

# Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiii
<i>Sources and Abbreviations</i>	xv
<i>About Joyce Rupp</i>	xvii
<b>INTRODUCTION: THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. HOME</b>	<b>11</b>
<i>The First Time</i>	12
<i>Abba</i>	13
<i>The Gift My Father Gave Me</i>	13
<i>Mother</i>	14
<i>The Gift My Mother Gave Me</i>	14
<i>All Struggle Is Not Loss</i>	15
<i>The Cup of Life</i>	17
<i>A Death in the Family</i>	19
<i>Resurrection</i>	22
<i>Moments of Wow!</i>	23
<i>Soul Contractions</i>	23
<i>Clipped Wings</i>	24
<i>“Let This Be My Last Word, That I Trust in Your Love”</i>	25
<i>Fly</i>	27
<i>I Know How the Flowers Felt</i>	28
<i>False Theories about Suffering</i>	30
<i>Evangelista</i>	33
<i>At Home with Who I Am</i>	35
<i>Seeking and Finding</i>	43
<i>One Who Brings Us Home</i>	50

<b>2. EARTH</b>	51
<i>Long Ago I Fell in Love with Earth</i>	52
<i>Nature Has Been a Wonderful Source of Healing for Me</i>	55
<i>A Creed for the Sowing of Seeds</i>	57
<i>“Seed-Song”</i>	59
<i>A Thousand Roots</i>	62
<i>A Kernel of Corn and a Little Teapot</i>	63
<i>Trees Teach Me</i>	65
<i>The Resilient Spirit</i>	67
<i>Lost in the Fog</i>	68
<i>Changing the Landscape</i>	69
<i>What Have You Done to Me?</i>	70
<i>Let the Land Teach Us</i>	74
<i>Why Didn’t You Tell Me This Llama Was Born?</i>	80
<i>For a Brief Moment</i>	81
<i>Walk in a Relaxed Manner</i>	82
<i>Experience Homelessness</i>	89
<i>Look for Unannounced Angels</i>	97
<i>The Pilgrim Prayer</i>	102
<i>Leaning on God</i>	102
<i>Contemplation</i>	109
<b>3. COSMOS</b>	111
<i>We Are One</i>	113
<i>Star-Breath</i>	117
<i>We Simply Cannot Live Apart from One Another</i>	118
<i>Kinship with Creatures</i>	121
<i>Entering the Pain of Another</i>	125
<i>Behold This Newborn Child</i>	127
<i>Walking with the Aged</i>	131
<i>One Strong Star</i>	133
<i>A Piece of Light</i>	134
<i>She Saw Christ in All of Them</i>	135
<i>Full Moon on Christmas Eve</i>	138

<i>A Small, Soft Feather</i>	139
<i>Eating Trees and Drinking Stars</i>	140
<i>The Old Closeness</i>	141
<i>May I Have This Dance?</i>	142
<b>4. GOD</b>	144
<i>God</i>	146
<i>Stealer of Hearts</i>	146
<i>Singer in My Soul</i>	147
<i>Jesus</i>	147
<i>The Opener</i>	148
<i>Ground of Being</i>	148
<i>Unifier</i>	149
<i>My Journey's End</i>	149
<i>Perpetual Becoming</i>	150
<i>Joy of Every Loving Heart</i>	150
<i>Beckoner</i>	151
<i>Deliverer</i>	151
<i>Life</i>	152
<i>The One Who Is Always Now</i>	152
<i>Child of Bethlehem</i>	153
<i>Holy Midwife</i>	153
<i>Sacred Darkness</i>	153
<i>Voice in the Fog</i>	154
<i>Refuge from the Storm</i>	154
<i>Story Teller</i>	155
<i>Friend of Children</i>	155
<i>Mother Bear</i>	156
<i>Ocean of Joy</i>	156
<i>Father of the Poor</i>	157
<i>Forgiver</i>	157
<i>Secret One</i>	158
<i>Living Water</i>	158
<i>Hidden One</i>	159

<i>Pardoner</i>	159
<i>Lord of the Dance</i>	160
<i>Core of Community</i>	160
<i>God Who Breaks Chains</i>	161
<i>Friend of the Poor</i>	161
<i>Sacred Source of Sleep</i>	162
<i>Sophia</i>	162
<i>Sophia: A Lost Biblical Treasure</i>	163
<i>My Journey to Sophia</i>	170
<i>The Owl Gazed Back at Me</i>	172
<i>The Star in My Heart</i>	173
<i>The Darkness Was Good for Me</i>	176
<i>Far-Seeing Eyes</i>	180
<i>My Journey to Wisdom</i>	182