh Lor-dy, no, no, no Be-cause I
 shoes... Ain't done my du-ty, say-in'... No, no, no, Oh Lor-dy, no, no, no Be-cause I
 shoes... We've done our du-ties, say-in'... yes, yes, yes, Oh Lor-dy, yes, yes, yes Be-cause we



ain't got on my trave-lin' shoes." They said, "Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes Be-cause we
 ain't got on my trave-lin' shoes." (Last time only)
 ain't got on my trave-lin' shoes."
 just got on our trave-lin' shoes...



just got on our trave-lin' shoes... We've done our du-ties, say-in'... yes, yes, yes, Oh Lor-dy,



yes, yes, yes Be-cause we just got on our trave-lin' shoes...

Loving God of Aotearoa

1. Loving God of Aotearoa,
hear now our call to you,
We have gathered in your presence,
to celebrate anew!
We have come from many places,
speaking, thinking differently,
But in you we are united,
one whole, strong family.

Refrain:

Let us heed your call to service
and follow lovingly,
May we be compassionate people,
alive in you and free.

2. Scripture tells of faithful people,
who spread your light and love.
Now inspire, lead, direct us,
so we can be like them.
May the Way that Christ has taught us,
and the power of your Word,
Set a fire burning in us,
for justice and for love.
3. Rimu tall, with tui singing,
proclaim your majesty,
You who care for all creation,
will always care for me.
Matariki's spirit guide us,
rise within us all the year.
Help us live and speak forgiveness,
your people want to hear.

About this Hymn

Rev Desmond Cooper, our minister at the time, was president elect of the Methodist Church in 2010 and wanted a song for the Induction service at Conference. He mentioned that he liked Holst's tune Thaxted (I vow to thee my country) but would prefer alternative words that were less nationalistic.

Loving God of Aotearoa is the result. I consulted Desmond and vice president elect Susanne Spindler as the lyrics were being written and they smoothed off a few rough corners. The hymn is dedicated to Desmond and was sung at the Methodist Conference in Palmerston North in 2010.

Several themes are brought together in the hymn. The first is the idea that God is present with us in our country Aotearoa New Zealand as well as the rest of the world and creation.

The Methodist church here is diverse culturally and yet we are linked together by a faith in God.

As for "Happy are we who have work to do" – see earlier – the refrain calls us to offer compassionate service to others.

Verse 2 acknowledges those people of faith who have gone before us and asks that we also be fired by the holy spirit to seek justice in our time.

Rimu is a forest giant native red pine and the tui has gorgeous, melodious call.

Matariki, in mid-winter, is the traditional Maori New Year. It celebrates the rising above the horizon early in the morning of the seven sisters group of stars also known as the Pleiades and Subaru. I have symbolically linked this new start to the year to giving and receiving forgiveness as way to put old hurts, of all kinds, behind us and to move forward in freedom and hope.

Performing this hymn

The hymn is best accompanied by piano or organ. Don't set it in a higher key.

The word "compassionate" in the refrain is spread across only three notes and may need to be practised.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the accompaniment – three verses with the refrains.
- an [mp3 file](#) of the accompaniment – three verses with the refrains.
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Loving God of Aotearoa

Music: Gustav Holst. Words: Philip Garside.

$\text{♩} = 85$
Unison

1. Lov - ing God of Ao - tea - ro - a, hear now our call to you,
2. Script - ure tells of faith - ful peo - ple, who spread your light and love.
3. Ri - mu tall, with tu - i sing - ing, pro - claim your ma - jes - ty,

We have gath - ered in your pre - sence, to cel - e - brate a - new!
Now in - spi - re, lead, di - rect us, so we can be like them
You who care for all cre - a - tion, will al - ways care for me.

We have come from man - y pla - ces, speak - ing, think - ing differ - ent - ly,
May the Way that Christ has taught us, and the pow - er of your Word,
Ma - ta - ri - ki's spi - rit guide us, rise with - in us all the year.

But in you we are u - nit - ed, one whole, strong fam - il - y.
Set a fi - re burn - ing in us, for just - ice and for love.
Help us live and speak for - give - ness, your peo - ple long to hear.

This setting 2010 Philip Garside. May be freely copied.
Dedicated to Rev Desmond Cooper. 100802

Cont.../

Refrain

Let us heed your call to ser - vice and fol - low lov - ing - ly,

May we be com-compassion-ate peo - ple, a - live in you and free.

Introit — Praise the Lord

Praise, praise the Lord and honour him.
Greet him in quiet prayer,
and he will comfort you.
Amen.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the harmony
- an [mp3 file](#) of the harmony
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

About this Introit

Heather and I were members of the Wesley Church Choir in 1988 when our son Christopher was born. The choir sang this Introit at his baptism.

Mary McNair, our organist at the time, helped with the SATB harmony.

Performing the Introit

Sing unaccompanied. You need all four parts.

Sing the first phrase firmly, blooming the high notes on the word "Lord." Sing the second phrase more gently.

Introit - Praise the Lord

Heather & Philip Garside (1988)

The musical score is written for SATB voices in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 100. The first system begins with a forte (f) dynamic and includes the lyrics 'Praise, praise the Lord and hon - our him. Greet him in'. The second system continues with 'qui - et prayer, and he will com-fort you. A - - - men' and concludes with a final cadence. The score includes vocal staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, with lyrics written below the staves.

Love Grow Within Us

1. Wherever we are,
wherever we go,
open our eyes,
open our hearts.

Refrain

Love grow within us,
joined in our prayers.
Spark of the Spirit,
plenty to share.

2. Help us to see
the world as it could be,
a place where we all
stand tall and free.

3. What does love ask,
what will we do?
You showed us your way,
help us follow you

About this Song

This song started with a repeated pattern of guitar chords: G+6, C+9, G+6, C+9 (see below). Your 3rd and 4th fingers stay anchored and your 1st and 2nd fingers rock between G and C shapes.

The end of the refrains has another repeated pattern of Dsus4 to D.

Note that the verses are irregular with the melody adapting to fit the words.

Carefully observe the repeated double dotted crotchet pattern. Count these bars as 8 quavers, grouped as 3, 3, 2.

Repeat the refrain at the end, then go to the guitar payout.

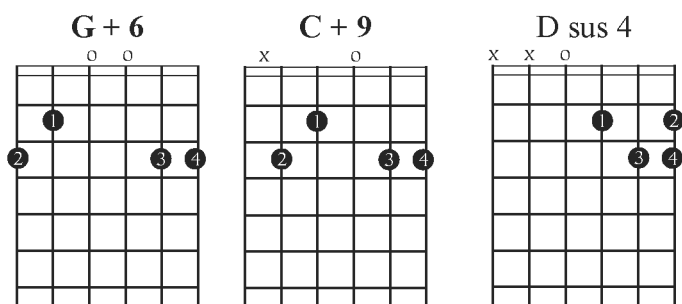
The payout of repeated G+6, C+9 chords ending on G+6 is important to close out the piece.

[Click here](#) to watch a **YouTube video** of me performing the song at a Winter@Wesley concert in 2016 to get a feel for the song. It rolls along in a relaxed fashion.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – 3 verses with repeated refrain at the end
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – 3 verses with repeated refrain at the end
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)



Love Grow Within Us

Words & Music: Philip Garside

Intro: G+6, C+9, G+6, C+9

$\text{♩} = 110$

1. Wher - ev - er we are, wher - ev - er we go,

o - pen our eyes, o - pen our hearts.

Refrain

Love grow with - in us, joined in our prayers.

Spark of the Spi - rit, plen-ty to share.

2. Help us to see the world as it could be, a

place where we all stand tall and free.

3. What does love ask, what will we do? You

showed us your way, help us fol - low you

*Playout: G+6, C+9, G+6, C+9,
G+6, C+9, G+6.*

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Dance with us

1. When you are troubled,
have no fear, have no fear.
Christ has a message
we want to share:

Refrain

Come and dance with us,
sing with us,
walk along our way.
Help us bring alive God's kingdom
on earth today.

2. Leave behind hatred,
turn away, seek the light.
Love one another
no need to fight:
3. Hear one another,
loving care, kindness shared.
Hearts and hands open,
world in our care:

About this song

I wrote this song as a response to the terror attacks in Paris in January 2015.

Our challenge is whether to live our lives in fear, or to choose to live peacefully, hopefully and with as much love and goodwill towards others as we can muster.

The words are a continuation of the idea of the angels proclaiming at Jesus' birth, "Be not afraid, we bring you good news of great joy..."

Performing this song

Play on guitar with a relaxed, steady strum. For variety, if you have two guitarists, have one play the first of the two chords shown and the other play the chords in brackets with a capo on the 5th fret.

Enjoy the syncopated dotted crotchet rhythm at the end of the verses and refrain.

Repeat the refrain at the end.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:


- a [midi file](#) of the melody – 3 verses with repeated refrain at the end
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – 3 verses with repeated refrain at the end
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Dance with us

[Capo 5 for chords in brackets]


Words & Music: Philip Garside

C [G] *G [D]* *F [C]* *C [G]*




1. When you are trou - bled, have no fear, have no fear.
 2. Leave be - hind hat - red, turn a - way, seek the light.
 3. Hear one a - noth - er, lov - ing care, kind - ness shared.

C [G] *G [D]* *F [C]* *G [D]* *Refrain*




Christ has a mes - sage we want to share: Come and
 Love one a - no - ther no need to fight:
 Hearts and hands o - pen, world in our care:

F [C] *G [D]* *F [C]* *G [D]*



dance with us, sing with us, walk a - long our way. Help us

C [G] *Em [Bm]* *F [C]* *C [G]*



bring a - live God's king - dom on earth to - day.

Breath of the Spirit

Refrain

Breath of the Spirit,
come blow among us,
fill and inspire us, with lifegiving joy.
Breath of the Spirit,
come blow among us,
fill and inspire us, with lifegiving joy.

1. Weave your deft patterns,
reform and reshape us,
link us together to form a new whole.

Refrain

- 2 Roar down our streets,
winter gale blowing,
sweep clean our dark places,
hearts bare and renewed.

Refrain

3. Uplift and free us, help us to soar,
May your energy power us,
turn all hearts to you.

Refrain

About this song

[\(Click here](#) for a full description of the creative process of writing this piece.)

This song started as a poem, then became a litany and then a song.

For the past 8 years our church has offered a series of free lunchtime concerts and film showings as part of our Winter@Wesley festival. We aim to spread light and warmth in the gloom of winter darkness. We offer free soup and bread after the lunchtime concerts and have found this to be an effective, gentle way of reaching out to our central city neighbours.

Our minister suggested that we make *Spirit* the theme of the 2016 festival. A couple of days later the phrase “Breath of the Spirit, blowing among us” popped into mind and a poem quickly emerged from there.

Being a worship leader, it soon occurred to me that the poem could be adapted as a responsive litany, as a call to worship or a prayer of

approach. The congregation repeats the refrain and the leader speaks the verses.

A poet friend suggested, “The liturgy you wrote yesterday could also be turned into a hymn with a repeating refrain.” The next day, a bit of tune came into my head from the Finale of Jonathan Berkahn’s *The Third Day*, Easter cantata, which I have sung many times with Festival Singers. It fitted the first few words of the refrain, and the melody developed from there.

Performing this song

The refrain has a dancing, 2-in-a-bar feel. Observe a brief pause between the end of the refrain and the following verse to catch your breath.

The verses are irregular, with the tune adapted to fit the words. Sing the verses quite a bit slower than the refrain to give full weight to the words – almost like recitative in an oratorio. Observe the commas. Again, allow a brief pause to catch your breath before moving on to the refrain.

[Click here](#) to watch a **YouTube video** of me performing the song at a Winter@Wesley concert in 2016 to get a feel for the song.

Free Downloads

Click these links to download:

- a [midi file](#) of the melody – refrains and 3 verses.
- an [mp3 file](#) of the melody – refrains and 3 verses.
- a [Noteworthy Composer \(2.75\) setting](#)

Breath of the Spirit

Refrain has a dancing 2 in a bar feel.

Words and Music: Philip Garside

Intro: F, C, G, C, C
F *C* *G* *C* *F* *C* *G* *C*

Breath of the Spi - rit, come blow a - mong us, fill and in - spire us, with life-giv-ing joy.
 Refrain

F *C* *G* *C* * *F* *C* *G* *C, C*

Breath of the Spi - rit, come blow a - mong us, fill and in - spire us, with life-giv-ing joy.

Dm *C* *Dm* *C* *Dm* *C* *Dm7* *G7, G7*
 Verses slower

1. Weave your deft pat-terns, re - form and re - shape us, link us to - ge - ther to form a new whole.

Dm *C* *Dm* *C* *Dm* *C* *Dm7* *G7, G7*

2. Roar down our streets, win-ter gale blow-ing, sweep clean our dark plac-es, hearts bare and re - newed.

Dm *C* *Dm* *C* *Dm* *C* *Dm7* *G7, G7*

3. Up-lift and free us, help us to soar, May your e - ner-gy power us, turn all hearts to you.

* *F* *C* *Dm7* *G* *C*

fill and in - spire us, with life - giv - ing joy.
 Last time (slower)

Poems

Christmas is Ours Again

Soft fall tears of joy
Down the face of the father
Smile now little boy
Warmed by your wondering mother
Love, hope, peace, joy
Christmas is ours again

Bright star, clear nights
Seen from far away
Journey in faith, no room for doubt
Kings bow to majesty
Love, hope, peace, joy
Christmas is ours again

You me, what do we say
Can an old story still move us?
Offer wise gifts with open hearts
Treasure the laughter and song
Love, hope, peace, joy
Christmas is ours again.

Amen.

Healing of the Nations

With laurel leaves
the winners crowned
Olympian effort applauded

With laurel leaves
the emperor crowned
power and force rewarded

How then to crown
the Lord of Life
the Saviour long-expected?

With sharp, hard thorns
was Jesus wreathed
prophecy and love contorted.

A laurel ring
past wars recalled
the fallen dead remembered

Crushed, healing herbs
dressed wounds and hurts
bodies whole again

Lest we forget
the dying sun
green shoots, new life
still comes.

Amen.

About this poem

This poem is an attempt to reclaim the power of the nativity stories and to shift our focus at Christmas away from commerce to those things that have lasting value.

About this poem

Our congregation took part in the *Living the Questions* study programme. This poem is a response to the session on the book of Revelation.

It contrasts the way ancient Greek Olympic champions, Roman emperors and Jesus were crowned. This leads to thoughts about commemorating those who died or were injured in war.

Like the book of Revelation, the poem finishes on a hopeful note of renewal and growth.

Jesus is risen, the people rejoice

Jesus is risen
the people rejoice
Clapping and singing
jubilant noise

The cross is no burden
one man to carry
All people share it
lighten God's load

Hold ideas closely
process and ponder
Head links to heart
with glorious wonder

Death cannot stop
passionate justice
Vision and fury
pulsating life

Here and now, catch it
open-mouthed stare
Diminished, the devil
slinks back to his lair

Death overcome
by passionate heart
Story still spinning
we've just made a start

Tell out the wonder
spell out the joy
Craft image and music
all talents employ

Invited to follow
step firm on The Way
Gentle the prodding
to be still and pray

Open the big book
what did they say?
First babe, then adult
faith boosted today

A clarion call
can it be good news?
Yes, say the people
and stamp in the pews

Mystery, misery
unbidden truth
Open to all
both refined and uncouth

The whole earth vibrates
the bow string aquiver
Myth mingles with fact
God's love to deliver

Yes, Jesus is risen
the people rejoice!

About this poem

This poem wrote itself very quickly. I had a few words going round in my head, so picked up my favourite fountain pen and a notebook and started writing. I felt an energy flowing through me as I wrote.

The poem addresses the question: Can the story of Jesus' death and resurrection still be good news? The answer, to my surprise, is Yes!

Prayers

God is in the small things

Lord, open our eyes to your creation:
A fiery sunset on a wide horizon
A spider's delicate web, spangled with dew
The vibrancy of a child's painting
The miniature world of life in a rock pool

You are in the small things that we *see* every day

Lord, open our ears to:
A tui's song
Children's laughter in the playground
Music of the city street and traffic's hum
The joy of a choir singing

You are in the small things that we *hear* every day

Lord, help us savour:
A meal prepared with love for us by another person
The tang of an exotic fruit
The morning's first cup of coffee or tea
An ice cream at the beach

You are in the small things that we *taste* every day

Lord, help us breathe in the smell of:
Salt spray on the wind
Dripping wet native bush on a walk
A new born baby's head
Mahoe tree flowers on a still night

You are in the small things that we *smell* every day

Lord, help us to feel:
The warmth of a handshake or hug
A pat on the shoulder when we are sad
The softness of an animal's fur
The smoothness of a river pebble

You are in the small things that we *touch* every day

Lord help us as we:
Smile shyly at a new neighbour or classmate
Make a cuppa for a friend
Serve on a committee
Sing in a choir

You are in the small things that we *do* every day

Lord help us to wonder at:
Coming to church each week and leaving refreshed
Pohutukawa blossom at Christmas
Holding a child's hand as they walk to school
The Southern Cross on a clear night

Your love is in the small things that we keep in our hearts. Amen

About this prayer

God is wondrous and big beyond our imaginations. But God is also present with us in the everyday things and activities of life.

You could try projecting an image relating to each stanza of the prayer, e.g. a sunset, children in a playground, a cup of tea, and so on.

Some of the words relate specifically to New Zealand:

- tui – a native songbird;
- mahoe – a flowering tree that smells lovely at night to attract moths;
- pohutukawa – our Christmas tree with deep green leaves and red flowers; and
- the Southern Cross constellation.

If you are in another country, personalise the prayer for your congregation by substituting local equivalents.

Call to Worship

We are called:

Called to gather in this holy place

We are called:

Called as people of God

We are called:

Called to a time of rest from our labours and troubles

We are called:

Called to rejoice in word and song

We are called:

Called to have our hearts uplifted by your Holy Spirit

We are called:

Called to worship you, O God. Amen.

Fresh songs, prayers and poems for worship and reflection.

Here are 11 songs, in a variety of styles, for your church or choir. You can copy and sing them for free!

“...Come and dance with us,
sing with us, walk along our way.
Help us bring alive God’s kingdom
on earth today.”

The arrangements are simple and include guitar chords. Some are best sung unaccompanied.

To help you learn them, links to midi and mp3 files of the melody, and to the Noteworthy Composer software music settings are included for each song. There are also notes about how and why the songs were written and tips for performing them.

The songs, poems and prayers in this book have all been successfully used in worship.

We hope you and your congregation or choir will enjoy them.



Philip worked in banking for 19 years before moving into publishing and book selling. He was a co-owner of the Epworth Books shop for many years.

Philip's father and maternal grandfather were Methodist ministers, so learning to lead worship and becoming a Methodist lay preacher were natural steps.

He identifies as a progressive, liberal Christian.

He and his wife Heather share a passion for music and have been members of Festival Singers of Wellington since 2000, and lead the English language congregation's Singing Group at their church.

They live in Wellington, New Zealand and have three creative adult children.