

# ***A Song of Creation***

## ***Benedicite, omnia opera Domini***

*(An extended paraphrase of Psalm 148, inspired by the S.C. Coastland)*

*Furman Buchanan, September 2020*

### **Invocation**

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.  
In the fullness of coastal beauty, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

### **The Cosmic Order**

Let the heavens glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O golden dawn and shining sea,  
deep blue expanse and every cumulus cloud.  
Moonlit sky and twinkling host, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O salty breeze,  
and quiet stillness before the cleansing rain.  
Thunder and lightning, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

### **The Land and the Water**

Let the coastland glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O palm fronds rustling in the breeze,  
and all sea oats bowing at the wind's command.  
Marsh grass and moss-covered oak trees, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O pluff mud, snapping your praise,  
and soggy reeds floating silently nearby.  
O pounding surf, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

### **The Birds of the Air**

Let the birds of the air glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, snowy egret standing tall in the marsh,  
and sparrows flittering through the air.  
Bats chasing no see-ums in the vesper light, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O pelicans plunging head first into the sea,  
and all you black crows, shouting your cheers.  
Surf birds darting through the moist sand, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

### **The Creatures of the Sea**

Let the creatures of the sea glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O dolphins rolling along the placid shallows,  
and schools of minnows swarming out of the way.

Grouper and flounder, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, Blue Crabs scurrying sideways,  
and tiny hermits wandering without aim.

Sand dollars and clams, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O flying fish and chasing sharks,  
stingrays and jellyfish.

Predators and prey, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

### **The People of God**

Let the people glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O sunbathers and umbrella dwellers,  
a spectrum of beautiful skin, dark and pale and red.

Flapping kites and big floppy hats, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

Glorify the Lord, O beach walkers and shell hunters,  
all swimmers and surfers.

Old and young, crying or consoled, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.

### **Doxology**

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
praise God with hosannas forever.

In the fullness of coastal beauty, glorify the Lord,  
praise God with hosannas forever.