

331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a treble and bass staff for each system. The first system includes an optional instrumental introduction for the treble staff, marked with a '3' and 'optional'. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a corresponding line of music. The final system ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final chord.

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al-might - y
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

354 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
 2 God has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat
 3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,

he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
 and is sift - ing out all hu - man hearts be - fore the judg - ment seat;
 with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me;

he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword.
 O be swift, my soul, to an - swer; O be ju - bi - lant my feet!
 as he died to make us ho - ly, let us live to make all free,

Refrain

God's truth is march - ing on.
 Our God is march - ing on. Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le -
 while God is march - ing on.

Though its biblical roots are often overlooked, this text incorporates many apocalyptic images such as the coming of the Lord in glory (Matthew 24:30/Mark 13:26/Luke 21:27), the winepress (Isaiah 63:3; Revelation 14:19, 19:15), and the sharp sword (Isaiah 27:1; Revelation 19:15).

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry,

glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! God's truth is march - ing on.