

**The River** is an inspired pairing of the two traditional tunes, *Shall We Gather at the River* and *Deep River*. Featuring a solo for low male or female voice, this arrangement is appropriate for both school and church choirs, for concert and for worship.

In rehearsal, strive for a lyrical legato imbued with a strong sense of the underlying eighth note pulse. Sing the rich harmonies on a neutral syllable such as “noo” until proper intonation and blend are achieved.

When performed by church choirs in worship, **The River** is especially appropriate for All Saints’, Lent, funeral and memorial services. Suggested corresponding scripture readings include Psalm 46: 4, Isaiah 66: 12, Ezekiel 44: 1-12 and Revelation 22: 1-5. One basic homiletical theme is the journey of the faithful across the Jordan River to the Promised Land.

**Greg Gilpin** is a widely published choral composer and arranger with a degree in vocal music education from Northwest Missouri State University. Frequently in demand as a choral clinician and choreographer, he also is involved in the gospel music industry as a songwriter and singer, working with artists such as Bill and Gloria Gaither, Ray Boltz and Sandi Patty.

# THE RIVER

(Shall We Gather at the River/Deep River)

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied,  
with soloist\*

Arranged by  
GREG GILPIN (ASCAP)

Expressively, with some freedom (♩ = ca. 76-80)

ACCOMP.

*mp flowing*

3

S. *mp*

A. *mp*

\*\*Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, where bright an-gel feet have

T. *mp*

B. *mp*

6

trod, with its crys-tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing

\* Also available in an edition for S.A.B. or 2-part mixed voices, No. 19888.

\*\* Words and music by Robert Lowry (1826-1899).

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11 Yes, we'll gath-er at the

9 by the throne of God? Yes, we'll

*mf*

12 riv - er, the beau-ti - ful  
gath-er at the riv - er, the beau-ti - ful riv - er;  
riv - er, the beau-ti - ful riv - er;

15 gath-er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of

*dim. e poco rit.*

*dim.*

*dim. e poco rit.*

18 SOLO (male or female)  
*mp a tempo*

\*Deep \_\_\_\_\_ riv - er, \_\_\_\_\_ my home is o - ver

*p a tempo*

God.

*p*

18

*p a tempo*

21

*poco rit.* , *a tempo* *p*

Jor - dan. Deep \_\_\_\_\_ riv - er, Lord, I

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

Oo \_\_\_\_\_ I

*p*

21

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

\* Traditional spiritual.

24

26

(end solo)

want to cross o-ver in - to camp-ground.

want to cross o-ver in - to camp-ground.

*mp*

*mp*

O don't you want \_ to

24

26

*mp*

27

go \_ to that gos - pel \_ reast, \_ that

30

prom - ised \_ land \_ where all \_ is \_

*poco rit.*

*poco rit.*

33 *p* 34 *a tempo* *grad. cresc.*

peace? O don't you want to go to that prom - ised land, that

*p* *grad. cresc.*

*p* *a tempo* *grad. cresc.*

36 *molto rit.* 38 *Slightly more broad* *mf*

land where all is peace? Shall we gath - er at the

*mf*

*molto rit.* *Slightly more broad* *mf*

39

riv - er, the beau - ti-ful riv - er;

the beau - ti-ful riv - er;

42 *molto rit.* *mp* **44** *More movement* *cresc.*

gath-er with the saints at the riv - er that flows

riv - er, O deep

*mp cresc.*

*More movement*

*molto rit.* *mp* *cresc.*

45 (9) *mf* *cresc.* *rit.* *f*

by the throne of

riv - er, O deep riv - er

*mf cresc.* *f*

*mf* *rit.* *f*

48 *Slower* *rit.* *ff* *ff*

God, of God!

*Slower* *rit.* *ff*

