

## Notes from the Music Department

9-12-2021

I have written many times about Alabama's Rose Sanders, now known as Faya Ora Rose Toure', a Harvard educated Civil Rights activist and so much more. While singing "**There's a River Flowin' in My Soul,**" emphasize the key phrase, "and it's telling me that I'm somebody." "I'm Somebody!"

Composer Andrea Klouse is also a past president of the Washington Music Educators Association, and member of their Hall of Fame. Listen as The ProMusica Trio - Karen Zuidema, the newest leader of ProMusica, our own Danika Kozlovich and myself - share her arrangement of the beautiful "**A Gentle River Runs**" to start today's celebration of the Water Communion.

What more can I say about Carolyn McDade - composer of our beloved "Spirit of Life"? Today, we add "**Come, Drink Deep**" to our list of favorites by this amazing woman.

Sara Thomsen wrote both "**Mni Wiconi**" and "**River Runs.**" It is said that her songs "carry you in - in to the particulars of your own life and out - out into shared humanity." "**Mni Wiconi**" joins our growing list of songs that should be in our hymnal - our newest congregational song! Need I ask for enthusiastic singing?

\*\*\*Our Drum Club is back! We will meet from 7:00-8:00 pm, this Monday, Sept. 13, in the Drum Haven (my basement) at 1005 Steuben Street, Wausau. Part drum circle, part technique building, part improvisatory surprises and all fun, this musical hour is open to all who are vaccinated and masked. Just bring yourself - the Haven is quite full of wonderful instruments begging to be played after our long pandemic interlude!\*\*\*

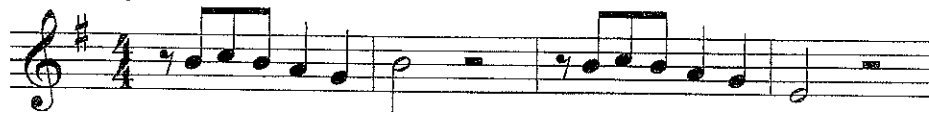
# Mni Wiconi - Water is Life

(mih-nee wih-cho-nee)

Sara Thomsen

\*Written in support  
of the 2016  
Standing Rock  
protests.

## Chorus



M-ni wi-co - ni, sing!

M-ni wi-co - ni, sing!



M-ni wi-co - ni, "wa - ter is life" for ev - ry thing.

## 9 Verses



We are the wa - ter, sing!

We are the wa - ter, sing!

We are the mea-dow, come.

We are the mea-dow, come.

We are the earth and sky.

We are the thun-der cries.



We are the wa - ter, we are where all life be - gins!

We are the lark that sings, the new day has be - gun!

We are the fire and we are the light in your eyes.

### **A Gentle River Runs**

Andrea Klouse

A gentle river runs near the place  
I long to be,  
It's a place where dreams are born  
and a place  
where hearts are free,  
Where the tender hopes arise  
with the warming winds of spring,  
Near the place where the gentle river runs.

A gentle river runs near the place  
I long to be,  
Where hands yet weary reach for another  
hand in need.  
Where courage leads the heart  
and noble dreams are dreamed,  
Near the place where the gentle river runs.

A gentle river runs near the place  
I long to be,  
Where despair has turned to hope  
that love has conquered greed.  
And with you by my side we will join the  
winds of spring,  
Near the place where a gentle river runs.

### **Come, Drink Deep**

Carolyn McDade

Come, drink deep of living waters.  
Without cup, bend close to the ground.  
Wade with bare feet into troubled waters  
Where love of life abounds.

### **Come, Drink Deep (cont.)**

I turn my head to sky rains falling;  
Wash the wounds of numbness  
from my soul.  
Turn my heart in tides of fierce renewal  
Where love and rage run whole.

Come, rains of heaven on the dry seed.  
Rains of love on ev'ry tortured land.  
Roots complacent awaken in compassion  
So hope springs in our hands.

### **River Dream**

Sara Thomsen

Oh, river, rolling river, Sing me your dream.  
Oh, river, rolling river, Sing me your dream.  
Water way, flowing stream,  
Rising wave, river dream.  
Oh, river, rolling river, Sing me your dream.  
Oh, river, rolling river, Sing me your dream.

Oh, blue sky, big blue sky.....

Oh, prairie, rolling prairie.....

Oh, people, loving people.....