

Why Stands the Woman by the Well?

A Hymn Inspired by John 4:5-42

Text: Stephen M. Fearing, 2020

Tune: NOEL

Meter: CMD (8.6.8.6.D)

Music: English Melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874

Piano

1. Why stands the wo - man by the well in mid - day's bla - zing sun
2. She's had five hus - bands, not by choice, for reas - ons we don't know.
3. But by the well there was a man she did not re - cog - nize.
4. To Ja - cob's Well she came that day to quench her heav - y thirst.

Pno.

4

when oth - er wo - men gath - er wat - er when the day's be - gun?
Per - haps she strugg - led to con - cieve, then each man made her go.
He spoke to her with gent - le grace, with kind - ness in his eyes.
Of all the folks who called him Christ, this wo - man was the first.

Pno.

8

She's heard the whisp - ers and the taunts they hurl at her in jest.
But visc - ious rum - ors spread so fast, like weeds that feed on shame.
He showed his true di - vin - i - ty; she knew he was God's son.
She found in him e - ter - nal life, a wel - come warm and wide.

Pno.

12

And though her plight is not her fault, they judge her with - out rest.
At noon she head - ed to the well with pri - va - cy her aim.
She left her wa - ter jar be - hind and shared with ev - 'ry - one.
The love of God can do so much to nar - row the di - vide!