

JESUS, Friend of little children,
 Be a friend to me;
 Take my hand, and ever keep me
 Close to Thee.

Teach me how to grow in goodness,
 Daily as I grow;
 Thou hast been a child, and surely
 Thou dost know.

Step by step O lead me onward,
 Upward into youth;
 Wiser, stronger, still becoming
 In Thy truth.

Never leave me, nor forsake me;
 Ever be my friend;
 For I need Thee, from life's dawning
 To its end.

Walter John Mathams (1853-1931)