

For the Beauty of the Earth

Folliott S. Pierpoint · 1864 · Tune: Dix (Conrad Kocher)
Meter: 7.7.7.7.7.7

Verse 1

For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 2

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 3

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 4

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 5

For Thy Church that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

History

Folliott Pierpoint wrote the hymn in 1864 at age 29 while sitting on a hilltop near Bath, England in springtime, overwhelmed by the surrounding beauty. Originally a eucharistic hymn, the refrain was later changed from 'Christ, our God, to Thee we raise' to the more general 'Lord of all, to Thee we raise.' Set to Conrad Kocher's tune 'Dix' (1838).

Scripture References (KJV)

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.