

A Blessing over Waters

Text by Teresa Berger
Melody adapted from the traditional
Exultet chant by Lorna Collingridge

The musical notation consists of eight staves of music for a single voice. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is in common time. The lyrics are integrated into the musical lines, with each line numbered 1 through 8.

1 Liv - ing God, we call you mo - ther be - cause you are the source of all life.

2 At the ve - ry dawn of cre - a - tion, you birthed the cos - mos

3 and took it in your ____ arms to nur - ture it. E - ver since then mo - thers

4 have known your cre - a - tive e - ner - gy in the break - ing of their ____ wa - ters

5 when giv - ing birth. Your Spi - rit breath'd gent - ly on ____ the wa - ters of cre - a - tion

6 mak - ing them well-springs of life. You ____ taught the waves their words of ____ wis - dom

7 and the o - cean depths their si - lent song ____ of _____ praise.

8 The tor - ren - tial wa -ters of the great _____ flood be - came a sign

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9

of the wa - ters of ____ re - demp - tion as they brought an end to worlds of vio - lence

10

and a new be - gin - ning of life. In the rain - bow you ____ gave wa - ter

11

the co - lor of hope. You showed Ha - gar a well in the de ____ sert

12

to re - vive her dy - - ing child.

13

You in - spired He - brew mid - wives to save the child - ren of Is - rael

14

thus pre - par - ing a peo - ple to walk through the wa -ters of the Red Sea.

15

You moved a Le - vite wo - man to hide her son in a bas - ket

16

and en - trust him to ____ a ri - ver. Mi - ri - am sang ____ your prai ____ ses

17

as you freed her peo - ple from sla - ve - ry and drowned Pha - raoh's cha ____ riots

18

in the wa - ters of the sea. Like a mo - ther you ____ car - ried your peo - ple

19

through the de - sert, pro - vid - ing wa - ter in ____ the wil - der - ness.

20

No won - der your pro - phets spoke of your ____ grace as morn - - ing ____ dew,

21

as o - ver - flow - ing tor - rent, as mo - ther's milk. When the time had come

22

your Word took hu - man form in the wa - ter of Ma - ry's womb.

23

Bles - sed in - deed the fruit of this womb: Je - sus.

24

He was bap - tized in the wa -ters of ____ the Jor - dan. At a well he spoke truth

25

to an out - cast wo - man and pro - mised her liv - ing wa - - ters.

26

He calmed the storm o - ver the Sea of Ga - li - lee and the wind and waves

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27

re - cog - nized ____ his voice. Dy - ing on a cross, wa - ter and blood

28

flowed from ____ his side. In _____ them you birthed your church.

29

Liv - ing God you have made wa - ter a sym - bol of your life e - ver since the dawn

30

of cre - a - tion. Let your Spi - rit now breathe gent - ly on these wa - ters

31

that they may be - come for us the wa - ters of life,

32

the co - lor of hope, the sound of rain in the de - sert.

33

May you birth us e - ver a - new in wa - ter and the Spi - rit

34

from now on un - til the ve - ry end of time

35

when the ri - ver of the wa - ter of life will be all ____ in all.