

**John 11:25-26** "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.'"

**Of Creation, and God's Care for Us: Psalm 8**

LORD, our Lord,  
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory  
    in the heavens.  
Through the praise of children and infants  
    you have established a stronghold against your enemies,  
    to silence the foe and the avenger.  
When I consider your heavens,  
    the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
    which you have set in place,  
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
    human beings that you care for them?  
You have made them a little lower than the angels  
    and crowned them with glory and honor.  
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;  
    you put everything under their feet:  
all flocks and herds,  
    and the animals of the wild,  
the birds in the sky,  
    and the fish in the sea,  
    all that swim the paths of the seas.  
LORD, our Lord,  
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Of Music, and the Selected verses from Psalm 33**

Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;  
    it is fitting for the upright to praise him.  
Praise the LORD with the harp;  
    make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.  
Sing to him a new song;  
    play skillfully, and shout for joy.  
For the word of the LORD is right and true;  
    he is faithful in all he does.  
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,  
    their starry host by the breath of his mouth.  
For he spoke, and it came to be;  
    he commanded, and it stood firm.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,  
the purposes of his heart through all generations.  
From heaven the LORD looks down  
and sees all mankind;  
from his dwelling place he watches  
all who live on earth—  
he who forms the hearts of all,  
who considers everything they do.  
The eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him,  
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,  
to deliver them from death  
and keep them alive in famine.  
We wait in hope for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.  
In him our hearts rejoice,  
for we trust in his holy name.  
May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,  
even as we put our hope in you.

### **United We Stand, and In God We trust: Psalm 133**

How good and pleasant it is  
when God's people live together in unity!  
It is like precious oil poured on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
running down on Aaron's beard,  
down on the collar of his robe.  
It is as if the dew of Hermon  
were falling on Mount Zion.  
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,  
even life forevermore.

## **Ode To Joy**

O friends, no more of these sounds!  
Let us sing more cheerful songs,  
More songs full of joy!  
Joy! Joy!  
Joy, bright spark of divinity,  
Daughter of Elysium,  
Fire-inspired we tread  
Within thy sanctuary.  
Thy magic power re-unites  
All that custom has divided,  
All men become brothers,  
Under the sway of thy gentle wings.  
Whoever has created  
An abiding friendship,  
Or has won  
A true and loving wife,  
All who can call at least one soul theirs,  
Join our song of praise;  
But those who cannot must creep  
tearfully  
Away from our circle.  
All creatures drink of joy  
At nature's breast.  
Just and unjust  
Alike taste of her gift;  
She gave us kisses and the fruit of the  
vine,  
A tried friend to the end.  
Even the worm can feel contentment,  
And the cherub stands before God!  
Gladly, like the heavenly bodies  
Which He sent on their courses  
Through the splendor of the firmament;  
Thus, brothers, you should run your race,  
Like a hero going to victory!  
You millions, I embrace you.  
This kiss is for all the world!  
Brothers, above the starry canopy  
There must dwell a loving father.  
Do you fall in worship, you millions?  
World, do you know your creator?  
Seek Him in the heavens;  
Above the stars must he dwell.

## **Original German**

*O Freunde, nicht diese Töne!  
Sondern laßt uns angenehmere anstimmen,  
und freudenvollere.  
Freude! Freude!  
Freude, schöner Götterfunken  
Tochter aus Elysium,  
Wir betreten feuertrunken,  
Himmlische, dein Heiligtum!  
Deine Zauber binden wieder  
Was die Mode streng geteilt;  
Alle Menschen werden Brüder,  
Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.  
Wem der große Wurf gelungen,  
Eines Freundes Freund zu sein;  
Wer ein holdes Weib errungen,  
Mische seinen Jubel ein!  
Ja, wer auch nur eine Seele  
Sein nennt auf dem Erdenrund!  
Und wer's nie gekonnt, der stehle  
Weinend sich aus diesem Bund!  
Freude trinken alle Wesen  
An den Brüsten der Natur;  
Alle Guten, alle Bösen  
Folgen ihrer Rosenspur.  
Küsse gab sie uns und Reben,  
Einen Freund, geprüft im Tod;  
Wollust ward dem Wurm gegeben,  
Und der Cherub steht vor Gott.  
Froh, wie seine Sonnen fliegen  
Durch des Himmels prächt'gen Plan,  
Laufet, Brüder, eure Bahn,  
Freudig, wie ein Held zum Siegen.  
Seid umschlungen, Millionen!  
Diesen Kuß der ganzen Welt!  
Brüder, über'm Sternenzelt  
Muß ein lieber Vater wohnen.  
Ihr stürzt nieder, Millionen?  
Ahnest du den Schöpfer, Welt?  
Such' ihn über'm Sternenzelt!  
Über Sternen muß er wohnen.*