

Lyrics to Deacon Ray's Prayer Songs

A JOYFUL SONG

Refrain

Your love is a joyful song playing inside of me throughout the day.
Your song with its gentle melody keeps my soul at peace – in touch with you.

Verse 1

As the morning breaks the darkness of light
Your song plays softly to awaken me
and the worries I carried yesterday
have been replaced by your song.

Verse 2

At noon-time in the midst of my day - your song relaxes my spirit
And so I pause just for a moment - to feel the peace of your love.

Verse 3

As darkness falls and I grow tired, - stress of the day heavy upon me.
The melody that is your love for me - plays in my prayer to bring me rest.

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Walk With Me Lord"*

ALL SAINTS TOGETHER

Verse 1

Together we have grown.
Together we have prayed.
Together we have seen the love of God.
Together we have raised the Cross of Jesus Christ.
Together we have moved from death to life.

Refrain 1:

And all the saints have led us
The Word of God has fed us
God's Holy Spirit wed us together, together
Our pain and hurts God's mended.
Our varied gifts God's blended.
Our spirits have ascended together.

Verse 2

All the saints of old;
All saints of our time;
All the saints they dwell with-in our midst;
The saints we strive to be;
The saints in you and me;
We are saints together serving God.

Refrain 2:

And all the saints have led us
The Bread of Life has fed us
God's Holy Spirit wed us together, together
Our pain and hurts God's mended.
Our varied gifts God's blended.
Our spirits have ascended together. Together.

(Coda ~ Ritard)

Together we have moved from death to life.

A LOT FROM A LITTLE

Refrain

If you only have a little – your gonna have a lot,
If you give what you got to Jesus and put it in his hands.
For the Lord takes your little and uses it to make,
A lot from a little - when you put it in his hands.

Verse 1

At the wedding feast of Cana, the groom ran out of wine.
All he had was water, but Jesus said, "That's fine!"
He took what was brought him, and what do you think,
The water turned to really great wine for everyone to drink.

Verse 2

One day someone approached him who had been sick for years.
"If only I could touch him, I know that I'd be cured."
When Jesus felt her presence, he cured her on the spot.
When Jesus finds a little faith – he makes it a lot.

Verse 3

On the night before he suffered, Jesus gathered with his friends.
And, he said the Holy Spirit would come to them - and then.
He took some bread and wine and blessed it - so that they might see
That God can take our little gifts - and give us all we need.

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BLESS ME FATHER

Refrain

Bless me Father for I've sinned.
I've wandered far from you.
By what I've done and what I've failed to do.
Bless me Father. I've wandered far from you.
Bless me Father. I've wandered far from you

Verse 1

Like a shepherd whose lost his sheep
I've longed to find you and carry you home.
Home to safety. Home to love.
Home to my arms my beloved.

Verse 2

Like the father whose son ran away,
I've kept the light burning and watched for your return.
Now that you're home again lets celebrate
For I have missed you so.

Bless me Father. Bless me Father.
Bless me Father. Bless me Father.

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COME FOLLOW ME

Refrain

Come follow me through the land of my Father.
Come follow me – there are hills we must roam.

Come follow me - be with me as I journey
Come follow me – leave your friends. Leave your home.

Verse 1:

I have a message to share with the people.
I bring good news of a land fresh and new.
Come tell my story. Come build the kingdom.
Come live the good news that I'll bring to you.

Verse 2:

We'll follow you Lord wherever you lead us.
Follow through dark nights and bright sunny days.
Come teach us Jesus. Speak to your people.
Then use us Jesus. Use us we pray.

Verse 3: Jesus

I'll be with you in the land of my Father.
I'll guide your way – through the hills you will roam.
I'll be with you take your hand, give you comfort
I'll be with you. Be your friend Take you home.
Take you home. Take you home. Take you home.

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COME TO THE FEAST. COME TO THE TABLE.

Refrain:

Come to the Feast. Come to the table.
Come bring your sad times. Come bring your joys.
Come to the Feast. Come to the table.
There's a place at the table for all girls and boys.

Verse 1

Come to the Feast. Come hear the stories.
Come share the banquet the Lord will provide.
Jesus is present. Jesus is with us.
Jesus within us. Christ at our side.

Verse 2

Here at this table, our gifts are made holy.
Here we are nourished. Here we are fed.
Here at the table; the families together;
A mystical body with Christ as our head.

Verse 3

Come to the table. Come be made ready.
There's work to do. And we are the ones.
Jesus has called us to work in his family.
We have been chosen to get the job done.

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GENTLE SPIRIT

Refrain

Gentle Spirit, rest in my smile,
Be in my touch, As gentle as you.
Gentle Spirit, powerful God,
Let your love shine through me.
Let your love shine through me.

Verse 1

I have felt orphaned, alone and forgotten.
I've questioned Lord why you made me.
But now I've witnessed your Spirit flowing.
Your gentle Spirit loving me

Verse 2

Christ at my door - His knock is gentle.
He enters my heart with gently peace.
Christ is my life now - He gives me courage.
His gentle Spirit flowing through me

Verse 3

You've touched me Lord - graced me and blessed me
Lifted me up. You've set me free.
Into your hands I place my trust Lord,
In your gentle Spirit abiding in me.

Verse 4

Here is your servant - Use me my Jesus.
Here am I Lord - I've heard your call.
Use me to carry your gentle Spirit,
Where you would have me - To one and to all.

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GIVE GLORY AND PRAISE TO THE LORD

Refrain

Give glory and praise to the Lord
You sons and daughters of the Lord
For the Lord blesses his people with peace
Give glory and praise to the Lord.

Verse 1

You are my chosen. You I uphold.
I have put my Spirit in you.
You are anointed. You have been sent,
to bring justice to the world.

Verse 2

You may be gentle, quiet and kind.
But my power rests in you.
I'll give you courage I'll bring you victory
I am your strength your light.

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From Deacon Ray's CD - "Walk With Mw Lord"*

HE LISTENS

Verse 1

In the morning, when I wake
I get down on my knees and I pray
"Jesus be at my side today,"
"Jesus come and touch my life today."

Pre-Chorus 1

I pour some juice and I give Him thanks
for food and blessings, I give thanks
My prayers are simple, yet I know
He'll be with me - and he loves me so,

Chorus

He listens, to the simple prayers I pray.
He listens. He listens
No matter what I ask today. He listens.

Verse 2

While I'm at school, I see his face
In kids of every creed and race
And I thank the Lord for giving me
the grace and opportunity
to do His work right where I am.

Pre-Chorus 2

When lunchtime comes I sit with friends,
we bow our heads and we hold hands
and say a simple prayer of thanks
for food and friends and life. And I know . .

Chorus

He listens, to the simple prayers I pray.
He listens. He listens
No matter what I ask today. He listens.

Bridge (in a Minor key)

I learned how to pray as a child like you
And as I've grown its still what I do,
I recall a simple melody
about his love for you and me:

(In lullaby melody)

God our Father made you special
and you're precious in his mind.
God has made you to be happy.
God has made you to be kind.

Jesus blessed the little children
and he loved when they were near him
Jesus said to be like children
and the kingdom will be yours.

Jesus loves you, Jesus loves you,
Jesus loves you when you're kind
Jesus loves you when you stumble
He will catch you every time

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit
to be near us everyday.
So when you feel lost or broken
you will always know the Way.

Chorus

He listens, to the simple prayers I pray.
He listens. He listens
No matter what I ask today. He listens.

Chorus (Key change)

He will listen, to the simple prayers you pray.
He listens. He listens
No matter what you ask today. He listens.

(Another Key Change)

He loves you
God's only Son became like us to say

"I love you."
"And there's no way you can lose my love.
I love you. I love you. I love you.

(whispered) He listens

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HOW MAGNIFICENT

Refrain

How Magnificent your world, O Lord.
How glorious your works.
All creation cries out in praise,
"How glorious your works!"

Verse 1

You made the wonders of the heaven's Lord,
The sun, and star, the moon at night.
You are the mighty God who made the world.
You bring darkness to light.

Verse 2

You are above the clouds, below the sea.
You made each flower plant and tree.
You are the mighty God who made the world,
and yet you care for me.

Verse 3

You give your life to your children Lord.
You let us share in your work too.
You are the Spirit of creation Lord,
The way, the life, the truth.

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Walk With Mw Lord"..

I HAVE COME TO SERVE

Verse 1

On this day Father, the day I start anew
To be what you have called me to be,
I give thanks to you for your love, for your grace
For your calling me to life.
For your calling me to life. *Refrain*

Refrain

And I know that you'll always be with me,
For I go forth in your name.
And the love that you've shared
Is the love that I'll bring.
As you served, I have come to serve.
As you served, I have come to serve

Verse 2

Lord, you have so richly blessed me.
So many the wonders of my life.
And your call to serve your people has grown.
When they call – you call.
And your call – brings new life. *Refrain*

Verse 3

Lord, you have so richly blessed us.
So many the wonders of our lives.
And your call to serve your people has grown.
When they call – you call.
And your call – brings new life. (*Refrain 2*)

Refrain 2

And we know that you'll always be with us,
For we go forth in your name.
And the love that you've shared is the love that we'll bring.
As you served, we have come to serve.
As you served, I w) have come to serve.
(*Last time*) As you served, we go forth to serve

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Gentle Spirit".

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER/I LOVE YOU GOD.

Refrain:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit – three in one.
God is our Father. Jesus God's Son
God's Holy Spirit rests – in each and everyone.

Verse 1:

I love you God - Maker of all things
I love you God. You are my friend.
I love you God. Help me be like you.
Help me love like you. You are my friend. *Refrain*

I love you Jesus. You are my brother.
I love you Jesus. You are my friend.
I love you Jesus. Teach me to serve you
And walk in your footsteps. You are my friend. *Refrain*

I love you Spirit. God's love within me.
I love you Spirit. You are my friend.
I love you Spirit. Bless me with your peace.
Help me to do what's right. You are my friend. *Refrain*

Be with me God. Be with me Jesus.
Be with me Spirit. You are my friend.
Bless me God and Father. Bless me brother - Jesus.
Bless me Holy Spirit. A - - men. *Refrain*

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JESUS, JOSHUA, YAHWEH, GOD

Refrain

Jesus, Joshua, Yahweh, God
Father, Mother, Lord of us all.
Bring us together. Heal our broken-ness.
Make us one.

Verse 1

We are your body – fractured and broken.
Mend us. Heal us. Bring us new life.
A house divided – can't be at peace.
So, bring us together again.

Verse 2

We come before you – woman and man,
All races, colors, your children all.
We are your body. Give us your Spirit.
And bring us together again.

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Walk With Me Lord".

LET ME REST IN YOUR WILL

Inspired by a poem by Thomas Merton

Let me rest in your will and be silent.
Then the light of your joy will warm my life.
Its fire will burn in my heart,
And shine for your glory.
This is what I live for
This is what I live for.

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Gentle Spirit".

LISTEN TO THE STORY

Refrain

Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.
Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.

Now Mary and her husband Joe lived in Galilee
But their mom and dad and folks were from David's family.
So when the word went out that the people had to go,
To the city where their families had lived long ago,
Away they went on donkey to the town of Bethlehem
Where Mary gave birth to a son who she named . . .
Jesus. Jesus the Christ child. Jesus the savior. Jesus the Lord.

Refrain

Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.
Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.

Now when the boy was twelve – just before he was a teen
His family made a pilgrimage to the Temple scene.
Jerusalem was bustling with people on that day
They'd come from near and far to the temple to pray
But when they headed home he was nowhere in sight
And Mary and Joseph, man, they were in a fright
"I thought he was with you," said Joe, with fear in his voice.
"I thought he was with you" Mary said.
"We gotta find that boy of ours. Now where did he go."

In the Temple they discovered him with Scribes and Pharisees
Who marveled at - how smart he was . . .

(Mary) "We've been looking for you everywhere. We've been scared to death."

(Jesus) "I been talkin' bought my Father-God – about His business." Said,

Jesus. In the Temple. Jesus our savior. Jesus the Lord.

Refrain

Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.

Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.

When Jesus grew to be a man - he knew what he must do,
Proclaim God's Kingdom is as close as me and you.
In the Jordan he was baptized and the Father's voice was heard.
"This is my beloved Son. Listen to his word."
And watch what he is doing for the sick and blind and lame.
He's calling them to new life if the kingdom they seek.
Then he cured them and fed them and raised them from the dead,
And he called them to be servants of each other when he said,
"The first shall be last and the last shall be first."
So share what you've been given and you'll never ever thirst," said,
Jesus. Rising from the Jordan. Jesus our Savior. Jesus the Lord

Refrain

Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.
Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.

On Holy Thursday night he shared a meal with friends
And he said, "Listen everybody – for this is the deal.
I'm gonna send the Spirit to always be your guide
She'll give you lots of courage when you just want to hide."
Then he took some bread and wine – and blessed it with a prayer.
And he said "Remember every time you do this , I'll be there."
Then he went into the garden and prayed throughout the night
That God would take his fear away and save him from his plight.
(Jesus) "But not my will – but thine be done,"
(God) "My son this cup will pass – but first theirs Good Friday."
They took him first to Herod, and then to Pilate.
"Are you the Christ? So I can report to the people you are innocent."
But Christ he did not speak.
(Pilate) "I find no guilt and was my hands of this man you seek."
(Crowds) Crucify. Crucify Jesus. Crucify Jesus. Jesus the Christ.
(Thunder) At three P.M. the sky grew dark and Christ was heard to say,
"Forgive them Father, They don't know what they do today."
Then he returned himself to God. His life had ebbed away.
(Jesus) "Into your hands my spirit goes. Thy will be done this day."
They took his body off the cross and laid it in the tomb.
And all his friends, they scattered – thinking their hope was doomed.
But God – he had a different plan – for Jesus and us too.
He raised his son back to life – a life that's fresh and new.
A life with hope and peace and joy - God's gift to you and me.
A life with Jesus at our side for all eternity because he's
Jesus. Jesus is Risen. Jesus our Savior. Jesus the Lord.
Alle! Alleluia! Jesus is Risen. He is Lord!

Refrain

Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. Its the Good News.
Listen. Listen to the story.
Listen to the Gospel. The Good News.

Listen. JESUS!

LORD, BE MY LIFE

Refrain

Lord, make me more loving. Lord, make me more caring.
Lord, give me peace. Lord, be my life.

Verse 1

Lord I've been self righteous. Lord I've been so selfish.
Lord I need forgiveness. Lord, be my life.

Verse 2

Lord, I come before you, in need of your Spirit.
If I am to be your hands, Lord, be my life.

Last Refrain

Lord, make me more loving. Lord, make me more caring.
Lord, give me peace. Lord, be my life.
Lord, if I'm to serve you, Lord, be my life.

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MORNING PRAYER

Verse 1:

Lord for the wisdom to know – what for me is your will
Lord for the wisdom to know - when I should speak or be still.
Lord, for patience I ask - as you've been patient with me.
Lord to heal and forgive - as you've healed and forgiven me.

Refrain

This day I give back to you. This day - I'll live for you.
For all that you have given me - I thank you, Lord, today,
And ask you, be with me Lord, today.

Verse 2

Lord for the strength to be all that you called me to be
Lord for the vision to see, your loving hand guiding me.

Refrain

This day I give back to you. This day - I'll live for you.
For all that you have given me - I thank you, Lord, today,
And ask you, be with me Lord, today.

Verse 3

Lord for the courage to act - confident that you're with me
And Lord above all else – to love as you have loved me.

Refrain

This day I give back to you. This day - I'll live for you.
For all that you have given me - I thank you, Lord, today,
And ask you, be with me Lord, today.

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MY HOPE IS IN THE LORD

Refrain:

My Hope is in the lord, I place my trust in Him.
For, He is merciful and loving.
He's always there – to listen, to bring peace.
And, He is worthy of confidence – my Lord, my God.

Verses

There are times when the holes I've dug – just seem to be engulfing me
But whenever I've turned to Him, He's been there for me.

I have tried to do things by myself. I've trusted only me.

**And, when I've failed and returned to Him, He's been there for me.
So keep me Lord, under your wing. And lift me up, teach me your ways.
So I may be as merciful, and loving as you. Now and forever.**

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ON MARRIAGE

(Adapted from Gibran's "The Prophet")

Verse 1

**You were born to be together and together you shall be
Till the white wings of your father call you home to be his guest
But even as you are together let between their spaces be
And let the winds of heaven in those spaces dance.**

Refrain

**And, sing and dance together and be joyous.
But let each one of you stand alone.
For singing together, the music that you each can make,
Will fill your life with glorious songs.**

Verse 2

**Love one another but make not a bond of love.
Let it be a moving sea between the shores of your soul.
And fill each others cup, but drink not just from either one.
Give one another bread – but at not from a single loaf.**

Verse 3

**Give your hearts to tone another but not to each others keeping,
For only the hand of life can contain your hearts.
And stand together - but not too close together,
For the pillars of a temple stand apart.**

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Psalms 27

Refrain

**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord,
In the land of the living. Someday soon, I shall see**

Verse 1

**The Lord is my light, my salvation
By his grace there is nothing I shall fear.
The Lord reaches out his loving hand
And gently says, "I am near."**

Verse 2

**Just one thing I will ask of the Lord
To dwell in his house all my days
That I may look on his loveliness
And quietly sing in praise.**

Verse 3

**So hear o Lord the sound of my call
It is I your loving child
I come to dwell in this holy place**

And glance at your face for a while.

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REFLECTIONS ON A CENTRAL COMMITMENT

Verse 1

**Sometimes it seems that we've lost track of
The reason we were put upon the earth.
Is it to have never – rocked a boat or never tried?
Is it just – to exist – until we die?**

Refrain 1

**That's not my way. Not why I suffered.
To change the world – I died.
I gave my life for – a new way of living.
My way is love. My way brings peace.**

Verse 2

**If success and wealth – are the only goals.
That give this life its worth.
Tell me why the flowers – and the little child delight.
In simply living in this world – and resting by the night.**

Refrain 2

**Sing a new song. Live a new life.
To change the world – I died.
I gave my life for – a new way of living.
My way is love. My way brings peace.**

Verse 3

**Life is change. The youth becomes an elder.
Youth is spring – and spring is but a day.
But if in spring the seeds of brotherhood are sown . . .
Your life will grow in love – and that's my way.**

Refrain 3

**Spread the Good News. Tell my story.
To change the world – I died.
I gave my life for – a new way of living.
My way is love. My way brings peace.
Peace. Peace!**

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SWEET WIND OF LOVE

Verse 1

**Sweet Wind of love, blow down on me,
Give me the will to live in peace.
I have scarred my world with unkind words and deeds.
And charity I've left as just a word.**

Refrain

**Spirit of love, fill up my soul.
Channel your grace to lead me on.
And I'll serve my Lord all the days of my life.
With you by my side my fears are gone.**

Verse 2

Sweet Wind of hope, banish my doubts.

Let me look up to the sky.
See through my darkness. Open my eyes,
To look for tomorrows rising sun.

Verse 3

Sweet Wind of Faith, enlighten my mind.
The puzzle of this life is much too hard.
But you hold the key that will open the door.
And finding God will be its own reward.

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THE COLOR SONG

Verse 1

All the colors of your love Lord come to me from those I meet.
From my family and friends, from those who live and work with me.
May I see your face in each one. May our love grow every day.
And, may I be for them a loving light along the way.

Refrain

Oh, may I live my life in colors,
Bright, glorious colors . . . of every hue!
Oh, may I live my life in colors,
Bright, glorious colors . . . of love from you!

Verse 2

There are those Lord who are hungry. There are those lord who are poor.
There are those who suffer failure. Those who live each day at war.
May I learn, and pray, and act Lord so that I may always be
A channel of your love and hope to everyone I see.

Verse 3

May I always praise you Father. May your son, Christ be my guide.
May your Spirit fill my life today. May I become alive.
Knowing that you are beside me, that your grace will see me through,
Has filled my life with joy and hope and love to share from you.

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WALK WITH ME LORD

Solo:

You walked with them but they didn't know you.
You told them good news, but it didn't sink through.
So you stayed to share a simple meal.
And as you broke bread, your glory revealed.

Refrain

Walk with me Lord, this day.
Teach me your ways, I need good news.
Stay with me Lord, this day. Open my eyes to you.
Be with me Lord, this day
My heart is burning to know your love.
Stay with me Lord, this day
Open my eyes to you. May my day glorify you.

Solo:

For you have walked as one of us.
You have shared our sorrows and joys.

**And, God our Father raised you up.
Lord, raise me up too. May my day glorify you. Refrain**

Jesus:

My body and blood I share with you.

Real food for your journey.

You shall be my body on earth.

My spirit rests in you.

Solo: May my day glorify you. (Refrain 2)

Refrain 2 - Choir:

Walk with us Lord, this day.

Teach us your ways, we need good news.

Stay with us Lord, this day.

Open our eyes to you.

Be with us Lord, this day

Our hearts are burning to know your love.

Stay with us Lord, this day

Open our eyes to you.

May our day glorify you.

Jesus: My peace I give to you

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WALKING WITH THE WIND

Refrain

Walking with the wind, moving with the Spirit,

Living in the light of our God who saves.

Breathing the freshness of each new day dawning,

The promise of new life, blest by our God.

Verse 1

You have led us to this holy place.

You have called us to grace.

You have promised us fulfillment Lord.

We trust in you.

Verse 2

And so we praise you, God most holy.

We thank you, O Lord.

We will serve you all our days

We will live in you.

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WELCOME CHILDREN

Refrain

Welcome children, come be with me,

For I am gentle. I love you so.

Your dreamin', and playin', and growin' each day

Is how my Father made you to be,

For that's how God's children become free.

Verse 1

Why do you worry? I am with you.

I'll give you all that you need.

Just look at the flowers – I clothe them in splendor.

Look at the birds that I feed.

And, I'll give you everything you need.

Verse 2

So if you have burdens - heavy and hard
Or if you are lost and alone,
I'll help you carry your burdens and crosses.
I'll be with you. Lead you home
You need not ever be alone.

Verse 3

For I've made you special. I've called you by name.
And, I've been with you from your birth.
You are my children, the heirs to my kingdom,
And, we'll bring good news to the earth –
Good news for the children of the earth.

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Walk With Me Lord" and "Listen to the Story"*

YOU LEAD ME LORD

Verse 1

You, my Lord, have made my life so full of joy today.
Shine down Lord and lead me on. My best for your today.

Refrain

You lead me Lord, keep me open and alive,
In lo--ve with y-o-u. Make each day new.

Verse 2

My cup is so full it overflows – yet nothing shall I waste.
For life is a chalice to be shared, and I'm a vessel of your grace.

Verse 3

And I will share this day with you. And, I'll tell everyone I meet.
That you, O Lord, are the cause of my joy. For your love has blessed me.

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