

147 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain (Unison)

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

Fine

all things wise and won-der- ful: the Lord God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flower that o-pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tains, the riv - er run-ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win-ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

D.C.

God made their glow-ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun-set and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den: God made them ev-ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848 (Gen. 1:31)
 MUSIC: 17th cent. English melody; arr. by Martin Shaw, 1915

ROYAL OAK
 76.76 with Refrain

Responsive Prayer of Thanksgiving and Forgiveness

L: We give you thanks and praise, Oh God of creation, for the grandeur of all that you have made, saying

P: We thank you, God.

L: For the healing waters of creation which bring pleasure and health, purity and life.

P: We thank you, God.

L: For the richness of the good Earth that brings forth fruits and flowers, a pleasure to taste and a joy to behold.

P: We thank you, God.

L: For the soaring birds of the air, the crawling creatures on the Earth, the gliding fishes in the sea and for all creatures great and small.

P: We thank you, God.

L: For the invigorating sunlight of day, the deepening mystery of night, the wonder of the stars.

P: We thank you, God.

L: From heedless misuse and dishonoring of the wonders of your hand, for squandering resources, and polluting the habitat we all share.

P: Good Lord, deliver us.

L: For the courage and wisdom to confess how little we have cared for your whole creation.

P: Strengthen us, O God.

L: For the conviction that you have called us to love and restore the Earth and for the determination to begin our stewardship anew.

P: Strengthen us, O God.

L: O merciful Creator, make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we may be faithful stewards of your good gifts.

P: Amen.

Creation: The Four Seasons

In the beginning God created nature
for a special reason,
and in order for man to accomplish
His plan, there had to be a season.

Springtime comes with budding,
when nature is renewed.
The farmers plow and plant their crops,
providing us with food.

Summer brings vacation,
as we smolder in the heat.
The crops are being harvested
and prepared for all to eat.

Fall brings frosty mornings
and leaves come floating down.
It's time to rake and mulch,
replenishing the ground.

Winter's freezing weather,
and snow covers valleys and hills,
provide the fields with moisture,
and children with laughter and thrills.

Spring and Summer,
Winter and Fall,
These are the four seasons
and God made them all.

"And God saw that it was good."
Please be "good" stewards to your neighborhood.

Wilma Mitchell

"You observe days and months and seasons and years."
Galatians 4:10

O Mother Earth

Tune: How Great Thou Art

Verse 1

O Mother Earth! When we, in awesome wonder
Consider all you nurture in your care.
We see the stars, we hear the rolling thunder,
We taste the fruits of sun, and soil, and air

Refrain

Our souls cry out, remembering our home
O Mother Earth, O Mother Earth
She needs us now, she needs all we can give
For all to live, for all to live

Verse 2

By waters deep, the source of all that's breathing,
We find your rest, though waves swell o'er the shores
In lake and sea, with mighty creatures teeming,
And babbling brook, and rain that on us pours

Refrain

Our souls cry out, remembering our home
O Mother Earth, O Mother Earth
She needs us now, she needs all we can give
For all to live, for all to live

Verse 3

In dark of night, the sky abounds with beauty,
With moon and stars, so much beyond our reach
When we look up t'ward all this glimmering grandeur
We find our way; stars point to what we seek

Refrain

Our souls cry out, remembering our home
O Mother Earth, O Mother Earth
She needs us now, she needs all we can give
For all to live, for all to live

About Our Speaker

Jonathan McRay is a father, farmer, facilitator, and writer here in Keezletown. He grew up in the Central Appalachian Mountains of East Tennessee and moved to the Shenandoah Valley in 2011 for grad school. He helped start Vine and Fig, worked for Community Services Board, and regularly teaches classes and workshops on cultural ecology, radical social movements, and agroecology. As a facilitator and mediator, he supports grassroots groups and organizations through conflict transformation, restorative justice, and participatory decision-making. He farms with Silver Run Forest Farm, an agroforestry nursery propagating beautiful and useful tree crops and plant allies that cross-pollinate food sovereignty and ecological restoration. Through the nursery, he helped start the Mycena Agroforestry Initiative for farming with trees grounded in communal organization and collective action. He organizes regionally with Southern Movement Assembly and internationally in Palestine, where he's most recently worked with agroforestry nurseries and popular struggle committees for land protection. Jonathan does what he does because he loves trees and roots and myths about them, he loves his friends and the responsibilities that radiate out from them, and he loves working with others to grow good life.

