

MARRIED PRAISE

Mountains trimmed with evergreens
And streaked with drifts of snow
Stand among the fairest scenes
That "praise to God" can know.

Nature's art proclaims her Sire,
But couples join this song
When their love becomes the fire
Where married lives belong.

God's creation gives Him praise,
And wedded hearts rejoice:
She by law and ordered ways,
But we by will and choice.

Yet when mates in ecstasy
Drink in and dance their love,
Grace directs the mystery
To worship God above.

Love, you have my loyalty!
My troth transcends my dust.
We were sealed by Royalty:
The Lord has blessed our trust.

World, we celebrate our vow!
Our holy pledge we sing!
Lust, we laugh and scorn you now.
All glory to the King!

— *David L. Hatton, 2/15/1997*