

For the Beauty of the Earth

*St. 1-3, Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.
St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Take My Gifts

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Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

1 Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
2 Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir - it sowed,
3 Take what - ev - er I can of - fer— gifts that I have yet to find,

gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free,
har - vest of your own com - pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God,
skills that I am slow to sharp - en, tal - ents of the hand and mind,

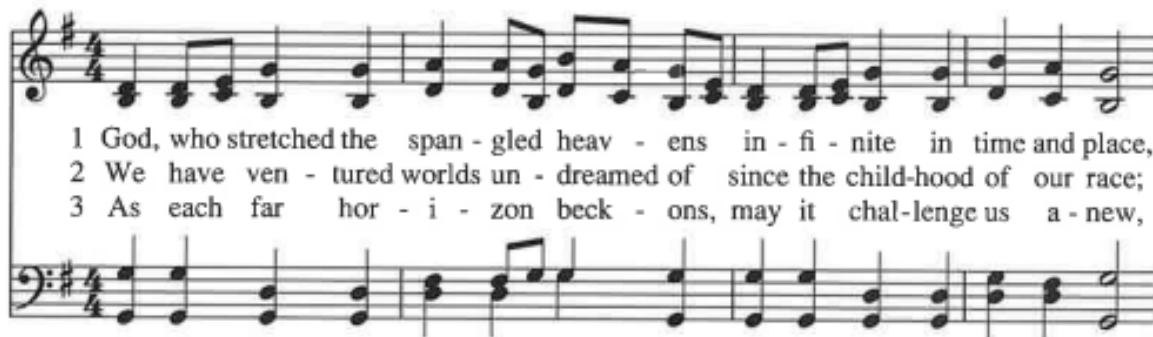
now be - cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a - way,
spiced with hu - mor, laced with laugh - ter— fla - vor of the Je - sus life,
things made beau - ti - ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be:

now the bread of love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!
tang of risk and new ad - ven - ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

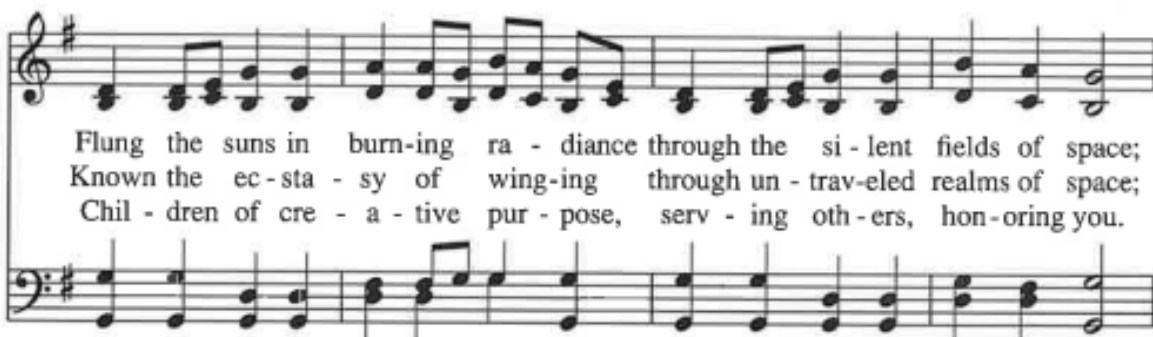
God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens 556

Catherine Cameron, 1967

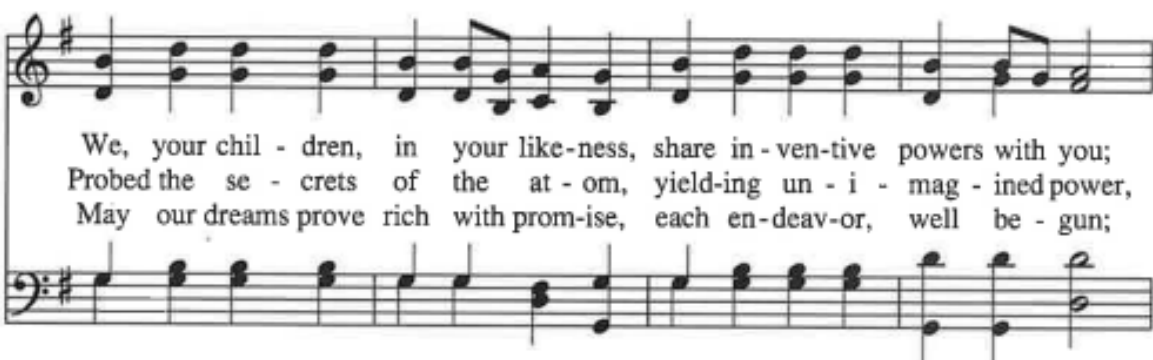
Gen. 5:1-2; Isa. 42:5-9



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far hor - i - zon beck - ons, may it chal-enge us a - new,



Flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
Known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing through un - trav - eled realms of space;
Chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring you.



We, your chil - dren, in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;
Probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield - ing un - i - mag - ined power,
May our dreams prove rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or, well be - gun;



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - a - ting, show us what we yet may do.
Fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.