

## 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*