



## Using this book

*Sing Many Names: Scriptural Images for God in Hymnody* is intended to deepen our understanding of, and imagination for, scriptural imagery in hymns. Each chapter is dedicated to one image or a group of related images. The chapters are independent of one another, though they are occasionally cross-referenced, and may therefore be read together or singly.

All scriptural references and quotations come from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue) of the Bible.

Hymns and their hymn numbers refer to texts as they appear in *All Creation Sings* (2020), *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006), and occasionally *Lutheran Book of Worship* (1978). Having these hymnals on hand is recommended in order to make the fullest use of this book. The Hymn Index by Chapter (see p. 113) also includes references to *This Far by Faith* (1999), *Libro de Liturgia y Cántico* (1998), and *With One Voice* (Augsburg Fortress, 1995). However, the large number of public domain hymns included herein also appear in myriad other hymnbooks, and many of the contemporary hymns may be found in other recent hymnals and supplements.

At the back of the book I include a scriptural index, an index of authors and sources, a list of hymn titles by chapter and image, and an alphabetical index of first lines/titles. A listing of one hundred scriptural images for God from *All Creation Sings*—the list from

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which the primary images in this book are drawn—is also provided on page 85.

The book is recommended for parish text studies, Christian education classes, seminary and university worship or hymnody courses, worship planning, and sermon preparation. For those planning worship or writing sermons, Gail Ramshaw's book *Treasures Old and New: Images in the Lectionary* (Augsburg Fortress, 2002) is also highly recommended.

From the editor: While Augsburg Fortress typically sets hymn titles in quotation marks and sentence case in running text—"Love divine, all loves excelling"—this book uses italics and title case—*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*—to distinguish hymn titles more clearly from surrounding text and from other quotations in each chapter.