

### *Untitled Poem 4*

Suggestions for *The Black Christ* to be combined with *Carols of the Artist's Embassy*)

How shall I begin?  
I'll send forth my grin,  
I'll send my smile before me,  
Though you may not adore me  
I shall feel quite satisfied,  
I shall feed quite edified,  
If you praise God.

I shall send forth my laughter  
Like the early dawn,  
And may it linger after  
I have gone.

Show me the word "race" in the Scripture,  
Show me the printed page—  
I shall consider this a venture,  
And it will give me courage.

Show me "eternal hell" in the revelation,  
Show me the printed page—  
It will not dim my elation  
Nor damp my heart's courage.

I was there when **your** lord was crucified,  
I think **your** lord ought to have died,  
There is One who is Lord of us all,  
There is One who is eternal.

Billy Graham, whom do you really follow?  
Before you chant **to deum gloria**,  
If you will go down to Pretoria,  
I shall know if you are true, or hollow.

I will shine your shoes and wash your feet,  
So overcome my own conceit,  
I will wash your feet and shine your shoes  
And overcome my ego-blues.

Praise the Lord! praise the Lord!  
That shall be my best reward.

Taint the short nor yet the long that is eternity;  
Taint the weak or yet the strong that is eternity;  
Taint the rich man nor the king,

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Nor the great in anything that is eternity,  
Love—that is eternity.

I'm coming out to dance, to dance,  
And I'll give everyone a chance,  
I'm coming out to sing, to sing,  
Because I do not want a thing,  
But that you receive my love, my love,  
That's all I'm over dreaming of.