Joseph Smith’s First Prayer

1. Oh, how lovely was the morning! Radiant beamed the sun above.
2. Humbly kneeling, sweet appeal—Twas the boy’s first uttered prayer—
3. Sud- den ly a light descend ed, Bright- er far than noon-day sun,
4. “Joseph, this is my Beloved; Hear him!” Oh, how sweet the word!

Bees were humming, sweet birds singing, Music ringing thru the grove,
When the pow’rs of sin sailing Filled his soul with deep despair;
And a shining, glorious pillar O’er him fell, around him shone,
Joseph’s humble prayer was answered, And he listened to the Lord.

When within the shady wilderness Joseph sought the God of love,
But un daunted, still he trusted in his Heav’n-ly Father’s care,
While appeared two heavens beings, God the Father and the Son,
Oh, what rapture filled his bosom, For he saw the living God.

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Text: George Manwaring, 1854–1889
Music: Sylvanus Billings Pond, 1792–1871; adapted by
A. C. Smyth, 1840–1909
Joseph Smith—History 1:14–20, 25
James 1:5