<u>*Same Old Man*</u>

Traditional American folk song also known as "Old Man at the Mill" with many versions including [this](#) from the Holy Modal Rounders and [this](#) from Doc Watson and Clarence Ashley. We will be alternating verses from those 2 sources.
Chords bolded above the lyrics, further notes on the music below. **Sing along chorus** bolded in italics.

(intro)

Chorus:
          D   **C**
It's the same old man sittin' at the mill
      D
The mill turns around of its own free will

One hand in the hopper and the other in the sack
                                            C D
Ladies step forward and the gents fall back

(chorus repeat)

(instrumental)

It's the same old man sittin' at the mill
The mill turns around of its own free will
Yes I'm certainly glad to be home
New York City will continue on along

(chorus)
(instrumental)

Down said the owl with its head all a white
A lonesome day and a lonesome night
Thought I heard some pretty girl say
I court all night and I sleep next day

(chorus)
(instrumental)

My mind is failing and my body grows weak
My lips don't form the words as they speak
I'm flutin' away on a boat full of pain
Hear me sad cry but you won't see me again

(chorus)
(instrumental)

Then said the raven as she flew
If I was a young one I'd have two
One for to knit and the other for to sew
And I'd have a little string to my bow bow bow

(chorus)
(instrumental)
(solos)

It's the same old lady hangin' out her wash
Now she's wearing a Mackintosh
She's hangin' out her wash in the middle of the rain
Thought New York was going insane

(chorus)
(instrumental)

My old man's in Kalamazoo
He don't wear no "Yes I do"
First to the left and then to the right
This old mill grinds day and night

(chorus)
(instrumental)

Hey little leaf lyin' on the ground
Now you're turning slightly brown
Why don't you hop back up on the tree
Turn the color green the way it oughta be

(chorus)

We will be using the same chord progression throughout including intro, instrumental between verses, and solos.

Typical 8 bars (2 bars with 4 beats and 2 bars with 5 beats):
D   C
1xxx2xxx3xxx4xxx
D
1xxx2xxx3xxx4xxx

1xxx2xxx3xxx4xxx5xxx
                    C D
1xxx2xxx3xxx4xxx5xxx

Links:

More on the song and its history from a Fairport Convention Facebook [post](#) about the Iain Matthews [version](#):

"Old Man at the Mill" is a folk song with a history nearly as long as America itself. The "Old Mill" at the center of the song was built in 1746 near the coast of Nantucket, Massachusetts constructed in the manner of those in Holland at that time. According to "Nantucket Scraps", a book of local history published in 1892, it builder was Nathan Wilbur who with the money he was given by the townsfolk to build it, traveled to Holland to obtain his design; yet, shortly after the work was finished Wilbur was robbed and murdered. The mill was worked and tended for many years afterwards by Eliakim Swain, the "old man" (it has been put forward by historians and musicologists) as the one the song was originally written about.

Karen Dalton version [here](#).
Version by Dick Connette with Suzzy Roche inspired by the Karen Dalton version called "Black River Falls" [here](#).
Billy Strings version with long jam intro [here](#).