Sadly, there are very few good hymns or worship songs about God’s call for us to be at home in this world, and to put down roots in creation and local communities. Why not see if musicians and poets in your community could write something? Please send it to [international@arocha.org](mailto:international@arocha.org) if you produce something worth sharing. Interestingly, song-writers seem to find it easier to write about the biblical theme of journeying rather than the equally biblical theme of belonging to one place and putting down roots! Worryingly, there are also lots of 19th and 20th century hymns and songs that focus (without biblical warrant) on escaping this world for a disembodied heaven. The songs below include both modern and traditional hymns that celebrate our embodied calling in God’s world, and the beauty and wonder of creation. There are also specially adapted versions of “Look around you” (Kyrie Eleison) and “O Lord my God” (How great Thou art) at the end of the table of songs.

**Contemporary Music (not specifically Christian)**

*These songs could be good background to a compilation of images of homes from around the world, including animal as well as human homes).*

*“To Build a Home” by the Cinematic Orchestra could be played quietly during a time of prayer.*

* Home (Home is wherever I’m with you) – Edward Sharpe & the Magnetic Zeros *(very popular with teens!)* [www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjFaenf1T-Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjFaenf1T-Y)
* Home – Beauty & the Beast (*lyrics include reflection on making a home in ‘exile’*) [www.stlyrics.com/lyrics/classicdisney/home.htm](http://www.stlyrics.com/lyrics/classicdisney/home.htm)
* To build a home – Cinematic Orchestra *(beautiful track to play in the background; lyrics cover home as a house, garden, relationship)* [www.lyricsmania.com/to\_build\_a\_home\_lyrics\_cinematic\_orchestra\_the.html](http://www.lyricsmania.com/to_build_a_home_lyrics_cinematic_orchestra_the.html); [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjjc59FgUpg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjjc59FgUpg)
* It feels like home to me - Edwina Hales, from the film ‘My Sister’s Keeper’ *(home is in meaningful relationships; beautiful emotional love song)* [www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTd1GnXrl1Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTd1GnXrl1Y)

**Sources for Hymns & Songs:**

JP Junior Praise

KS Kidsource ([www.kevinmayhew.com](http://www.kevinmayhew.com))

MP Mission Praise

SH Spring Harvest (note year of book; [www.springharvest.org](http://www.springharvest.org))

SOF Songs of Fellowship

NB - Songs of Fellowship is a series of four books, as follows:

Book 1 - numbers 1 to 640 (published 1991)

Book 2 - numbers 641 to 1150 (published 1998)

Book 3 - numbers 1151 to 1690 (published 2003)

Book 4 - numbers 1691 to 2200 (published 2007)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Song / Hymn** | **Author** | **Source (see below)** | **Type** |
| All creatures of our God and King | St Francis of Assisi | SOF 645, MP 7 | Hymn |
| All people that on earth do dwell | William Kethe | SOF 13, MP 20 | Hymn |
| Ascribe greatness to our God the Rock | Mary L King & Mary K Barthow | SOF 26, MP 40 | Song |
| As the deer pants for the water | Richard Lewis | SOF 658, MP 37 | Song |
| As we are gathered, Jesus is here |  | SOF 28, MP 38 | Song |
| Be still for the presence of the Lord (we stand on holy ground) | D. Evans | SOF 40, MP 50 | Song |
| Bind us together | Bob Gillman | SOF 43, MP 54 | Song |
| Christ is made the sure foundation | J.M. Neale | SOF 1199, MP 73 | Hymn |
| Christ’s is the world in which we move (a touching place) | John Bell & Graham Maule | SOF 685, MP 1163 | Song |
| Dear Lord and Father of Mankind | John G. Whittier | SOF 79, MP 111 | Hymn |
| Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you (When you dwell in the exile of the stranger) | Gerard Markland | SOF 1213, MP 115 | Song |
| Faithful One, so unchanging | Brian Doerksen | SOF 89, MP 825 | Song |
| Fear not, rejoice and be glad | Priscilla Wright Porter | SOF 106, MP 144 | Song |
| For the beauty of the earth | F. Pierpoint | SOF 290, MP 152 | Hymn |
| For the fruits of His creation, thanks be to God | Fred Pratt Green | SOF 1234, MP 153 | Hymn |
| Forth in Thy name O Lord I go | Charles Wesley | SOF 1237, MP 159 | Hymn |
| From heaven you came, helpless babe | Graham Kendrick | SOF 120, MP 162 | Song |
| From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea (Indescribable) | Laura Story | SOF 1775, MP 1170 | Song |
| Give thanks to the Lord (His love endures for ever) | Chris Tomlin | SOF 1241, MP 169 | Song |
| God in my living (Everything) | Tim Hughes | SOF 1790, MP 1175 | Song |
| Great is the darkness | Noel Richards & Gerald Coates | SOF 742, MP 835 | Song |
| Great is Thy faithfulness | T. O. Chisholm & W. M. Runyan | SOF 147, MP 200 | Hymn |
| In Christ alone, my hope is found | Stuart Townend & Keith Getty | SOF 1346, MP 1072 | Hymn |
| I reach up high, touch the ground | Judy Bailey | SOF 1358, JP 554 | Kids |
| Jesus is Lord, Creation’s voice proclaims it | David Mansell | SOF 290, MP 367 | Hymn |
| Let everything that, everything that, everything that has breath praise the Lord | Matt Redman | SOF 880, MP 1001, | Song |
| Look around you, can you see? (Kyrie Eleison) – *adapted version – see below* | Jodie Page Clark | Songs for the New Millennium | Song |
| Make me a channel of your peace | Richard of Chichester | SOF 381, MP 456 | Song |
| O Lord my God (How great Thou art) – *adapted version – see below* | Stuart Hine | SOF 425, MP 506 | Hymn |
| Over all the earth you reign on high | Brenton Brown | SOF 1498, MP 1101 | Song |
| Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation | Joachim Neander Tr. C. Winkworth & P. Dearmer | SOF 470, MP 564 | Hymn |
| Take my life, and let it be | Frances Ridley Havergal | SOF 519, MP 624 | Hymn |
| The birds don’t worry, the flowers don’t fret | Stuart Townend | SOF 1532 | Kids |
| The King of Love my shepherd is | H. W. Baker | SOF 533, MP 649 | Hymn |
| The Lord’s my shepherd I’ll not want | Scottish Psalter | SOF 537, MP 660 | Hymn |
| The Lord’s my shepherd I’ll not want | Stuart Townend | SOF 1030, MP 1008 | Song |
| The splendour of the King | Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash | SOF 2065, MP 1227 | Song |
| There is a home that wanderers seek | Stuart Townend | SOF 1033 | Song |
| Though the blossom does not bloom | Martyn Layzell | SOF 2080 | Song |
| Through all the changing scenes of life | N. Tate & N. Brady (Psalm 34) | SOF 1566, MP 702 | Hymn |
| We come to you (All creation) [www.youtube.com/watch?v=IbUAtPI8vGU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IbUAtPI8vGU) | Brian Doerkson & Steve Mitchinson | SH 2003 110 | Song |
| We plough the fields and scatter | Matthias Claudius Tr. J. M. Campbell | SOF 585, MP 732 | Hymn |
| When all around is fading (He’s got the whole world in His hands) | Tim Hughes | SOF 2124, MP 1236 | Song |
| Who paints the skies into glorious day? | Stuart Townend | SOF 1118, MP 1128 | Song |
| Who put the colours in the rainbow? | J. Paul Booth | SOF 1624, KS 386, JP 288 | Kids |
| Your love is amazing (Hallelujah!) | B. Brown & B. Doerksen | SOF 1676, MP 1143 | Song |
| You shaped the heavens and the earth | Tim Hughes | SOF 1684 | Song |

**Look around you** (Kyrie Eleison)

*(Adapted from ‘Kyrie Eleison’ by Jodie Page Clark © 1976 Celebration Music; ‘Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison’ means ‘Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy’. Music can be found at* [*www.worshiptrax.co.uk/Songs2MP3/LookArou\_MP3.html*](http://www.worshiptrax.co.uk/Songs2MP3/LookArou_MP3.html)*)*

Look around you, can you see? Homeless wanderers, refugees,

Burning forests, dried up rivers; Oh, my people, weep with me.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Called to care for God’s creation, called to love our local place,

Jesus, teach us here to serve you, see you in our neighbour’s face.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Forgive us Father; hear our prayer. Help our lives to show your care,

Building homes and planting gardens, bringing life back to the land.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

**O Lord my God (How great Thou art)**

*The last verse is amended to emphasise that Christ does not ‘take me home’, but rather returns to judge and make His home with humanity in a new creation where heaven and earth are combined (Revelation 21:3, Romans 8:20-21). Why not tell the congregation why the words have been changed?*

Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder

Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,

I see the stars; I hear the mighty thunder,

Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander

and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;

when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,

and hear the brook, and feel he gentle breeze;

*Then sings my soul...*

And when I think that God his son not sparing,

Sent him to die - I scarce can take it in,

That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,

He bled and died to take away my sin:

*Then sings my soul...*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation

To make earth home - what joy shall fill my heart!

Then I shall bow in humble adoration

And there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*