

15. Lift Every Voice and Sing

Words by James Weldon Johnson, 1899

Music by John Rosamond Johnson, 1900

$\bullet = 42$

D G B7 Em G/D D#dim Em

Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring. Ring with the

Am B7 C Am/C D7 G B7 E7

har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing rise, high as the

Am B C C#dim G/D D7 G

list - 'ning _____ skies, Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.

N.C.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,

G G#dim

Sing a song full of the hope that the pre - sent has brought

D7 G B7 E7 Am B

us; Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -

C C#dim G/D D7 G

- gun, Let us march on till vic - to - ry _____ is won. _____

"Known by many as the Negro National Anthem, 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' has stirred souls for over a century. One of the lines that resonates with me the most is, 'Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us...' What has the dark past taught you in your fight for equity and justice?" - Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, co-editor



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15. Lift Every Voice and Sing – pg. 2

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1. Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.
2. Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
3. God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.

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