

CANADIAN  
BAPTISTS

Together in Mission



# Be The Church, Sent Out

*We worship God together as Canadian Baptists  
for He is faithful through all generations.*

Music & Lyrics  
**Mike Janzen**  
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Dear Worship Leader,

As we celebrate 150 years of Canadian Baptists together in mission, it brings us great joy to share this special project that embodies the heart and spirit of our commemoration.

We are grateful for God's faithfulness along this journey and are thrilled to announce the commissioning of an original song. This inspired and soul-stirring song is crafted by the talented **Mike Janzen**, one of Canada's foremost musicians and award-winning singer-songwriters. This anthem serves as a poignant tribute to Canadian Baptists past, present, and future, capturing the essence of our shared mission as we glorify God in all that we do.

At the heart of this song is a chorus that echoes the sentiment of our collective gratitude for God's steadfast love and guidance over the past 150 years. It serves as a reminder of His faithfulness to us as Canadian Baptists, inspiring us to praise Him for His enduring presence in our midst.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find the complete lyric sheet of the song, along with a breakdown of each section and the scripture references that inspired its creation. We hope that this resource will serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement for your congregation or worship team as you join us in celebrating this significant milestone.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mike Janzen for his dedication and artistry in bringing this project to fruition, also a special thanks to **Rachelle Luk** and **Christopher Hale** for their particular contributions. May this song be joyfully sung in your church - with hope, as a testament to God's abiding love as we continue our mission and ministry to a broken world through word and deed.

We invite you to join us in lifting our voices in praise and thanksgiving as we commemorate 150 years of Canadian Baptists in mission. May our hearts be united in worship, as we glorify the One who has been faithful to us through every season.

With warmest regards and blessings,

~ All of us at CBM



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## VERSE ONE

They stepped out in the river  
Mercy was flowing  
Their hearts were burning with Your holy fire  
Bringing Your blessing  
Serving, reflecting  
Hope for the lost and least

## VERSE TWO

We step out in the river  
Seeing You moving  
Feeding the hungry and lifting the poor  
The gospel in action,  
Grace and compassion  
Lifting each life to You

## CHORUS A

Set out into the flowing river,  
Where the Spirit leads you,  
Where His love proceeds you, for His glory  
Step out into the holy waters where His presence blesses  
Where each tongue confesses,  
Jesus is the living stream.

## BRIDGE

Send us to the margins, edges, deserts now send us  
Send us to the hungry, thirsty, weary ones send us  
Send us out to the centres, cities, alleys, now send us  
Send us out to the broken, lonely, downcast ones send us

## VERSE THREE

We will step into rivers  
Flowing with futures  
Certain to love in these uncertain times  
Partners together,  
In joy surrender  
We now, Your church, will go

## CHORUS B (X4)

Step out into the flowing river  
Set out into where Jesus leads  
Step out into the river  
Step out into the river

## CHORUS A

Set out into the flowing river,  
Where the Spirit leads you,  
Where His love proceeds you, for His glory  
Step out into the holy waters  
Where His presence blesses  
Where each tongue confesses,  
Jesus is the living stream.



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## VERSE ONE

They stepped out in the river  
Mercy was flowing  
Their hearts were burning with Your holy fire  
Bringing Your blessing  
Serving, reflecting  
Hope for the lost and least

## BACKGROUND

*Prior to 1874, British Baptists and the American Baptist Union (ABU) commissioned several Canadians for overseas service. John McLauren served previously with ABU until the Baptists of Ontario and Quebec took on the administration, direction, and funding of McLauren's work. We mark the inception of what is now known as CBM from the Beamsville Baptist Church minutes of 1873 and the cablegram sent Nov. 3, 1873 "Go to Cocanada on basis of your letter." In 1874, John and Mary McLaurin from Ontario arrived in Kakinada, India, to begin the first independent Canadian Baptist missionary enterprise.*

## BIBLICAL THEMES

### Stepping out in faith and God's guidance:

Matthew 14:29-31 - *Peter stepping out of the boat to walk on water.*  
Joshua 3:15-17 - *Crossing the Jordan River as an act of faith.*

### Mercy and God's love flowing:

Lamentations 3:22-23 - *God's mercies are new every morning.*  
Psalm 23:6 - *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.*

### Hearts burning with holy fire:

Acts 2:3-4 - *The Holy Spirit descending like tongues of fire on the disciples.*  
Luke 24:32 - *Hearts burning within while walking with Jesus.*

### Bringing blessings, serving, and reflecting hope:

Matthew 5:16 - *Let your light shine before others.*  
Isaiah 58:10 - *Sharing your food with the hungry and providing shelter for the oppressed.*

### Hope for the lost and least:

Luke 19:10 - *Jesus came to seek and save the lost.*  
Matthew 25:40 - *Serving the least is serving Jesus Himself.*



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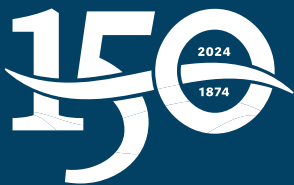
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## VERSE TWO

We step out in the river  
Seeing You moving  
Feeding the hungry and lifting the poor  
The gospel in action,  
Grace and compassion  
Lifting each life to You

## BACKGROUND

*This verse is about CBM's present efforts. The river continues. There is an old saying "you never step in the same river twice". The water is moving and constantly changing, whether on the surface or the river bed. Even if the water was the same, we would be different the next time we stepped in, older and wiser. The gospel in action, grace, and compassion, encompasses our mission ethos: "Embracing a broken world through word and deed". Lifting each life to You is our commitment to prayer for those we serve and treasure as created in the image of God.*

## BIBLICAL THEMES

### Seeing God at work and serving others:

John 4:35 - *Lift up your eyes and see the fields are ripe for harvest.*  
Matthew 25:35-36 - *Feeding the hungry and caring for the needy.*

### Feeding the hungry and lifting the poor:

Proverbs 19:17 - *Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord.*  
Isaiah 58:7 - *Share your food with the hungry and provide shelter for the homeless.*

### Living out the gospel through action, grace, and compassion:

James 1:22 - *Be doers of the word, not just hearers.*  
Ephesians 2:8-10 - *Saved by grace to do good works.*

### Lifting lives toward God:

Psalms 34:5 - *Those who look to Him are radiant.*  
Colossians 3:2 - *Set your minds on things above.*



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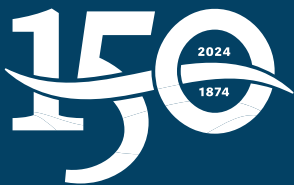
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## CHORUS A

Set out into the flowing river,  
Where the Spirit leads you,  
Where His love proceeds you, for His glory  
Step out into the holy waters where His  
presence blesses  
Where each tongue confesses,  
Jesus is the living stream.

## CHORUS B

Step out into the flowing river  
Set out into where Jesus leads  
Step out into the river  
Step out into the river

## BACKGROUND

*The first two verses are specific to CBM and our work in the world. The chorus is meant to anchor us in the faithfulness of God. This is the reason for our praise and is “the lift” moment in the song. Any success we see is only because He is faithful.*

*A standard song structure is verse, chorus, verse, chorus, bridge, verse, chorus. A stylistic choice was made to place here a second chorus. One that would be melodically and lyrically streamlined for international voices less familiar with western melody. The intent with **Chorus B** is to translate this chorus into other languages (Hindi, Spanish, Arabic) for recording and use in presentations that showcase our international partnerships.*

## BIBLICAL THEMES

### Following the Spirit’s guidance and love:

Romans 8:14 - *For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.*  
Galatians 5:25 - *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

### Recognizing His glory and presence:

Isaiah 6:3 - *Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory.*  
Exodus 33:14 - *My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.*

### Acknowledging Jesus as the living stream:

John 7:38 - *Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.*  
Revelation 22:1 - *The river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.*



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## BRIDGE

Send us to the margins, edges, deserts  
now send us  
Send us to the hungry, thirsty, weary  
ones send us  
Send us out to the centres, cities, alleys,  
now send us  
Send us out to the broken, lonely, downcast  
ones send us

## BACKGROUND

*The bridge has a different feel and builds as we respond to God's faithfulness in the chorus. Now we submit to His call to be "sent out". Sent to places, and sent to people. Lines one and three reference the places we seek to go; barren, forgotten, marginalized places - the wilderness. Line three points towards more urban settings. There we will minister to those in need spiritually, physically, emotionally, and socially. The whole gospel for the whole world.*

## BIBLICAL THEMES

### Serving the marginalized:

- Isaiah 58:10 - *Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness.*
- Luke 4:18 - *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind.*

### Reaching out to the broken and downtrodden:

- Matthew 11:28 - *Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*
- Psalms 34:18 - *The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

### Sending out to diverse locations and communities:

- Acts 1:8 - *You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*
- Matthew 28:19-20 - *Go and make disciples of all nations.*



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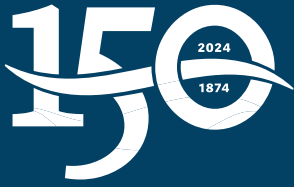
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## VERSE THREE

We will step into rivers  
Flowing with futures  
Certain to love in these uncertain times  
Partners together,  
In joy surrender  
We now, Your church, will go

## BACKGROUND

*The last verse is about CBM moving into that future which God has for us. “We will step out” as a sent people. Our faith is in God, who, through Christ, is reconciling all things to Himself. This is the mission we are on with the Good News.*

*We acknowledge that the times are uncertain but we are certain that “God so loved the world...”*

*The original sending of John McLauren was in response to an invitation by Thomas Gabriel, a disciple, requesting assistance to bring the gospel to his people in Eastern India. We only work through invitation, in partnership with local churches in the countries we serve. This is still true to our identity today.*

*“Partnership” is a defining characteristic of CBM as we partner with individuals, churches, and our regional denominations. Today, we recommit to serve joyfully; to be sent out as Canadians and as Baptists, which is our unique expression within the Christian household of faith.*

## BIBLICAL THEMES

### Stepping out into uncertain futures with certainty in love:

Proverbs 3:5-6 - *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.*

1 Corinthians 13:13 - *Faith, hope, and love abide, but the greatest of these is love.*

### Unity and partnership in uncertain times:

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - *Two are better than one... a cord of three strands is not easily broken.*

Romans 12:4-5 - *We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.*

### Surrender and joy in partnership as the Church:

Philippians 2:2-4 - *Be of the same mind, having the same love... do nothing from selfish ambition.*

Psalms 133:1 - *How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.*



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