

# 25 Praise & Worship Songs You Must Know for Classic & Contemporary Worship May 2003

Starting a contemporary service or introducing praise and worship to your church? There are many great songs out there and you might not know where to begin. This list, with songs chosen for their lyric integrity and singability, will help get you started.

Read the WorshipMax.com article [06/24/02 Choosing Songs Part 3 of 3](#) for more ideas on how to select the best songs for your congregation.

## >Classic Worship (Blended): older or more conservative congregations

1. Lord, I Lift Your Name On High - Rick Founds  
this #1 praise song in the world is at home in any service, blended or contemporary
2. Shout to the Lord - Darlene Zschech  
the 2nd most popular praise song in the world - wide melodic range but people love it anyway
3. As the Deer - Martin Nystrom  
simple Scripture song
4. I Love You, Lord - Laurie Klein  
help your congregation take their first steps into intimate praise and worship
5. Majesty - Jack Hayford  
this powerful song is an easy stepping stone into the contemporary world
6. You Are My All in All - Dennis Jernigan  
singable, classicalish, and it's a round!
7. Give Thanks - Henry Smith  
what other praise song are you going to sing on Thanksgiving?
8. He Is Exalted - Twila Paris  
midtempo, contemporary melody
9. Glorify Thy Name - Donna Adkins  
great for tagging your praise set
10. More Precious Than Silver - Lynn DeShazo  
get your congregation used to singing horizontally (to God) instead of vertically (about God)
11. Great is the Lord - Michael W. Smith  
uptempo, powerful
12. All Hail King Jesus - Dave Moody  
hymnlike, majestic
13. I Exalt Thee - Pete Sanchez, Jr.  
help your congregation take their first steps into intimate praise using the King's English
14. Shine Jesus, Shine - Graham Kendrick  
upbeat, hymnlike, several verses for those who complain that praise and worship is too shallow
15. I Worship You, Almighty God - Sondra Corbett  
help your congregation take their first steps into intimate praise
16. I Stand in Awe - Mark Altrogge  
midtempo ballad, introduction to syncopated melodies
17. Holy Ground - Geron Davis  
awe-inspiring, worshipful and easy to sing, it was good enough for Barbara Streisand (yes, she recorded it!)z
18. How Majestic Is Your Name - Michael W. Smith  
upbeat classic
19. Mighty is Our God - Greco, Gustafson, Moen  
upbeat, getting a little edgy
20. We Will Glorify - Twila Paris  
hymnlike, very singable
21. Celebrate Jesus - Gary Oliver  
upbeat, getting edgier, great for Easter
22. Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty - Bob Fitts  
midtempo ballad
23. There Is a Redeemer - Melody Green  
great ballad for communion
24. Be Exalted, O God - Brent Chambers  
Scripture praise
25. Worthy, You Are Worthy - Don Moen  
one of the most handy songs for your praise set - short, easy to sing

## >Contemporary Worship: age group 25-45

1. Lord, I Lift Your Name On High - Rick Founds  
this #1 praise song in the world is at home in any service, blended or contemporary
2. Shout to the Lord - Darlene Zschech  
the 2nd most popular praise song in the world - wide melodic range but people love it anyway
3. Here I Am to Worship - Tim Hughes  
currently the #1 song on CCLI's Song Select - excellent!
4. Come, Now is the Time to Worship - Brian Doerksen  
a popular, upbeat call to worship
5. Open the Eyes of My Heart - Paul Baloche  
easy to sing, easy to play, upbeat
6. You're Worthy of My Praise - David Ruis  
a great upbeat echo song
7. Above All - Baloche, LeBlanc  
powerful and touching
8. Breathe - Marie Barnett  
simple, heartfelt, intimate
9. You Are My King - Billy Foote  
great to sing after a prayer of confession
10. We Fall Down - Chris Tomlin  
majestic song of devotion
11. That's Why We Praise Him - Tommy Walker  
upbeat affirmation of faith
12. Rock of Ages - Paul Baloche  
fast and fun rocker
13. Forever - Chris Tomlin  
upbeat opener
14. I Give You My Heart - Reuben Morgan  
prayer of dedication
15. My Redeemer Lives - Darlene Zschech  
upbeat Easter finale
16. Power of Your Love - Geoff Bullock  
easy to sing, a step away from blended worship
17. He Knows My Name - Tommy Walker  
affirmation of God's love
18. Draw Me Close - Kelly Carpenter  
intimate worship ballad
19. Trading My Sorrows - Darrell Evans  
upbeat and fun, kids love it
20. Lord Most High - Harris, Sadler  
a step away from blended worship, good echo song
21. Complete - Andrew Ulugia  
not that well known yet, but a classic, great benediction
22. Let the Redeemed - John Barnett  
upbeat echo song, great opener
23. Let Everything That Has Breath - Matt Redman  
upbeat Scripture song
24. Shout to the North - Martin Smith  
upbeat opener
25. Jesus, Draw Me Close - Rick Founds  
versatile, simple praise set tag: can be sung in many keys because of small melodic range

## >Modern Worship: under age 25

It's hard to categorize songs for this age. This group is usually cutting edge, singing the latest new songs, and many of these songs eventually make it into the more popular contemporary worship (like *Shout to the North*, *Here I Am to Worship*, *Forever* and *Let Everything That Has Breath*. Check out WorshipTogether [<http://www.worshiptogether.com>] for ideas on what's hot. And consult a local youth pastor!

## >Tempo Guide:

### >Classic Worship

#### **uptempo:**

Celebrate Jesus - Gary Oliver  
How Majestic Is Your Name - Michael W. Smith  
Lord, I Lift Your Name On High - Rick Founds  
Mighty is Our God - Greco, Gustafson, Moen  
Shine Jesus, Shine - Graham Kendrick

#### **midtempo:**

Give Thanks - Henry Smith  
He Is Exalted - Twila Paris  
I Stand in Awe - Mark Altrogge  
Shout to the Lord - Darlene Zschech  
You Are My All in All - Dennis Jernigan

#### **majestic:**

All Hail King Jesus - Dave Moody  
Be Exalted, O God - Brent Chambers  
Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty - Bob Fitts  
Great is the Lord - Michael W. Smith  
Holy Ground - Geron Davis  
Majesty - Jack Hayford  
We Will Glorify - Twila Paris

#### **ballad:**

As the Deer - Martin Nystrom  
Glorify Thy Name - Donna Adkins  
I Exalt Thee - Pete Sanchez, Jr.  
I Love You, Lord - Laurie Klein  
I Worship You, Almighty God - Sondra Corbett  
More Precious Than Silver - Lynn DeShazo  
There Is a Redeemer - Melody Green  
Worthy, You Are Worthy - Don Moen

### >Contemporary Worship

#### **uptempo:**

Come, Now is the Time to Worship - Doerksen  
Forever - Chris Tomlin  
Let Everything That Has Breath - Redman  
Let the Redeemed - John Barnett  
Lord, I Lift Your Name On High - Rick Founds  
My Redeemer Lives - Darlene Zschech  
Open the Eyes of My Heart - Paul Baloche  
Rock of Ages - Paul Baloche  
Shout to the North - Martin Smith  
That's Why We Praise Him - Tommy Walker  
Trading My Sorrows - Darrell Evans  
You're Worthy of My Praise - David Ruis

#### **midtempo:**

Here I Am to Worship - Tim Hughes  
Shout to the Lord - Darlene Zschech  
Lord Most High - Harris, Sadler  
Power of Your Love - Geoff Bullock

#### **ballad:**

Above All - Baloche, LeBlanc  
Breathe - Marie Barnett  
Complete - Andrew Ulugia  
Draw Me Close - Kelly Carpenter  
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