

Walk Lightly

On

The Earth

Lyrics with Guitar Chords

by

John Pitney

Walk Lightly Song Titles

Learn To Live Simply

What On Earth Are We Doing?

Where Will My People Lay Their Heads?

Song for the Vineyard

Fresh As Dew

There's No Such Place As Away

Yahweh's Garden Faire

Song for the Wise Ones

Get Down and Get Dirty

This Is Your Land

To Know the Dark

Walk Lightly On the Earth

Where Will My People Lay Their Heads?

Words & music by John Pitney

REFRAIN: Am G Am
Where will my people lay their heads?
 C Dm Esus-E
Oh where will my people lay their heads?
 Am C
They'll lay their heads on sidewalks
 Dm C Am Esus
While the wealthy have their warm, warm beds.
 Am G Am
Oh where will my people lay their heads?

 C Em Am C Fmaj7 Em Am
A rich man came to Jesus and he thought that he could buy
 C Em Am C Fmaj7 Em Am G
A lifetime full of happiness, but then came Jesus' straight reply:

Jesus said for rich to enter happiness 'tis nye
Much harder than a camel passing through a needle's tiny eye.
 Am G Am Am G Am
Then who can be saved? Who can be saved?

For we have left our homes for you, our families and lands,
Our mothers and our brothers giv'n reluctantly into your hands.

REFRAIN: Give up your home and follow me.
 All Creation is your family.
 This treasure will be yours to keep
 Through all God's vast eternity.
 Oh, open your hearts and follow me.

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SONG FOR THE VINEYARD

Words & Music by John Pitney

Isaiah 5:1-10

D A B m G A D-A
Let's sing a song for the vineyard, God's pleasant fertile land,
D A B m G A D
All of the world is a vineyard, the vinestock of God's hand.
G A D B m G A D-A
God's pleasant, precious planting, the life of humankind
G A D B m G A
And food for all God's creaturedom, but let us not be blind.

For if this is such a fine vineyard, then why have we a tower
Built on the backs of the small ones to guard the Empire's pow'r?
Enslaved on land that once was theirs, their children's daily food;
Their lives to grind like grapes for wine whose vintage is not good.

Alas you must learn from my vineyard: when few add field to field
The many have access to nothing and land betrays its yield.
Then comes a cry for justice in that vineyard made by grace,
But bloodshed, waste and poverty and hunger take their place,
But now God's people everywhere stand up & say, "We must decide
Our children's fate and destiny! We will not be denied."

So what will we do in the vineyard, God's precious weary land?
All of the world is a vineyard, the vintage of God's hand.
First let us pray for healing, then grind the walls and towers
And with that dust turn fear to trust before the vineyard sours

So come sing a song for the vineyard, God's pleasant, fertile land.
All of the world is a vineyard, the vinestock of God's hand.
Now, let us pray for healing, then we'll grind those walls and towers
And with their dust turn fear to trust before the vineyard sours,
Before...the vine--yard sours.

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THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE AS AWAY

Words & music by John Pitney

Leader: One, Two, Three, Four

All: D
Throw it away!

Leader: D
Where's away?

All: A D
There's no such place as away!
D
Throw it away!

Leader: D
Where's away?

All: A D
There's no such place as away!
G D
Well, what do you think
G D A D
If you throw it out do you think it disappears?
G D G D
Oh me! Oh my!
A
Some of this stuff will stay forever.

YAHWEH'S GARDEN FAIRE

Words & Music by John Pitney

Guitars: Capo 2, Play G

Refrain: G C G
 Scatter seeds and watch them grow.
 C G D E m
 Tend the plants the way you know.
 C G
 Share the harvest! Share the harvest!
 C D G
 Yahweh's Garden Faire. (Shout: "GOOD FOOD!")

Pulling carrots, orange and long,
Fill each other with the song!
Munching carrots, crunching carrots
Yahweh's Garden Faire. (Shout: "GOOD FOOD!")

Somppi's rhubarb, long and red
Grew from what we thought was dead.
In the Springtime! In the Summer!
Yahweh's Garden Faire. (Shout: "GOOD FOOD!")

Yellow corn will soon be here.
Husk it clean and give a cheer!
Freeze it now or eat it fresh.
It's Yahweh's Garden Faire. (Shout: "GOOD FOOD!")

Luscious Apples, here we come!
Apple sauce and pie, yum, yum!
Gravensteins or Romes...Delicious!
Yahweh's Garden Faire. (Shout: "GOOD FOOD!")

Scrumptuous peaches make us grin,
Juice that trickles off our chin
When we bite! It's so amazing!
Yahweh's Garden Faire. (Shout: "GOOD FOOD!")

Alternate wording: "Mother's" Garden Faire!

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SONG FOR THE WISE ONES

Words & Music by John Pitney

Guitars: Capo 2, Play G

G D C G
This is a song from a scene long ago
C G C D
When wise men were summoned for what they don't know
G D C G
To seek for the truth in a world dark and sore,
C G C D
Where empires took census to strangle the poor.

C G C G
As Herod of Terror, who schemed far and near,
C G C G
Was blinded by greed for his profit so dear,
C G C G
He missed the peace star that shone bright as the day,
C G C D G
And the wise men, in dreaming, went home another way.

REFRAIN: G D C D
Wise men, wise women,
G B m C D
Children and elders who stay and who roam,
E m D C G
Sing a song for the wise ones who still can see visions
E m B m C D G
And lead all God's creatures another way home.

Justice was born in a barn full of hay
In Wisdom it happened to Mary that way.
But how could she know, she would never assume
What promise she bore as it knit in her womb.

She pondered a free world, the poor all redeemed,
A world where economies served all. She dreamed
Of land's wealth divided; no terror or war.
All people satisfied; hungry land no more.

REFRAIN: Wise men, wise women,
Children and elders compassion unfurled,
Sing a song for the wise ones who bear pangs of justice
To bring God's Shalom to a laboring world.

Shepherds surrounded by beautiful hosts

Fell on their faces as if they'd seen ghosts!
Like humble wise people accustomed to birth
Embracing the hillside and clutching the Earth.

How could these poor commonfolk, in this dark hour,
Simple by custom, naive about power,
See beauty through terror and angels that stayed
And bid them through darkness, "Now go! Be not afraid!"

REFRAIN: Wise men, wise women,
 Children and elders go far and come near.
 Sing a song for the wise ones who still can see beauty,
 Who hallow the ground and who go without fear.

So sing us a song for the wise ones unsung
Who still see God's promise in worlds filled with dung.
As empires take census and count up their spoil,
The Earth is their refuge, their measure, their toil.

As life seems to shatter and hope wants to flee,
They look for the starlight that some cannot see,
They speak to old powers a dawn, a new day,
And imagining justice, lead home a different way.

REFRAIN: Wise men, wise women,
 Children and elders whoever you are,
 Sing a world without terror imagining justice,
 We sing for the wise ones who follow the star.

Ending: Wise men, wise women,
 Children and elders from near and from far
 Sing a song for the wise ones who dream dreams & visions
 We follow the people who still see the star.

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In ancient times our people lived in fear and devastation.
They built the Tower of Babel so's to take a long vacation.
They thought they could climb out of here, I think that's really odd.
Don't we have to root around below to find our food in God?

The Hebrews crrossed the wilderness and peered out over Jordan.
They saw the Promised Land filled up with lyin', cheatin', hoardin'.
God said, "This is your place to gave...a place of which I'm fond.
You pile it high with garbage and they'll be no land beyond."

When Jesus comes into the world then God is born incarnate.
Then Christ gets into everything and we are called, goshdarnit,
To get our Church to die to self and go out into rubble;
The seeds of Resurrection sprout up from a bed of trouble.

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THIS IS YOUR LAND (Tune: Finlandia)

Words by Ed Kail

This is Your land, O God of all Creation,
The land by which You give us daily bread.
This is Your land, and all eyes look to You, Lord.
From Your good earth by grace we all are fed.
This is Your land, You let us make our homes here,
And we enjoy the blessings 'round us spread.

This is our land, but only as a trust, Lord.
We are your stewards, here to do Your will.
This is our land, but not as our possession;
Though we may tend it, it is Your land still.
This is our land, our place of earthly labor.
Our land to love, conserve, preserve and till.

You give us life on farms, in towns and cities;
All bound together, one community.
But sin and pride and greed for wealth and power
Threaten that life, destroy our unity.
Our rural life is sacrificed to idols;
To gods of war and of "prosperity".

Let righteousness roll down like living waters,
And justice like an ever flowing stream.
Let us be neighbors, caring for each other,
Working together to preserve the dream:
A life on farms, in rural towns and cities,
God's land and ours, community redeemed.

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WALK LIGHTLY

Words and Music by John Pitney

REFRAIN: G C D G
Jesus says, "Take no bread for the journey."
G C D C-D
Jesus says, "Take no bag for the road."
E m D C G
Walk lightly on the Earth,
 C D
Creation has made us a home,
 D G
Take nothing but love when you roam.

G D C E m C D
Travel light in life, my friends, and think of what we're for,
 C D G E m C D
Of all the things we think we "need", when others need them more.
 C D G E m C D G D
Like minivans and microwaves, that dream house with a view,
 E m G B m C G D B m
While sixty thousand starve each day, each one like me, like you.
 C D G
Each one like me and you.

The minivan, that microwave may make the road seem right.
Your comfy dream house with the lawn may make your load seem light,
But friends the whole world craves our life and all can't live the way we do.
The water and the power you dare keep fish and farmers too.
God's others need them too.

Enough of guilt, enough of shame, friends leave it all behind
And leave the things that no one needs that keep our conscience blind,
That make our neighbors disappear, and make us all believe the fraud
That we can live all on our own and surely don't need God,
And even don't need God.

Take out to the road, my friends, authority to heal
And pow'r to put a stop to lives that break the commonweal,
Compassion to annoint the wounds that scar God's land, the people's soul;
The strength to keep on keeping on 'til all the earth be whole,
Until God's Earth is whole.

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ALTERNATE VERSES ONE AND TWO:

Travel light in life, my friends, and think of what we're for,
Of all the things we think we "need", when others need them more.
Like SUVs our fantasies of mansions with a view,
While sixty thousand starve each day, each one like me, like you.
Each one like me and you.

That SUV, our fantasy may make the road seem right.
That dream house with the perfect lawn may make our load seem light,
But friends the whole world craves our life & all can't live the way we do.
The melting skies Creation cries, "When will they get a clue?"
"What will those humans do?"