

Thy glorious face  
Is leaning towards me; and its holy light  
Shines in upon my lonely dwelling-place,  
And there is no more night.

On my bended knee  
I recognise Thy purpose, clearly shown;  
My vision Thou hast dimmed that I may see  
Thyself—Thyself alone.

I have naught to fear:  
This darkness is the shadow of Thy wing;  
Beneath it I am almost sacred, here  
Can come no evil thing.

O! I seem to stand  
Trembling where foot of mortal ne'er hath been,  
Wrapped in the radiance of Thy sinless land  
Which eye hath never seen.

Visions come and go;  
Shapes of resplendent beauty round me throng;  
From angel lips I seem to hear the flow  
Of soft and holy song.

It is nothing now  
When Heaven is opening on my sightless eyes;  
When airs from Paradise refresh my brow,  
The earth in darkness lies.

In a purer clime  
My being fills with rapture, waves of thought  
Roll in upon my spirit, strains sublime  
Break over me unsought.

Give me now my lyre!  
I feel the stirrings of a gift Divine;  
Within my bosom grows unearthly fire,  
Lit by no skill of mine.

### SONG FOR THE NEW YEAR.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

LORD! we are thankful for the air,  
For breath of life, for water fair,  
For morning burst, for noonday light,  
For alternation of the night,  
For place in Thy infinity;  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee.

For years and seasons as they run,  
For wintry cloud and summer sun,  
For seed-time and the autumn store  
In due succession evermore,  
For flower and fruit, for herb and tree,  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee.

For beauty and delight of sound  
That float the universe around,  
For carol of the happy birds,  
For fall of streams, for gush of words,  
For music of the earth and sea,  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee.

For sight, for touch, for taste, for smell,  
For sense of life ineffable,  
For health of mind and strength of hand,  
For power to know and understand,  
For every joy we feel or see,  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee.

For daily toil that we endure,  
For labour's recompense secure,  
For wholesome zest of appetite,  
For food and drink and slumbers light,  
For vigorous health and pulses free,  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee.

For fellowship with human kind,  
For pure emotions of the mind,  
For Joy, that were not joy sincere,  
Unless for Sorrow's previous tear,  
For Hope, and Love, and Sympathy,  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee.

For Conscience and its voice of awe—  
Thy whisper when we break Thy law,  
For knowledge of Thy power Divine,  
And wisdom mighty as benign;  
For all we are and hope to be,  
LORD! we are thankful unto Thee!

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