

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

325

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1981

1 Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's sign;
 2 Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed!
 3 Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came.
 4 Child of God your lov-ing Par-ent, learn to know whose child you are.

With this wa-ter God has sealed you un-to love and grace di-vine.
 Fresh from God, re-fresh our spir-its, in-to joy and laugh-ter lead.
 Back to God we hum-bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
 Grow to laugh and sing and wor-ship, trust and love God more than all.

Ronald Cole-Turner, a teacher of theology, is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. He is an award-winning author on the interface of science and religion.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
 Attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716), in Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715

Crashing Waters at Creation

326

Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

Gen. 1:1-5; Exod. 14:21-22; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:13-14

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Crash-ing wa-ters at cre-a-tion
 or-dered by the Spir-it's breath,
 First to wit-ness day's be-gin-ning
 from the bright-ness of night's death.</p> | <p>3 Cleans-ing wa-ter once at Jor-dan
 closed a-round the One fore-told,
 O-pened to re-veal the glo-ry
 ev-er new and ev-er old.</p> |
| <p>2 Part-ing wa-ter stood and trem-bled
 as the cap-tives passed on through,
 Wash-ing off the chains of bond-age—
 chan-nel to a life made new.</p> | <p>4 Liv-ing wa-ter, nev-er end-ing,
 quench the thirst and flood the soul.
 Well-spring, Source of life e-ter-nal,
 drench our dry-ness, make us whole.</p> |

Hymnwriter Sylvia Dunstan wrote this text to accompany a prayer for blessing the water in the United Church of Canada baptismal rites. She has credited the work of Miriam Therese Winter as her inspiration for some of the imagery in the last stanza.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
 Attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716), in Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715

Unison

D7 G D G D G D

1 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 2 When you found the won - der of the Word, I was
 3 In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 4 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

G D G D7 G D

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. *St. 4, end*

G/B C G

I was there when you were but a child, with a
 Should you find some-one to share your time and you
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you

Am D G G/B C

faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

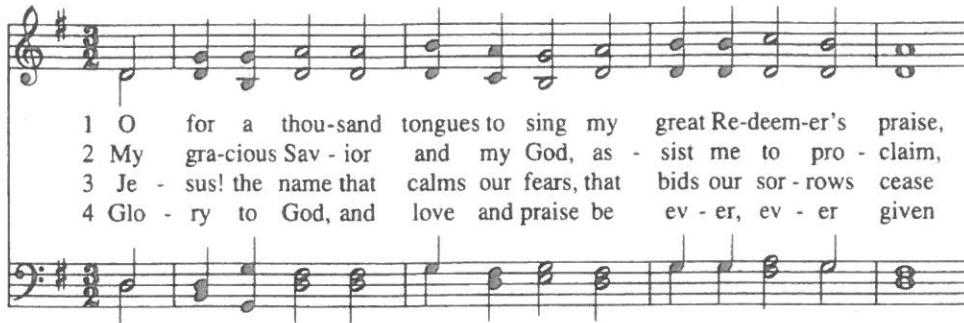
G A7 D *to beginning*

wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

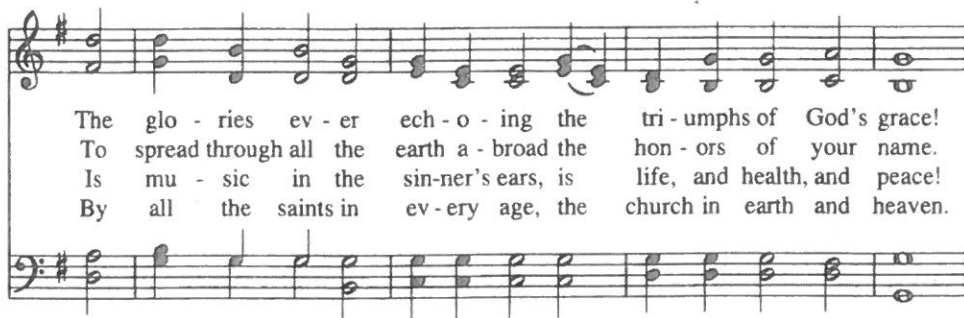
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

42

Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.



1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given



The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

The hymn is a cento from a longer poem of eighteen stanzas written by Charles Wesley on the first anniversary of his conversion. The present form of the hymn is one edited by John Wesley for The Wesleyan Hymn Book, 1780.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828
Adapt. in L. Mason's Modern Psalmody, 1839
Alternate tune: RICHMOND