INTRODUCTION

For my fiftieth birthday my sister suggested in my birthday card that I should count my blessings - while I still could. So I decided to count a blessing for each day from then until my next birthday. Here they are.

God has given us all many blessings, great and small, and part of my thought was to count the small as well as the great.

The year that proceeded was one of great interest, and it is good to be able to look back and see some days when particular blessings reached me, but for many I am not able to recall the particular way in which the thoughts came to me.

One blessing known and awaited was a first grandchild. But what could not be known was that the year brought the sorrow of the terminal illness of Liz, my wife's sister.

I have also added a few notes for the people who are mentioned.

Bless Jehovah, O my soul, and forget not
all his benefits.
Psalm 103: 2

Blessed be the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us
with every spiritual blessing in the
heavenlies in Christ.
Ephesians 1: 3

Ye have been called to this, that ye should
inherit blessing.
1 Peter 3: 9

BLESSINGS

Counting my blessings
I begin with this small one:
That I can count!
16/07/04

The Soviet artist
Praised the Maker of the thumb,
And I'll praise with him.
17/07/04

God's grace has acted
In my soul and heart so that
I value God's grace.
18/07/04

Flowers, charcoal smoke, herbs,
A cooked dinner - how good to
Have a sense of smell.
19/07/04

A surprise blessing -
Does he kick and wrestle yet, (or she![1])
Embryo Ellis?
20/07/04

It shudders, stops, and
Drinks cash like a mistress, but
Carries us stoutly.
21/07/04

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1 It was "she"! See 01/12/04

There are engagements
To which God in His love
Has committed Himself.
22/07/04

Giving light and warmth,
Lofting me in space, the sun
Gives life to my life.
23/07/04

Woozily flying
Back through its dark door I taste
The goodness of sleep
24/07/04

Helpless in myself,
A sinner, and sinning, but
Mercy was shown me!
25/07/04

Back to work again -
A needful blessing, if not
A popular one.
26/07/04

Seeing the effects
Of wind, or cold... I can't touch
I give thanks for glass.
27/07/04

Rosie[2] a blessing?
Regard her rather as my
Bundle of blessings.
28/07/04

Trees, bushes and grass
Console and light my eyes with
Nature's blend of green.
29/07/04

Wisdom and knowledge,
Information and symbols
It's good that I can read!
30/07/04

"As individuals
We are associated
With the Son of God."
31/07/04

"This is my Body" -
Uniquely prepared by God - "which
Is given for you."
01/08/04

Wisdom and knowledge
Which is pure and heavenly
Are seen in God's word.
02/08/04

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2 My wife.

Cool clouds drift over
Ponderous with rain for me,
Gravid with mercy.
03/08/04

Mint or curry are
Extreme; taste distinguishes
More subtle flavours.
04/08/04

Thoughts flit and hover -
A pen is a useful thing
With which to perch them.
05/08/04

Mists, low cloud, wettings,
Sore feet, flashings of beauty -
These are my mountains!
06/08/04

Although He had no
Place to lay His head, kindly
He gives me a bed!
07/08/04

All depends on this:
The Son of God loved me, and
Gave Himself for me.
08/08/04

She[3] taught me God's word,
Prayed for me, and showed to me
Courage in all things.
09/08/04

Each day He gives us
The needed bread for that day,
Our heavenly Father.
10/08/04

You may use it for
Drink, refreshment or cleansing,
Simmering, baptism...
11/08/04

I live protected
By stone walls; but know it has
Its own grey beauty.
12/08/04

Palms and fingers skilled
Her diligent hands make her
My woman of worth.
13/08/04

I have a part in
That glorious body that Christ
Calls "my assembly".
14/08/04

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3 My mother

My Saviour loves me,
And our great Priest loves me, and
The Bridegroom loves me.
15/08/04

In lungs or nostrils,
Or the atmosphere, He gives
The breath which I breathe.
16/08/04

I thank the Lord for
"A measure of well-being" -
A good measure too!
17/08/04

Words, rhythm, tropes, rhyme,
The glue to fix them - this is
The most mixed blessing!
18/08/04

Jane[4] is a blessing
As confidant of the small,
And for being Jane.
19/08/04

Pungent with colour,
Sweet with smell and juiciness -
My daily orange!
20/08/04

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4 My third daughter

As iron sharpens
Iron... these friends should give me
A sharp countenance!
21/08/04

As I keep this day,
The first day, as the Lord's Day
Blessing comes to me!
22/08/04

My sense of humour
Is that streak of madness which
Keeps me nearly sane.
23/08/04

To be away gives
New experience, fresh views, and
Renewal of links.
24/08/04

But to be at home
Is comfort and cosiness -
Enjoyed in fresh ways.
25/08/04

When all things are new
I shall freshly enjoy home,
Never to go out.
26/08/04

In the past they had
Dull candles and lamps - I'm glad
Of clear light at night.
27/08/04

For structures or flames,
Wood; fruit for food; leaves for shade;
The whole, for beauty.
28/08/04

The blood which shelters
From judgement brings the blessing
Of the covenant.
29/08/04

They squeal, batteries
Go flat, but I give thanks for
Tones they help me catch.
30/08/04

A pattern of gems
In the grass - then up flits one
Of God's butterflies.
31/08/04

It takes time to learn
The blessing in some blessings:
"Crucified with Christ".
01/09/04

They have died for me -
Sheep, cows, pigs - as God provides
Meat for my table.
02/09/04

For I bless God for
The National Health Service
In Kit Smart's[5] fashion.
03/09/04

My heavenly Father
Knows my wants better than me,
And supplies my needs.
04/09/04

How great is the cost
That God was prepared to pay
For my redemption.
05/09/04

Let David rejoice
With the gorilla - for God
Is his protector.[6]
06/09/04

The flower's yellow
Thrusts up, live; the leaves' yellow
Droops autumnally.
07/09/04

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5 Eccentric poet of "Rejoice in the Lamb"
6 Compare with "Rejoice in the Lamb"

"A ransom for all" -
What a Mediator is
The Man Christ Jesus!
08/09/04

No sea is so calm,
So deep or blue, as today's
Cloudless dome of sky.
09/09/04

Wood structures my bed,
My doors, and house - and the cross
Structures Christian life,
10/09/04

To touch, or to hold,
To feel, feed, knock, write, sign... hands
Have so much to do.
11/09/04

The kindness of God
Has appeared - and has placed me
At the King's table.
12/09/04

And there's Rosalie[7]
Who, through all her disguises,
Is a blessing too.
13/09/04

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7 My second daughter.

No frostbite, sunstroke
Or hurricanes - I'm blessed with
Moderate climate.
14/09/04

In a disturbed world
I am grateful to live in
An orderly state.
15/09/04

A tramp will saunter,
A shepherd stride, a scout dart -
I can be all of these.
16/09/04

The Lord Jesus Christ
Will succour me with a word
When I am weary.
17/09/04

Time for my breakfast -
Time to give thanks to God for
Growing these cereals.
18/09/04

Such a great wonder
- The light of God in my soul -
Leads me to worship.
19/09/04

I praise the Lord for
His skill in making the worlds
And my Rosie's face.
20/09/04

As we walked the woods
Rain rained, sun sunned, wind winded
And nature natured.
21/09/04

Apples are as crisp,
As refreshing, and sharp, as
Fitly spoken words.
22/09/04

They creak, but bear me,
My knees, and if all else fails
I can pray on them.
23/09/04

How often do I
Leave till last what should be first,
Prayer, a prime blessing?
24/09/04

The best blackberry
Eases gently from the bush,
Willing as a kiss.
25/09/04

As I love Jesus
How good to know I'm loved by
The Father Himself.
26/09/04

As he visited,
Consoled, gave... my father[8] showed
Traits of the Father.
27/09/04

Traits of the Father?
And of the Son and Spirit
Because God is One.
28/09/04

The Lord Jesus is
The Model of what's for God
That's in the Christian.
29/09/04

"The earth is the Lord's"
But He gave it in grace to
The children of men.
30/09/04

The seen may not last
But for the moment, through grace,
My eyes taste the light.
01/10/04

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8 With Christ 27 December 1980

Reading of earthquakes
I give thanks for a standing
Upon solid ground.
02/10/04

Precious in the sight
Of the Lord is the death of
His saints... work completed.
03/10/04

The gospel reached me,
But God's word appeals to me
Lord's day by Lord's day.
04/10/04

It is a blessing -
I'm told - to live on a world
With a liquid core!
05/10/04

God has provided
Microbes for my health, working,
Secret and silent.
06/10/04

Language - not just mine -
Through which men in every place
May praise their Maker.
07/10/04

They flow, or they leap,
Beating, fluttering: words live
A sense of rhythm.

08/10/04

God has established
Righteousness for me - the just
Shall live by his faith.

09/10/04

There is a Person,
Unique in the universe -
God, yet truly Man.

10/10/04

They lie, blanketed
In bread, in concentrated
Sweetness, each day's dates.

11/10/04

They flow, or they leap,
White on hillsides, dark in plains,
The blethering burns.

12/10/04

The brethren - the folk
Who give me a cup of tea
After the meetings.

13/10/04

The brethren - the saints
Chosen in the Beloved
Before the world was.
14/10/04

The brethren - comrades
In the wilderness, bending
Towards God's promised land.
15/10/04

The brethren - heaven's
Aristocrats in disguise...
Sometimes a good one!
16/10/04

"My brethren" - the Lord
As a risen Man conferred
This high dignity.
17/10/04

Rosie brings to mind
The scripture "on her tongue
Is the law of kindness".
18/10/04

Pure in its whiteness,
Silk-cool, it is redolent
Of motherliness.
19/10/04

In ocean darkness
Delicate life participates
In earth's symphony.
20/10/04

Let me name a few -
Kelly, Chater, Willey, Deck -
Assembly psalmists.
21/10/04

God loves me because
Of what He is, and because
Of what He's made me.
22/10/04

The beautiful hues
Of the rainbow show that God
Loves variety.
23/10/04

Jesus has promised
"I am with you all the days..."
And keeps His promise.
24/10/04

In my body's cells
Keen mitochondria turn
Food to energy.
25/10/04

My cerebellum
- Is it? - which stealthily keeps
My organs serving.
26/10/04

The eternal God
Has worked in time, to achieve
Eternal results.
27/10/04

God provided men
With hydrocarbons to fuel
And to warm the world.
28/10/04

Their green declining
The leaves go out guising in
A fracas of hues.
29/10/04

Umbilicus shows
That I was born dependent
And should live that way.
30/10/04

Jesus has promised
“I will not leave you orphans,”
And keeps His promise.
31/10/04

On All Saints Day think
Of Robert, Ruth, David, Ruth,
Sheena, Jim, Grace, Jim...
01/11/04

Moisture to the throat,
Taste to the tongue, to the guts
Swift satisfaction.
02/11/04

Philippians shows
I have strength for all things in
Him that gives me power.
03/11/04

As I read science
I enjoy the order of
Things being various.
04/11/04

The Lord has restrained
The ice in His storehouses
At the earth's extremes.
05/11/04

God's purposes give
Satisfaction in the soul
Which elicits praise.
06/11/04

God has given peace
So I have divine leisure
To contemplate Christ.
07/11/04

Rumours from India
Remind me to give thanks for
Hygienic toilets.
08/11/04

God has given me
To keep me straight down and up
A sense of balance.
09/11/04

The Lord of glory
Humbled Himself and came near
To be a Servant.
10/11/04

As old soldiers pass
I am glad that I can have
A remembrance day.
11/11/04

God in His goodness,
Knowing my needs, has set me
In a family.
12/11/04

The Son of God is
Keen to wash my feet that I
Might have part with Him.
13/11/04

One who is God took
A new condition to be
Near men - and near me!
14/11/04

God gives daily bread,
With weekend toast - sometimes He
Gives pumpernickel.
15/11/04

The Lord's perfect life
In flesh and blood ceased - God keeps
The hidden Manna.
16/11/04

If a smirr moisten,
A storm scourges, or snow sheets,
Blessings percolate.
17/11/04

Luke the physician
Balms Jesus' words of grace
And exalts lordship.
18/11/04

Through greenish, vivid,
To spotted, the banana
Varies rich flavours.
19/11/04

The Father Himself
Had revealed it to Peter -
Christ is Son of God.
20/11/04

God whose grace called him
Was pleased to reveal His Son
In the apostle Paul.
21/11/04

My mind can picture
Light textures - blue and purple,
Scarlet and byssus.
22/11/04

Wandering in London
My heart warmed to hear a man
Preach the glad tidings.
23/11/04

We have sister Anne
To call on for her advice
Medical or other.
24/11/04

Let me name a few -
Darby, Raven, Taylor, Coates -
Assembly teachers.
25/11/04

I like my carrots
Raw, with taste and crunchiness
To suit their colour.
26/11/04

We whose hearts contain
The Spirit of Adoption
Cry, “Abba Father”.
27/11/04

Sent into our hearts
The Spirit of God’s Son cries
“Abba Father” there.
28/11/04

Let me name a few -
Rossetti, Herbert, Dunbar -
Christian poets.
29/11/04

It remains the same,
The moon, but our earth’s movements,
Change it to our view.
30/11/04

Welcome, little friend,[9]
To a cold world - where many
Will gladly warm you.
01/12/04

Outside the city
God gives us His therapy
Of well-chilled fresh air.
02/12/04

Ultimately all
That has not sprung from the Lord
Will pass out of sight.
03/12/04

Nothing is to be
More appreciated than
The grace of Jesus.
04/12/04

We have Julian[10],
Apprenticed to priestliness,
Practising prayer.
05/12/04

I am united
To Christ in - and only in -
His resurrection.
06/12/04

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9 Ingrid, my first grandchild.
10 My son

Now we are of Him,
Through Him, and by Him, to whom
Be glory always!
07/12/04

The glad tidings light
Exposes all that has been
Accomplished by Christ.
08/12/04

Have I mentioned cheese -
From quotidian cheddar
To blue's pungencies?
09/12/04

God has provided
As doorposts to families
Marriage in the Lord.
10/12/04

And marriage itself
In a world of lawlessness,
Is blessing to Man.
11/12/04

The goodness of God
Leads men to repentance, and
Leads into blessing.
12/12/04

The death of Christ is
The revelation of God:
There we learn God's love
13/12/04

Christ's subduing power
Outside - and inside the surge
Of Living Water.
14/12/04

Because silence is
Elusive relish quiet
Among trees and grass.
15/12/04

Value God's methods
In living or in dying,
Marriage and burial.
16/12/04

What an embracing
Comfort it is to relax
In my steaming bath.
17/12/04

His redeemed people
Receive God's message, "I am
The Lord who heals you".
18/12/04

God makes the tables,
And by the Spirit of God
Christ writes in our hearts.

19/12/04

Some aunts may be good
Or great, but Auntie Jessie
Is a great-great Aunt.

20/12/04

Lord, what is to be
The blessing to come specially
From today's sorrows?

21/12/04[11]

God is in control
Measuring both the blessings
And the sufferings.

22/12/04

Grief is a blessing
When in it God touches me
In His own sweet way.

23/12/04

Mercy in the past,
Mercy till I am with Christ,
Mercy for today.

24/12/04

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11 Liz was buried one year from this date.

He who has given
His Son for me has set me
Among souls who give.

25/12/04

When the way gets tough
There's always a Rock, Ingrid,
To hide underneath.

26/12/04

When the way gets good,
Ingrid, there's always a Rock
To sun yourself on.

27/12/04

In each circumstance
Christ gives the facility
To learn Him in it.

28/12/04

Opportunity
To hear what the Spirit says
To the assemblies!

29/12/04

One atom infests
Sword, ploughshare, blood, which is one
Of God's ironies.

30/12/04

God determines time,
Year and month and week and day
Being fixed by nature.

31/12/04

Man took the wrong fruit
In Eden - yet God still grants
Fruit in rich variety.

01/01/05

The Spirit of God
Gives His authority to
The word of Scripture.

02/01/05

"The One who had no
Offences was delivered
For our offences."

03/01/05

Have you seen by faith
Christ in the presence of God
As our great High Priest?

04/01/05

Hands may create art,
Design engines or buildings,
Or simply hold hands.

05/01/05

Conifers - spruce, pine,
Larch, fir, burgeon in Scotland's
Mild and moist climate.

06/01/05

No place is better
Than that which has been assigned
By divine wisdom.

07/01/05

They come together
"Each knowing Thee as Father..."
What a company!

08/01/05

Not only to see
But to be integral in
The Bride, the Lamb's Wife!

09/01/05

We stand by a grave
In the full consciousness of
A resurrection.

10/01/05

When all else has failed -
When we have failed - the Lord will
Act for us Himself.

11/01/05

As the wind gallops
I am glad of the stout home
God gave to swathe me.

12/01/05

Although Winter grips
Green sprouts between his fingers -
Snowdrops are coming!

13/01/05

Judging light and form
The photographer secures
Life beyond lifetimes.

14/01/05

Keep yourself conscious
That there is a Person who
Did nothing amiss.

15/01/05

Colin has come to
The Saviour - and the Saviour
Has come to Colin.

16/01/05

God provided in
Christ a Man who has never
Taken a shortcut.

17/01/05

Snow transforms the world
In the nearest to magic
That God allows us.

18/01/05

Mark loves to show us
The Man of whom they could say
"He does all things well!"

19/01/05

What a blessing that
In every circumstance
There is cause to praise.

20/01/05

We can thank the Lord
For holy women with a meek
And quiet spirit.

21/01/05

In the physical
Or spiritual God looks for
Its natural growth.

22/01/05

In the Beloved,
Brought in by the Beloved
They conform to Him.

23/01/05

Men depend on Man
But God has a company
Who depend on Him.

24/01/05

Giving wool and meat,
Being emblems of Jesus,
Sheep are a blessing.

25/01/05

Things past and thus which
Are always present are fixed
Through the written word.

26/01/05

Far on the hillsides
Or near in the park, grass is
A consolation.

27/01/05

Potatoes give
Roast, baked boiled... variety
In simplicity.

28/01/05

How does the low sun
Elevate the usual to
Momentary gold?

29/01/05

The Head in heaven
And the body on the earth
Are inseparable.

30/01/05

At the school again
I remember the benefits
Of education.

31/01/05

In Ingrid's picture
See no mere parcel of cells -
This is character.

01/02/05

God shows great care for
The bodies of His people
And we should do so.

02/02/05

When the way gets rough
We are glad of people to
Talk things over with.

03/02/05

He who - yea - did not
Spare His own Son secures saints
Conformed to His Son.

04/02/05

A lamb or baby
- Or a saint - each is born with
The instinct to feed.

05/02/05

God made man so that
He could enjoy communion
And relationship.

06/02/05

Speaking or singing
We distinguish people by
Distinctive voices.

07/02/05

From atom to cell
To the solar system all
Have a nucleus.

08/02/05

Among the world's doubts
The Christian has ground which is
Absolutely sure.

09/02/05

After centuries
Of decline Scotland's forests
Pullulate again.

10/02/05

Let me name a few -
Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs,
Assembly choiring.

11/02/05

The lowering sun bright,
The breeze keen, happily, we
Sauntered by the loch.

12/02/05

Our God and Father
Is the God and Father of
Our Lord Jesus Christ.

13/02/05

The anointing shows
God's committal to Christ, and
To the assembly.

14/02/05

Arms are for comfort,
Care, hugs - underneath are the
Everlasting arms.

15/02/05

He gives bread and fish -
Both blessings from above, and
Blessings from beneath.

16/02/05

How vital it is
To know humanity is
More than cells and blood.
17/02/05

We baptised Ingrid
In the Name of a Person
Who is out of death.
18/02/05

Why try to avoid
What God gives as a blessing -
The reproach of Christ?
19/02/05

John's ministry gives
Inward understanding of
Our heavenly portion.
20/02/05

The Firth is narrow
But its waters remind me
That the sea is near.
21/02/05

John tells of Jesus
"Just as He was" and that we'll
"See Him as He is"
22/02/05

We came to the land
And surely it is flowing
With milk and honey.
23/02/05

There is a planet
Which the One who made it has
Lit with His presence.
24/02/05

To faith the Scriptures,
Having God's authority,
Always stand the test.
25/02/05

The sun in heaven
Or the foundations beneath -
All is fixed by God.
26/02/05

Acting here there is
A power that will presently
Overcome the world.
27/02/05

Among the sorrows
We can wait on Him for His
Compassions fail not.
28/02/05

If Higg's boson's there
That's a blessing; and if not
That's a blessing too.
01/03/05

In the death of Christ
God has removed the man who
Was weak and defiled.
02/03/05

The Spirit of God
Is the Witness that Christ's at
The right hand of God.
03/03/05

In word and image
The wordsmith mints coin for you
To hoard or debase.
04/03/05

Where there is a cry
There is always a Father
Ready to comfort.
05/03/05

Christ, in His entire
Devotion to God's will to
Secure priests for God!
06/03/05

Vastness of ocean -
And the latent power in it
Only God controls.
07/03/05

Vastness of ocean -
And through seas or crevices
Abundance of life.
08/03/05

Vastness of ocean -
And He has left my sins at
The depths of the sea!
09/03/05

Christ, all His life long,
Was preparing an ark to
Saving of His house.
10/03/05

Thought's electricity
Charges the current of words
In Braco's area.
11/03/05

The One who expressed
God's righteousness is He who
Expressed God's mercy.
12/03/05

In the kingdom of
God every natural thought's
Revolutionised.
13/03/05

Let me list a few -
Student, agitator, mother -
Catriona's[12] métiers.
14/03/05

In the removal
Of man at Jesus' cross God
Has been glorified.
15/03/05

For my protection
I have been provided with
Sensation of fear.
16/03/05

I have been granted
A place and a time to live, with
No ghost of famine.
17/03/05

I trust in a God
Who, according to His will,
Performs miracles.
18/03/05

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12 My eldest daughter, mother of Ingrid

He gave me brethren
That I might have persons to
Lay down my life for.
19/03/05

The Best Robe, the ring,
And the sandals are worn for
The Father's pleasure.
20/03/05

Is that snow falling?
A drift of three flakes flutters
From the cherry tree.
21/03/05

After equinox
The light exceeds the dark for
Marianne's birthday.
22/03/05

What grace the Lord has
To take a place where He could
Condescend to need.
23/03/05

Arriving safely
We can thank the Father for
Journeying mercies.
24/03/05

Christ, the true David,
Has killed the giant, and brought
The ark to Zion.

25/03/05

I can't say much of
Heaven - but there's a Man there
And I'm linked with Him.

26/03/05

It can be easier
To shine in adversity
Than in prosperity.

27/03/05

For found property
We thank the Lord for H.M.
Constabulary.

28/03/05

In our arms we have
Christ in a much more real way
Than Simeon had.

29/03/05

"The revelation
Of the love of God came out
In the death of Christ."

30/03/05

God has carpeted
The highways in smooth tarmac
To help our journey.
31/03/05

God has carpeted
The wilderness with His grace
To help our journey.
01/04/05

Babirusa, boar,
Warthog - The Lord made all things
Darksome and ugly!
02/04/05

Through the grace of God
I have understanding that
I am a sinner.
03/04/05

Thank God for the light
That there is only one Man
To whom I can pray.
04/04/05

Thank God for the light
That broke through Rome's darkness in
The Reformation.
05/04/05

Night draws over
Its star-spangled eiderdown
To comfort our sleep.
06/04/05

As we wait on Him
The Father gives to His own
Touches of His love.
07/04/05

From the beginning
Of history God has had
One Man before Him.
08/04/05

Warmed by His embrace,
God shows what a blessing
A brother's hug is.
09/04/05

"Today... Marianne[13]...
Takes up her privileges in
The breaking of bread."
10/04/05

Life's a series of
Divinely orchestrated
Coincidences.
11/04/05

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13 My youngest

As God has found peace
In Christ as regards man, man
Can find peace with God.
12/04/05

Nothing on this earth
Is so great and amazing
As the work of God.
13/04/05

At any moment
The work of God in saints is
Perfect in itself.
14/04/05

The love of the Christ,
Beyond our comprehension,
We may apprehend.
15/04/05

"Do you think God is
Going to do anything
Now save through the Son?"
16/04/05

Will the Father name
The Name of Jesus to make
The universe bow?
17/04/05

If Christ comes today
What a blessing - but, if not,
Hope's a blessing too.
18/04/05

Christians know the Son,
And the Spirit, and the church
Of the living God.
19/04/05

There's a route to work
By the hill and the valley
Radiant with gorse.
20/04/05

What is as great as
The sight of His face? - Only
The sound of His voice.
21/04/05

Amid the sadness
God has been pleased to give us
Moments of laughter.
22/04/05

In the evening sky
God displays for our pleasure
His palette of blues.
23/04/05

In resurrection
Christ has what's bone of His bone
And flesh of His flesh.
24/04/05

Nothing on the earth
Could be more fascinating
Than the work of God.
25/04/05

How good the Lord is
For hedging my pathway from
The ways of the world.
26/04/05

Jehovah will be
A shelter for His people,
His people's refuge.
27/04/05

He has organised
His universe so that day
Lightens after day.
28/04/05

We've come to Zion -
Christ risen, mercy active,
A city founded.
29/04/05

There is forgiveness
With God that He may be feared -
And that fear preserves.
30/04/05

Christ loves me so much
He is glad to share with me
Everything He can.
01/05/05

Though He is distinct
The Son rejoices to share
The place of sonship.
02/05/05

Those the Father has
He delights to provide as
A gift to the Son.
03/05/05

The Father made us
Fit to share the portion
Of the saints in light.
04/05/05

Great to be part of
“A remnant according to
Election of grace”.
05/05/05

God set them in place
To shine as constellations -
Local assemblies.
06/05/05

The joy of sharing,
Rose and me, heirs together
Of the grace of life.
07/05/05

The eternal One
Formed in time relationships
That are eternal.
08/05/05

As the subject of
God's work, gold to the smith,
Liz is a blessing.
09/05/05

As the instrument
Of God's working in others
Liz is a blessing.
10/05/05

As the reason for
Many turning to God in prayer
Liz is a blessing.
11/05/05

Liz is a blessing
As one who has supported
God's testimony.
12/05/05

A father and a son
Enjoying together hills
The father has loved!
13/05/05

As we watch our feet
On tussock, heater or rock
We reach broad vistas.
14/05/05

The greatest treasure
Borne on the Roman roads was
In the heart of Paul.
15/05/05

Men cannot impose
Respect – God has put me where
Respect is usual.
16/05/05

If cleanliness is
Next to godliness let us
Be thankful for soap.
17/05/05

There's ministry old
And new, and there's Mr Meek's
“Raising the level”.
18/05/05

For a believer
Every day on the path is
Learning at Work Day.
19/05/05

The other senses
Are happily brought in line
By the sense of sny[14].
20/05/05

The blue Fiesta
Rolls the tarmac behind it
To return home.
21/05/05

“But thou hast in love
Delivered my soul from the
Pit of destruction”.
22/05/05

The ancient cannon
Perched beside Lincoln Castle
Has been long silent.
23/05/05

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14 See last page

Away from humans
I hear only the sound of
The birds and the wind.
24/05/05

Near an old city
I rejoice in a city
Which has foundations.
25/05/05

He who bore the storm
Is the One who in mercy
Balances the clouds.
26/05/05

Because we are sons
God has set in our hearts the
Spirit of His Son.
27/05/05

Sons have received a
A Spirit of sonship, not a
Spirit of bondage.
28/05/05

In the Father's house
Sons with the Father enjoy
Music and dancing.
29/05/05

The Spirit of God
Always works from the summit
Because He is there.
30/05/05

Wisdom has given
The privilege of sharing
Christ's interest.
31/05/05

The Spirit of God
Gives power – but longs to be near as
Source of refreshment.
01/06/05

Thank the Lord for books
Which bear impressions of Him
Treasured by past saints.
02/06/05

Walk in the country
Among the gentle cattle
And green grass and trees.
03/06/05

One who walks with God
Is fit for heaven – and fit
For testimony.
04/06/05

What comes from His death
Corresponds with what He has
Carried through His death.
05/06/05

Burst into singing
Ye mountains, the forest, and
Every tree therein[15].
06/06/05

God's grace and wisdom
Has not given poverty
Or given riches.
07/06/05

Grace repeatedly
Answers the believer's cry,
“Strengthen me... this once”.
08/06/05

Another birthday
Does not diminish a meek
And quiet spirit.
09/06/05

Not only has He
Been patient – but our Master
Has taught us patience.
10/06/05

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15 See Isaiah 44: 23

A fatherly love
Has given a place among
The children of God.
11/06/05

Love, at a great cost,
Has given a place among
The brethren of Christ.
12/06/05

God in His wisdom
Did not give me poverty
Or give me riches.
13/06/05

After the struggle
Tim[16] heads a house set towards
The tabernacle.
14/06/05

The world reconciled
Provisionally – but the saint
Everlastingly.
15/06/05

Blessed is the man
Whose transgression's forgiven,
Whose sin is covered.
16/06/05

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16 My son-in-law

I can depend on
The Bernoulli principle
To keep me aloft.
17/06/05

In mercy for me
He gives this relaxation -
Sun and sand and sea.
18/06/05

Fear Jehovah, ye
His saints; for there is no want
To them that fear Him.
19/06/05

There are rich blessings
Here, but to be with Christ
Is very much better.
20/06/05

Having sustenance
And covering, let us be
Satisfied with these.
21/06/05

Before the Father
Stands our Patron, Jesus,
Pleading His own work.
22/06/05

He breathed into them -
The highest order of life
Is Christ's life as Man.
23/06/05

Matthew shows the King,
Rejected by His people,
Gaining the assembly.
24/06/05

Strength and dignity
Are her clothing, and she laughs
At the coming day.
25/06/05

That there might be fruit
God has faithfully maintained
Seed-time and harvest.
26/06/05

God, for our comfort,
Provides each in their seasons,
The cold and the heat.
27/06/05

Both physically
And in care for souls He gives
Summer and winter.
28/06/05

God in faithfulness
Fulfils His promise that day
And night shall not cease.
29/06/05

The lusts of the world
Are for a time; but God's love
For eternity.
30/06/05

Sunshine and a breeze
Makes a lovely washing day
Just before we leave.
01/07/05

God in love ordained
That what best suits Him is most
For our benefit.
02/07/05

The Lord is full of
Compassion, the Lord is good,
And the Lord is near.
03/07/05

For a while soft sun
Lightens the weeping willow
In Rashwood[17] garden.
04/07/05

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17 The home where Liz spent her last months.

From the earth's surface
We give our thanks for workers
Hewing beneath it.
05/07/05

Faith apprehends a
Cosmological constant
Science does not know.
06/07/05

Let God be thanked for
The courageous people who
Run towards the danger.
07/07/05

As core of his life
The Christian has what always
Is reliable.
08/07/05

The Lord is full of
Tender compassions – caring,
Pruning, or feeding.
09/07/05

“Lo, I am with you”,
He says, while He longs that
We should be with Him.
10/07/05

Mercy gave me free
Recovery, grace let me
Drive a Mercedes.
11/07/05

Have I remarked on
Osmosis, with its gentle
Ferrying of life?
12/07/05

Men forecast weather -
We trust in One who foresees
The weather of souls.
13/07/05

God took advantage
Of God's rejection to write
His fresh covenant.
14/07/05

Lastly mention Chris[18]
Because she encouraged me
To count my blessings.
15/07/05

More and more and more -
Counting my blessings they are
More than I can count.
16/07/05

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18 My sister

The definition of sny is: “An upward bend in a piece of timber; the sheer of a vessel.” I have borrowed the idea of a “sense of sny” from another poet.

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