

# Creation

by Kara Schmidt

I

*In the beginning God created  
the heavens and the earth,  
And God gave us the earth,  
the sun and the moon to give us light,  
the seas and rivers to give us water,  
the fields and trees to give us food.*

*God invited us to rule and to name.*

*And it was good.*

II

*And we said let's make lights  
to confuse the day and the night,  
and let them shine so that we can stay up  
all day and all night,  
and let them give light to our homes and offices.  
And it was so.*

*We made light bulbs to command the day  
and more light bulbs to command the night.  
We put them in our homes and offices, so  
that we could stay awake all day and  
all night, to confuse  
the light and the darkness.  
And we thought it was good.*

*And we said let the water teem  
with ships and let airplanes fly  
above the earth across the expanse of sky.  
So we created the  
great ocean liners of the sea and  
tankers and freighters with which  
the water teems, according to its model,*

*and every winged aircraft  
according to its model.  
And we thought it was very good.  
We made  
factories and said be fruitful and  
increase in number and fill the  
water in the seas, and let airplanes  
increase on the earth.*

*And we said let's produce vehicles,  
according to their models:  
trucks, sport utility vehicles that  
move along the roads and sports  
cars, each according to its model.  
And it was so. We made the  
models, and all the sport utility vehicles  
according to their  
models. And we thought it was good.*

### III

*God created the heavens and the earth.  
And it was good.*



## Other Useful Resources

***New and Selected Poems (Vols. 1 and 2)***, by Mary Oliver. Beacon Press, 2004 and 2007. Susanna Meyer, 28, organic greenhouse and gardens manager for Grow Pittsburgh at the Frick Art and Historical Center in Pittsburgh, Pa., writes, "Mary Oliver is a poet who consistently writes poems about the environment--one of my favorites is 'The Summer Day,' in *New and Selected Poems*. She has many other books of good poems, too."

***Nature guides.*** Jocene Meyer, Fresno, Ohio, 80, former Mennonite Central Committee worker, co-author of *Earthkeepers*, and active volunteer comments, "Someone has said, 'The more you know about the environment, the more you will love it; and the more you love the world around you, the more you will care for it.' I suggest a variety of nature guides to learn more about creation and to love and care for it. The Peterson, National Geographic, and Audubon Society guides are good."