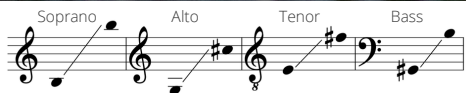
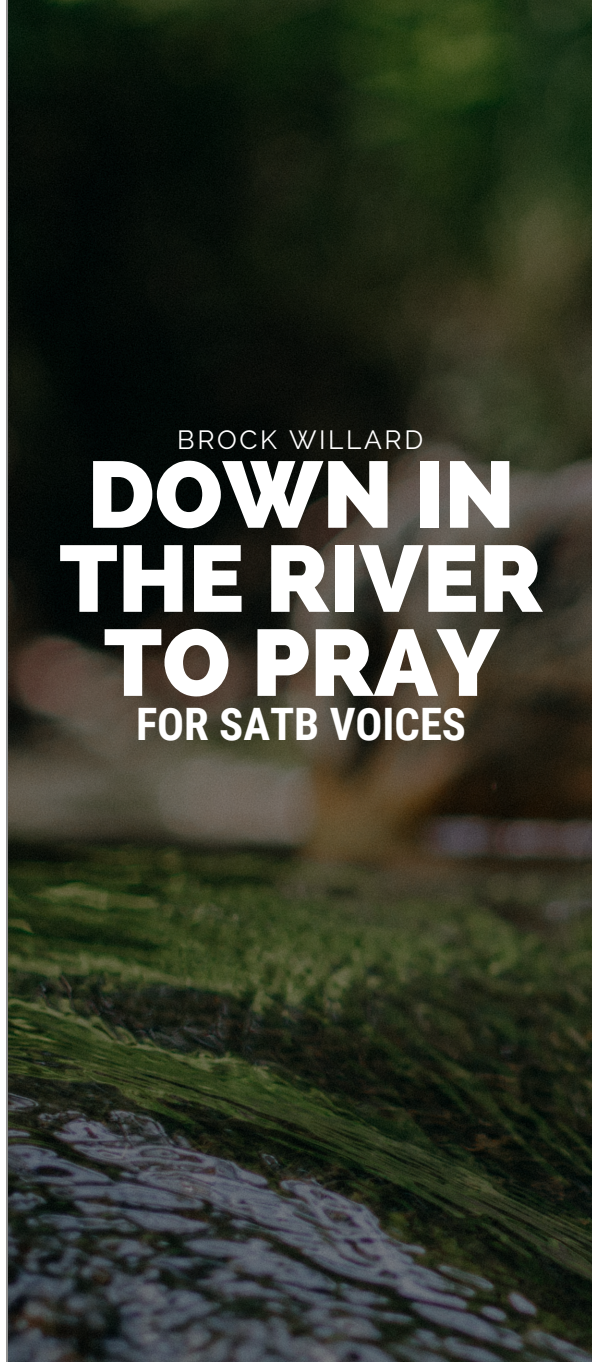


BROCK WILLARD

DOWN IN THE RIVER TO PRAY

FOR SATB VOICES



TUX PEOPLE'S



ABOUT:

This reimagining of a timeless classic for SATB Choir will surely be a favorite with any level of ensemble. Willard's arrangement not only explores the original tune, but expands upon it with tense harmonies and exciting contrasts!

FROM THE COMPOSER:

The arrangement was stemmed by the crucial safety measures enacted during the 2020 Corona Virus outbreak and a desire to remain productive during the isolation. This hymn tune was attributed to George H. Allan and while it is accepted that he was most likely the transcriber, research into the tune's history leads to a belief that this tune was composed by either a single African-American slave or a group of African-American slaves. During their lifetime, the tune obviously took on a different context than it does today. The refrain of "Good Lord, show me the way," however crosses temporal and spatial boundaries and offers a line of guidance to weary souls.

The arrangement should be performed with style in mind of course. There are instances where I have chosen to notate these stylistic performance considerations. To quote a metaphor from singer/arranger and my colleague Kathryn Parke, the character of the piece should evoke "barn raisings," typical of Southern Baptist traditions. Other sources of inspiration of the arrangement can come from other arrangements of Appalachian music, African-American spirituals, and gospel music. Additionally, I have placed commas in the score where breaths are recommended due to instances of text repetition and have also placed dashed lines to signify no corporate breaths from the ensemble.

DURATION: 2'19"



Scan to let the composer know that you are playing their piece!



Scan to learn more about this composer!

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Additional octavos are available for purchase from the publisher online.

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**TUX PEOPLE'S
MUSIC.**

Down in the River to Pray

Traditional

for SATB Voices

Traditional
arr. Brock Willard
2020

♩ = 55 *mp*

Alto

As I went down in the ri - ver to pray,

4

stu - dy - ing a - bout that good old way, and who shall wear the

7 *tenuto rit.*

robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.

10 *a tempo*

A

Oh! Bro - thers let's go down. Let's go down, Don't you

T *mp*

Oh! Bro - thers let's go down. Let's go,

13

want to go down? Oh! Bro - thers let's go down. —

8

Let's go down, — Oh! Bro - thers let's go down.

rit.

16 *p*

Down in the ri - ver to pray. —

p

Down in the ri - ver to — pray. —

Down in the River to Pray

a tempo

19

p *mf*

S As I went down in the ri - ver to

p *mf*

A As I went down in the ri - ver to

p *mf*

T As I went down in the ri - ver to

p *mf*

B As I went down in the ri - ver to

21

pray, Stu - dy - ing a - bout that

pray, Stu - dy - ing a - bout that

pray, Stu - dy - ing a - bout that

pray, Stu - dy - ing a - bout that

23

good old way and who shall wear the

good old way and who shall wear the

good old way and who shall wear the

good old way and who shall wear the

Down in the River to Pray

25 *rit.*

star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way,

star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way,

star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way,

star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way,

28 *a tempo*

Oh! Sis - ters, let's go down, Let's go down, Don't you

Oh! Sis - ters, let's go down, Let's go down, Don't you

p sub.

Mmm

p sub.

Mmm

31 *f sub.*

want to come down? Oh! Sis - ters let's go down,

want to come down? Oh! Sis - ters let's go down,

— Oh! Sis - ters let's go down,

— Oh! Sis - ters let's go down,

Down in the River to Pray

Slower ♩ = 90

34 *poco tenuto*

Down in the ri - ver to pray.

poco tenuto

Down in the ri - ver to pray.

poco tenuto *mf*

Down in the ri - ver to pray. Mmm

poco tenuto *mf*

Down in the ri - ver to pray. Mmm

37 *mp* *mf*

As I went down in the ri - ver to pray,

mp *mf*

As I went down in the ri - ver to pray,

mp

mp

40

Stu - dy - ing a - bout that good old way and...

Stu - dy - ing a - bout that good old way and

Down in the River to Pray

42 *ff* *sub.* *p*

see! ...throne, Good

who shall see the glor - ious throne...

see! ...throne, Good

see!

44 *mf* *poco tenuto* *pp* *ff*

Lord, show me the way.

Lord, show me the way.

Lord, show me the way.

Lord, show me the way.

46 Slightly faster 60

Oh! Sin - ners let's go down,

Oh! Sin - ners Let's go down,

Oh! Sin - ners Let's go down,

Oh! Sin - ners let's go down,

Down in the River to Pray

48

Let's go down, Don't you want to come down? _____

Let's go down, Don't you want to come down? _____

Let's go down, Don't you want to come down? _____

Let's go down, Don't you want to come down? _____

50

Oh! Sin - ners let's go down! _____

Oh! Sin - ners let's go down! _____

Oh! Sin - ners let's go down! _____

Oh! Sin - ners let's go down! _____ Down! _____

52

Down in the ri - ver to pray. _____

Down in the ri - ver to ...to pray. *tenuto*

Down in the ri - ver to ...to pray. *tenuto*

Down in the ri - ver to ...to pray. *tenuto*