

Healing Rain

As recorded by Michael W. Smith, 2004

Written by Michael W. Smith, Martin Smith, Matt Bronleewe

Verse 1

Healing rain is coming down.
It's coming nearer to this old town.
Rich and poor, weak and strong.
It's bringing mercy, it won't be long.

Verse 2

Healing rain is coming down.
It's coming closer to the lost and found.
Tears of joy and tears of shame
Are washed forever in Jesus' name.

Chorus

Healing rain, it comes with fire,
So let it fall and take us higher..
Healing rain, I'm not afraid
To be washed in Heaven's rain.

Verse 3

Lift your heads, let us return
To the mercy seat where time began.
And in your eyes I see the pain.
Come soak this dry heart with healing rain.

Verse 4

And only you, the Son of Man
Can take a leper and let him stand.
So lift your hands, they can be held
By someone greater, the Great I Am.

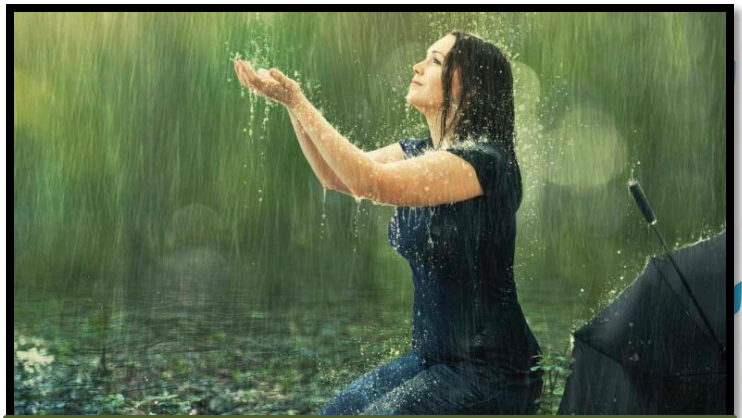
Ending

To be washed in Heaven's rain.
(Repeat following 5 times
& you are invited to sing or sign with us.)
Healing rain is falling down,
(Rain or Worship Hands)
Healing rain is falling down,
(Rain or Worship Hands)
I'm not afraid.
(Rain I Clean or Forgive Accept Rain)
I'm not afraid.

CLEAN

Slide the palm of the open right hand from the heel to the fingers of the open left hand held in front of the chest, palm facing up.

Hint: Wiping something clean.



"Healing Rain" speaks of God's healing power and the need to let it rain in various aspects of our lives. It is an invitation to God's presence to flood every area of our lives.

The choir is performing two parts simultaneously.

At the end, one choir member tells the story of admitting they are a sinner, then learns from God that forgiveness and cleansing is theirs through surrender.

So what to choose? The choice is Jesus - to be changed, to be made new, to be saved, and it ends in thanks, honor and glory to Him.

By Elaine Mainwaring, Hands In Praise Choir Director

RAIN

Beginning with both loose "claw" hands in front of each shoulder, palms facing down, bring the hands downward with a double movement.

Hint: Raindrops falling.



WORSHIP HANDS

Arms are extended toward your sides and up, up either a little or a lot with palms up.



FORGIVE

Brush the fingertips of the bent right hand, palm facing down, with a repeated movement from the heel to the fingers of the open left palm held up in front of the body.

Hint: Brushing aside a mistake.



Be Still and Ponder

In an interview about this song Michael W. Smith pondered for a moment before answering this question. **"What is the message of this song?"**

"God is still in the business of restoring souls. That is what this song is about."



"Healing Rain" Ponderings found on the Internet:

"One way to understand Smith's **"Healing Rain"** is to note that it talks of **renewal hope in God's promises**. The tears of joy and pain he talks about are washed away by the fact that the Holy Spirit will continually guide God's people and His power transcends them to a higher level of existence."

"The Lord gives back to those who believe in his goodness. **None of us should be afraid to be washed in Heaven's rain, to let it cleanse all of us.** As this verse from Revelations says, **'He will wipe every tear from our eyes.'**"

More to Ponder

"In the signing of **"Healing Rain"** at the end you see the portrayal of a soul being restored. You don't have to know sign language to understand the questions a wandering soul may ponder before finally surrendering. **What immense joy there is in the return of a child to the one that has never stopped loving them!** Yes that is a statement and not a question.

We all have been there, whether rich or poor, sick or healthy, secure or on the streets. In fact, it is easier to lose our way when things are good, when we are healthy, when all the bills are easily paid. Why is that? Maybe because we are leaning on our own stake in the ground and not the stake Jesus put in the ground - the cross! Think about it. Ponder. How healthy is your soul? Does it need some attention - a little Jesus CPR? Does it need more time reading a few more scriptures in a really good book - and some pondering? **'He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.'**

Hmmm. Do you hear what I hear and see what I see?"

"Pondering Songs," by Katherine M. Rickart, Hands In Praise Choir Member

American Sign Language (ASL) provides a fuller understanding of the song as the DEAF would **"see"** the signs. American Sign Language has a different sentence structure but often it gets to the real meaning of a song that **"the hearing"** may miss, being distracted by rhyme or music. **See this song through new eyes.**

by Catherine Benitz, Hands In Praise Choir Member

"HANDS IN PRAISE" is an American Sign Language (ASL) Christian choir sponsored by Bethel Lutheran Church, Windsor, Colorado.

For information, go to www.HandsInPraiseASL.com or HandsInPraiseInfo@gmail.com

You are invited to join and no experience needed as sign language is learned one song at a time.

Please feel free to take this praise sheet home with you to read later or share with others.

