Nature with open volume stands Hymnal 1982 no. 434 Melody: Eltham L.M.

Words from AMNS



Nature with open volume stands

to spread her maker’s praise abroad,

and every labour of his hands

shows something worthy of our God.

But in the grace that rescued man

his brightest form of glory shines;

here on the Cross ’tis fairest drawn

in precious blood and crimson lines.

Here his whole name appears complete;

nor wit can guess, nor reason prove

which of the letters best is writ,

the power, the wisdom, or the love.

O the sweet wonders of that Cross

where God the Saviour loved and died;

her noblest life my spirit draws

from his dear wounds and bleeding side.

I would for ever speak his name

in sounds to mortal ears unknown,

with angels join to praise the Lamb,

and worship at his Father’s throne.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Music: Melody by Nathaniel Gawthorn (18th century), harmony by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)