

Gather by the River to Pray

*Down to the River to Pray/
Shall We Gather at the River*

*Arranged by
Pepper Choplin*



General/All Saints' Day/Ascension/Baptism/Baptism of the Lord/
Christ the King/Lent/Transfiguration

Scripture references: Psalm 46, 65, 132; John 4:5–42; Acts 10:34–43;
1 Corinthians 9:24–27; Ephesians 1:11–23; Colossians 1:1–20;
2 Peter 1:16–21

Gather by the River to Pray is adapted by Pepper Choplin from the piano collection *Spirituals We Love* (70/1725L). Titles/authors in this collection include:

Pepper Choplin: *Down to the River/Shall We Gather at the River • Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

Mark Hayes: *Give Me Jesus • Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?*

Lloyd Larson: *There Is a Balm in Gilead • Plenty Good Room*

Mary McDonald: *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me • Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho*

Ruth Elaine Schram: *All Night, All Day • Chariot's A-comin'!*

Larry Shackley: *My Lord, What a Morning • Lord, I Know I Been Changed*

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Gather by the River to Pray

Down to the River to Pray/Shall We Gather at the River

SAB or SATB*

Arranged by
Pepper Choplin

Gentle walking tempo ♩ = ca. 63

Down to the River to Pray: Traditional Spiritual

SA *mp*

As I went

TB

mp

3

down to the riv-er to pray, stud-y - in' a-bout that good ole way; and

*For performance by SAB voices, omit the bass part when the vocals are split into four parts.

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5

who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good Lord, show me the

7

way. *mp* down to the riv - er to pray,

As I went down to the riv - er to pray,

9

stud - y - in' a - bout that good ole way; and who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good

11 *mf*

Lord, show me the way. O broth-er, let's go down,

mf

13

let's go down, come on down. O broth-er, let's go down,

15

down to the riv-er to pray, down to the riv-er to

down to the riv-er to pray, to

17 *mp*

pray.
mp

pray.
mp *mf*

Shall We Gather at the River
Words and Music by **Robert Lowry**, 1864

19 *mf*

Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,___

21 *mf*

with its crys-tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the__ throne of__ God?

23

Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev-'ry bur-den down; —

25

grace our spir-its will de-liv - er and pro - vide a__ robe and__ crown.

27

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

29 *poco rit.*

gath-er with the saints_ at the riv - er that flows by the throne of_

poco rit.

31 *a tempo*

God.

mf

So let's go

a tempo

33 *mf*

Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,____

down to the riv-er to pray, stud-y-in' a-bout that good ole way that

35

with its crys-tal tide for-ev - er flow-ing by the__ throne of__

we shall wear the star - ry crown. Good Lord, show us the

37

God. So let's go down to the riv - er to pray,

way. Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er,

39

stud-y-in' a-bout that good ole way that we shall wear the star-ry crown. Good

soon our pil-grim-age will cease; — soon our hap-py hearts will quiv - er with the

41 *f*

Lord, show us the way. Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv - er, the
mel - o - dy of__ peace.

43

beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful__ riv - er; gath-er with the saints__ at the riv - er that

45 *mf*

flows by the throne of__ God, that flows by the throne of__ God, that
flows; down to the riv - er to pray, down to the riv - er to

47 *mp*

flows by the throne.

mp

pray. I went down to the riv-er to pray, _____

mp

49

Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er _____ that _____ flows by the throne _____

52 *p poco rit.*

of God. _____

p

p poco rit.



Selected Anthems by Pepper Choplin

Bring Them In

SATB and Solo with opt. Narration 10/3710L
Opt. Rhythm 30/2353L
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2295L

Christ Lives On

SATB. 10/3229M
Opt. 3 Tpts., 3 Tbns., and Rhythm 30/1979M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/1852M

Creator Rhythm

SATB. 10/3438M
Opt. Marimba, Conga,
Djembe and Cabasa 30/2124M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/1981M

Fill-a Me Up!

SATB *a cappella* with Conga, Small Perc.
and opt. Spanish Text 10/2807M
SAB *a cappella* with Conga, Small Perc.
and opt. Spanish Text 10/3439M
Perf./Split-track Accomp. CD. 99/1717M

Holy and Mighty

SATB with opt. Small Perc. 10/3283M
TTBB with opt. Small Perc. 10/3284M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/1894M

I Hear the Prophet Callin'

SATB and Solo with opt. Small Perc. 10/3751L
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2357L

Lay Up Your Treasures in Heaven

SATB *a cappella*. 10/1461M
TTBB *a cappella* 10/3766L

Let All the People Say "Amen"

SATB and Solo, *a cappella*, with
opt. Small Perc. 10/3611M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2199M

The Messiah Has Come

SATB with opt. C Inst. and Rhythm 10/3390M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/1947M

Night of the Father's Love

SATB and Congregation. 10/3576L
Opt. Orchestra. 30/2233L
Opt. Flute, Rhythm, and
Digital Keyboard(s). 30/2243L
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2143L

The People Who Walk in Darkness

SATB *a cappella* with opt. Small Perc. 10/3174M
TTBB *a cappella* with opt. Small Perc. 10/3175M

Remember the Passion

SATB and Narration. 10/3550L

This Is My Beloved Son

SATB. 10/3475L
Opt. Full Orchestra. 30/2144L
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2003L

Waiting

SATB. 10/3595M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2155M

Wake Up, Church! Wake Up!

SATB. 10/3048M
Opt. 3 Tpts., 3 Tbns. and Rhythm 30/1872M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/1763M

Walking 'Cross the Sea

SATB, opt. *a cappella*,
opt. Bass and Drums. 10/3513M
TTBB, opt. *a cappella*,
opt. Bass and Drums. 10/3514M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2038M

We Say "Amen"

SATB/SAB with opt. Fl., Gtr., and
Hand Drum 10/3328L

Well Done, My Faithful Servant

SATB. 10/3617L
Opt. Orchestra. 30/2269L
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2183L

Within These Walls

SATB. 10/3609M
SAB. 10/3610M
Opt. Orchestra. 30/2256M
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2166M

You Are Forever God

SATB. 10/3709L
Opt. Rhythm. 30/2352L
Perf./Accomp. CD. 99/2305L



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