

Proverbs 8:21-28 NRSV

The LORD created me as the beginning of The Way,  
the first of God's acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.

Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth—  
when God had not yet made earth and fields,  
or the world's first bits of soil.

When the heavens were established, I was there,  
when God drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when God made firm the skies above,  
when God established the fountains of the deep,  
when God assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when God marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside the Creator, like a little child;  
and I was daily delight,  
rejoicing before God always,  
rejoicing in God's inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.