

In Cana Town of Galilee

In Cana in Galilæa

Geistliche Deutsche Lieder (1601), no. 37

text: Nicolaus Herman, tr. Matthew Carver, alt.

Bartholomäus Gesius (1555/62–1613)

ed. Jonathan Wessler

Soprano

1 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee, A wed - ding Ma - ry went to see;
6 The wa - ter by His Word of might Was made a li - quor of de - light;
10 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee Was Je - sus' god - ly ma - jes - ty
11 Here, bride and groom, who have a mind To build a house, your com - fort find:

Alto

1 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee, A wed - ding Ma - ry went to see;
6 The wa - ter by His Word of might Was made a li - quor of de - light;
10 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee Was Je - sus' god - ly ma - jes - ty
13 Here, bride and groom, who have a mind To build a house, your com - fort find:

Tenor

1 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee, A wed - ding Ma - ry went to see;
6 The wa - ter by His Word of might Was made a li - quor of de - light;
10 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee Was Je - sus' god - ly ma - jes - ty
13 Here, bride and groom, who have a mind To build a house, your com - fort find:

Bass

1 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee, A wed - ding Ma - ry went to see;
6 The wa - ter by His Word of might Was made a li - quor of de - light;
10 In Ca - na town of Ga - li - lee Was Je - sus' god - ly ma - jes - ty
13 Here, bride and groom, who have a mind To build a house, your com - fort find:

[6]

And Je - sus, bid - den to the same, With His di - sci - ples thi - ther came.
He told the ser - vants, "Pour in haste The mas - ter of the feast a taste."
Shown by this first of signs per - formed, And His di - sci - ples' faith con - firmed.
Be - lieve that Christ will you at - tend And wa - ters all to wine a - mend.

And Je - sus, bid - den to the same, With His di - sci - ples thi - ther came.
He told the ser - vants, "Pour in haste The mas - ter of the feast a taste."
Shown by this first of signs per - formed, And His di - sci - ples' faith con - firmed.
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And Je - sus, bid - den to the same, With His di - sci - ples thi - ther came.
He told the ser - vants, "Pour in haste The mas - ter of the feast a taste."
Shown by this first of signs per - formed, And His di - sci - ples' faith con - firmed.
Be - lieve that Christ will you at - tend And wa - ters all to wine a - mend.

And Je - sus, bid - den to the same, With His di - sci - ples thi - ther came.
He told the ser - vants, "Pour in haste The mas - ter of the feast a taste."
Shown by this first of signs per - formed, And His di - sci - ples' faith con - firmed.
Be - lieve that Christ will you at - tend And wa - ters all to wine a - mend.

In Cana in Galilaea by Nicolaus Herman
for the Second Sunday after Epiphany
for music by Bartholomäus Gesius
Translation by Matthew Carver, 2023.

1 In Cana town of Galilee,
A wedding Mary went to see;
And Jesus, bidden to the same,
With His disciples thither came.

2 But when at last the wine was gone,
Said Mary to the Lord, her Son,
Ah, Jesus, dearest Son of mine,
These people help! There is no wine.

3 God's Son said, "Woman" to her plea,
"What have I now to do with thee?
Am I to cure it by My pow'r?
Thou know'st, not yet is come Mine hour."

4 She calmly heard the stern reply
And said unto the servants nigh,
"Whatever He shall bid you, do,
I trust His counsel ever true."

5 Then Jesus would His glory show,
And let us men His mercy know.
Six water jars He therefore willed
With water promptly to be filled.

6 That water by His Word of might
Was made a liquor of delight;
He told the servants, "Pour in haste
The master of the feast a taste."

7 The master, tasting of the wine,
But knowing not the work divine,
That it had water been before,
Amazed, the bridegroom did implore:

8 "O bridegroom, answer, what is this?
The custom of all men it is
To give the better wine at first,
And when it fails, to give the worst!"

9 When by the servants 'twas explained,
No longer silent it remained,
But through the land from first to last
The word of Jesus' wonder passed.

10 In Cana town of Galilee
Was Jesus' godly majesty
Shown by this first of signs performed,
And His disciples' faith confirmed.

11 Here, bride and groom, who have a mind
To build a house, your comfort find:
Believe that Christ will you attend
And waters all to wine amend.

12 For He th' estate of marriage planned,
And forged in Eden by His hand.
And will from crosses that annoy
Bring man and wife to endless joy.

13* Lord Christ, Thy holy ord'nance save,
Lest Satan e'er that bond deprave;
[or, Keep it from Satan's poison grave;]
Thy kingdom thus be multiplied,
Thy name be praised and glorified.

** In the original, this stanza is labeled "Prayer."*