

FAITH

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This Is a Day of New Beginnings

2 Cor. 5:16-17

Brian Wren, 1978; rev. 1983

*Unison*

1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -  
 2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y  
 3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the  
 4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and  
 \* In faith we'll gath - er 'round the ta - ble to taste and

mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is  
 Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of  
 past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and  
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -  
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -

bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.  
 dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.  
 griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.  
 gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.  
 gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

\*Alternate fourth stanza for Holy Communion

Brian Wren wrote this hymn in 1978 for a New Year's Day service in Oxford, England. The music is by the editor of two hymnals of the United Methodist Church and was composed for the original Wren text.

Tune: BEGINNINGS 9.8.9.8.  
 Carlton R. Young, 1987

COMFORT AND ASSURANCE

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# I've Got Peace Like a River

*Isa. 66:12; 1 Pet. 1:8-9; 1 John 4:7-12*

*African-American spiritual*

1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a  
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a  
 3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an  
 4 I've got faith like an an - chor, I've got faith like an

1  
 riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, in my  
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my  
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, in my  
 an - chor, I've got faith like an an - chor, in my

2  
 soul. I've got riv - er in my soul.  
 soul. I've got foun-tain in my soul.  
 soul. I've got o - cean in my soul.  
 soul. I've got an - chor in my soul.

*Congregations or individuals may wish to add additional verses of their own making.*

*Most of the spirituals that drew from biblical stories and images used the Hebrew scriptures, rather than the New Testament, as their inspiration. The imagery of "peace like a river" derives from the book of Isaiah.*

Tune: PEACE LIKE A RIVER 7.7.10.D.  
*African-American spiritual*

Ps. 37:7; Ps. 46:10; 1 Tim. 4:10

Katharina von Schlegel, 1752  
Transl. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855; alt.

1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-  
2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in  
3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall

ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to  
fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-  
be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment

or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God  
dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious  
gone. no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with

faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal  
shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still  
joy for-ev-er-more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

friend through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.  
know how Je-sus' pow-er ruled them long a-go.  
past, all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.