Buddhist Devotional songs in English. songs from the first two albums of the Wayfarers’ - “Moments of Inspiration (1982)” and “The Sunrise Comes (1983)”. Since their release, the songs continue to be much loved and sung. Even after all these years they have not lost their magic.

Wayfarers (MP3 Download)
http://www.buddhanet.net/audio-songs.htm

“Buddhist Hymns book”
Published by Buddhist Missionary Society, Brickfields, KL. Malaysia

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Children Buddhist Songs “PASS IT ON”  
http://www.buddhanet.net/audio-songs.htm

(1) Birth of the Buddha
Lyrics/Music: Daniel Yeo

In the ancient land
A child is born
Once in a time so long
And the gods and men
So they said
Homage to the Lord
Namo tassa
Bhagavato-arahato
Samma-sambuddhassa”

Translation:
Homage to that Lord, the Worthy One.
Perfectly enlightened by Himself

(2) To Love Is To Care & Be Kind
Lyric/Music Imee Ooi

Be kind to all your friends and family
Be kind to cats and butterflies and tress
Don’t hurt the fishes swimming in the sea
Here is what the Buddha says to me

To Love is to care for all living around us
To Love is to be kind to all beings around us

(3) Don’t Be Angry
Lyrics: Imee Ooi  Music: Woon Yoke Fun

If you’re angry
You’ll make yourself
An ugly little child, ugly little child
Put on a smile
And cheer up
Make your daddy and mummy proud
La la la la la la la la
Anger scares your friends away
La la la la la la la la
So smile and brighten up your day

(4) Compassion
Lyrics: Imes Ooi Music: Woon Yoke Fun

Praise the Lord, Lord Buddha
Embrace the world
With compassion
Praise the Lord, Lord Buddha
Maha karuniko natho
Hitaya sabbapaninam’’

(5) It’s Great To Give
Lyrics/Music: Daniel Yeo

It’s great to give, it’s a blessing to be able to give
It’s better for you to give than to always receive

Just like the Buddha, he perfected the act of giving
I wish one day too, I’ll be like Him

(6) He’s Here For You and Me
Lyrics/Music: Daniel Yeo

If you have a problem
Don’t worry, hand it over to the Buddha
Just listen to Him and you will see the light
To all the darkness and miseries
Gautama Buddha, He’s here for you and me
By your side
Day and night
Rain and shine
Gautama Buddha, He’s here for you and me
Welcome Him to our hearts Till eternity
Gautama Buddha, He’s here

(7) Pass It On
Lyrics: Daniel Yeo  Music: Imee Ooi

There is a gift from lord Buddha
I like to share with my family

Share it with my friends
And take it around the world
and share it with all beings
Pass it on, pass it on

Let the Buddha’s wisdom stay on
Pass it on, Pass it on
Let the Buddha’s love spread on
Pass it on, pass it on
Let the Buddha’s teaching goes on and on
(1) THE BODHISATTVA
Sujatha Hettiarachchi  Victor Wee
Let me a pure white lotus be
Unfolding in Samsara’s stream,
Let all the gloom of misery
Be gathered in my lotus dream;
Let each dew drop that studded lie
On each white radiant fold,
Reflect the mercy of the law
That turns death’s bliss to gold.

Let every wave that tumbles down,
Their curled slim of wrath, repair
To lotus roots of dusky brown,
In my compassion’s bounty share;
Let every sparks of vengeance rowed
Round lotus stalks entwine.
And greed and lies transformed by love
In lotus heart enshrine.

When each life drop has sped away
Across my pure white lily door
When I have drained all sorrow may
I speed to deck that lustless floor.
Let every petal softly fold,
In summer’s golden shine
Retreat to claim the splendid prize
Nirvana’s joy last Mine!

(2) CLIMB THE PATH WITH GLADNESS
D Hunt
Climb the Path with gladness,
In the field of life,
Vanquishing illusion,
Ignorance and strife.
Brotherhood and service,
Shall our motto be,
And the goal before us,
Truth and liberty.
We will teach Thy Dharma,
Wheresoe’re we go
Wisdom, Love, Compassion,
In our actions show.

We must stand together
Fighting side by side,
Truth is undivided
This must be our guide.
All divisions vanish
Where the Truth is known,
This the greatest lesson
By Lord Buddha shown.
Forward marching ever
In the Dharma’s might,
Till we lead the nations
Into the endless light.

(3) ANTHEM OF UNITY
Piyasilo  Victor Wee
In unity we stand
In harmony we strive,
The Cause shall never end,
As long as we’re alive.
We’re one, we’re one.
Always, always.
We’re one always.
One Cause, one Cause enfolding us
Along Dharma’s way.

One cosmic brotherhood,
One purpose moulding us,
Bringing us all to good,
Kindling the Light in us.
Strive on, Strive on,
Heedfully, heedfully.
Strive on heedfully.
Along, along the Eightfold Way
To Nirvana’s day.

(4) RIGHT THOUGHT
Sumangalo
Right thought will lead me on
To wisdom’s holy height,
And show to me the surest way,
To pass through sorrow’s night.

Right Thought will light me through
The shadows of this life;
“Twill ease my heart and peace assure,
And free my mind from strife.

Right Thought will be my guide
Across life’s troubled sea;
My pilot, compass, star and chart,
Right Thought shall ever be.

Right Thought will keep me on
The way to perfect peace,
And ferry to other shore,
Where all Illusions cease.

(5) OH! SUFFERING WORLD
Tan Huat Chye  Victor Wee  T.H.C
Oh! Suffering world.
You shall not come back again.
Oh! Suffering World,
When you’ve stifled desire’s flame.
Then there’ll be no tears of sorrow
In your eyes, my friend,
You’ll know the bliss of one
Who enters freedom land;
Oh! Suffering World,
(6) INFINITE LOVE AND WISDOM

Ancient Chant       Victor Wee

We clothe ourselves, safely round,
With Infinity love and wisdom,
With love, with love,
With infinite love and wisdom.

(7) WHEEL OF LIFE

TanHuatChye

How high is the mountain,
How deep is the sea,
How long will man learn to live.
How blue is the ocean.
How green is the leaf.
How long will man learn to be free.

CHORUS:
For you shall not go
Round and round again
In the wheel of life;
And you shall not go
Down and down again,
With your fruitless strive.

How long is the night
To the sleepless one,
Waiting for the morn to come,
How long is the road.
To the weary one,
Carrying on the route that he can’t

(CHORUS and repeat verse 1)

(8) WHY

Tan Huat Chye

Why must they all lie?
Why must they deny?
The words that He had said,
And the Eightfold Way.

Why do they close their minds
And choose to be so blind?
Thro’ birth, and death and change,
Round they will go again.

CHORUS:
Round and round they’ll go again,
Round they’ll go again.
Down and down they’re burnt in flames,
Down they’ll go in pain.

Why do they deafen their ears?
Why do they not hear?
The words of love and peace,
From the Master’s seat.

Why have they blinded their eyes
To the tears of life?
And round they’re bound in chains,
Round they’ll go in pain.

(CHORUS)

Why must they all fight?
Why must they all strive
So hard and heedlessly
In Samsara Sea?

Why do they find no delight
In the Dhamma’s light?
And evil falls like rains,
In pain they go again.

(CHORUS)

(9) THE BODHI TREE

Sujatha Hettiarachchi

In the forest dense and wild
Providing shade for fierce and mild,
Beloved by both man and child,
The Holy Bodhi Stands.

In the city’s sun-browned heart
Where the highways meet and part,
Beneath whose shade the sparrows dart
The Holy Bodhi stands.

Down the river’s fertile shore
Where young meet for Dhamma’s lore
Enshrined within a pilgrim door,
The Holy Bodhi stands.

Years by thousands have gone by
Since that Indian Prince did sigh,
And where became The Buddha high,
The Holiest Bodhi stands!

(10) THE THREE SIGNS

Geraldine E. Lyster

Dukkha, Anicca, Anatta
The leaves are falling fast,
The reign of the rose is ended,
The sky is overcast.
The whole world is filled with sadness,
From city and Jungle rise;
The cry of life’s suffering children
The daylight slowly dies.

Our lord looked with love and pity
Upon every living being,
From the lowliest child of nature
To the mightiest crowned king.
For hatred, delusion, passion
Still claim and enslave us all,
And each alike on the wheel of change
Must suffer, and rise, and fall.
Dukka, Anicca, Anatta,
Thou’s every life knows pain;
He who faithfully walks the Path
Will not look for help in vain.
The law of the Tathagatha
Forever will light the way;
It is our moon to shine by night,
Our sun to illumine the day.

In lord Buddha we take our refuge,
His Law of Good our guide,
To pilot us as we toss and drift
On being’s remorseless tide.

With the Dharma’s light to steer by
Some day we’ll fear rocks no more,
But, merit won, each will moor his barge,
On Nirvana’s changeless shore.

(11)THOUGHTS
Sujatha Hettiarachchi

I fold my palms to worship Him,
And meditate thro’s love,
I place the blossoms one by one,
And lift my eyes above.

I see Samsara’s mighty vast
And sorrow’s yearning fate,
But thro’s the law the Dharma’s taught
I sense a pathway great;

“Oh may that Noble Eightfold way
Be sense by you and me,
For on this Holy Wesak Day,
‘Tis my true gift to thee!”

(12)LET’S SING THE PRAISES

Sing gladly boys and maidens,
Your hymn of praise today,
‘Tis right that children’s voices,
Should blend in sweetest lay.
O praise the Holy Teacher,
Who found the root of pain,
And by his life Triumphant,
The power of self has slain,
The power of self has slain.

Come sing, dear boys and maidens,
Your hymn to Buddha Lord,
It was for all His children,
His wisdom He outpoured.
Sing praises of the Master,
Who found the Holy way,
Which we will safely follow,
To everlasting day,
To everlasting day.

And when we sing His praises,
Remember we strive,
By Holy Word and Action,
To keep His Faith alive.
O let us try to follow,
The Holy Path He found,
With love and with compassion,
All forms of live surround,
All forms of Life surround.

(13)RIGHT ACTION
A.R.Zorn

Firm in our purpose we have act,
Our feet in Wisdom’s Way;
Nor shall the transient things of earth,
Our resolution sway.

We spurn the lure of fame or gold,
The lust for things of sense;
And find purity and peace,
Our ample recompense.

Unselfish love to all that live,
Our lives shall manifest;
In thought, in word, in action show,
Its inspiration blest.

Though steep and toilsome be the path,
We shall but strive the more;
Nirvana’s holy realm to gain,
And peace forevermore.

(14)BUDDHIST DOXOLOGY
P.Carus

Bright shineth the sun in his splendor by day,
And bright the moon’s radiance by night;
Bright shineth the hero in battle array,
And the sage in his thought shineth bright.
But by day and by night, none so glorious and bright.
As Lord Buddha, the Source of all Spiritual Light;
But by day and by night, none so glorious and bright
As Lord Buddha, the Source of all Spiritual Light.

(15)CHILDREN OF THE BUDDHA

Children of the Buddha,
Proudly now we stand,
Raising high His standard,
In this eastern land,
Buddha’s teaching spreadeth,
Universal peace,
Where His name is honoured,
Hate and strive shall cease.
Children of the Buddha,
We must strive to show,
Truth and love and kindness,
Where sover we go,
Purity, obedience,
Faith and courage strong,
These shall light our journey,
As we march along.

As we climb life’s mountain,
Clouds will disappear,
Buddha’s love surrounding
All who persevere,
Grief and pain departing,
Ignorance will ceased,
On our hearts descending,
Blest Nirvana’s peace.

(16) THE SUNRISE COMES
Sir Edwin Arnold (Adapted)  Victor Wee
Ah! Blessed Lord!
Oh! High Deliverer!
I take my refuge in Thy name and Order,
I take my refuge in Thy Law.

The Dew is on the Lotus!
Rise, Great Sun!
And lift my leaf and mix me with the wave,
The Sunrise comes!
The Dewdrop slips into the shining Sea!

(17) NIRVANA’S ENDLESS DAY  Victor Wee
Long have we sought for Truth’s Bright Light,
Long have we wondered in the night?
Lord Buddha hath found the holy way
That leads from night to Endless Day.

When shall we find the road to peace,
When earthly strife and hatred cease?
O weary soul that peace profound,
To Buddha’s Holy Law is found,

Where shall we learn that Law sublime,
Which leads us on the peace divine?
To Buddha’s Holy Law we turn,
The path of Truth and Peace to learn.

Why must we wonder many a year,
In pain and misery and fear?
The Eightfold Path of wondrous wealth,
Is hidden by the love of self.

And must we prey that we may find,
The strength to break the chains that bind?
By each one must the race be run,
And not by prayer is freedom won.

Whence comes the suffering of this life,
How can we end our state of strife?
By Buddha’s Law is justice known,
For each must reap what each has sown.

With love that never more shall wane,
We’ll praise Lord Buddha’s holy name,
And in the Dharma’s Noble way,
We’ll reach Nirvana’s endless Day.

(18) TRUTH WITHIN YOU
Come my brothers get together,
Sing the praise of your Lord,
He hath found the cure of sadness,
Gladly hearken to His word.

He hath taught the Law triumphant,
And this law shall set you free,
In His universal Sangha,
Ye shall find true liberty.

One are you with all that liveth,
Race and caste no more shall bind,
Brotherhood without distinction,
In the Buddha’s Greed you’ll find.

Mediate upon His Dharma,
In your lives these teachings show,
That the nations all around you,
May the Buddha’s greatness know.

Cultivate the Truth within you,
It will bring you joy and peace,
And the strife that are around you,
From them you shall find release.

Realise your Buddha nature,
And Nirvana you shall see,
In its tranquil peace undying,
You shall live eternally (4*)

(19) THE FLOWER OF MANKIND  Sujatha Hettiarchchi  Victor Wee
Rohini rippled its water
Tinged with the moonlit tide,
Mountainous high sumeru
Gazed on with wondering pride.

Planets in their starry orbits
Stopped for a while in pace,  
Gods in their shaken heavens  
Down to the earth they race.

Birds in their flaming feathers,  
Beasts in their vest of Gold,  
Fish on the water’s surface  
Make themselves dare be bold.

Skies grey have lost their darkness,  
Silver’s moon shines in state,  
Lotuses open in glory,  
Honouring Gautama great!

He’s sunder’s life’s big secret,  
He’s measur’d life’s big dawn,  
He knows the way and watchword,  
Flower of Mankind is born!

(20). WESAK DAWN
Sujatha Hettiatalachi   Victor Wee

Wesak dawn has paced in softly,  
Tip-toed thro’ the moonlit night,  
Breathed the flowers and incense smoking.  
Laughed thro’ bars of purple light.

Bids you now to woken gently,  
Lift your troubled eyes of sleep,  
Tend’s ring thoughts of homage holy,  
Cross Samsara’s ocean deep.

To the one who taught the Dharma,  
Of the Noble Eightfold Way,  
To the Buddha, dearest sister,  
Lift your tender mind today!

(21). MORTAL AND IMMORTAL
D. Hunt   Victor Wee

How sweetly bloom the cherry tree  
Beneath the April sky!  
But soon, too soon, their brightness wanes.  
For they must fade and die;  
And all their petals bright  
Soon on the ground we find,  
For while the world doth sleep  
There comes the midnight wind.

So is the heart that seeks for peace  
Within this world of strife,  
For many are man’s woes below  
In this, our mortal life,  
And when all seems delight,  
And hours of bliss we find,  
Through our frail trees of life  
There blows the midnight wind.

Tis true that mortal life is sad  
And quickly passes by;  
But still abides that ancient gleam  
Of Truth that cannot die;  
For when self’s flower is dead,  
Its petals blown away,  
We’ll see the glorious light  
Of Truth’s eternal day.

(22). HIS LOVE LIT IMAGE
(Tune: Oh, How Lovely Is the Evening)  
So sublime his lovelit image,  
Lovelit image,  
Stately like a snow-capped mountain,  
Snow-capped Mountain,  
Sadhu, Sadhu, Sadhu.

(23). THE BLESSED REFUGES
S. Sogaku   Victor Wee

O Blessed One! The greatest of mankind,  
Thou Gracious Master, filled with love divine,  
Gracious Thy life, so sweat, so great, so pure,  
Thou mighty Light, Thou Blessed One as dear.

Lord, at Thy feet I seat myself to learn,  
The wisdom of Thy Life and Law,  
Plainly I see the Truth which Thou doest teach;  
Sorrow and pain and self shall be no more.

Into my heart there comes a lasting peace,  
Within my mind there glows a wondrous light.  
All tears and sorrow, doubts and worries cease,  
For Truth and joy Thy glorious Teaching brings.

I take my refuge in The Glorious Lord,  
No other shelter shall I need,  
I take my refuge in the Law and Sangha,  
Which freedom bring and Light forevermore.

(24). THE LAW OF KARMA
D. Hunt

What e’er ye sow that shall ye reap,  
Such is the Law Divine,  
Think not that thou can’st e’er escape,  
The Karma which is thine.

The present is the true result,  
Of actions all our own,  
The sower always reaps the fruits,  
Of seeds which he has sown.
The Law is ever just and true
And all must surely bear,
The strict result of every act
For none the Law can spare.

Weep not for what is past and gone,
For it cannot return,
This is the teaching Buddha gave
For all His sons to learn.

Do not despair, the future still
Is thine to mar or make;
Sow then today good seeds and pure,
And reap their harvest great.

The goal divine still shines afar
All may this goal attain,
When they have learned good seeds to sow
And things of self have slain.

(25). FARE-YE-WELL
Sujatha Hettiattachchi          Victor Wee

My fond young wife, oh fare-ye-well,
I leave your side to come again,
A sage of sages, king of kings,
This holy hour tho’ full of pain.

This palace vast is small to me,
I cannot breathe nor lie at rest,
The vaster world bids me to leave,
This vanity for what is best.

So fare thee well, my only son,
Reclining in the mother’s arms,
I go to build the realm of truth,
Hence leave I all with folded palms.

And mount my horse, and fly thro’s Time,
To conquer pain and birth and death,
To find a way to reach that bliss,
I leave behind this passing wealth!
(repeat the first verse)

(26). SONG OF THE PILGRIM
A.C.Constable                            Victor Wee

No sentient life in all the worlds,
Will ever cease to be,
Unending all as Thou and I,
Though forms change constantly,
Then life imprisoned in the earth,
May bloom as lovely flower,
So all evolve a fairer birth,
When law brings forth the hour.

CHORUS:
Remembering always “Buddh Thou art”
The path will lighter grow,
The Buddha seed within our heart,
Will guide to those who know.

On through the endless arons of time,
Through forms from stone to man,
All beings to perfection climb,
Such is the faultless plan.
Perfected man the masters are,
And we shall also climb,
To starry heights in worlds afar,
And know the Truth sublime.

(27). SELF RELIANCE
Traditional                         Victor Wee

By ourselves is evil done,
By ourselves we pain endure,
By ourselves we cease from wrong,
By ourselves become we pure.

No one saves us but ourselves,
No one can and no one may,
We ourselves must walk the Path,
Buddha’s merely show the way.

(28). ANGULIMALA
Sujatha Hettiarrachchi

“Stop thee! Oh saffron princely monk,
“who hastens on like falling rain,
“ I want a finger from thy foot
“To finish off my bloody chain.”

“I do not run, you run instead
“please stop awhile and follow me,
“Angulimal, I ’m not content,
“to know that thou are not yet free”

“please throw that bloody chain aside,
“there is a better, nobler way,
“To live thy life and reach that truth,
“Angulimala, for you to-day.”

And hours want by the Indian time,
While Buddha’s sinless way he heard,
And sinner changed to blessed saint,
And preach’d he out the hollowed word.