

# **“Shall We Gather at the River”**

## **How to Use *Sing & Ring Hymns* for Chimes or Hand Bells**

### ***Needed:***

Chimes or hand bells, two or more octaves, tables with padding  
Chime music, one copy of appropriate score for each chime

### ***Directions for use:***

1. On padded tables, lay out the chimes to be used in the piece. (See Conductor's Score, “Chimes Used in Chords” and/or “Chimes Used in Melody”.)
  - a. Chimes with the same letter names may be placed together, or
  - b. Chimes may be lined up from low to high, beginning on the right (from audience point of view).
2. Place the appropriate music with each chime. (For example, “Chime: C” music would be placed with the C instrument.)
3. Assign each student to a chime position appropriate to their ability level and size (Ex., do not assign a small child to play a large chime such as C4.)
4. The starting pitch is shown on the Conductor's Score. After hearing the starting pitch, all will sing the melody *a cappella* from his or her copy of the chime music. When the students are comfortable with the tune of the song, move on to the next step.
5. Explain to the students:
  - a. Every time a word is boxed, the chime will be rung.
  - b. Every time there is a broken vertical line, the chime will be damped.
6. Practice ringing and damping chords until the students do it uniformly.
7. Practice the song with the students singing and ringing.
8. In performance, use any combination of the following:
  - a. Melody sung by solo, group, and/or audience while chimes are ring the harmony.
  - b. Melody played by solo C instrument (Ex. flute, recorder, xylophone) or selected chime players while main group continues ringing the harmony.
  - c. Chimes playing the complete piece using the Chime Arrangement.
9. A scripture, the story of the hymn or information about the hymn writer may be used to introduce the musical performance.

# CONDUCTOR SCORE

Chimes used in melody: C5 D5 E5 F5 G5 A5 B5 C6

Chimes used in chords: C D E F G A B

STARTING PITCH: E

## Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry




### Refrain



CHIME: A


# Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry




1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er      Where bright an - gel feet have trod, \_\_\_\_  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er,      wash ing up its sil - ver spray, \_\_\_\_  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver,      lay we ev - ery bur - den down; \_\_\_\_  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver,      soon our pil - grim - age shall cease, \_\_\_\_

5



With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

CHIME: B


## Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry



1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er Where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver, soon our pil - grim - age shall cease,

5



With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13




Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

CHIME: C


# Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry




1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er Where bright an - gel feet have trod,\_\_\_\_  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,\_\_\_\_  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;\_\_\_\_  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver, soon our pil - grim - age shall cease,\_\_\_\_

5




With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13




Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

CHIME: D


## Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry




1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er Where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver, soon our pil - grim - age shall cease,

5




With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

CHIME: E


# Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry




1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod,\_\_\_\_  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,\_\_\_\_  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;\_\_\_\_  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver, soon our pil - grim - age shall cease,\_\_\_\_

5




With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er, Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13




Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

CHIME: F

## Shall We Gather at the River


Words and Music by Robert Lowry



1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er,  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver,  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver,


Where	bright	an	gel	feet have	trod,
wash	ing	up	its	sil - ver	spray,
lay	we	ev	ery	bur - den	down;
soon	our	pil	grim - age	shall	cease,

5



With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.



CHIME: G


# Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry




1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver, spray,  
3. Ere we reach the shin - ing ri - ver, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing ri - ver, soon our pil - grim - age shall cease,

5




With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er, Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - den day.  
Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er, with the mel - o - dy of peace.

9 Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

13



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

TONE CHIME arrangement (3 octaves)  
 Chimes Used: C4 D4 E4 F4 G4 A4 B4 C5 D5 E5 F5  
 G5 A5 B5 C6 D6 E6 F6 G6 A6 B6 C7

## Shall We Gather at the River

Words and Music by Robert Lowry  
 Arr. Carol Swinyar

1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er Where bright an - gel feet have trod, \_\_\_

With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?

Refrain  
 Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

2. On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray, We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. REFRAIN.
3. Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down; Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. REFRAIN.
4. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage shall cease, Soon our happy hearts will quiver, with the melody of peace. REFRAIN.