

# Down in the River to Pray

Traditional  
arr. Cheryl Lynn Helm

## Refrain 1

Solo *p*  
*freely*  
As I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

Sopranos  
Altos *pp*  
Hmm... Hmm...

8  
way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

Hmm... Hmm... Hmm...

16 Verse 1 *p*

Tutti Sop  
O sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Tutti Altos *p*  
O sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

24

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

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

Refrain 2

32 *mp*

S1 I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

S2 I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

A *p*  
Ooo... Ooo...

39

S1 way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

S2 way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

A Ooo... Ooo... Ooo...

Verse 2

48 *mf*

S1 O bro-thers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

S2 O bro-thers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

A *mf*  
O bro-thers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

56

S1  
Come on bro-thers, let's go down, down in the ri-ver to pray. As

S2  
Come on bro-thers, let's go down, down in the ri-ver to pray. As

A  
Come on bro-thers, let's go down, down in the ri-ver to pray. As

64 Refrain 3

S1  
I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old way, and

S2  
I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old way, and

A  
I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old way, and

72

S1  
who shall wear the star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

S2  
who shall wear the star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

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

80 Verse 3

S1 *f*  
O fa - thers, let's go down, let's go down now, come on down.

S2 *f*  
O fa - thers, let's go down, let's go down now, come on down.

A *f*  
O fa - thers, let's go down, let's go down now, come on down.

88

S1  
O fa - thers, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.

S2  
O fa - thers, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.

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

95 Refrain 4 *mp*

S1  
Ooo... Ooo...

S2 *mf*  
As I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

A1 *mf*  
As I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

2 *mf*  
As I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

103

S1  
Ooo... Good Lord, show me the way.

S2  
way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

A1  
way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

A2  
103  
way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

Verse 4

112 *mf*

S1  
O mo-thers, let's go down, let's go down, don't you want to come down?

S2  
*mf*  
O mo-thers, let's go down, let's go down, don't you want to come down?

A1  
*mf*  
O mo-thers, let's go down, let's go down, don't you want to come down?

A2  
112 *mf*  
O mo-thers, let's go down, let's go down, don't you want to come down?

120 *mp*

S1 Come on mo-thers, let's go down, go down in the ri-ver to pray. As

S2 Come on mo-thers, let's go down, go down in the ri-ver to pray. As

A1 Come on mo-thers, let's go down, go down in the ri-ver to pray.

A2 Come on mo-thers, let's go down, go down in the ri-ver to pray.

128 Refrain 5

S1 I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

S2 I went down in the ri-ver to pray, stu-dy-ing a - bout that good old

A Ooo... Ooo...

135

S1 way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

S2 way, and who shall wear the star-ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

A Ooo... Ooo... Ooo...

Verse 6 *a little slower*

144 *p*

S  
O sin - ners, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

A  
O sin - ners, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.



152

S  
O sin - ners, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray. As

A  
O sin - ners, let's go down, down in the ri - ver to pray.



Refrain 7 *slower*

160 *pp*



Unison I went down in the ri - ver to pray, stu - dy - ing a - bout that good old way, and

168 *soft and slow*



who shall wear the star - ry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.