

## (1) Three strophes

The green text indicates editorial "adjustments" to a potential original prayer/hymn

### **Strophe I**

who is the image of the invisible God  
the firstborn of all creation,  
for in him were created all things  
in heaven and on earth  
things visible and invisible  
[whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers] –addition (i)

### Transitional **Strophe II**

all things were created through him and for him  
and he himself is before all things  
and all things hold together in him  
and he himself is the head of the body [the church] –addition (ii)

### **Strophe III**

who is the beginning  
the firstborn from the dead  
[so that he himself might have preeminence in all things] addition (iii)  
for in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell  
and through him to reconcile all things for him,  
making peace through him  
[through the blood of his cross] –addition (iv) immediately after "making peace"  
whether things on earth or things in heaven

