

There Was a Place Near the Sheep Gate

By Rev. John C. Stennfeld

Text: John 5:1-9

Tune Meter: CM

Suggested Tune: Beatitudo

There was a place near the sheep gate
Where ill folks often came,
A pool where they could each be healed,
Even the blind and lame.

The pool was in Jerusalem,
Bethesda was the place,
Where moving waters signified
The presence of God's grace.

The first one in the pool each time,
When first the waters stirred,
Would then receive God's healing touch;
His illness would be cured.

But for those present who were slow,
And could not reach the pool,
The waters held no healing, and
Were nothing more than cool.

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Thus to one man who could not reach
The waters when they stirred,
“Get up!” said Jesus unto him;
At once, the man was cured.

So, too, our Lord now speaks to us
And heals us of our sin,
Helps us to walk in his great love,
And cleans our hearts within.

May we thus, Lord, each day be stirred
To follow in your way,
To live a life that honors you,
Till we are home to stay.

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