

**Reader's Theatre—Psalm 139****Written by Rachel Gerber and Heidi Miller****MC USA Convention Orlando '17 Youth Gathering**

For 4 voices.

*Psalm 139*

Props: 1 stool

(Begin with readers in line on stage—v4, v2, v1, v3. Voice 1 begins sitting down on stool)

Voice 1: O Lord, you search me and know me

You know when I sit...

And when I *rise*.

(stand up)

Voice 2: You discern my thoughts both near...

And far away.

(use hand to motion)

Voice 3: You search out my path and my lying down,

You are familiar with all of my ways.

Voice 4: Even before a word is on my tongue O Lord...

All: You know it completely.

V1: You hem me in

V2: behind,

V3: and before,

V4: and lay your hand upon me.

V1: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

It is so high that I cannot attain it.

V1: Where can I go from your spirit?

V2: Where can I go?

V3: Where can I go?

Where can I flee from your presence?

V3: Where can I flee?

V4: Where can I flee?

V2: If I ascend to heaven

(hand raised upward)

V1: even there your hand shall lead me.

V3: If I make my bed in Sheol (reach down)

V1: even there your hand shall lead me.

V4: If I take the wings of the morning  
And settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

V1: Even *there* your hand shall lead me  
And your right hand

**All: shall hold me fast.** (said as declaration with steadfastness)

V1: Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
And the light around me become night,

V2: Yet even the darkness is not dark to you;

V3: the night is as bright as the day

V4: the darkness is as light to you.

V1: For you created my inmost being;  
You knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you

V2: Praise you...

V3: Praise you...

V1: For I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

V2: fearfully made

V4: wonderfully made

V1: Wonderful are your works  
That I know very well.  
My frame was not hidden from you  
When I was being made in secret  
Intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

V2: For I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

V1: Your eyes beheld my unformed being

V3: fearfully made

V4: wonderfully made

V2: I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

V3: fearfully

V4: Wonderfully

V2: All of my days

V3: were written in your book

V4: even before one of them came to be.

V1: How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them—

They are more than the sand.

(voice 2 begins counting: 1, 2, 3...continues)

V2: 7, 8, 9, 10...

(continues counting)

V3: 99

V4: 255

V3: 795

V4: 2,740

(v2 ends counting)

V1: I come to the end—

I am still with you.

V2: I am still with you.

V3: I am still with you.

V4: I am still with you.

(spoken with absolute declaration and slower pace)