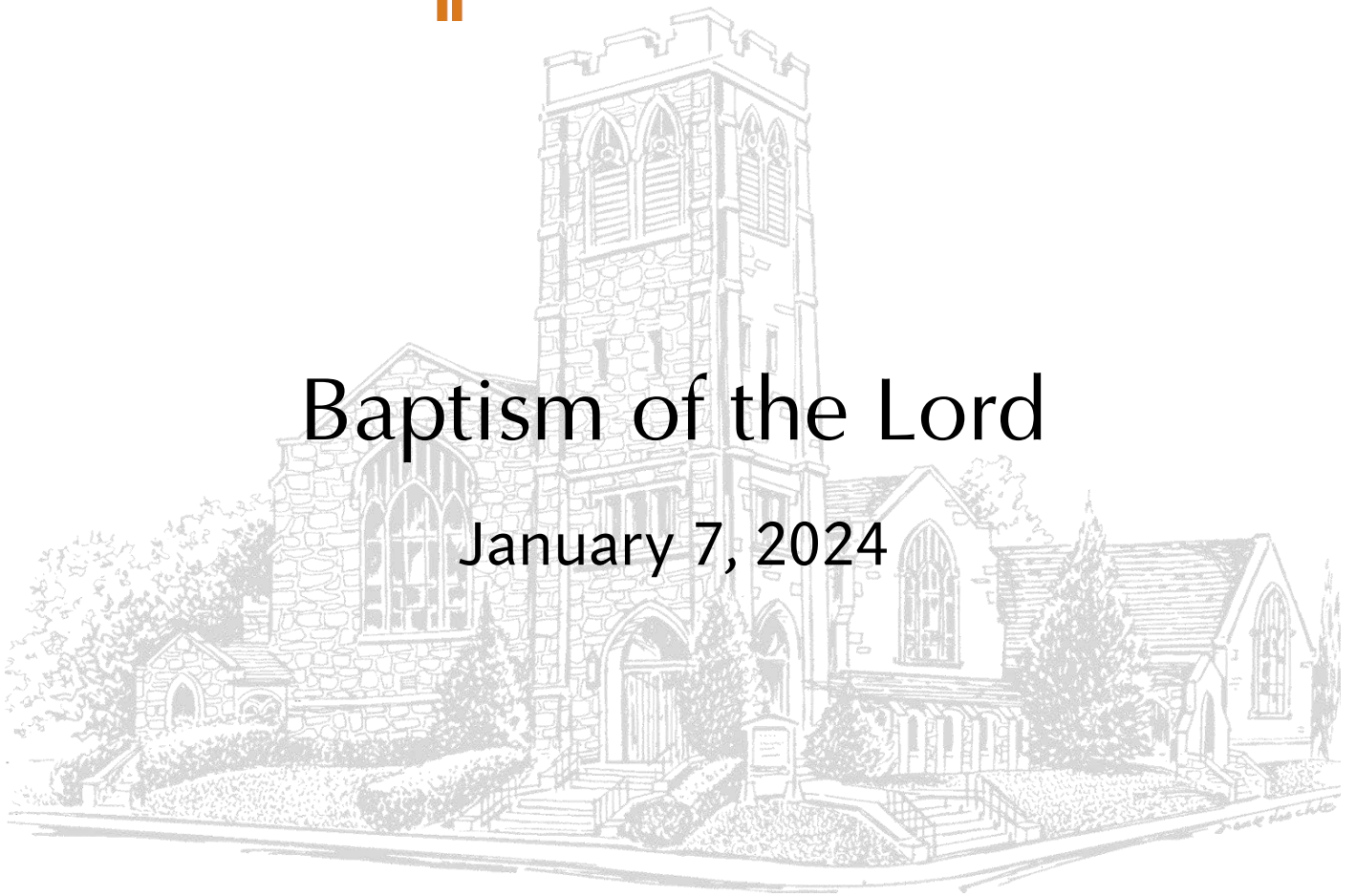




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord

January 7, 2024



Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community, and the world beyond.



A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Matthew 25 Church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

TODAY AT WESTMINSTER

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. **Cereal Sunday** for Hanover Food Pantry in the Westminster parking lot

8:45 – 12:15 p.m. **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Preschool Suite D

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. **Worship** in the Sanctuary

Time with Our Children (approximately 9:15 a.m.)

The young and young-at-heart are invited to join the worship leader at the front of the sanctuary. Following the TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, young ones through fifth grade may be escorted to Children's Programming or they are welcome to remain in worship.

Children's Programming (9:20 – 10:00 a.m.)

- Preschool Sunday School: Ages 3 and 4 in the Preschool Suite Room C
- Joyful Noise Choir: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in the Youth Music Room

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. **Holy Toast Café** in Walton Community Hall
Enjoy free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar.

10:10 – 11:00 a.m. **Children and Youth Programming**

- Nursery Care: Age 4 and under in Preschool Suite D
- Kids Zone Sunday School: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in Classroom 1
- Middle School Zone: Grades 6–8 in Classroom 3
- High School: Grades 9–12
 - Confirmation Class in Ruth Christie Room
 - Small Groups in the Library (for already confirmed youth)

Adult Education (see page 6)

- Congregational Health Network in Classroom 6
- Let's Talk About It in the Ruth Christie Room

11:15 – 12:00 p.m. **Living Mosaics worship** in Rodney Chapel

11:15 – 12:15 p.m. **Flying Solo brunch** at BBC Tavern and Grill
(4019 Kennett Pike, Greenville, DE)

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **180 Youth Group** in Walton Community Hall and Classroom 6

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For descriptions of our programs for children and youth, visit wpc.org/children-youth.

The Music: The words of Howard Thurman, an African-American theologian, educator, and civil rights leader, are set to music by Dan Forrest and sung by the Westminster Choir. Thurman's powerful poetry reminds us that the work of Christmas—our work—is not over but only beginning. How we respond—both individually and as the community of faith—is the challenge we receive from this choral offering. If you are moved by choral music at Westminster and would like to add your voice to the Westminster Choir, please contact TonyThurman@wpc.org or speak with him after the service. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 8 a.m.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory Frank Waldburger, whose memorial service was held yesterday. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. Please contact Linda Watson at (302) 571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com. Dates available are January 14, 21, and 28.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community. Please submit your prayer request to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com or online at wpc.org/care-support.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website at wpc.org and clicking the "Donate" button or scan this QR code on your smart phone. → We accept donations by bank withdrawal, credit card, and debit card.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

~ Passages in **bold** print may be spoken by all. At the asterisk (*) please stand in body or rise in spirit. ~

TOWER CHIME

Sara Gavenonis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

Shall We Gather at the River

arr. John Carter

CALL TO WORSHIP

As Jesus stood in Jordan's muddy waters,

we stand in the muddy waters of our lives.

As Jesus submitted to John's baptism,

we submit our lives to God's transforming touch.

As Jesus trusted God's Spirit to fill him with wisdom,

we trust God's Spirit to illumine our minds.

As Jesus emerged from the Jordan to give his life to God,

we will leave worship with a renewed sense of God's presence in our lives.

*HYMN NO. 484

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

RUSTINGTON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we do not always make the best choices.

You have invited us into new life,

yet we have closed our eyes and ears to your invitation.

You have challenged us to step out of well-worn ruts,

yet we hesitate to venture onto a new path.

Renew our spirits and strengthen our resolve,

so that we will muster the courage to make overdue changes in our lives.

We pray this in the name of Christ,

who brings us hope for new life. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN (See "Today at Westminster" on page 2 for more information.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:9-11

New Testament, page 30

SERMON

"How to Fix a Broken Heart"

The Rev. Dr. Silvester Beaman

v. 1: All

v. 2: Men; all on Refrain

v. 3: Women; all on Refrain

v. 4: All

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Work of Christmas

Dan Forrest

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flock,
the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among brothers, to make music from the heart.
—Howard Thurman

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word *was* God.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him.
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Eternal God . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Supper is open to all who trust in Christ. To receive communion by intinction, please approach the station on either the lectern or pulpit side, take a piece of bread and dip it in the chalice.

If you prefer packaged communion elements, you will find those in the bread basket.

Please return to your seat to partake of the packaged elements. If you are unable to come to a station, please tell an usher so that you may be served. Those sitting in the balcony will be served in their pews.

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Loving God, your Spirit strengthened the first disciples
to be faithful witnesses to your truth.**

**Give us the courage to speak your word and to do your will,
that all may know the compassion of our Creator. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 485

We Know That Christ is Raised

ENGELBERG

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on ENGELBERG

Robert A. Hobby

New to Westminster? Welcome! We're so glad you're here. If you are joining us for the first time, please introduce yourself via our contact form on the [I'm New](#) page of our website or scan this QR code to get there from your mobile device. We look forward to getting to know you.



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ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, JANUARY 7



Congregational Health Network

Presented by the Rev. Patti V. Weikart, M.A., M. Div.

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

The Congregational Health Network (CHN) is a group of faith communities and service organizations in Delaware that are collaborating with Nemours to meet the needs of patients with Sickle Cell Disease and their families. They are offered confidential conversations with Pastor Pat, mentors, life skills training, and a food coach to name a few. No religious or church affiliation is required to take advantage of any of these offerings.

Let's Talk About It

Presented by Bob Cox

10:10 a.m.

Ruth Christie Room

We are happy to bring back this beloved series. Join us for a lively discussion of a timely topic that is current that week/month.

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Faith Through Music

Presented by John S. Dixon, Composer, Clinician, and Organist

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom



Composer and organist John S. Dixon will speak about how his faith has influenced his life as a composer – or has it been the other way around?

John is organist and composer-in-residence at Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach. He has written some 950 pieces for church and secular use, many of them published, and every Sunday his music is heard in churches across the country and internationally.

On this same day at 3 p.m., a solo recital by John in the sanctuary will feature his own compositions for the King of Instruments. You will hear his arrangements made on familiar and unfamiliar hymn tunes, also favorite folk tunes, and some original compositions too.

ONGOING/WEEKLY

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitator: The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

Contact: sniesenthompson@wpc.org

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays | 6–7 p.m. | Zoom

*Facilitators: Randy Williamson
and Mary Anne Peters*

Contact: randywilliamson1@comcast.net

Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event

“KING: A Life” by Jonathan Eig

We take a deeper look at Rev. King's life and purpose with this video presentation by the author, followed by group discussion.

January 11 | 7 p.m. | Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/peace-justice-zoom

Hosted by our Peace & Justice Work Group.

zoom.us/join | Meeting ID: 860 2752 1655

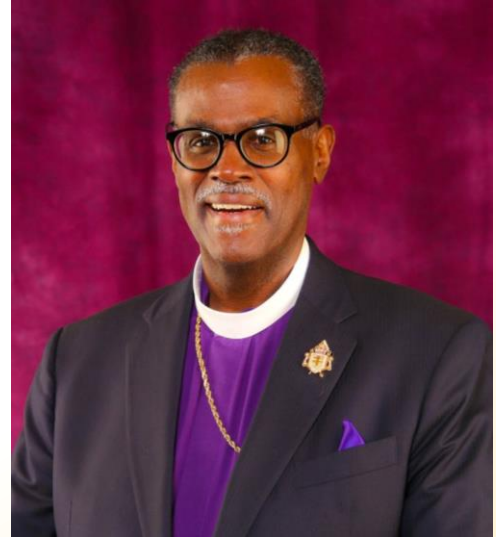
For full descriptions of our programs and more adult education and small group opportunities, visit WPC.ORG/ADULTS or check our events calendar at WPC.ORG/EVENTS. Select adult education programs are available as a livestream/recording on our [YouTube channel](#).

GUEST PREACHER TODAY

The Rev. Dr. Silvester Beaman

The Reverend Dr. Silvester Beaman was the pastor of Bethel AME Church in Wilmington for 28 years. He delivered the Benediction at the inauguration of President Joe Biden in 2021, and later that year was consecrated as a Bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church serving a district that includes South Africa, Namibia, and Angola.

In September, 2023, he was appointed chair of the President's Advisory Council on African Diaspora Engagement. We are honored to have him preach at Westminster this morning.



Music at Westminster

JOHN S. DIXON, ORGAN

Sunday, January 14 | 3 p.m.



Experience the gift of music in our beautiful sanctuary as the 2023-2024 Westminster Concert Series continues on Sundays at 3 p.m. On January 14, John Dixon, the organist and composer-in-residence at Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach, will present a solo recital featuring his original compositions. All are invited. A free-will offering is requested.

Please join us in person or livestream over WPC's [YouTube channel](#)!

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Rebecca Hughes; Margaret Mezzacappa; Teddy Austin; Jerry Polman, Section Leaders
Emily Haas, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Cole Walker, Choral Assistant for Children and Youth

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Tanner Freeman (lead videographer), Deanna Sparling, Rich Albert, Drew Holmes, George McAllister,
Chip Pfleegor, Roger Reinicker, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Dan Weintraub and Jenn Barrington

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Sydney Walker, Associate Director of Youth Ministry
Grace Anderson, 180 Youth Leader
Stephanie Burris-White, Director of Preschool Ministries and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Administrative Assistant
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Doug Gerds, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Robert King; Daniel Steele; Joan Truitt; John Young, Sextons

SESSION

Taryn Albert, Adam Blackford, Michelle Butler, Clark Collins, Bob Cox, Sara Dubberly, Rob Gooderham,
Laura Holmes, Dick Jolly, Carla Krupanski, KC Morrison, Dave McBride,
Susan McPheeters, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Carrie Saathoff, Laura Scanlan,
Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Karissa Thacker, Gill Timon, Dan Weintraub

BOARD OF DEACONS

Liz Bacon, Lisa Bianchi, Jennifer Blackford, Heather Brooks, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick,
Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Jack Coleman, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kendra Gallagher,
Sara Gavenonis, Jamie Hickey, Drew Holmes, Barbara Jobe, Sheran Kegerise, Elaine Lunardi,
Sarah Mentzer, Robert Moore, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Dan McAllister, Debbie McCullough,
Lynne Perkins, Emily Pfaff, Paula Piercy, Rachel Psaros, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser, Evie Saathoff,
Carol Tatnall, Lois Underhill, Ginger Ward, Sandie Reinicker, Sue Weissinger, Sandra Wermus, Kathy Wissner

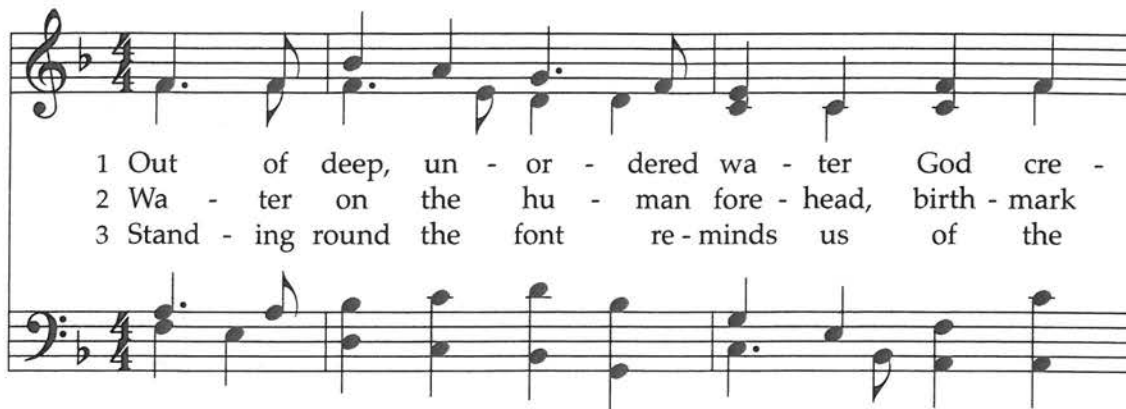
TRUSTEES

Rich Albert, Tom Brooks, Nancy Fleming, John Gavenonis, Lou Hering,
Bobbe Hoy, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman, Robert Love, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Stan Stevenson

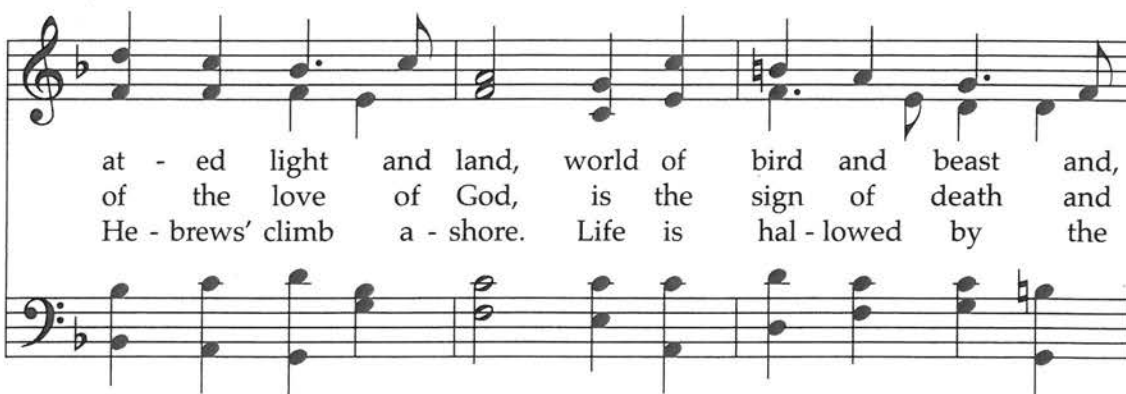
PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches,
Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band and Wi'am
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, AJPU, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development,
PC(USA) Mission Co-workers Betsey and Eric Moe

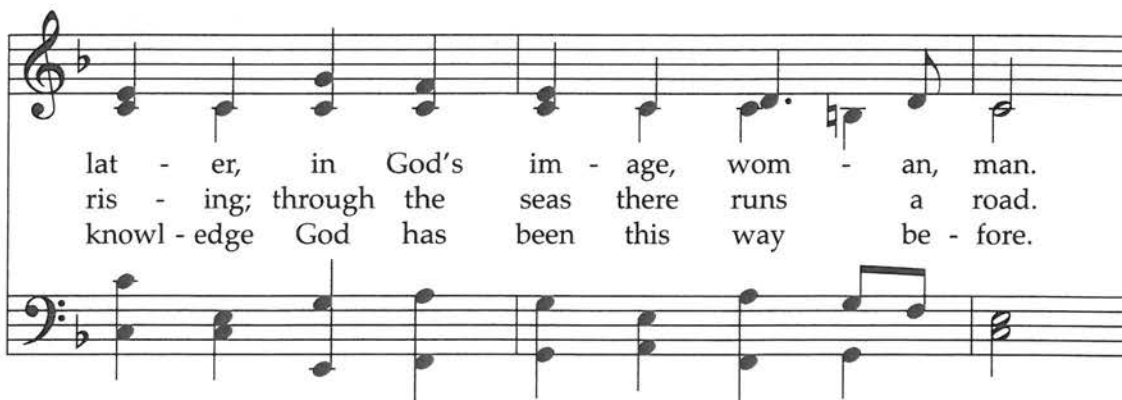
484 Out of Deep, Unordered Water



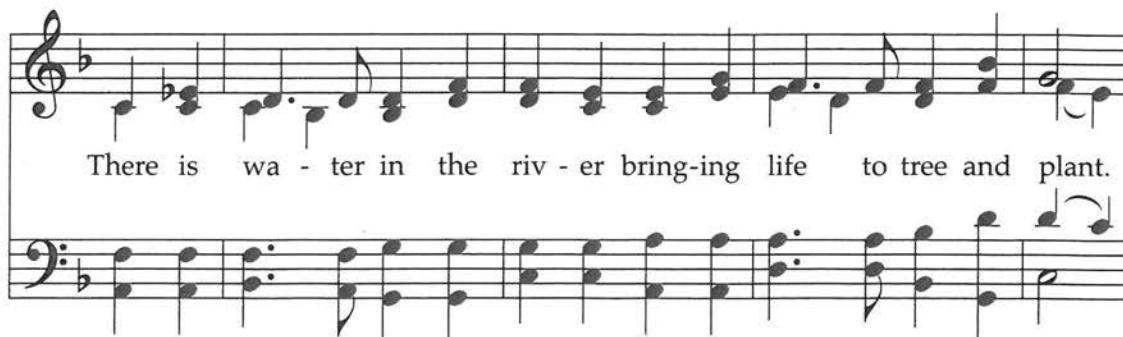
1 Out of deep, un - or - dered wa - ter God cre -
 2 Wa - ter on the hu - man fore - head, birth - mark
 3 Stand - ing round the font re - minds us of the



at - ed light and land, world of bird and beast and,
 of the love of God, is the sign of death and
 He - brews' climb a - shore. Life is hal - lowed by the



lat - er, in God's im - age, wom - an, man.
 ris - ing; through the seas there runs a road.
 knowl - edge God has been this way be - fore.



There is wa - ter in the riv - er bring - ing life to tree and plant.

By connecting the water in the font with the waters of creation, the parted waters through which the Israelites were set free, and the rivers that sustain life everywhere, this hymn reminds us that baptism incorporates us into God's creative, redemptive, and sustaining activity.

BAPTISM

Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er: there is wa - ter in the font.

The musical score is written for a vocal part and a piano accompaniment. The vocal part is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piano accompaniment is on a bass clef staff with the same key signature. The lyrics are: "Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er: there is wa - ter in the font." The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

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*

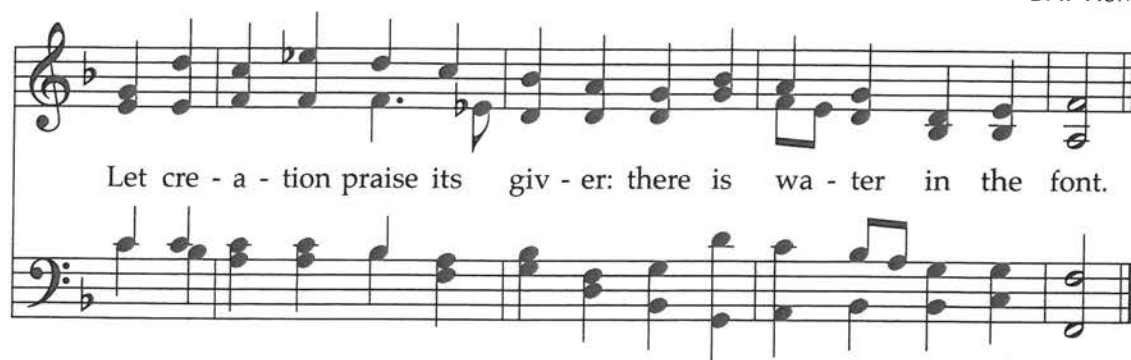
Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



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).



Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er: there is wa - ter in the font.

We Know That Christ Is Raised 485

Capo 3: (D) (Asus) (A) (A/G) (D/F#)
F Csus C C/B^b F/A



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)
F C F G7 C



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)
Cm F B^b Gm Dm



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3 4
(Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)
Gm F Csus C Gm F



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.