

- 2. My soul, thy great Creator praise: When clothed in his celestial rays, He in full majesty appears, And, like a robe, his glory wears.
- 3. The heav'ns are for his curtains spread, The unfathomed deep he makes his bed. Clouds are his chariot when he flies On winged storms across the skies.
- 4. Angels, whom his own breath inspires, His ministers, are flaming fires; And swift as thought their armies move To bear his vengeance or his love.
- 5. The world's foundations by his hand Are poised, and shall for ever stand; He binds the ocean in his chain, Lest it should drown the earth again.
- 6. When earth was covered with the flood, Which high above the mountains stood, He thundered, and the ocean fled, Confined to its appointed bed.
- 7. He bids the crystal fountains flow, And cheer the valleys as they go; Tame heifers there their thirst allay, And for the stream wild asses bray.
- 8. God from his cloudy cistern pours On the parched earth enriching showers; The grove, the garden, and the field, A thousand joyful blessings yield.
- 9. He makes the grassy food arise, And gives the cattle large supplies With herbs for man of various power, To nourish nature or to dire.

- 10. What noble fruit the vines produce! The olive yields a shining juice; Our hearts are cheered with gen'rous wine, With inward joy our faces shine.
- 11. Behold, the stately cedar stands, Raised in the forest by his hands; Birds to the boughs for shelter fly, And build their nests secure on high.
- 12. To craggy hills ascends the goat, And at the airy mountain's foot The feebler creatures make their cell; He gives them wisdom where to dwell.
- 13. He sets the sun his circling race, Appoints the moon to change her face; And when thick darkness veils the day, Calls out wild beasts to hunt their prey.
- 14. Fierce lions lead their young abroad, And, roaring, ask their meat from God; But when the morning beams arise, The savage beast to covert flies.
- 15. Then man to daily labor goes; The night was made for his repose; Sleep is thy gift, that sweet relief From tiresome toil and wasting grief.
- 16. Vast are thy works, Almighty Lord; All nature rests upon thy word, And the whole race of creatures stands Waiting their portion from thy hands.
- 17. But when thy face is hid, they mourn, And, dying, to their dust return; Both man and beast their souls resign; Life, breath, and spirit, all is thine.

- 18. How strange thy works! how great thy skill! And every land thy riches fill: Thy wisdom round the world we see; This spacious earth is full of thee.
- 19. Nor less thy glories in the deep, Where fish in millions swim and creep With wondrous motions, swift or slow, Still wand'ring in the paths below.
- 20. There ships divide their wat'ry way, And flocks of scaly monsters play; There dwells the huge leviathan, And foams and sports in spite of man.
- 21. How strange thy works! how great thy skill! And every land thy riches fill: Thy wisdom round the world we see; This spacious earth is full of thee.
- 22. The earth stands trembling at thy stroke, And at thy touch the mountains smoke; Yet humble souls may see thy face, And tell their wants to sovereign grace.
- 23. Yet thou canst breathe on dust again, And fill the world with beasts and men; A word of thy creating breath Repairs the wastes of time and death.
- 24. His works, the wonders of his might, Are honored with his own delight; How awful are his glorious ways! The Lord is dreadful in his praise.
- 25. In thee my hopes and wishes meet, And make my meditations sweet; Thy praises shall my breath employ, Till it expire in endless joy.