

## THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT

*A poem written by Verna Kwiatkowski at Sky View, based on 2 Corinthians 1:3,4:  
"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion  
and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can  
comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we have received from God."*

The God of all comfort takes many different forms  
According to our needs, whatever our storms.  
Since God is spirit, he's not limited, as we are.  
He sees us from nearby, and also from afar.

God knows what we are feeling and when we need relief.  
His presence is so constant and his comfort beyond belief.  
When sorrows drag us down, and our hearts begin to rend,  
God is a shoulder to cry on, and our grief begins to mend.

Sometimes God is a shepherd, showing us the way,  
Taking charge of our enemies, keeping them at bay,  
Or soothing our wounds, taking note of our pain,  
And strengthening our faith by turning all to gain.

Or – comforting thought! – if we have gone astray,  
(And the Bible says all of us at times go our own way),  
Our shepherd will still love us, and seek to bring us back,  
Saying, "Here's the path. Walk in it and you will be on track."

Are you missing the comfort of a father or a mother?  
The strong support of siblings – a sister or a brother?  
The encouragement of friends who have your good in view?  
A spouse to confide in? Our God can fill these roles for you!

Sometimes God comforts us by holding our hands  
To alleviate our fears. God certainly understands!  
He tells us not to worry, to give him all our cares.  
God can handle all of them; he hears all our prayers.

"Underneath are the everlasting arms," Moses said.  
I feel those arms most often while lying on my bed.  
In times of discomfort, when I want so much to rest,  
"Come to me," Jesus says, and I am deeply blessed.

Those arms are underneath us every time that we collapse,  
Whether we literally trip and fall, or have a moral relapse.  
Even a fall that's emotional is not beneath his redemption.  
God's arms can lift us up from the depths – no exception.

The comfort we receive from God is not to be the end.  
Pass it on to others, both the stranger and your friend.  
So let's not be shy, and conceal our personal story.  
Praise the God of all comfort; he deserves the glory!