

NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES

OUR CREATOR'S GIVE-AWAY

WORKBOOK

NATIVE FIRST COMMUNION SERIES

A series of 9 children's workbooks with family letters, including a family and teaching guide:

1. BELONGING
2. CELEBRATING
3. FORGIVING
4. HEARING
5. LOVING
6. OUR CREATOR'S GIVE-AWAY
7. NEW LIFE
8. SHARING
9. SERVING
10. FAMILY & TEACHING GUIDE

- Created in the early 1970s by Fr. Gilbert F. Hemauer, OFM Cap. and Religion Research Center Staff at St. Labre Indian School, Ashland, MT 59003
- Piloted in various native communities until the Summer of 1987
- Revised by the Tekakwitha Conference Staff and Native Catechists in 1987
- Illustrated by Gus Antone



OUR CREATOR'S GIVE-AWAY

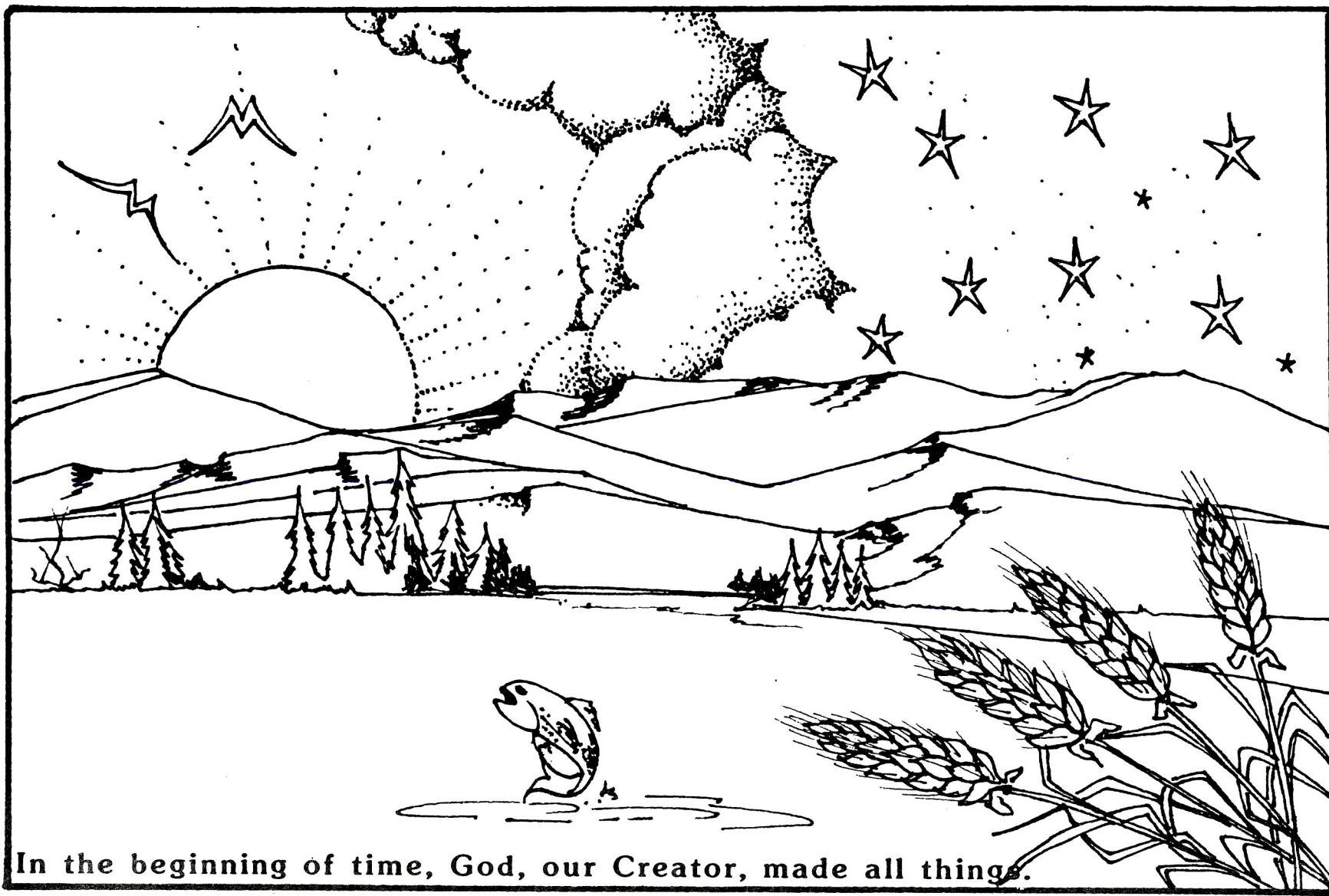
Through the teaching called OUR CREATOR'S GIVE-AWAY, children are invited to appreciate the many gifts of our Creator. God loves his people so much that he wants to give us everything: the stars, sun and moon, the earth, mountains and valleys, lakes and rivers, clouds and rainbows, all the different plants and animals. Encourage the children to name them. Pause and marvel at the beauty and mystery of God's creation.

Praise and thank God for the beauty and variety of his gifts. The wonders of creation do not exhaust the Creator's gifts to us. God has given us much more. He has given us the ability to make things; everything from clothes to cars to computers. As people discover new ways to use the blessings of creation, they need to become more careful about using them wisely and not destroying the world for future

generations. This would be a good time to stress the traditional values of respect and reverence for everyone and everything in God's creation.

Above and beyond all these good things, God has given us our own self and other people. We can see and hear, think and love, laugh and develop good friendships. Jesus is the Creator's self-gift who helps us grow in God and with his people.

Catholics gather frequently for the Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass). Coming together in community helps us praise and thank God, ask forgiveness and reconciliation, and pray for the many needs of our families and the whole world.



In the beginning of time, God, our Creator, made all things.

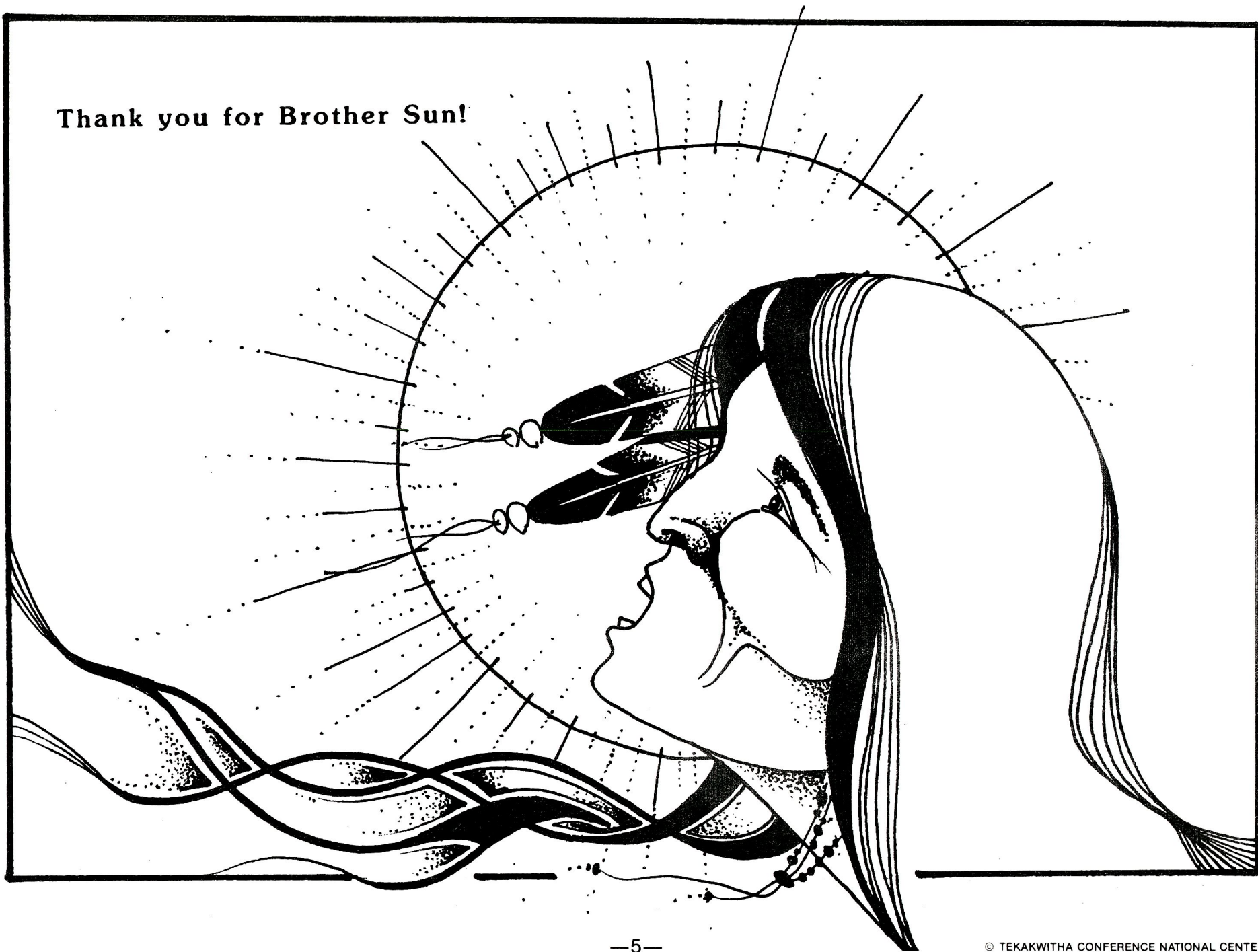


We, as God's children, share in all of His creation.

We say thank you to our Creator for all of His gifts.



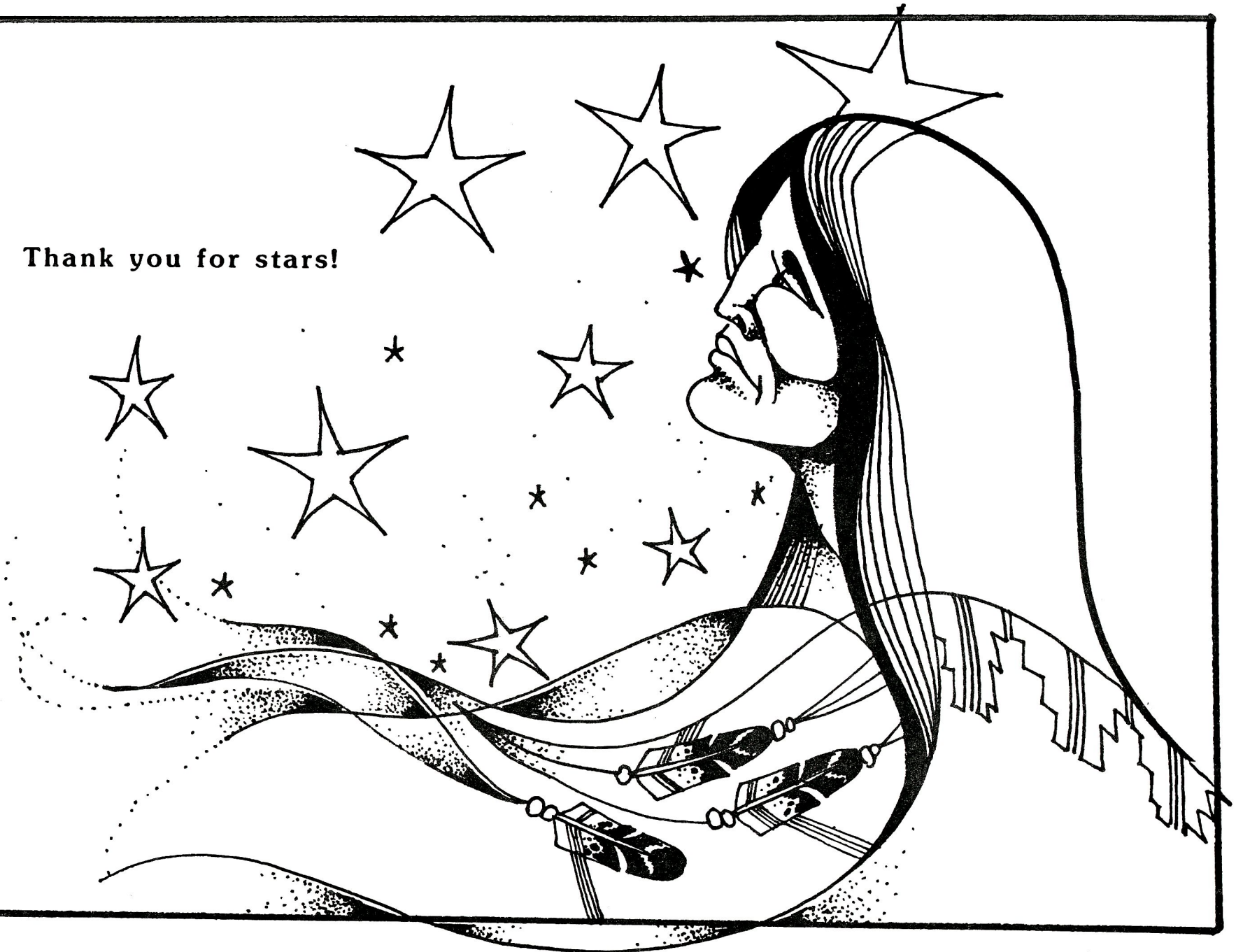
Thank you for Brother Sun!

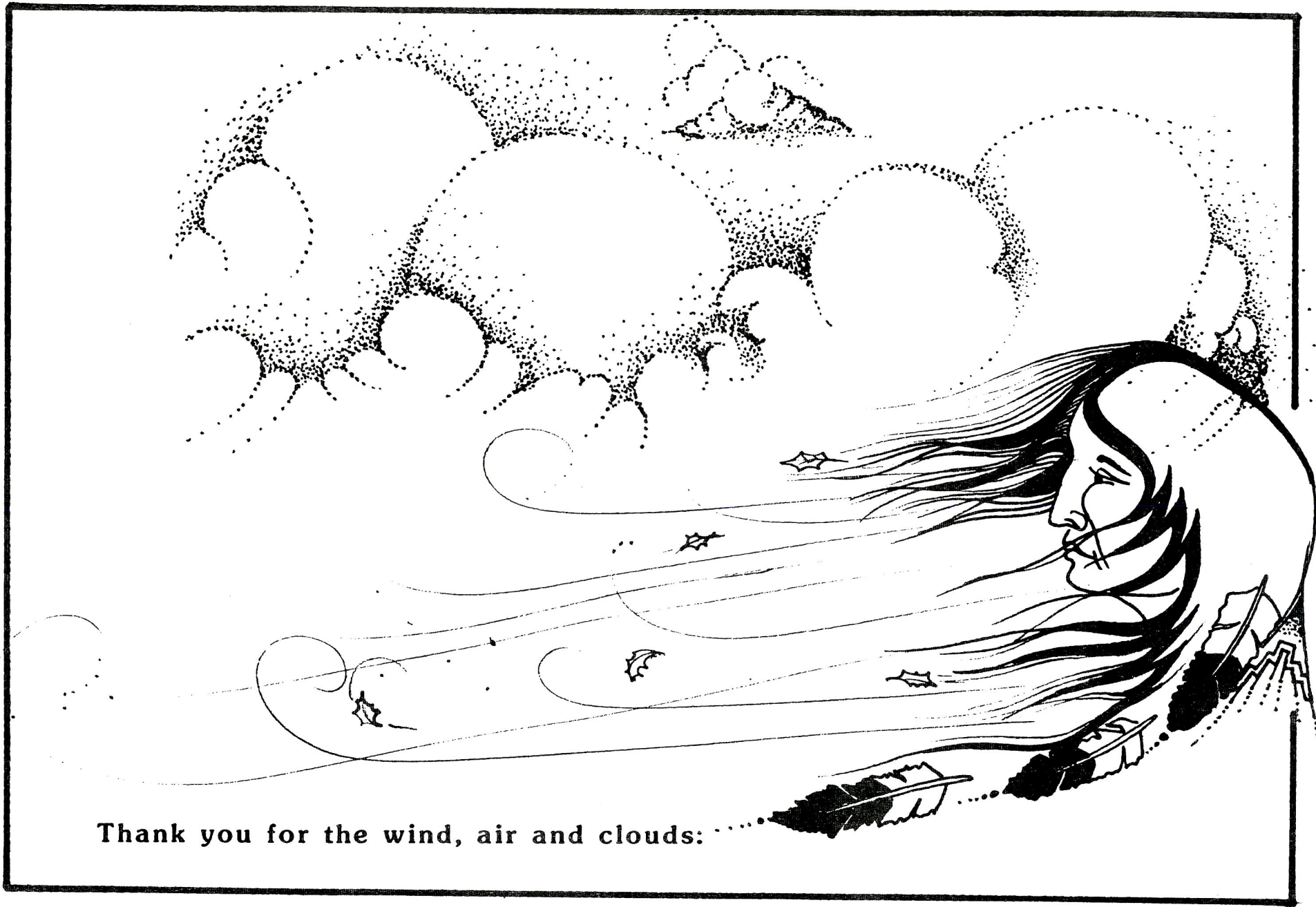


Thank you for Sister Moon!

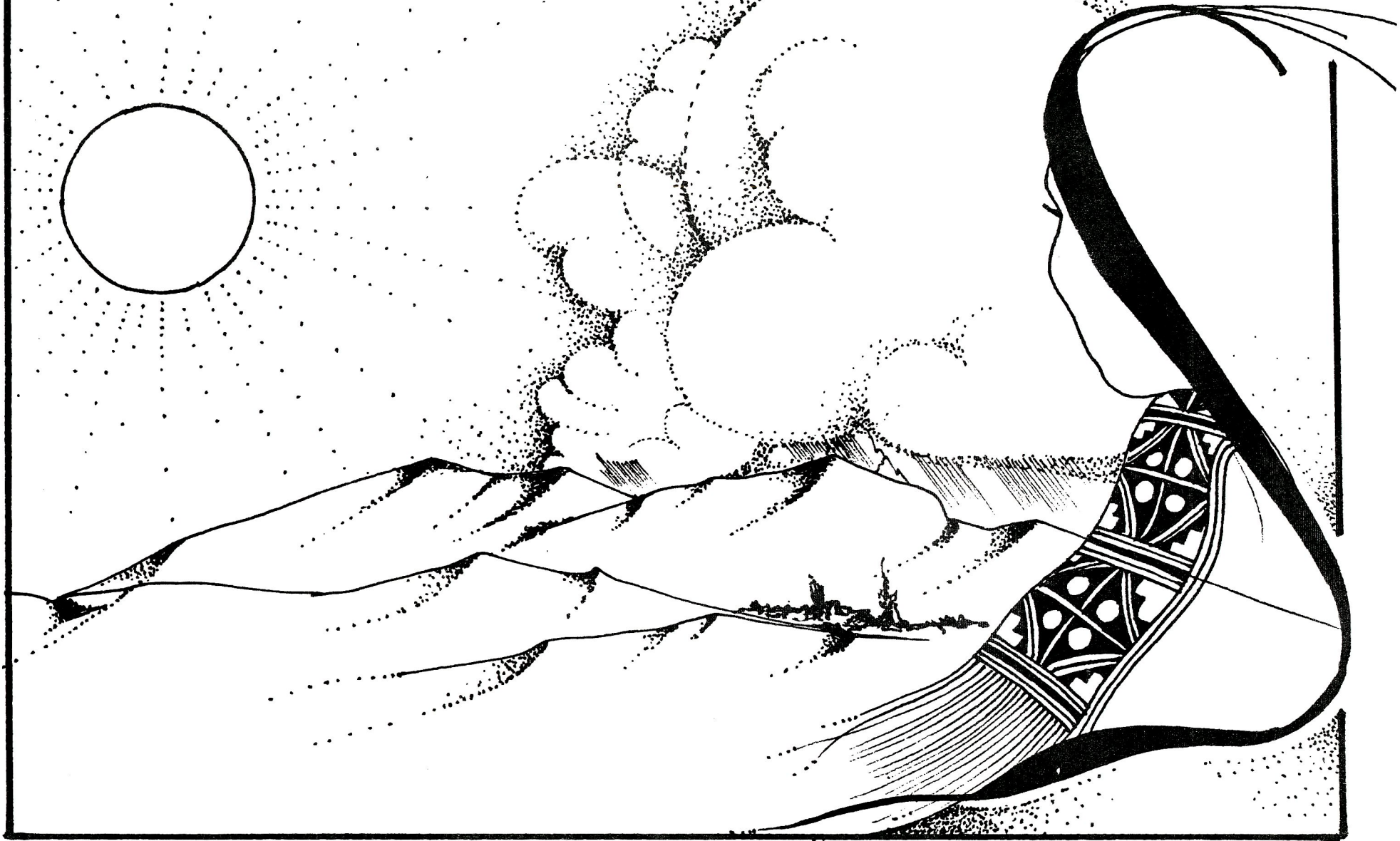


Thank you for stars!



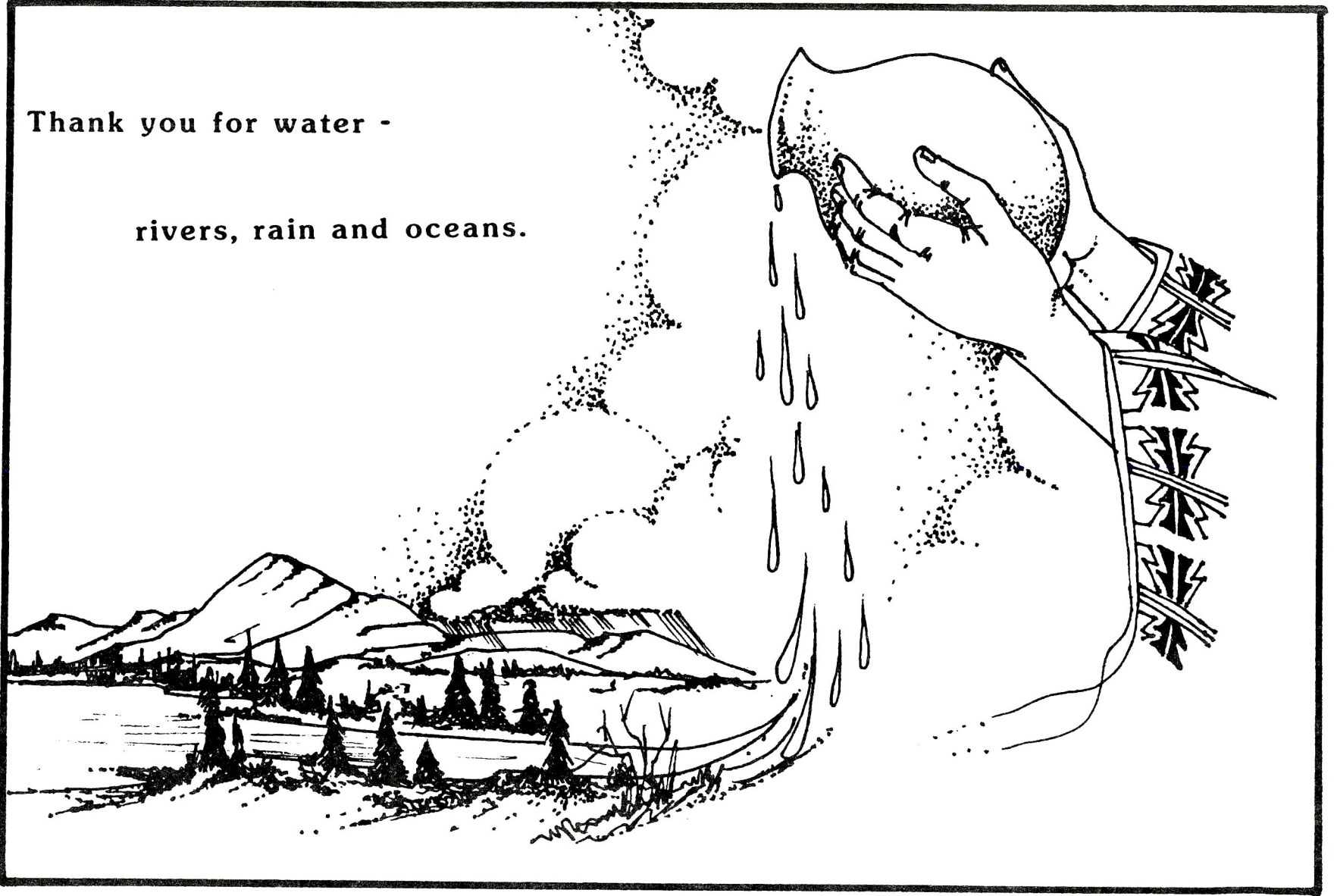


Thank you for the blue sky and for every kind of weather.



Thank you for water -

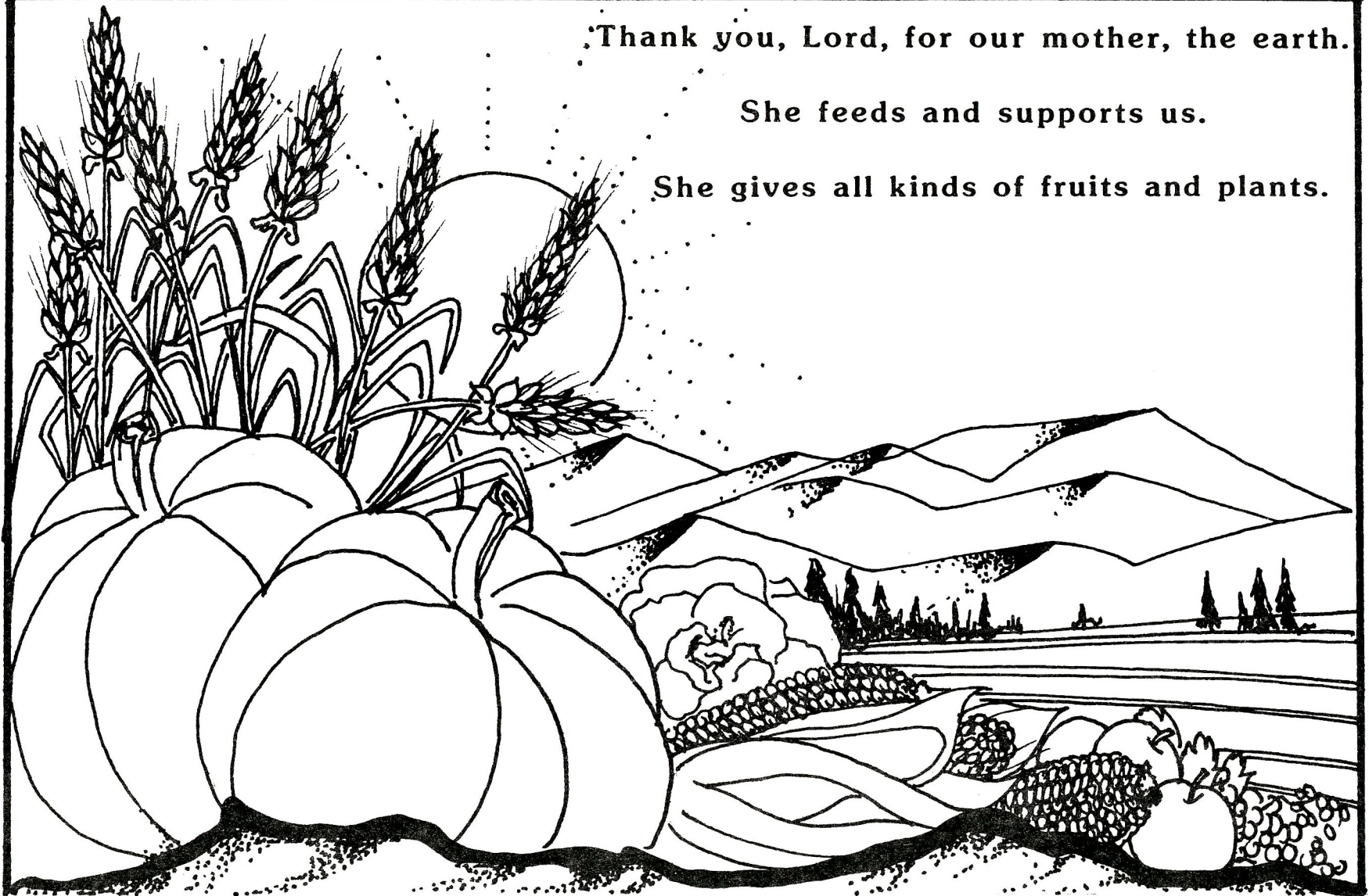
rivers, rain and oceans.



Thank you, Lord, for our mother, the earth.

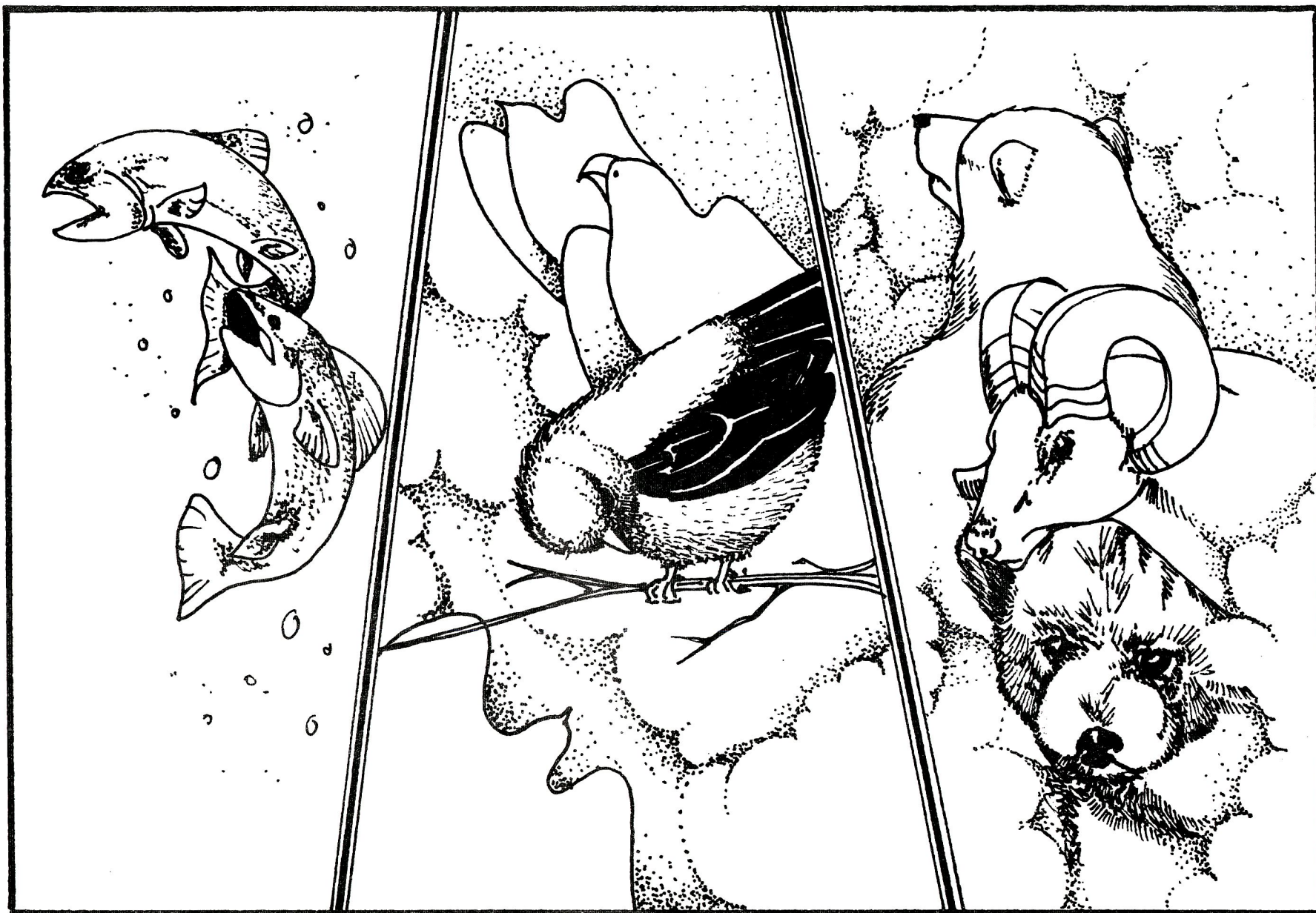
She feeds and supports us.

She gives all kinds of fruits and plants.



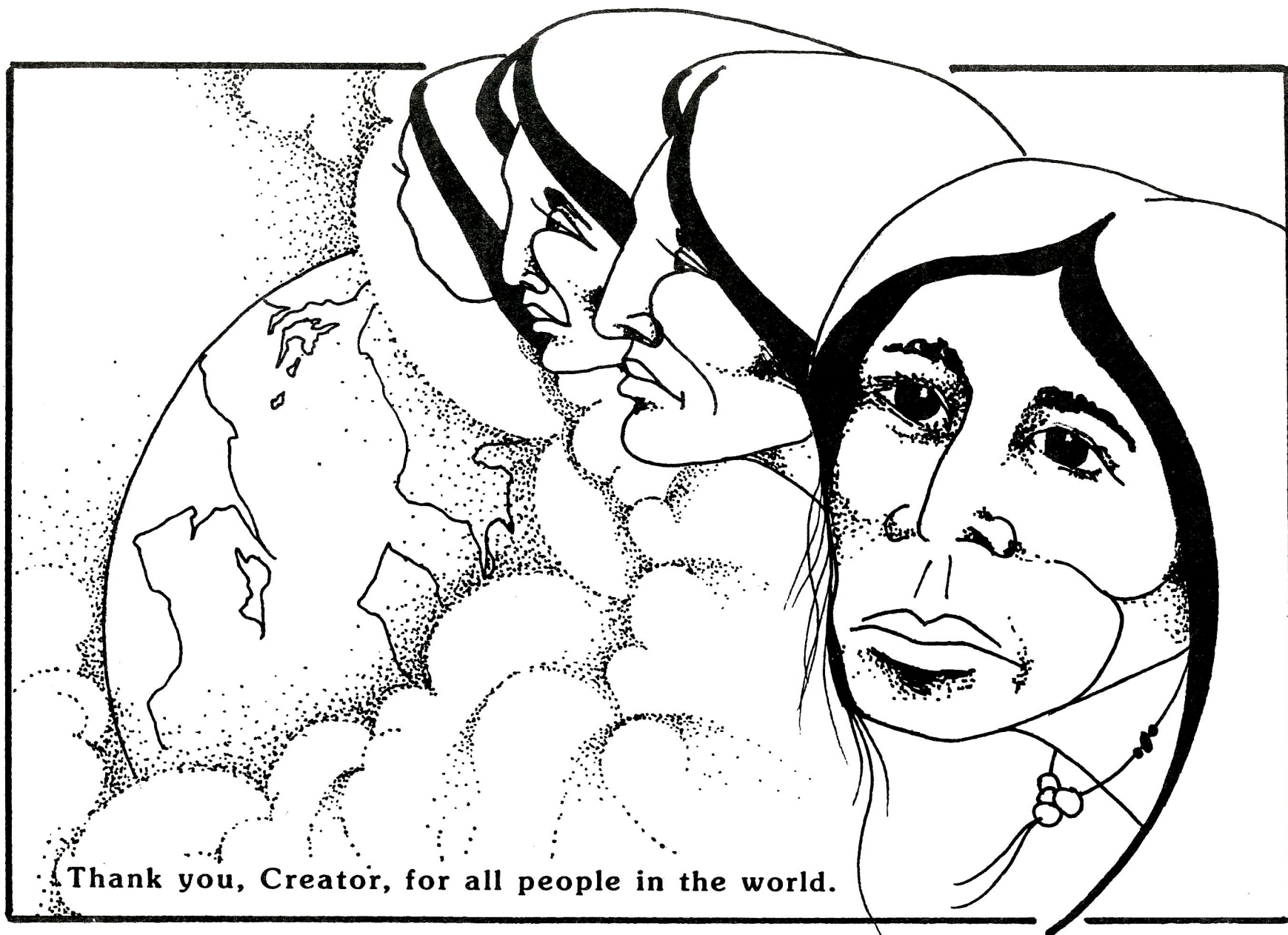
Draw some plants and fruits.

Thank you, Creator, for the birds flying in the air, for the fish swimming in the waters,

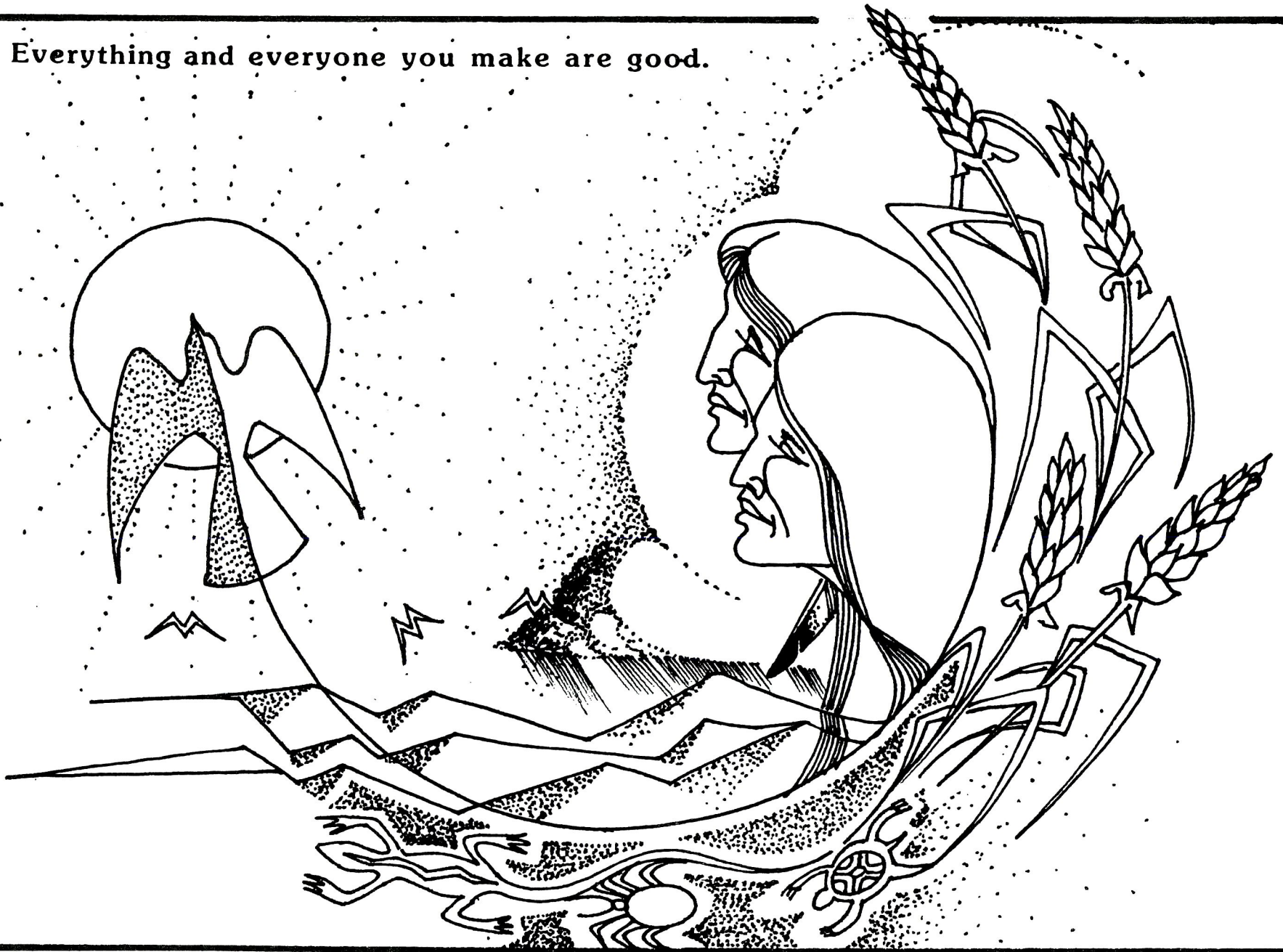


and for all the animals living on the earth.

Draw some animals.



Everything and everyone you make are good.



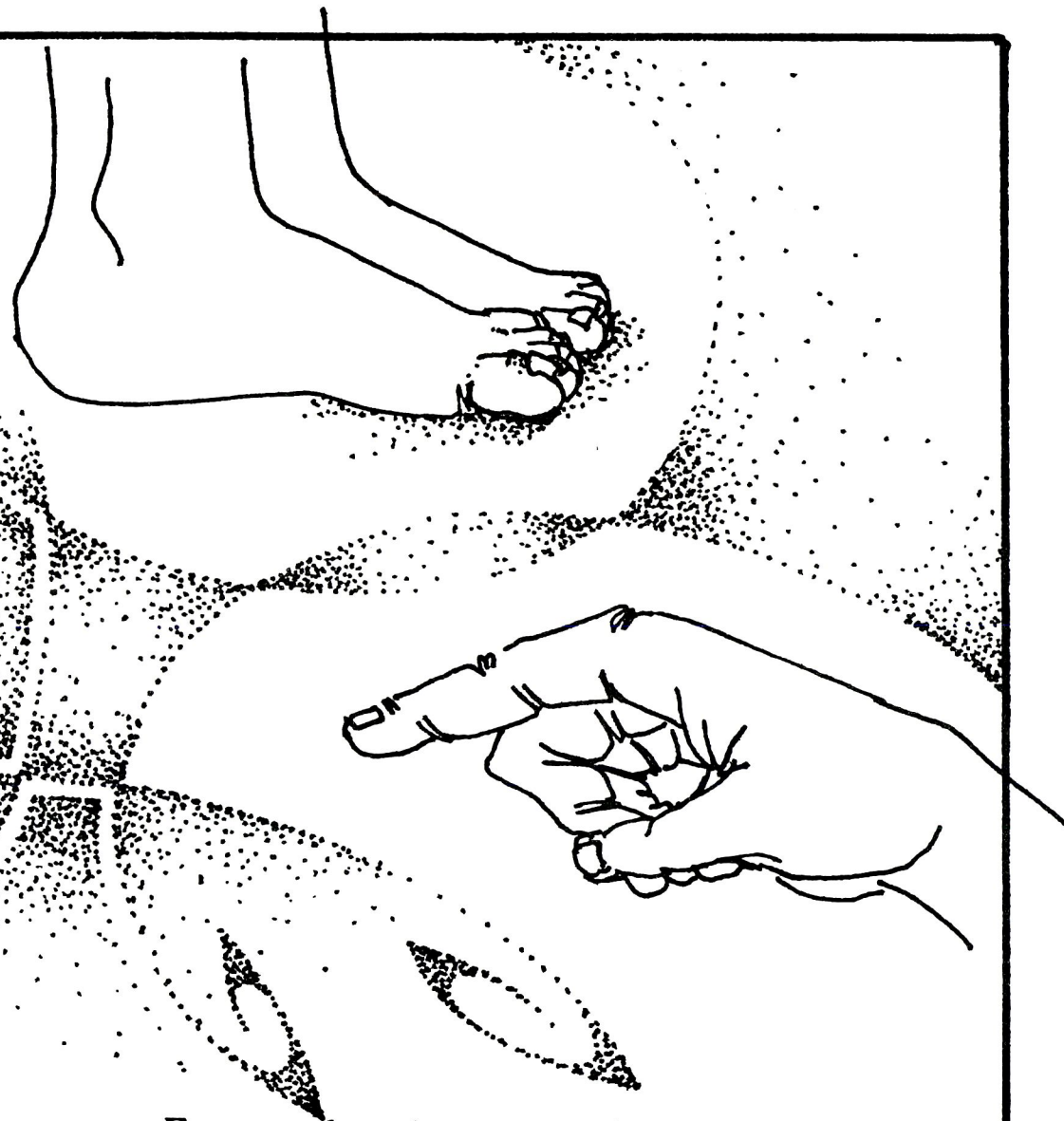
Thank you, Father, for me!

For my eyes to see all the big and all the little things.

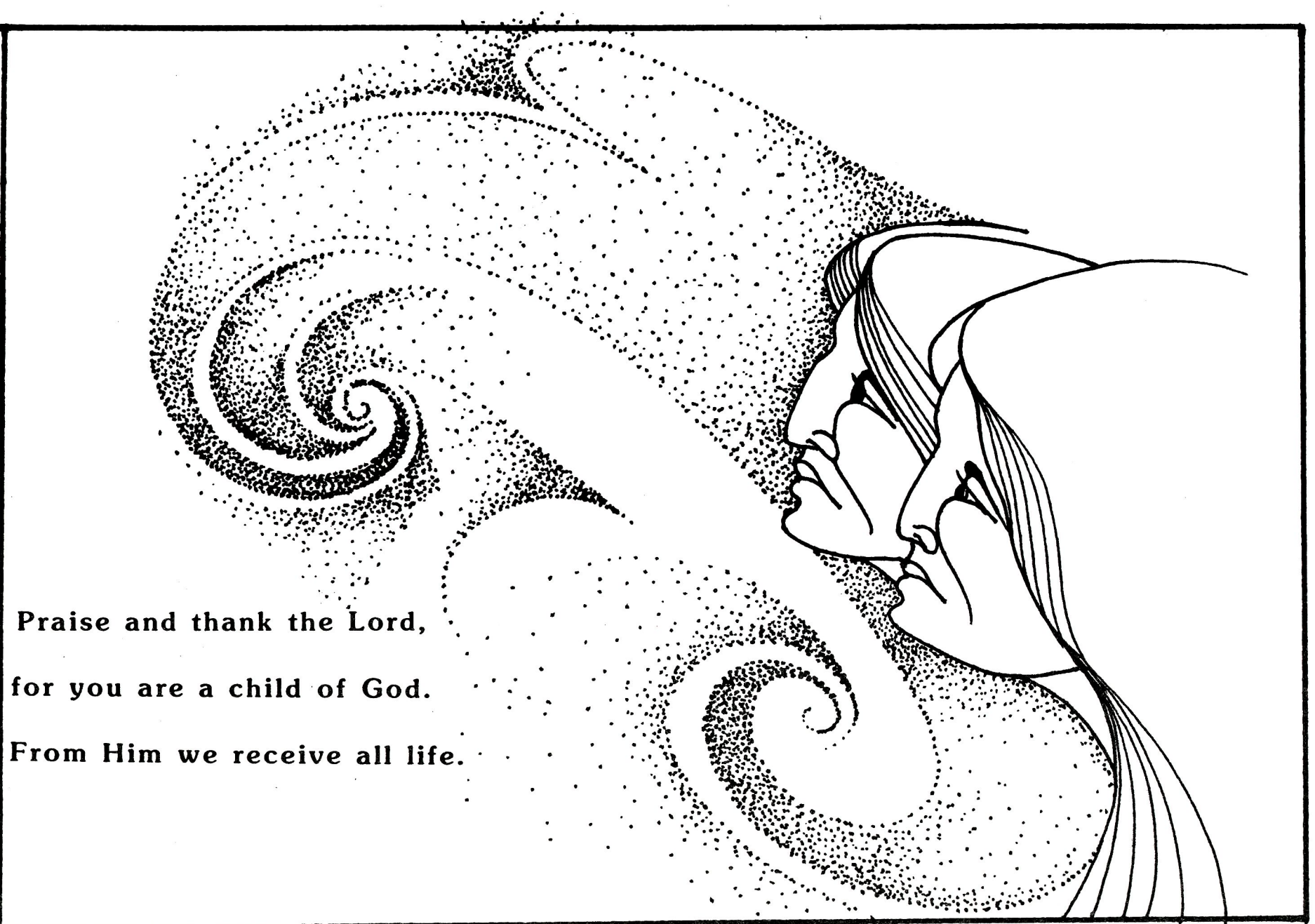
**For my ears to hear the birds, music,
and other people's voices.**

**For my mouth to taste good things, to talk,
to shout, to cry, to pray, to say thanks.**

For my feet to walk,
to run, to kick, for toes
to wiggle.

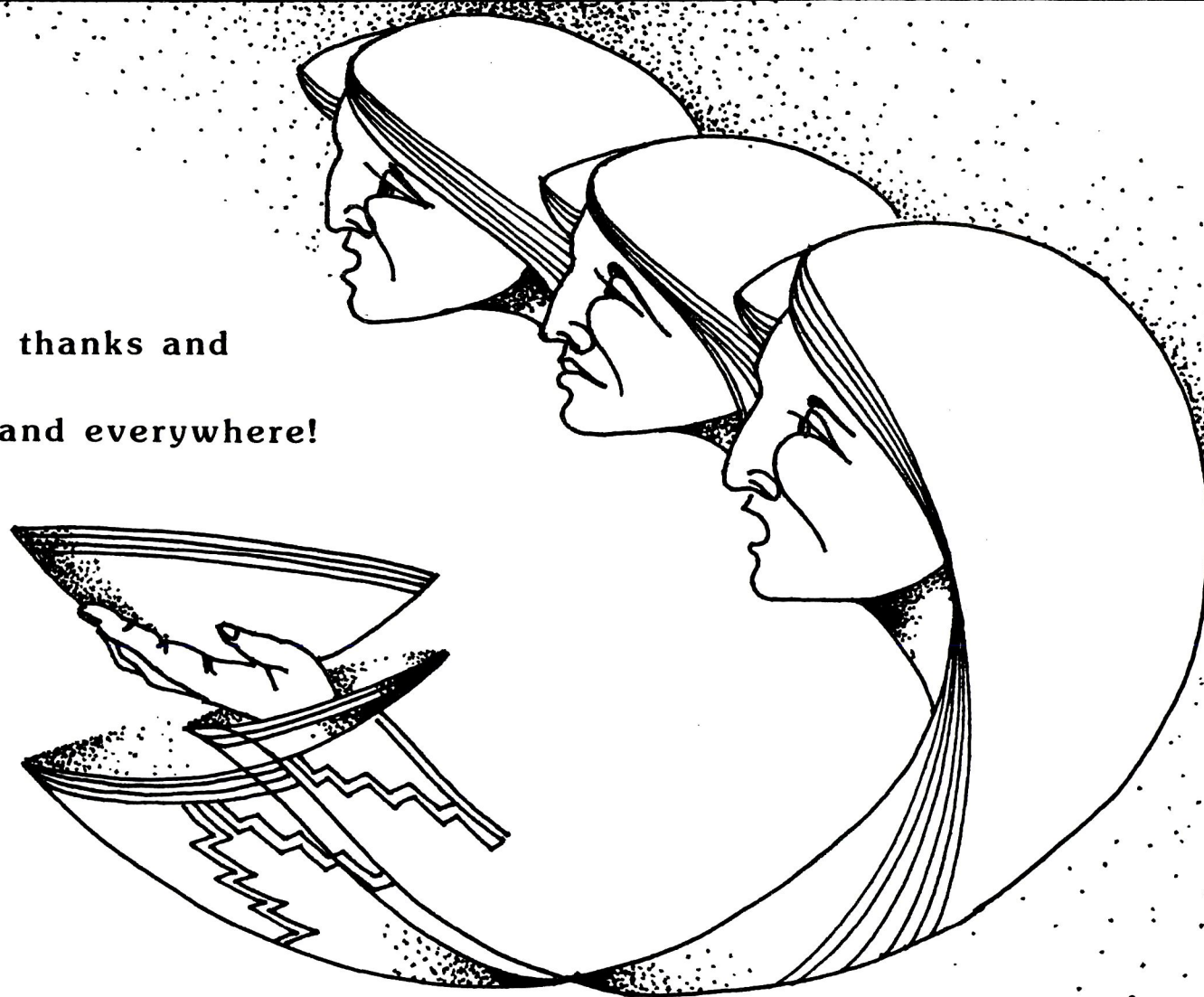


For my hands to touch, to feel, to hold.



Praise and thank the Lord,
for you are a child of God.
From Him we receive all life.

**Everyone, give Him thanks and
praise always and everywhere!**



Help me respect all creation.

Thank you, my Creator.



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