

God is an artist

Creating majestic mountains from molten lava and magma;
Forming stoic woodlands and flowing grasslands;
Bursting through the earth's crust in towering geysers;
Sliding down glaciers into rocky moraines.

God is a painter

Brushing long flat strokes of plains and prairies;
Dabbing puffy white clouds onto azure blue skies;
Cascading waterfalls from mountain springs;
Coloring rainbows from an unending palette of pigments.

God is an architect

Guiding our hands to create tipis, forts, museums, and the Irma Hotel;
Building the Grand Tetons, Rocky Mountains, and Black Hills;
Designing the lentic and lotic waters of the Snake, Wind, and Yellowstone Rivers.

God is a craftsman

Sewing skins and furs into clothing, head and foot coverings;
Bellowing fires to forge weapons, tools, and horseshoes;
Adorning clothing cut from buffalo hides with quills and beads.

God is a sculptor

Crashing tectonic plates to raise mountains;
Flattening mesas and buttes that dot the landscape;
Eroding rock formations into arches, towers, and monuments;
Carving mountains into presidential splendor and Native American heroes.

God is a conservationist

Pointing Teddy Roosevelt west to protect our natural wonders;
Inspiring John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to preserve land;
Directing Buffalo Bill to create Cody, Wyoming.

God is a creator

Sending aloft soaring bald eagles and osprey;
Filling the grasslands with bison, sheep, and pronghorn deer;
Stocking the streams with cutthroat trout and dam building beavers;
Varying our sizes, shapes, and colors like the landscapes that surround us;
Imaging all of us – together.

-- Composed when I was visiting Wyoming and South Dakota a few years ago and was inspired to write this poem. Lynn Cashell