

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FORT COLLINS

SERVICE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP

January 10, 2021 ▪ 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude *Baptized into Thy Name Most Holy*—Michael Burkhardt
Joe McConathy, Organ

Welcome Corey Nelson

Call to Worship

Leader: On that first day, when time began,

All: You gave birth to creation; light danced through the darkness; the waters of hope flowed free and clear.

Leader: On that first day at the Jordan, when redemption began,

All: You spoke of life for all Your children, as Your Child stepped into the waters of forgiveness, dancing in hope with His cousin, John.

Leader: On this first day, gathered together, when we begin anew,

All: You call us to faithfulness, as we open our hearts to You, Your voice claiming us as Your own. Let us worship God,

Hymn of Praise *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*—HYMNAL 475

Call to Confession Glenn Perica

You and I are now the ones who step forth out of the safe waters of baptism, to bring hope, to share a word of grace, to carry healing into the brokenness of the lives around us. Let us confess how we still struggle to follow in faith wherever Jesus leads us. Join me as we pray:

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Timeless God, You cast light into sin's dark places and call us Your Beloved.

**All: Forgive us: when we still linger in the shadows;
when we treat others in hurtful ways;
when we speak ill of Your friends.**

Leader: As He knelt in the waters of Jordan, You proclaimed Jesus as your Child, pointing to Him as the way to You.

**All: Forgive us: when we put ourselves ahead of Him;
when we think He is no longer needed;
when we fail to see Him in the broken of our world.**

Leader: Baptized and blessed in Your living waters, You would have us be Your servants in our time.

**All: Forgive us: when we fail to welcome the stranger;
when we refuse to forgive as we should;
when we believe we are too good to kneel down
and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, or the last.
Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Touched by the waters of life, fed at the feast of grace and hope, embraced in the warmth of God's love and hopes — this is good news for all of us!

All: **Blessed by baptism's tears, called to servanthood by the Beloved, filled with the peace of the Spirit, we are indeed God's people — redeemed, restored, refreshed to serve. Thanks be to God!**

Gloria Patri *Come, Thou Almighty King*—HYMNAL 2 (vs. 4)

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore!

Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

Passing of the Peace

Anthem

Sacred Waters—Joseph M. Martin

Sanctuary Choir Small Ensemble: Lee Cord, Jake DiFebo, Marian Railsback, Patrick Saiff, Naomi Wright, and Alexandra Young; Joe McConathy, Piano; Dawn Grapes, Flute

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lesson John 1:19–34 —(NRSV)

Sermon

The Choice—Corey Nelson

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH THANKS

Hymn of Response *Shall We Gather at the River*—HYMNAL 375

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Call for the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Just a Closer Walk with Thee—Traditional, arr. Rodney Miller

The Hip Bones; Glenn Schull, Wilson Winner, Christ Taylor, and Rod Jenson

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn of Faith *Wash O God, Your Sons and Daughters*—HYMNAL 490

Charge and Benediction

Message from the CNC

Postlude

Majesty—Jack W. Hayford, Arr. Joseph Linn, Edited Glenn Schull

The Hip Bones

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475

1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

375 Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;

with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

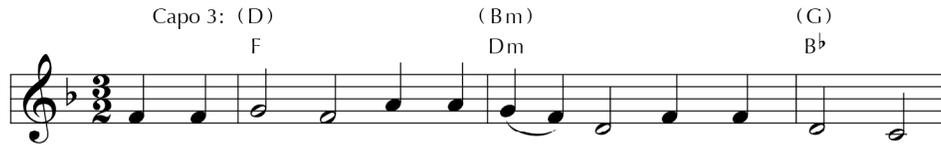
Refrain

Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;

gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).

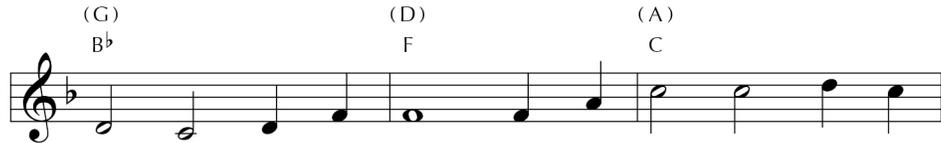
Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters



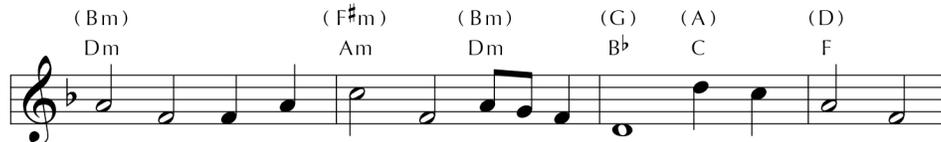
1 Wash, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, new - born crea - tures
2 Ev - ery day we need your nur - ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - i - mag - ined,



of your womb. Num-ber them a - mong your peo - ple, raised like
we be fed. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our



Christ from death and tomb. Weave them gar - ments bright and
bless - ing, liv - ing bread. God, re - new us; guide our
lives we wor - ship, praise! We your peo - ple stand be -



spark-ling; com-press them with love and light. Fill, a - noint them;
foot - steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born. By your grace, our



send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text incorporates many of the images associated with the water of baptism in the Thanksgiving Over the Water in *The Book of Common Worship*, especially nourishment, the calling forth of life, cleansing and renewal, freedom from bondage, and sharing in Christ's resurrection.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1987, rev.

MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958

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BEACH SPRING

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