

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

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I, the Lord of Sea and Sky



- 1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
- 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
- 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
- I have heard my peo ple cry.
- I have borne my peo-ple's pain. I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin
I have wept for love of them.
I will set a feast for them.

my hand will save. They turn a - way. My hand will save. I, who I will Fin-est



made the stars of night, break their hearts of stone, bread I will pro-vide I will make their dark - ness bright. give them hearts for love a - lone. till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them?

I will speak my word to them.

I will give my life to them.

Whom shall I send? Whom shall I send? Whom shall I send?





The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.



Perhaps because this hymn is so well known, its language sounds vaguely scriptural; but while there are various biblical uses of "stand" and "promise(s)," the two words are never combined. The confidence here is similar to that of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (see no. 353).

