

# Down to the River to Pray

American folk song  
 "The Good Old Way,"  
 attr. to George H. Allan,  
 fr. *Slave Songs of the United States*, 1867  
 Arranged by Scot Crandal

(♩ = ca. 64)

**Soprano Alto**

As I went down to the riv-er to pray, stud-y-ing a-bout that

**Tenor Bass**

good old way and who shall wear the star-ry crown— Good Lord, show me the

way! O \*sis-ters, let's go down.— Let's go down, come on down.—

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system consists of two staves: a soprano/alto staff in treble clef and a tenor/bass staff in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note equals approximately 64 beats per minute. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is oriented diagonally across the page.

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\*brothers, fathers, mothers, sinners

Optional arrangement: Starting with unison soprano, a voice part may be added at the beginning of each verse in this order:  
 alto, tenor, bass.

O \*sis - ters, let's go down, — down to the riv - er to pray.

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of two staves: a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The vocal line begins with a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) and continues with a series of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the vocal staff.

Preview

## Assembly Edition

DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY

American folk song

As I went down to the riv-er to pray, stud-y-ing a-bout that  
 good old way and who shall wear the star - ry crown— Good Lord,  
 show me the way! O \*sis-ters, let's go down. Let's go down, come on  
 down. O \*sis-ters, let's go down, down to the riv-er to pray.

\*brothers, fathers, mothers, sinners

Text and music: American folk song; "The Good Old Way,"  
 attr. to George H. Allan, fr. *Slave Songs of the United States*, 1867.

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