



July 7, 2025

I remember sitting and standing around the piano in our living room on Sunday evenings as I grew up. Mother at the piano leading us with her playing and with her wonderful voice; Dad with a hymn book in his hands, picking out the next hymn to sing with 'gusto'. We each made choices and it was a lovely way to spend an evening. What a gift I received as the words of those hymns are now embedded in my right brain, sometimes just pieces of the tune or phrases of the lyrics. In the wee small hours when sleep is sometimes hard to come by; worries abound; fatigue happens, wonderful words and tunes come floating back.

Count Your Blessings

*When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.*

***Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.***

*Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
**Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.***

*So amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.
Count your blessings, name them one by one;*

**Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.**

This Is My Father's World

*This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world,
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.*

*This is my Father's world.
**O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.**
This is my Father's world:
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let the earth be glad!*

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
**All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!***

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;*

***Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!***

**Blessed assurance! Strength, courage and peace for
the journey ahead.**

Faith Matters!

~Written by Pat Sheafor

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