

Down to the River to Pray

with Lord, Listen to Your Children
For S.A.B. Voices and Piano Accompaniment

Arranged by
MARY McDONALD

Traditional Spiritual
Words and Music by
KEN MEDEMA

Steady, unhurried (♩ = 63)

Piano *mp*

4 Baritone *mp*

As I went down to the riv-er to pray, stud-y-in' a-

6

bout that good ole way and who shall wear the star-ry crown, good

8

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

10

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

12 S.A. Unison *mp*

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

14 *mf*

Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - in'. O

mf

Detailed description: This system contains measures 14 and 15. The music is in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (mf). The lyrics are: "Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - in'. O".

16

Lord, send your Spir - it in this place. O

Detailed description: This system contains measures 16 and 17. The music continues in the same 3/4 time signature and key signature. The melody in the treble clef features a long note on the word "place" that spans across the bar line. The lyrics are: "Lord, send your Spir - it in this place. O".

18

Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - in', send us

Detailed description: This system contains measures 18 and 19. The melody in the treble clef has a long note on "in'" that spans across the bar line. The lyrics are: "Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - in', send us".

20

love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 20 and 21. The melody in the treble clef has a long note on "grace." that spans across the bar line. The lyrics are: "love, send us pow'r, send us grace."

22

f

Some-thing's gon-na hap-pen like the world has nev-er known, — when the

24

peo - ple of the Lord_ get down to pray.

26

A door's gon-na swing o - pen and the walls come a-tum-bl-in' down, — when the

28

peo - ple of the Lord_ get down_ to pray.

30 *mf*

O chil - dren, let's go down, let's go down, come on down._

mf

Detailed description: This system contains measures 30 and 31. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble clef consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line in the bass clef provides a steady accompaniment with eighth and quarter notes. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (mf).

32

O chil - dren, let's go down, down to the riv - er to pray,

to the riv - er to

Detailed description: This system contains measures 32 and 33. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass line remains consistent. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (mf).

34

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

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

Detailed description: This system contains measures 34 and 35. The melody features a mix of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line continues with eighth and quarter notes. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (mf).

36

pray: Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

Detailed description: This system contains measures 36 and 37. The melody in the treble clef has a long note in measure 36 followed by a series of eighth notes in measure 37. The bass line continues with eighth and quarter notes. The dynamic marking is forte (f). Dashed lines indicate a crescendo in the treble and a decrescendo in the bass.

38

prayer - in' - - - - - O - - - - - Lord, send your Spir-it in this

Musical notation for measures 38-39, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "prayer - in' - - - - - O - - - - - Lord, send your Spir-it in this".

40

place. - - - - - O - - - - - Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren

Musical notation for measures 40-41, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "place. - - - - - O - - - - - Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren".

42

prayer - in', - - - - - send us love, send us pow'r, send us

Musical notation for measures 42-43, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "prayer - in', - - - - - send us love, send us pow'r, send us".

44

grace. - - - - - *sub. mp* Send us love, send us pow'r, send us

Musical notation for measures 44-45, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "grace. - - - - - *sub. mp* Send us love, send us pow'r, send us".

46 *mf*

grace. Send us love, send us

Lord, send us

48

pow'r, send us grace.

pow'r, send us grace.

50 *mp*

I went

I went down to the riv-er to pray,

52 *rit.*

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

I went down to the riv-er to pray,

54 **Slower, freely**

to the riv - er to pray.