

Four hymns on spiritual gifts, one on the family...

Our Gifts (to the tune WYE VALLEY)

CHRIS ALFORD

We are God's own people, in him we abide; We belong to Jesus, chosen as his bride.
Father, Son and Spirit, you deserve our praise; We will stand before you and our voices
raise.

Refrain: Thank you, Holy Spirit; All gifts come from You. Help us honor God in all we
say and do.

You and I are servants chosen by His hand; We must honor God, his kingdom to expand.
So the Holy Spirit gives us gifts that we, building up each other, serve Christ faithfully.
(Refrain)

In God's loving kindness, these gifts from above, come to all his children through His act
of love. By divine intention all gifts are esteemed; different all but useful, serving equally.
(Refrain).

Sunday 2: The Spirit's Gifts (to the tune AZMON)

CHRIS ALFORD

The Holy Spirit is the source for all God's gifts outpoured;
He is the reason we proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord!

The gifts of God are manifold, the Spirit is the same;
He gives them to each one of us that we may praise His name.

Let no one say, "A gift from God I have not nor deserve."
His word has promised each of us a gift with which to serve.

Reveal the gifts You've given us and show us, Lord, we pray,
How we can serve the common good in all we do and say.

This Church (to the tune ST AGNES)

CHRIS ALFORD

Our God is building up this church, a Body strong to make;
A cord when made of many strands will seldom ever break.

There is one Spirit, faith, and hope, one Lord and God of all.
Let us then live in peace and grace, and so fulfill our call.

Though many people form the Church, and millions bear the Name.
In Christ there is no difference now, believers all the same.

I empty now this heart of mine and die to self anew;
Now fill me up, O Lord, I pray, to overflow with You.

There is One Body (to the tune MORNING HAS BROKEN)

CHRIS ALFORD

There is one Body, there is one Spirit; Though we are many, God makes us one.
Baptized together into this Body, we praise the Father, Spirit, and Son.

I need you, sister; I need you, brother; God's gift to you is different than mine.
Let us together serve one another thereby expressing this truth divine.

All of us weep when one of us suffers; when one is honored, joy comes to all.
May there among us be no division, standing united lest we should fall.

How can the Body be Christ to others if all the parts are one and the same?
Different yet equal, God has ordained it; working together, we praise His name.

A Family, Lord, You've Formed in Us (to the tune ST AGNES) CHRIS ALFORD

A family, Lord, You've formed in us, together, one, in You.
O help us, now, to understand what You would have us do.

Created "good" but fallen now, the world obscures and hides,
The narrow way that leads to life, pointing instead to pride.

We cannot move or find the path unless You light our way;
The darkness of our times can blind and make us go astray.

The world has said what "man" should mean, its crowded gate is wide.
But I would choose the narrow path, and crucify my pride.

So has the world to women lied, its treasures, shallow, vain.
But I would find my worth in You and glory in Your name.

May we, O Lord, a family be who carries high the cross,
And bears the name of Jesus Christ no matter what the cost.