

How Simple is the Washing

A Baptismal Hymn for Congregation and Organ

Text: Constance Morgenstern
Tune: AURELIA by Samuel S. Wesley
(1810-1876), adapted by C. M.

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system shows the vocal line and the organ accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a rest for four measures, followed by the lyrics 'How sim - ple is the'. The organ accompaniment starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a section marked 'Ped. Optional*' in the bass clef. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics 'wash - ing you call us, Lord, to do. How sim - ple is the trust - ing as'. The organ accompaniment continues with a 'Man.' (Mancera) marking in the bass clef.

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How Simple is the Washing

chil- dren come to you. You of - fer us this wash - ing to free from death and

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

sin. You of-fer Liv - ing Wa - ter that we won't thirst a - gain. (2) You give the Liv - ing

The second system continues the musical score. It follows the same three-staff format. The piano accompaniment maintains its rhythmic pattern, with some chordal changes in the right hand. The lyrics continue across the vocal line.

Wa - ter for grow - ing in our faith. This Spir - it brings con - nec - tion to

The third system concludes the musical score on this page. It maintains the three-staff structure. The piano accompaniment includes some sixteenth-note runs in the left hand. The vocal line ends with the lyrics 'This Spir - it brings con - nec - tion to'.

fresh and flow - ing grace. So, e - ven dur - ing dry spells, when

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "fresh and flow - ing grace. So, e - ven dur - ing dry spells, when". The piano accompaniment is written in grand staff notation (treble and bass clefs). It features a steady bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. There are dynamic markings of *p* and *f* throughout the system.

roots won't seem to reach, there's sus - te-nance up - well - ing, from res - er - voirs be -

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line lyrics are: "roots won't seem to reach, there's sus - te-nance up - well - ing, from res - er - voirs be -". The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support, including a dynamic marking of *f* and an asterisk (*) below the bass line.

neath. (3) Lord, thank you for these wa - ters, which cleanse and bring us

Man.

The third system concludes the musical score. The vocal line lyrics are: "neath. (3) Lord, thank you for these wa - ters, which cleanse and bring us". The piano accompaniment continues with a dynamic marking of *f*. The system ends with the instruction *Man.* below the bass line.

How Simple is the Washing

The musical score is arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Life, so we can meet the Fa - ther in wed - ding robes washed bright! We came in from the street, but you, Bride - groom, made us friends. Then Spir - it names us fam - 'ly for the Ban - quet with - out end." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand. A *rit.* (ritardando) marking is placed over the final three measures of the piano part. There are asterisks (*) in the piano part at the end of the second and third systems.

Life, so we can meet the Fa - ther in wed - ding robes washed

bright! We came in from the street, but you, Bride - groom, made us friends. Then

Spir - it names us fam - 'ly for the Ban - quet with - out end.

rit.

*The entire accompaniment can be played simply on manuals, but there are places where subtle extra depth might enrich meaning. Some places might be the last phrase of Verse 2 ("there's sustenance upwelling...."), or the last phrase of Verse 3 (to show grounding in the Spirit), or the final three measures of the piece.

Also, if you use an instrument which transposes, you might raise the key to Db for slightly easier singing.

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