



## God fully made known in Jesus!

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

3 And when I think that God His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die—I scarce can take it in.  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin:  
Then sings my soul ...

### Almighty God

we confess that all too often we are caught up with ourselves and do not pause to consider and think

we consider the extent of the universe, and the way that the various scientific laws are integrated -  
how great Thou art

last month we celebrated Good Friday and Easter we pause to think and realise something of the  
wonder that all this happened that our sin might be forgiven and our lives can be transformed.

and therefore we come with a note of wonder, love and gratitude.

How Great Thou art.

This leads us to long to proclaim your greatness.

Envision us .... equip us .... enable us, we pray in the name of Jesus to Whom with You O Father  
and the Holy Spirit be all praise and glory, now and for ever, AMEN

Life was difficult for the Christians in Colosse. They seem to have been mocked by the Gnostics  
Gnostics were a would-be sophisticated group with an attitude of intellectual/spiritual snobs  
Details are unclear, but features included

Astrology consulting stars;  
Equation of nature with spiritual  
"Do own thing!" nothing objective



### Reading Colossians 1 15-29

**15** The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **16** For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. **17** He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. **18** And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. **19** For God was



pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, **20** and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. **21** Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of [g] your evil behavior. **22** But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— **23** if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. **24** Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. **25** I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— **26** the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. **27** To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. **28** He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. **29** To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

1 God, who made the earth,  
the air, the sky, the sea,  
who gave the light its birth:  
He cares for me.

2 God, who made the grass,  
the flower, the fruit, the tree,  
the day and night to pass:  
He cares for me.

3 God, who made the sun,  
the moon, the stars, is He  
who, when life's clouds come on,  
will care for me.

4 God, who made all things,  
on earth, in air, in sea,  
who changing seasons brings:  
He cares for me.

5 God, who sent His Son  
to die on Calvary,  
He, if I lean on Him,  
will care for me.

The early Christians were never Christ shy. That's great ... for Paul, but how am I to manage to share the good news of Jesus in the office, on the farm, having a cuppie ?



### Message of God's plan

All too often we are asked "what do you think?"

It doesn't matter what I think ... it is God's message entrusted to us to pass on.

God fully made known in Jesus :

Creator - no split with science but rather challenging how science is used

Cosmic - global God, for all countries. But while not being just a feature of culture it is

Culture related - to every aspect of what is going on in society.

### Motive of God's purpose

We have already seen that there were "mystery religions" so called because you had to be part of them before you could know what they were about. The Christian faith was the exact opposite -

mystery disclosed in Christ in the public arena, the cross showing the operational love of God in action to transform us. So we are Christ's proclaimers! 500 miles ...  
or 500 yards to share with a neighbour!

### Might of God's power

drawing on God's strength .one with God is a majority, for the Holy Spirit is promised to all Christians.

**Aim** - "to present everyone fully mature in Christ."

Christ of God unseen the image  
born before Creation's birth  
through Whom all things were created  
all that live in heaven and earth  
realms and rulers thrones dominions  
power great and forces small  
through and for Him made and fashioned  
He is in and over all.

Christ the first born of creation  
Christ in Whom all things cohere  
all things Maker, seen and unseen  
low and lofty far and near  
Christ the head of His dear body  
of His Church the living core  
risen from the dead before us  
Him we gladly now adore

Christ in Whom the very fulness  
of the living God is found  
Christ Who reconciles creation  
turning earth to holy ground  
Christ the home of God's good pleasure  
through Whose blood is made our peace  
in Whose cross beyond all measure  
is our freedom and release



It is as we focus on the person of Jesus that we see the meaning of global life in your loving plan,  
the purpose of the church as Your team  
and our own identity as individuals valuable to you.

So here us as in the quietness we consider our response to Jesus.

It is in that light that we now come and bring to you our prayers ...

... for our world, naming before You not only Ukraine, but ....

... for our society, naming before You particular areas in national life where You are needed ....

... for our congregation, that we may truly be representatives of Jesus Christ ....

... for our own lives, laying before You our time, our influence and our contacts with others.

and as we sum up all our prayers in the words Jesus taught all those Who loved You to say ..

"Our Father ... "

There is a redeemer

Jesus, God's own Son

Precious Lamb of God, Messiah

Holy One

Thank you, oh my father

For giving us Your Son

And leaving Your Spirit

'Til the work on Earth is done

Jesus my redeemer

Name above all names

Precious Lamb of God, Messiah

Oh, for sinners slain

Thank you, oh my father

When I stand in Glory

I will see His face

And there I'll serve my King forever

In that Holy Place

Thank you, oh my father