

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

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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.

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

Crashing Waters at Creation

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Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

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

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| <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>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>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>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> |
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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.

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169 What Ruler Wades through Murky Streams

Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22;
Col. 2:9-12

Thomas H. Troeger, 1984; rev. 1993

1 What rul - er wades through murk - y streams and bows be - neath the wave,
2 Christ gleams with wa - ter brown with clay from land the proph - ets trod.
3 Come bow be - neath the flow - ing wave. Christ stands here at your side

Ig - nor - ing how the world es - teems the pow - er - ful and brave?
A - bove while heav - en's clouds give way de - scends the dove of God.
and rais - es you as from the grave God raised the cru - ci - fied.

Refrain

Wa - ter, Riv - er, Spir - it, Grace, sweep o - ver me, sweep o - ver me!

Re - carve the depths your fing - ers traced in sculpt - ing me.

STRUGGLE AND CONFLICT

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When Peace, Like a River
(It Is Well with My Soul)

Ps. 146; Col. 1:19-23; 2:13-14; 3 John 1:2

Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; alt.

1 When peace, like a riv - er, up - holds me each day, when
2 Though e - vil should tempt me, though tri - als should come, let
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my
4 O God, speed the day that is filled with your light, when

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, What - ev - er my lot, you have
this blessed as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my
sin— not in part, but the whole— Is nailed to the cross and I
clouds are rolled back as a scroll; The trum - pet shall sound and the

Refrain

taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
help - less es - tate, and has paid life and blood for my soul; It is
bear it no more. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall ap - pear, "e - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul.

This hymn was written out of grief over the loss of the author's four daughters in the sinking of the SS Ville du Havre. After leaving his Chicago law practice, Horatio G. Spafford and his wife settled in Jerusalem.

Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE 11.8.11.9. with refrain
Philip P. Bliss, 1876