

Dunlap's Creek

Source:

George Korson, ed.

Pennsylvania Songs and Legends

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Sing to the Lord, ye heaven - ly hosts,

And thou, O earth, a - - dore.

Let death and hell through all their coasts

stand trem - bling at his power.

2. His sounding chariot shakes the sky,
He makes the clouds His throne,
There all his stores of lightning lie,
Till vengeance dart them down.
3. His nostrils breathe out fiery streams,
And from his awful tongue
A sovereign voice divides the flames
And thunder roars along.
4. Think, O my soul, the dreadful day
When the incenséd God
Shall rend the sky, and burn the sea,
And fling His wrath abroad.
5. What shall the wretch, the sinner do?
He once defied the Lord,
But he shall dread the Thunderer now,
And sink beneath His word.
6. Tempests of angry fire shall roll
To blast the rebel-worm,
And beat upon his naked soul
In one eternal storm.

Background Information

Text by Isaac Watts. Tune attributed to Samuel McFarland.

"Dunlap's Creek" is one of the best-known American folk-hymn tunes. The hymn was first printed in 1816 in *The Pittsburgh Selection of Psalm Tunes*, a compilation by John Armstrong, and the source of the present text. Dunlap's Creek rises in Fayette County near Uniontown and empties into the Monongahela River at Brownsville; Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church dates from 1774.