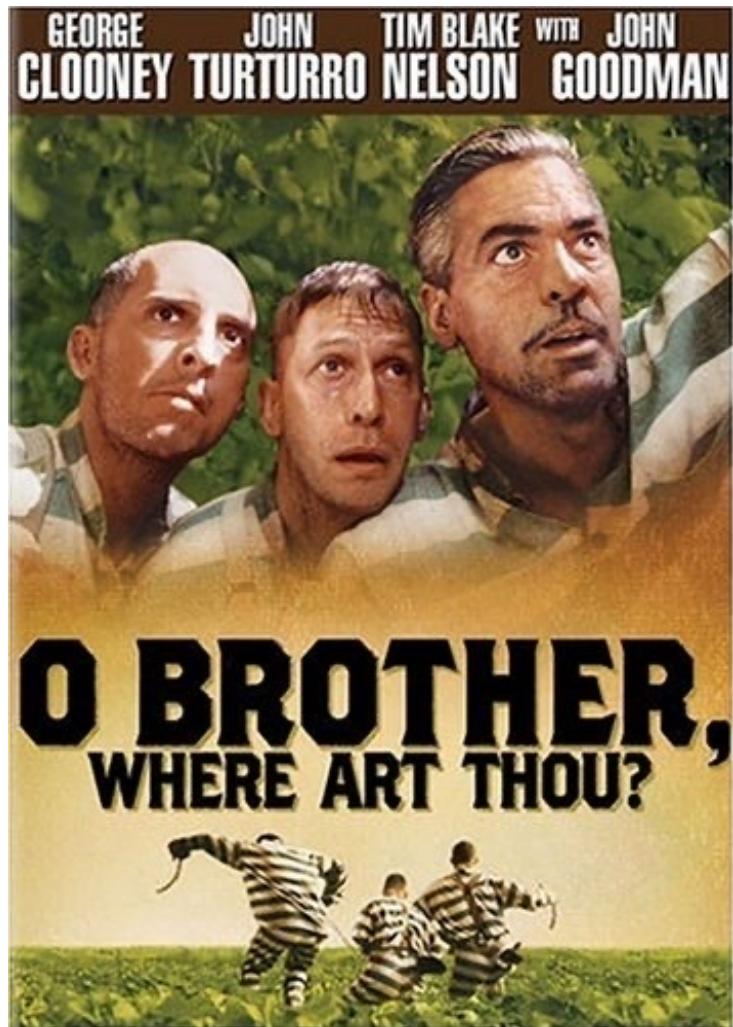


Down to the River to Pray



*Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by
Thomas L. DeBusk*

Down to the River to Pray

Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by
Thomas L. DeBusk

$\text{♩} = 60 \quad \text{G} \quad \text{♩} = 60$

Handbells

Soprano

Alto

As I went down in the river to pray, study-ing a - bout that

As I went down in the river to pray, study-ing a - bout that

8

H-bells.

S.

good ol' way and who shall wear the star-ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way.

A.

good ol' way and who shall wear the star-ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way.

<Here's the sign; see it? You're coming back here!

18 D/F# G Em/G G Em Em⁷ G

S.

1. O sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
3. O mo - thers...

A.

1. O sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
3. O mo - thers...

T.

1st time: female tenors only; 2nd time: all tenors

1. O sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.
3. O mo - thers...

B.

2nd time only: add basses

3. O mo - thers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

26

S. D/F# Em⁷ G Em/G G D Em⁷ Cmaj⁷ G

O sis - ters, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.
...mo - thers,...

A.

O sis - ters, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.
...mo - thers,...

T.

O sis - ters, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.
...mo - thers,...

**1st time: female tenors only
2nd time: all tenors**

B.

O mo - thers, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.

2nd time only: basses continue...

34

Vln.

G/D Em⁷/D G/D D/F# G⁹ Em⁷ G/D D⁷

High harmony (soft)

S.

As I went down in the riv - er to pray, stu - dy-ing a - bout that good ol'

Melody

A.

As I went down in the riv - er to pray, stu - dy-ing a - bout that good ol'

**1st time: female tenors only
2nd time: all tenors**

T.

As I went down in the riv - er to pray, stu - dy-ing a - bout that good ol'

2nd time only: basses continue...

B.

As I went down in the riv - er to pray, stu - dy-ing a - bout that good ol'

42

Vln. G/C G G/C C G/D D C G

S. way and who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way._____

A. way and_ who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way._____

T. way and who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way._____

B. way and who shall wear the star - ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way._____

**1st time: female tenors only
2nd time: all tenors**

2nd time only: basses continue...

1st time only ("O brothers..."): omit measures 53 & 54. They do not sound.
2nd time only ("O fathers..."): keyboard plays measures 53 & 54 solo, then singers start.

51 D/F# D/F# G G D Em7 C/E

Vln. H-bells.

T. Male tenors only both times (melody)

2. O bro - thers, let's go down, let's go down, come on_
4. O fa - thers,...

B. All basses both times (harmony)

2. O bro - thers, let's go down, let's go down, come on_
4. O fa - thers,...

60 G D/F# G Em/G D Am⁷/E Am/C G

Vln.

H-bells.

T.
down. O bro-thers, let's go down, down in the ri-ver to pray.
O fa- thers,...

B.
down. O bro-thers, let's go down, down in the ri-ver to pray.
O fa- thers,...

Add Sopranos & Altos Both Times

69 G/D D/F# Em/G G/D C G

S.
As I went down in the riv-er to pray, stu-dy-ing a-bout that good ol' way and who shall wear the

A.
As I went down in the riv-er to pray, stu-dy-ing a-bout that good ol' way and who shall wear the

Add Female Tenors Both Times

T.
As I went down in the riv-er to pray, stu-dy-ing a-bout that good ol' way and who shall wear the

Basses continue both times

B.
As I went down in the riv-er to pray, stu-dy-ing a-bout that good ol' way and who shall wear the

D.S. al Coda
2nd Time To Coda

80 C G/D D C G

S. star-ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way.

A. star-ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way.

T. star-ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way.

B. star-ry crown? Good Lord, show me the way.

Coda

Unison (diminishing to end...)

D G

5. O sin-ners, let's go down,

Freely & deliberately:

90 D/A G

S. let's go down, come on down. O sin-ners, let's go down, **Melody**
G G/D C G
down in the ri-ver to_ pray.

A. let's go down, come on down. O sin-ners, let's go down, **Harmony**
down in the ri-ver to_ pray.

T. let's go down, come on down. O sin-ners, let's go down, **Harmony**
down in the ri-ver to_ pray.

B. let's go down, come on down. O sin-ners, let's go down, **Harmony**
down in the ri-ver to_ pray.

2'47.7"