Jeremiah 10:12-13
It is he who made the earth by his power,
who established the world by his wisdom,
and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.
When he utters his voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens,
and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth.
He makes lightnings for the rain,
and he brings out the wind from his storehouses. (NRSV)

I live in Western Wisconsin, USA, on land that was originally inhabited by the Dakota, a Native American tribe that was driven further west in the 1860s. A hymn found in many American Protestant hymnals comes from the Dakota and paraphrases the Jeremiah text above. There is some suggestion that the melody is a funeral song to be sung in procession, existing before the text was written. You can hear a haunting version of the music at https://hymnary.org/hymn/UMH/148 and on Youtube.

What gives me hope in this hymn and biblical text is the witness to the power of God. During this surge in the COVID pandemic, it is good to be reminded of who is in control, when so many things seem out of control. We only need to look at God's creation and we see God's hands and fingers everywhere.

Many and Great, O God
Wakantanka taku nitawa

1   Many and great, O God, are your works,
    maker of earth and sky.
    Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
    your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
    Lo, at your word the waters were formed;
    deep seas obey your voice.

2   Grant unto us communion with you,
    O Star-abiding One.
    Come unto us and dwell with us;
    with you are found the gifts of life.
    Bless us with life that has no end,
    eternal life with you.

Text: Joseph R. Renville, 1779-1846; para. Philip Frazier, 1892-1964, alt.
Music: Dakota tune, LAC QUI PARLE

Gracious and omnipotent God,
        we give thanks that you surround us with life,
        forgive our doubt and fear in this time of pandemic,
        send your son Jesus and your comforting Spirit to a hurting world,
        and show us how to care for our neighbor. Amen

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