Introduction

Over the years I have collected images of God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit used in Christian liturgical prayers and the writings of ancient and medieval Christians writers. In addition, I have also collected more contemporary images, often editing and adapting those of other authors, as well as simply borrowing from modern published works.

In hopes of providing a resource both for meditation and for the writing of prayers, I offer this collection of images here.

(The contemporary images have been collected over a number of years and have been drawn from or inspired by a great variety of publications. I regret that I no longer know their original sources.)
Contemporary Images of God

A. As used in the following constructions:
   Blessed are you, O God, ....
   and
   O God, ...

Images Related to Creation

Architect of Creation
Center of All Life
Divine Bakerwoman
Divine Potter
Fruitful Garden
Heart of the Universe
Lover of Creation

Mother of All Creation
Quilter of the Galaxies
Strength of the Earth
Weaver of the Universe
Weaver of the Web of Life
Well-spring of Life
Womb of the Cosmos

Images Related to Wisdom

Abiding Wisdom
Birth-giver of Wisdom
Crown of Wisdom
Empowering Wisdom
Fullness of Wisdom
Fountain of Wisdom
Guiding Star

Midwife of Wisdom
Mother of Wisdom
Ocean of Wisdom
Singer and Song
Thoughtful Guide
Wisdom of the Cosmos

Images Related to Women and the Feminine

Affirming Voice
Anointing One
Birth-giver of the New Creation
Bold Friend
Caring Sister
Comforting Friend
Comforting Mother
Compassionate One
Cup of Salvation
Discerning Heart

Faithful Companion
Friend of Widows and Orphans
Host and Leader
Loyal Companion
Midwife of Your Beloved
Mother Eagle
Our Joy and Laughter
Protecting Sister
Provider of All Good Things
Vigilant Lover
Divine Midwife                     Vigilant Mother
Embracing Mother                  Vision That Never Fades
Empowering Love                   Weaver of Dreams
Empowering Song                   Wiper-Away of Tears

B. As used in the following construction:
   O God, you are source of ...

*Images Related to Creation*

All Creation
Diversity
Energy
Life
Light
Rest
Unity

*Images Related to Wisdom*

Blessing
Discernment
Peace
Promise
Prayer
Teaching
Wisdom

*Images Related to Women and the Feminine*

Affirmation                      Hope
Celebration                      Joy
Challenge                        Love
Comfort                          Mercy
Courage                          Possibility
Friendship                       Strength
Healing                          Trust
C. As used in the following construction:
   Like a ...

Divine bakerwoman  Midwife
Divine dancing partner  Mother
Divine midwife  Mother eagle
Divine provider  Mother hen
Divine schoolteacher  Nanny / nursemaid
Divine seamstress  Older sister
Divine weaver  Woman in labor

Contemporary Images of Jesus Christ

A. As used in the following constructions:
   We give thanks for Jesus your ...
   We pray with your ...
   Christ, ...
   You gave us Jesus as your ....

Images Related to Creation

Bread of Life  New Life
Breath of Life  New Wine
Creating Word  Pathway of the Stars
Dream of Wholeness  Praise of Creation
Firstborn of Creation  Rhythm of the Universe
Hope of Creation  Source of Living Water
Hope of the Universe  Spark of Light
Light of the Galaxies  Spring of Salvation
Lover of Creation  Sustainer of the Cosmos
Midwife of Creation
Morning Star

Images Related to Wisdom

Banquet-giving Wisdom  Prophetic Voice
Bread of Wisdom  Radiant and Unfading Wisdom
Call of Wisdom  Source of Wisdom
Dance of Wisdom  Teacher of Wisdom
Eye of Wisdom       Tree of Wisdom
Gentle Word       Word of Challenge
Hope of Wisdom       Word of Life
Living Word       Word of Love
Lover of Truth       Word of Promise
Prophetic Word       Word of Wisdom

Related to Women and the Feminine
Anointed One       Giver of Peace
Caring Healer       Healer
Challenge and Comfort       Holy Gardener
Comforter       Hope of Resurrection
Compassionate Guest       Incarnate Love
Crucified and Risen       Liberator
Crucified One       Life-giving Call
Dance of Hope       Life-giving Promise
Dearest Friend       Life-Giver
Dream of Peace       Living Water
Empowering Love       Promise of Life
Enriching Hope       Promise of Redemption
Exemplar of Friendship       Protector of the Young
Exemplar of Wholeness       Respectful Healer
Eye of Mercy       Risen One
Filled with the Spirit       Song of Life
Full of Life       Source of Affirmation
Friend of Women       Sun of Justice
Gift of Faith       Teacher and Learner
Giver of Courage       Voice of Affirmation

Contemporary Images of the Holy Spirit

A: As used in the construction:
   ...called by the Spirit, your ....

Images Related to Creation
Beating Heart
Dance of Distant Stars
Divine Fire
Empowering Wind  
Shining Light  
Song of the Universe  
Star of the Dawn

**Images Related to Holy Wisdom**

Essence of Inspiration  
Guiding Star  
Music of the Spheres  
Peace of the Soul  
Sevenfold Gift  
Truth of God  
Voice of the Wine

**Related to Women and the Feminine**

Abundance of Grace  
Breath of Life  
Burning Love  
Divine Strength  
Eternal Flame  
Flowing Love  
Giver of Gifts  
Guardian of the Poor  
Love and Lover  
Oil of Blessing  
Sacred Presence  
Song of the Dawn  
Sure Guide  
Vibrant Life

**B. As used in the construction:**  
...for your spirit, Gift of ....

**Images Related to Creation**

Inspiration  
Justice  
Liberation  
Mercy  
Promise  
Salvation  
Truth
Images Related to Holy Wisdom

Courage                     Song
Fire                        Vision
Glory
Goodness
Prophecy

Images Related to Women and the Feminine

Beauty                      New Life
Boldness                    Love
Compassion                 Peace
Faith                       Power
Generosity                 Solidarity
Grace                      Wholeness
Holy and Joy               Witness

Images of God in the 1970 Roman Sacramentary / Missal

God is all-powerful (or almighty), creator, eternal (or ever-living), ever-present, holy merciful, unchanging and unseen.

God is our guide, light, protector, redeemer, saviour, shepherd, source of blessings, and source of light.

God is a God of comfort, compassion, consolation, freedom, goodness, holiness, life, light, love, peace, providence, truth, and wisdom.

God is the Father in heaven, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of the lowly, Father of all, God of all gifts, God of our fathers, and God of the living and the dead.

Images of Jesus Christ in Ancient and Early Medieval Sources


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abel slain</th>
<th>Calf</th>
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<td>Abraham wandering</td>
<td>Camel</td>
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<td>Adorable</td>
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<td>All-embracing</td>
<td>Celestial Adam</td>
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<td>Child from the breast</td>
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<td>All-surrounding</td>
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<td>Angel</td>
<td>Clothing of deity</td>
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<td>Anointed</td>
<td>Cloud</td>
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<td>Apostle of our confession</td>
<td>Cluster of grapes</td>
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<td>Arm of God</td>
<td>Co-eternal with the Father</td>
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<td>Armour of God</td>
<td>Column of smoke</td>
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<td>Arrow</td>
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<td>Author of the faith</td>
<td>Consuming fire</td>
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<td>Author of life</td>
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<td>Authentic high priest</td>
<td>Correct way for travelers</td>
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<td>Axe at the root</td>
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<td>Balance</td>
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<td>Bed</td>
<td>Death of death</td>
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<td>Beginning</td>
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<td>Beginning of all virtues</td>
<td>Deviator</td>
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<td>Betrothed</td>
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<td>Bird</td>
<td>Dinner companion</td>
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<td>Blinding those with sight</td>
<td>Dispenser of eternal salvation</td>
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<td>Bolt</td>
<td>Doctor</td>
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<td>Book</td>
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<td>Branch</td>
<td>Death of death</td>
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<td>Brazen serpent</td>
<td>Eagle</td>
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<td>Bread of Angels</td>
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<td>Bridegroom</td>
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<td>Brilliant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bull</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Eastern way
End of the Law
End of our work
End of every end
End of both Testaments
Endowed with power
Emmanuel
Eternal bread
Eternal priest
Eternal life
Eternal priest
Example
Expectation

Farmer
The Father’s judge
Firmament
Flower
Flower of the field
Flower of Mary
Font
Fortitude
Foundation of all building stones
Foundation of the apostles and prophets
Foundation of the church
Foundation of foundations
Foundation of the heavenly Jerusalem
Foundation of our temple
Framer of heaven and earth
Framer of the new testament
Fruit of the vine
Fruit of the womb

Gem
Giant
Good Path
Governor
Grace of God
Grain
Grape
Great mountain
Green Tree
Guide of the human race

Hand of God
Head of angels
Head of Christians
Head of the body of the church
Head of the church
Head of everything
Head of the faithful
Head of the family
Head of humanity
Head of nations
Head of the saints
Heir
High priest
House of God
Humble path

Illumination of the blind
Immaculate
Immaculate lamb of God
Image of God
Inspector of hearts
Isaac-to-be sacrificed

Jesse
Jonah
Joseph sold
Judge
Justice

King
King of glory
King of heaven
King of justice
King of the church
King of nations
King of the new age

Lamp
Levite
Life of the elect
Life of the faithful
| Life-restoring | Light          |
| Light of the world | Our salvation   |
| Lion            | Our title      |
| Lion cub       | Our wisdom     |
| Little mountain | Overseer       |
| Lord           |                |
| Lute           |                |
| Mark           | Paraclete      |
| Master         | Paschal lamb   |
| Mediator of God and humanity | Passageway    |
| Melchizedek    | Path           |
| Mercy          | Peace          |
| Mirror of the Father | Peace-making |
| Mount in the height of mountains | Pearl         |
| Mountain       | Perfect way    |
| Mountain of God | Physician      |
| Mountain which pleased the Father | Pleasing      |
| Mixing bowl (divinity and humanity) | Priest       |
| Mustard        | Prince         |
| Mystery        | Prince of angels|
| Nazarene       | Prince of Judah|
| Neighbor       | Proclaimer     |
| New Adam       | Prophet        |
| New sacrifice  | Promised lang  |
| New song       | Proof or pledge of our resurrection|
| New sun        | Proof of his life given for us|
| Night          | Pure           |
| Noah mocked    |                |
| Offerer of a service |                |
| Oil            | Rain           |
| Only-begotten  | Razor          |
| Orphan         | Recompense     |
| Our aid        | Redeemer       |
| Our example    | Reformer of life|
| Our knowledge  | Refugee of sinners|
| Our neighbor   | Resurrection   |
| Our preacher   | Rich mountain  |
| Our profit     | Right hand of God|
| Our redemption | Right hand of the Most High|
| Our reward     | Road           |
|                | Rock           |
|                | Root           |
|                | Ruler of all the earth |
Sacrifice
Salvation of nations
Samaritan
Samson
Sanctification
Sandal
Scale
Scandal to unbelievers
Scarab
Scribe
Seal
Second Adam
Secret
Seed
Seer of the Father
Sentinel
Serpent
Servant of God
Service
Sheep
Shepherd
Shepherd king
Ship
Shoe
Sign
Solid rock
Solitary sparrow
Solomon
Son of God
Son of Abraham and David
Son of the handmaid
Son of Man
Source
Source of waters
Source of blessing
Source of all good
Source of mercy
Source of all virtues
Spiritual rock
Splendor of the glory of the Father
Spring
Sprout
Star
Salvation of God
Stream
Strength
Strength of our head
Strength of God
Stone
Stone nourishing the world
Stone of support
Stringed instrument
Stumbling block
Sublime fruit of the earth
Substantial form of the Father
Suitable
Sun
Sun of justice
Support of the church
Sure way
Teacher
Teacher of peace
Teacher of eternal salvation
Torrent
Tower
Treasure
Treasury
Treasure of all good
Tree
Tree of Life
True sun
Unction
Valiant in war
Vine branch
Warrior
Watchman
Way
Way of truth
Wedding garment
Well
Will of God
Wine
Wisdom
Wisdom of the Father
Witness

Yeast