

I Saw Water

Text based on Ezekiel 47:1-2, 9 and the
Easter Vigil Liturgy

Ken Macek
Keyboard arrangement by Jeremy Young

Rhythmic and vigorous (♩ = 108)

Guitar: Capo 3 n.c.

Solo: *mf*

1. I saw wa - ter flow - ing from the tem - ple! Al - le - lu - ia! —

— It brought life from God, it brought sal - va - tion, — and the

p

ped.

§ REFRAIN:

(F) (G) (A) (F) (G)
Ab Bb C — Melody (alto): *f* Ab Bb

peo - ple sang in joy - ful praise: Al - le - lu - ia!

Soprano (after v. 2, 3, 4): *f*

Al - le -

Baritone (after v. 2, 3, 4): *f*

Al - le - lu - ia!

cresc. *molto cresc.* *f*

(F) (G) (Am) (F) (G) (C) (G)
 Ab Bb Cm Ab Bb Eb Bb

Al - le - lu! Al - le - lu - ia!

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu! Al - le - lu - ia!

(F) (G) (F) (G) (Am)
 Ab Bb Ab Bb Cm *last time to Coda* ⊕

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu!

opt. div.

last time to Coda ⊕

(F) (G) (A) (G) (F) (G)
 Ab Bb C Bb Ab Bb (to verses)

Al - le - lu - ia! _____

Al - le - lu - ia! _____ (to verses)

Al - le - lu - ia! _____ (to verses)

Al - le - lu - ia! _____ (to verses)

Verse 2: (F) (G) (F) (G) (Am) (F) (G)
Solo: Ab Bb Ab Bb Cm Ab Bb

2. Spi-rit of cre-a-tion, breath-ing on the wa-ters, mak-ing them your fount of

(C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (Am) (G)
 Eb Bb Eb Ab Bb Cm Bb

ho - li - ness; wa - ters of the flood, a new be -

(Fmaj7) Abmaj7 (Fmaj7) Abmaj7 (G) Bb (A) C D.S.

gin-ning of good-ness and an end to sin.

molto cresc.

Verse 3: (F) Ab (G) Bb (F) Ab (G) Bb (Am) Cm

Women: 3. Wa-ters of the sea God part-ed for the peo-ple,

mp

(F) Ab (G) Bb (C) Eb (G) Bb

lead-ing them from bond-age to new life;

(F) Ab (G) Bb (Am) Cm (G) Bb (Fmaj7) Abmaj7

wa-ters of the Jor-dan flow-ing o-ver Christ,

(Fmaj7) (G) (A)
 Abmaj7 Bb C

D.S.

Spi - rit of a - noint - ing to the world!

D.S.
molto cresc.

Verse 4: (F) (G) (F) (G) (Am) (F) (G)
 Ab Bb Ab Bb Cm Ab Bb

Choir SATB: marcato

4. Blood and wa - ter flow - ing from the Sav - ior, Spi - rit of re - demp - tion for the

mf marcato

4. Blood and wa - ter flow - ing from the Sav - ior, Spi - rit of re - demp - tion for the

(C) (G) (F) (G) (Am) (G)
 Eb Bb f Ab Bb Cm Bb

world! _____ Springs of liv - ing wa - ter, bless the

f

world! _____ Springs of liv - ing wa - ter, bless the

(Fmaj7) Abmaj7 (Fmaj7) Abmaj7 (G) Bb (A) C *D.S. al fine*

Lord, giv-ing glo-ry__ and praise for-ev-er more!

Lord, giv-ing glo-ry__ and praise for-ev-er more! *D.S. al fine*

molto cresc.

⊕ Coda (F) Ab (G) Bb (A) C (G) Bb (F) Ab (G) Bb (A) C *non dim. fine*

Al - le - lu - ia! *non dim. fine*

Al - le - lu - ia! *non dim. fine*

Al - le - lu - ia! *non dim. fine*

ff *fine*

Performance Notes

I Saw Water was written in response to the relative paucity of contemporary vernacular settings of the Easter vigil *Vidi Aquam* text. Use of this song is recommended to accompany the Easter Vigil water-sprinkling ritual following the Renewal of Baptismal promises, and during the sprinkling rites added locally to subsequent Sunday liturgies during the Easter season. In addition, the “springs of living water, bless the Lord” section of verse 4 can be used in a call and response fashion during the blessing of the font before the baptisms to maintain a sense of musical continuity.

The duration and degree of formality of the sprinkling rite will dictate usable variations of *I Saw Water*. An abbreviated rite (small assembly and/or “token” sprinkling) may be accompanied by a simple *a cappella* rendition of verse 1 with the Alleluia refrain (with or without instrumental accompaniment) repeated as necessary. A more extensive rite (ambulatory celebrant, large assembly, large worship space) may call for several or all of verses 2 through 4, which are adapted from the Vigil prayers over the font. These should preferably be sung in their entirety, by alternating cantors of small groups.

—Ken Macek

Preview