

Songs for the Lord

Linda Bonney Olin

Directory of Songs with Performance Notes

1. **Before Us, Alive!** – Anthem about the Lord's post-resurrection appearance in the locked upper room, presented as the first-person testimony of an eye-witness. For choir or congregation.
2. **Don't Be Afraid** – Inspirational song for individual, choir, congregation, or other group. Appropriate for encouragement in times of difficulty or daunting new challenges.
3. **Dyin' to See Heaven** – Solo or group song, anticipating a better life after death. Lends itself to an informal, country gospel style.
4. **Family Circle of God** – Upbeat bluegrass/gospel song about reconciliation and inclusiveness.
5. **Get a Grip on Me, O Lord** – Toe-tapping, hand-clapping confession of a sinful nature, in down-to-earth bluegrass/gospel style.
6. **I Need a Real Superhero** – Praise for the incomparable saving power of the Lord, using comical life-and-death metaphors. This song's campy humor suits an entertainment or youth program better than a traditional worship service.
7. **In the Armor of God** – Call to arms in spiritual warfare, for choir or congregation. Blow your horns or clap your hands on the two sets of three wordless notes.
8. **Is There Room at the Cross?** – Bluegrass/gospel song of gratitude for Christ's redemptive death on the cross, for choir or performance group.
9. **Jeremiah's Song of Hope** – Anthem for choir or congregation, assuring God's people of his plans for a brighter future.
10. **Jesus Has a Sense of Humor** – Tongue-in-cheek song to be sung/spoken troubadour style by a solo guitarist or by multiple singers alternating verses.
11. **Lois's Song of Praise** – Jubilant song inspired by a faithful woman nearing her time to see the glory of heaven first hand. For soloist, small group, or congregation.
12. **Maybe Yes, Maybe No** – Song of trust in the Lord's response to prayer. Big on truth but simple enough for the younger set.
13. **My Footprints on Your Life** – Intimate solo or choir piece, suitable for a farewell occasion or memorial service honoring an individual who has led others in the Lord's footsteps. Most effective when sung with minimal instrumental accompaniment.

14. **My Forever Lord** – Heartfelt prayer for a soloist, ideally a cappella, but suitable for any size group, with or without instrumental accompaniment.
15. **One Day Every Knee Will Bow** – Affirmation of the existence of God, the sovereign creator. To be sung with pep and good humor by an informal group or a singing guitarist.
16. **Only Then** – Meditative song about finding God by seeking quiet amid the storms of life. Written for an expressive soloist but can be performed by a choir. Harp or light string accompaniment is very effective.
17. **People of God Keep Grumbling** – Light-hearted admonition based on the Hebrews' grumbling en route to the Promised Land. Features rhythm, rhyme, and repetition that appeal to kids.
18. **Sin Is God's, Not Ours, to Define** – Musical sermon for individual, choir, or other group.
19. **The Open Door** – Encouragement to step through doors opened by the Lord. For individual or group.
20. **The Uphill Road** – Solemn hymn about the challenge and ultimate victory of carrying the cross. Especially appropriate for Holy Week worship services or devotions. Suitable for individual or any size group. The first five verses focus on Jesus' walk to Calvary, the last five on our human experience. One effective arrangement is for an individual or small group to sing the first five verses and the full choir or congregation to sing the final five.
21. **Thy Will Be Done** – Hymn of surrender to God's perfect will. For soloist, choir, or congregation.
22. **When the Nothing I Am Meets the Great I Am** – Confession of unworthiness culminating in the hope of salvation through Jesus, our holy advocate. Traditional gospel style, for any group or individual.
23. **You Didn't Just Give Us Light** – Hymn of praise for the pleasures our five senses enjoy in God's creation. For soloist, choir, or congregation.
24. **You Loved Me First** – Hymn of adoration and gratitude for the Lord's unconditional love. For soloist or any type of group.