

Full disclosure ~ In 1976 when we recorded and published this project, we had not yet committed to the use of inclusive language and imagery when naming the Holy One. Since then this has been an unfolding journey for many of us. We are glad to share any updated words with you if requested....Jim & Jeanie, Carmichael, CA, March, 2021

About the Songs ~

1. Glory to God ~ a lively song of praise with the repeated phrase, “Praise the name of the Lord.” With its very singable chorus, this song can be sung by all ages together.

2. Come Let Us Sing to the Lord ~ this joyful hymn invites us to worship together, to end our silence, bring our “thirsty souls” to living waters, and join all creation in praise!

3. Praise to the Lord ~ This signature hymn by Canadian, Ron Klusmeier, is a heart-felt setting of Psalm 113, and, for many years, an essential part of our music ministry.

4. Beatitudes ~ a moving solo rendition for voice and guitar of Jesus’ teachings from Matthew 5, the “Sermon on the Mount.” It can also be sung by a congregation (with a little help).

5. Drops of Water ~ During a time when Jim spent many months “flat on his back” recovering from surgery, he studied the life of Gandhi. He discovered many parallels between the teachings of Gandhi and Jesus. These parallels are reflected in this song. Though written in 1974, the song offers clear guidance and hope for today’s world. It remains one of our all time favorites!

6. With the Lord As My Guide ~ a favorite song drawing on the beauty of creation to connect us to the resilience of our faith journey in God’s Spirit. Our daily walks through the Mojave Desert and foothills of eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains gave birth to this hymn of gratitude.

7. Serve the Lord ~ an invitation to love, to trust, and to serve our God. With its call-and-response phrases and repetitive chorus, this joyful tune is easily sung by all ages.

8. There's Still Time ~ Jim spent much of his young adult years living in the greater Los Angeles area. Soon after we were married we moved to Jeanie's home town of Ridgecrest, in California's "high desert." Living on the edge of town, Jim could walk up the hill behind our house to a favorite rock to sit and meditate. From there he experienced the majesty of the Sierra mountains stretching for 100 miles bordering the Mojave Desert. After years of surviving the noise, tension and hustle of the big city, this space was welcoming and offered a calm and healing solitude. Sitting there, the words and music of "There's Still Time" came to him in full bloom in about 20 minutes. (How he wishes this could have happened with the rest of his musical endeavors!). "There's Still Time" is the title song of this project, and, for Jim, now in his 80s, it remains a daily mantra.

9. A Gift Song ~ words from a traditional English carol reminding us of the gifts the Magi brought to Christ Child. But what can we as children, without wealth or learning bring? As the song tells us, we can bring out deeds of caring for one another, and say, "It is our joy and pleasure to give our love to you."

10. He Comes to Us ~ In his book, *Quest of the Historical Jesus*, Albert Schweitzer asserts that in every age Christians need to discover anew what Jesus is calling them to be and to do in their time and place. The quote ends with "... as an ineffable mystery they shall learn in their own experience who He is." Jim's musical setting of these words can be sung by choir or congregation.

11. Love Song ~ a personal journey song about walking down the road of life and offering one's life and work for God's purposes. The song invites us to trust that the Holy One will be kind, and let us know when we take a wrong turn or, if our egos gets in the way, what the Spirit truly has in mind for us. (Jim is secretly proud of his guitar playing on this one ~ 😊 no ego!)

12. Our Father ~ a strong and joyful call-and-response setting of the Lord's Prayer is easily sung by the congregation.

13. Lord, Let Thy Servant Depart in Peace ~ Jim's setting of the "Song of Simeon." Simeon is the ancient biblical character who was told by God that he would see God's "chosen one" before he died. When Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the temple, Simeon knew his quest was complete and he could now die in peace. These words, known as the *NUNC DIMITTIS*, are often sung at the close of worship.