# Baptism Hymn

TUNE: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (MARION, alt.)
*Romans 6*

1. Re - joice as the old life dies! The wa - ter is now its grave. See
2. Re - joice as you see God's child Rise up as on Eas - ter day. What
3. En - cour - age His brand new child. Show love as your Lord loves you. Live
4. No long - er the slaves of sin But ser - vants of God Most High, Join

sin and death for - ev - er die, For God is here to save!
might - y life! What bound - less love! What grace on full dis - play!
out the Fa - ther's ten - der heart With all you have and do.
hands and hearts to love and serve The God we glo - ri - fy.

*Refrain*

New life! New life! All glo - ry to Je - sus Christ!

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Arthur H. Messiter (1834-1916) and Ken Bible

MARION 2
7.7.8.6.w.Ref.

TOPICS:     Baptism

LEAD-IN:    *Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.* (Romans 6:3-4, NASB)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

## Reflection on Baptism

I came to Christ at age ten,
        but I wasn't baptized until my twenties.
Baptism wasn't emphasized in my childhood church.

But as an adult
        frequently witnessing baptism in my local church,
        I find it meaningful and moving.
Those who come to be baptized are widely varied:
        children, teens, and adults of all ages and stages,
        long-time church attenders and
        those who have recently come to God
            from unbelieving lifestyles.

It doesn't seem to matter
whether the person has come to faith in Christ
        that day or
        years before.
Baptism captures and expresses
        the deep meaning of what God
            has done and
            is doing in them.
The joy is the same for all.
They testify to their faith in Christ and
        their intent to follow Him for the rest of their lives.
They go under the water,
        symbolically dying to the old sinful self.
Then they rise up out of the water
        fully alive,
        new creatures in Christ Jesus.

The congregation spontaneously erupts in joyful praise.
And I can sense a deep, shared desire
        to do all we can
        to nourish and encourage this brother or sister in Christ.

New life in Christ –
        what a miracle!
        What a joy!

We get to watch it happen!
And the unity we sense in those moments will soon be
        universal,
        full-hearted and
        forever.
Praise to You, Father!
Praise to You, our Great Savior!