

# 47. SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER?

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The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in E-flat major (three flats) and common time (C). It consists of four systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-4) has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system (measures 5-8) also has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third system (measures 9-12) features a forte (*f*) dynamic for the first part and mezzo-forte (*mf*) for the second. The fourth system (measures 13-16) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking over measures 14-15. The score concludes with a double bar line in measure 16. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with some words split across lines.

*mf*

1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod;  
2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up in sil - ver spray,

*mf*

5 With its cry - stal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
We will talk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py gold - en day.

*f* *mf*

9 Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er,

*f* *mf*

13 Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

*rit.*

3. Ere we reach the shining river, Lay we every burden down;  
Grace our spirits will deliver, And provide a robe and crown. Yes, we'll gather...
4. Soon we'll reach the silver river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace. Yes, we'll gather....