

Aotearoa

AOTEAROA (NEW ZEALAND)

Tune: TAMA NGĀKAU MĀRIE

WOV 633

1. Aotearoa,
Spirits' glorious home,
Mountain, lake and forest
Form our spirits' womb.

2. Bring to Tāne's garden *Tāne's garden = the indigenous forest*
Awe and tenderness;
Feel within your mauri *mauri = our life-force*
Earth's divine caress.

3. Contemplate the koru, *koru = the unfolding fern frond*
Live its spiral sign
As God's life unfolds within,
Like the Bread and Wine.

4. May this land of long white clouds,
Bush and mountains tall
Be, within the pulsing seas,
Tapu for us all. *tapu = holy, sacred*

Tāne = the mythical God of the forest.

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