

Psalm 136
A Psalm for Iconographers
(Adapted from Nan C. Merrill)

O sing praises to the Beloved,
whose Love sustains us;
Yes, give thanks to the Heart of
all hearts,
whose Love sustains us;
And bow down before the Most High,
whose Love sustains us!

To You, who spoke and Creation
was founded,
Your Love sustains us;
To You, who by understanding
created the heavens;
Your Love sustains us;
To You, who spread out the earth
upon the waters,
Your Love sustains us;
To You, who set the planets upon
their course,
Your Love sustains us;
And the sun to rule over the day,
Your Love sustains us;
The moon and the stars to rule over
the night,
Your Love sustains us.

To You, who call us to share
in your creativity,
Your Love sustains us;
To You who accompany us
and move us to write an icon,
Your Love sustains us;
With strength to steady our hand,
Your Love sustains us;
To You who liberate us to taste
the art and wisdom of our ancestors,
Your Love sustains us.
Who sends the Counselor to lead
us on paths of inspiration,
Your Love sustains us.
Who comforts us in times of
discouragement and frustration,
Your Love sustains us.

To You, who give us a hunger
for prayer,
Your Love sustains us;
And a thirst for You,
Your Love sustains us;
To You, who are quick to forgive
and remember not our self reliance,
Your Love sustains us.

To You, who instruct us with
muslin, gesso and gum,
Your Love sustains us.
And with varnish and size,
Your Love sustains us.
To You who open our hearts with
pigment, colour and tone,
Your Love sustains us;
You call us to radiate your Love
to the world,
Your Love sustains us.

To You, who transform us with
a heavenly gaze,
Your Love sustains us;
And bring Light into our darkness,
Your Love sustains us;
To You, who are Loving Companion
Presence,
Your Love sustains us.

O sing praises to the Beloved,
Whose Love and art sustain us!

