Stars and Planets
Flung in Orbit

HERMAN G. STUEMPFLE, JR.                                          JOHN GOSS (1869)

Stars and planets flung in orbit,
Skies adorned with sunset splendor,
Life in wondrous, wild procession,
Human kind, earth's deepest mystery,

Galaxies that swirl through space,
Silent peaks in calm repose,
Seed and fruit, each flow'r and tree,
Born of dust but touched by grace,

Powers hid within the atom,
Golden fields awaiting harvest,
Beast and fish and swarming insect,
Torn apart by tongue and color.

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Tune: LAUDA ANIMA
8.7.8.7.8.7.
5. Gracious God, we bring before you
gifts of human life alone,
Truth that throbs through song and story,
Visions caught in paint and stone:
These, O God, we gladly offer,
Gifts to praise the Giver’s name.

6. Christ, the Word before creation
as creation’s final goal,
Once you came for earth’s redemption;
By your Spirit make earth whole.
Then, O God, the new creation
will your praise for ever sing.