

Baptism

AS WE GAZE UPON THIS BABY

Tune: THERE'S A LIGHT UPON THE MOUNTAINS

Maurice Lawson Wostenholm (1887-1959)

1. As we gaze upon this baby
We can touch our childhood's past
And befriend with awe and wonder
All this universe so vast;
For the future rests with children *(i)*
And the adult's inner child, *(ii)*
Through its wells of impish humour
Liberates love deep and wild.

2. Solemn adults and the wealthy,
Those who lust for greater power,
Often maim God's living presence
And destroy the Spirit's flower;
For the future rests with children
And the adult's inner child,
Through its wells of impish humour
Liberates love deep and wild.

3. Let us cast aside pretences,
Leave behind our guilt and fears
And within the sacred silence
Hear compassion's joys and tears;
For the way is most familiar,
Joy and beauty for us all,
And the child within the adult
Is the Christ within the stall.

(i) Mark 10/14

(ii) Luke 18/17 Luke 17/21

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