

# CONTENTS

Introduction	vii
<i>David B. Lott</i>	
Bibliography	xvii
Prologue: A Religious Autobiography	xix

## **Part I. The Language of Theology: Parables, Metaphors, and Models**

1. A Trial Run: Parable, Poem, and Autobiographical Story	3
2. Parables as Metaphors	17
3. Creeds: Models or Dogmas	25
4. God as Mother, Lover, and Friend	33
5. A Meditation on Exodus 33:23b	61

## **Part II. Theology and Spirituality: Metaphorical, Ecological, and Kenotic Approaches**

6. Metaphorical Theology	69
7. Metaphors, Models, and Concepts	85
8. Theology of Nature: Remythologizing Christian Doctrine	95
9. Consider the Lilies of the Field	107
10. The Ecological Model and Christian Spirituality	127
11. How Shall We Live? Christianity and Planetary Economics	139
12. A Spirituality for the Whole Planet / Kenotic Theology	155

## **Part III. Constructing Theology: God, Humans, and the World**

13. The Christian Paradigm	167
14. Sin: The Refusal to Accept Our Place	179
15. Human Existence in the Spirit	195
16. Christ and the Ecological Economic Worldview	201
17. God and the World	211
18. "The Dearest Freshness Deep Down Things": The Holy Spirit and Climate Change	227

19. Who Are We Human Beings?	241
20. Falling in Love with God and the World: Some Reflections on the Doctrine of God	247