



# First Presbyterian Church of Athens

*In response to God's grace, the mission of First Presbyterian Church is to create a community where people seek the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, rejoice in worship, and go forth sharing the love of Christ with Athens and the world!*

January 16, 2022  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Second Sunday after Epiphany

## GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space this morning, please silence your cell phone.*

### Greeting

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### Prelude

Repton

Marilyn Biery

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

### \*Song of Gathering

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

**O splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;  
thou light of life, light's living spring, true day, all days illumining.**

### Call to Worship

God, stretching to the heavens—

**God, lofty like the clouds—**

God, mighty like the mountains—

**God, immense like the great deep—**

your salvation is expansive and generous, touching people and creatures alike.

**We rejoice in the measures of your steadfast love!**

### \*Hymn 417

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* REGENT SQUARE

### \*Call to Confession

### \*Prayer of Confession

**Loving Lord, we long to be your faithful people, but our good intentions run out and we come up empty. For all the ways we fall short in our sin, forgive us, Gracious One. Change us—like water into wine— to become what the world lacks, that our community, our nation, our church, and all creation may know your justice and love.**

### \*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

### \*Assurance of Pardon

*In observance of the Athens-Clarke County indoor mask ordinance, please wear a mask. If you need a mask, please consult an usher.*

*Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, making note of new and old friends, check in on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram (firstpresathensga).*

Although the ancient text *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the lace where they meet. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian Cathedral."

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

**\*Congregational Response**

Jacques Berthier

Glo-ry - to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!  
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**\*The Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
 The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson**

Psalm 127:1-2

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**11:00 a.m. Anthem**

*O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem*

Moonyeen Albrecht

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee.  
 Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness be in thy palaces.

**Second Lesson**

John 2:13-25

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Jesus Cleanses the Temple*

Dr. Ryan Baer

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**\*Hymn 419**

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

REPTON

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father almighty,  
 Maker of heaven and earth.  
 And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;  
 the third day he rose again from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
 the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
 the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy  
 kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,  
 as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the  
 power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

*Improvisation*

John Coble

The text of the anthem is from Psalm 122. The American composer, Moonyeen Albrecht (1936-2020) studied at Northwestern University and taught at Central Michigan University.

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord* is a reflection on Christian vocation, written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer, C. Hubert H. Parry.

Next to the Nicene Creed, The Apostles' Creed is the most universally accepted doctrinal statement in Christendom. Although not written by apostles, it reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. Arising from an early baptismal creed, it underwent development, attaining its present form in the eighth century.

You may mail your check, set up an automatic payment of your pledge through your bank, or donate online using this QR code or at [firstpresathens.org/home/giving](http://firstpresathens.org/home/giving). Thank you for your generosity.



**\*Doxology**

Hymn 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD**

**\*Hymn 563**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

**To God the Father, God the Son,  
and Holy Spirit, three in one,  
may every tongue and nation raise  
an endless song of thankful praise.**

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, *Lift Every Voice and Sing* has gained national recognition in the African-American community and among all who seek liberation from oppression.

**Postlude**

*Grand Choeur*

Théodore Dubois

*Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861*

**A special word of welcome to our guests:** thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the Fellowship Pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

**Nurseries for children 4 years old and younger,** available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door. Our fully vaccinated nursery staff is excited to welcome our youngest members.

**Children, ages 4 years old – 5th Grade, are invited to Children's Church** downstairs in the Children's Ministry Suite during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. **To pick up your child after the service,** please go to the church courtyard entrance of the Children's Ministry Suite.

**NOTES ON THE SERVICE**

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*  
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*  
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*

**Lay Reader**

**11:00 a.m.** Kent Burel

**USHERS**

**8:45 a.m.** John Simpson, Mary Peace  
**11:00 a.m.** Larry Jones, Jimbo LaBoon

**AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN**

Bryan Owens

**SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER**

Rebecca Carlton

**FLOWERS**

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Wayne Middendorf by the Middendorf family.

**TO AID IN WORSHIP**

**If you need to leave the sanctuary** during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium and at 11:00 a.m. is on Facebook and YouTube.

**Available in the Narthex or from an usher:**

- **Personal hearing receivers** usable anywhere in the sanctuary
- **Large-print** hymnals, Bibles, bulletins, and hymnsheets
- **Sermons** from the previous six weeks

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

**Prayer requests** can be submitted to the church office, 706-543-4338, by the Prayer Request link on our church website ([firstpresathens.org](http://firstpresathens.org)) or on the prayer cards in the Fellowship Pads.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHAIR YOGA

**Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom**

**Zoom ID: 558-324-3907 (PW: 6136)**

Join Mel Berzack for a Yoga practice via Zoom on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. You will need a practical chair (preferably no arm rests or side restrictions) and (if you have one) a mat for a small amount of standing poses. The practice will be around one hour-long. All are welcome.

### 2022-23 WEEKDAY SCHOOL

First Pres Weekday School registration for Fall 2022 begins for in-house students on Tuesday, January 18. On Friday, January 21 at noon, community registration begins. Our Weekday School is a half-day church preschool serving 3 months through 5 years. Questions? Call our director, Elaine Johnson, at (706) 206-8180 or e-mail [elaine@firstpresathens.org](mailto:elaine@firstpresathens.org).

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### **Annual Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Virtual Ecumenical Service Today, January 16, 4:00 p.m.**

Interfaith Clergy Partnership of Greater Athens and the Athens Area Human Relations Council invite all to this service, which will be held via Zoom. Guest speakers will be Rev. Bronte Colbert, Chair of ICPGA and Senior Minister at Unity Athens, and the Rev. Ronnie R. Swoopes, Sr., Pastor at Oconee Baptist Church, Stephens, GA. To register for the service, please go to [www.humanrelationscouncil.org/ecumenical-service](http://www.humanrelationscouncil.org/ecumenical-service).

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### **Be a part of the 2022 MLK Day of Service in Athens! Monday, January 17**

What a great way to start off 2022 by joining other members of First Presbyterian and the Athens Community by honoring Martin Luther King and helping to make Athens a more beautiful and welcoming place to live!

This year, as in years past, Mission & Outreach Commission has identified two worthy projects that we as a church might work on together. We have identified one outdoor project at the Founders Memorial Garden and Project Safe Thrift Store. Registrations are closed to volunteer at Founders Memorial Garden, but you can still register to go to Project Safe Thrift Store to help straighten, sort, etc. It is still located at 995 Hawthorne Avenue, Athens and we will be there from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on **Monday, January 17**. To volunteer or for questions, please contact Kitty Donnan at [kittydavedonnan@gmail.com](mailto:kittydavedonnan@gmail.com).

Mark Hopkins, *Chair*  
Mission & Outreach Commission

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### **Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 30, 12:15 p.m.**

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, **January 30**. We will receive the Annual Report and review the pastors' terms of call.

## THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, January 16**

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School and Godly Play
- 4:00 p.m. New Member Tea, Home of Jill and Mark Hopkins

### **Monday, January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Church Office Closed**

- 9:30 a.m. Martin Luther King Day of Service
- 12:00 p.m. Confirmation Retreat

### **Tuesday, January 18**

- 8:00 a.m. Weekday School Registration Begins
- 9:00 a.m. Chair Yoga via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 558-324-3907, PW: 6136*)
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Parlor

### **Wednesday, January 19**

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room

### **Thursday, January 20**

- 1:00 p.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting via Zoom

### **Friday, January 21**

- 6:00 p.m. Session Retreat, Moses Waddel Room

### **Saturday, January 22**

- 8:30 a.m. Session Retreat, Moses Waddel Room

### **Sunday, January 23**

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School and Godly Play
- 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class, Fellowship Hall Breakout Area
- 12:00 p.m. New Member Reception, Porch
- 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
- 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Sunday rehearsal

## LOOKING AHEAD

**January 30** - Annual Congregational Meeting

**February 13** - Red Cross Blood Drive

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### **Red Cross Blood Drive** **Sunday, February 13, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall and help save a life! Reserve an appointment at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) (sponsor code AFPC), or contact the church office.

## EDUCATION – FAITH FORMATION

### SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

*Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop*

*Nursery Coordinator: Rita Raines*

Children's Ministry Suite • Infants – 5th Grade

*\*For the safety of our children, we will continue Covid precautions of mask wearing, social distancing and utilizing our outdoor spaces as much as possible.*

**Nursery**, 8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Children will enjoy playtime, story time, and snack time with their church friends in the Nursery Playroom and outside on the playground.

**Godly Play**, 9:45 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

Children are invited to Godly Play during the Sunday School hour. Godly Play is an innovative way of teaching and learning that helps children “discover” who God is rather than being “told” who God is. The structure and routine of Godly Play offers children a safe space to explore, connect, wonder, and worship God.

**Children's Church**, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Children are invited to Children's Church during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service. During Children's Church, children will continue to worship together and experience the many ways we worship God with our families in the sanctuary – by listening to God's Word, singing to God, praying to God, and giving to God. On the first Sunday of each month, Communion Sunday, children are invited to remain in the sanctuary to worship and participate in communion with their families.

### SUNDAYS FOR YOUTH

*Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness*

*Middle School Coordinator: Erin Osborne*

The PIT (basement level) • 6th – 12th Grade

**Sunday School** 9:45 – 10:40 a.m.

This fall, youth will serve as leaders in Children's Ministry for Kids in the Courtyard. They will help with storytelling, feasting, and sharing love with our younger church members.

### Youth Group

Taking advantage of the space outside the PIT and the lower parking garage, youth group will meet outside this Fall. Evenings will be filled with opportunities for fellowship and fun as we build our youth community. Using the Narrative Lectionary, we'll explore what it means to be an active, Christian teen in today's changing world.

#### **Middle School Youth Group**

5:00–6:00 p.m.

#### **High School Youth Group**

6:00–7:30 p.m. (dinner provided)

*For more information on youth ministry, visit our website*  
**www.fpcathenspit.com**

### SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

9:45–10:40 a.m.

#### IN PERSON ONLY

**Inquirers** • Moses Waddel Room

Thoughtful introspection and lively group discussion covering contemporary issues and daily Christian living, with guest speakers or DVD studies.

*Facilitators: Carl Bergmann (cberg@ccrc.uga.edu), Carla Buss (cbuss@uga.edu), Larry Jones (lfjones@uga.edu)*

**Parents in the PIT** • The Pit

This new class is an invitation for parents of children and youth to come down to the PIT for a time of fellowship and support.

*Coordinator: Kim Ness (kness@firstpresathens.org)*

HYBRID (*in person and over Zoom*)

**Del Dunn Christian Issues** • Room 308

An in-depth study and discussion of scripture – with a chapter-by-chapter reading and discussion of Acts of the Apostles. Zoom and in-person.

*Coordinator: Susan Landrum (slandrum@uga.edu)*

Zoom ID: 875 216 0708, PW: 634175

**New Voices** • Room 310

Discussion guided by *Women In the Bible*, by Jaime Clark-Soles.

*Led by: Lewis Hudgins (lewisahudgins@gmail.com)*

Zoom ID: 870 1906 3194, PW: 305215

**Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class**

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

Open and honest discussion in a nonjudgmental atmosphere about various aspects of Christianity.

*Contacts: Ian Hardin (ianhardin1@gmail.com), Jim Scanlon (jitscanlon@yahoo.com)*

Zoom ID: 883 5159 0923

**Women's Bible Class** • Room 301

Reading and discussion of the Gospel of Mark.

*Contact: Wanda Wilcox (wwilcox@uga.edu)*

Zoom ID: 813 2290 3374, PW: 459718

ON HOLD (*stay tuned...*)

**W. D. Hooper** • Room 309

The “oldest” Sunday School class at First Pres will continue to focus on a Bible Study format. **The class will resume on a date to be announced.**

*Led by: Jerris Hayes (jhayefirstpres@gmail.com), Richard Lane (rlane@uga.edu)*



# Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

417

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7

7th century, Latin

Trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1861, 1972

Henry Thomas Smart, 1867

1. Christ is made the sure foun-da - tion, Christ the head and  
 2. To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of  
 3. Here be - stow on all Your ser - vants What they ask of  
 4. Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Laud and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
 Hosts, to - day; With Your wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness  
 You to gain, What they gain from You for - ev - er  
 to the Son, Laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,

Bind - ing all the church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's  
 Hear Your peo - ple as they pray, And Your full - est  
 With the bless - ed to re - tain, And here - af - ter  
 Ev - er three and ev - er one; One in might and

help for - ev - er, And our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in its walls al - way.  
 in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.  
 one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run.

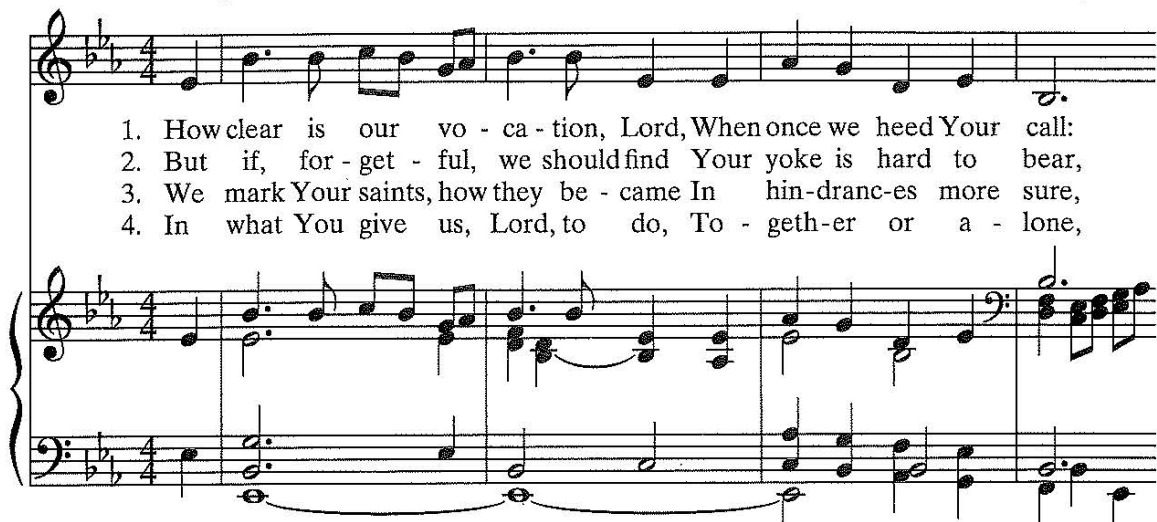
# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

419

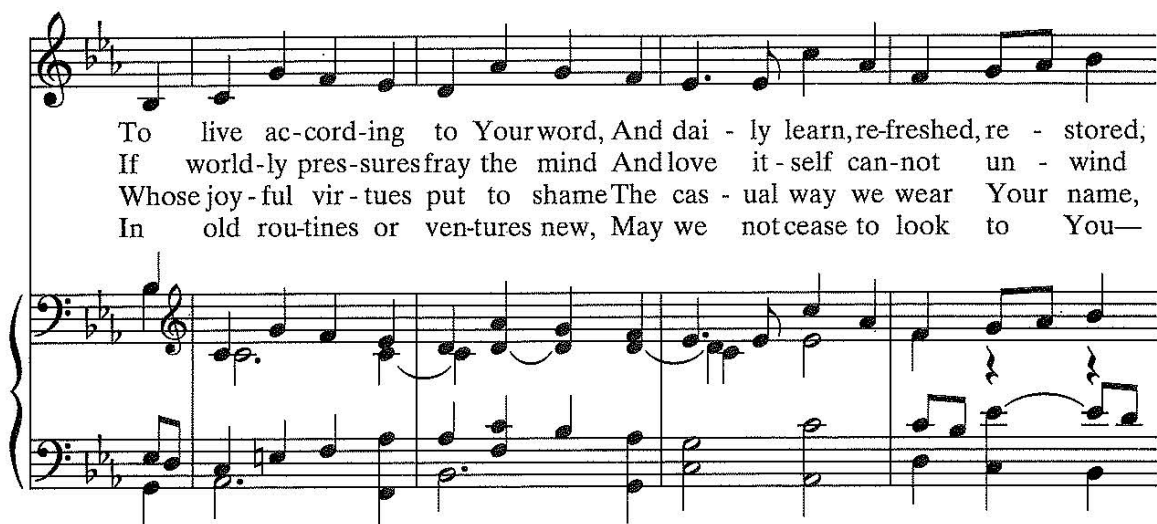
REPTON 8.6.8.8.6.6

Fred Pratt Green, 1981

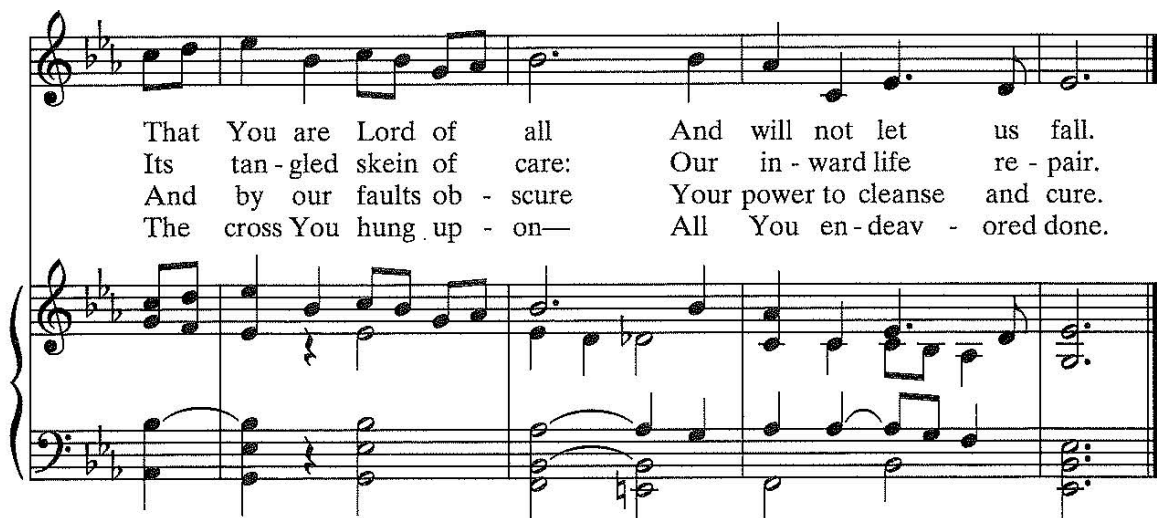
C. Hubert H. Parry, 1888



1. How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, When once we heed Your call:  
2. But if, for - get - ful, we should find Your yoke is hard to bear,  
3. We mark Your saints, how they be - came In hin - dranc - es more sure,  
4. In what You give us, Lord, to do, To - geth - er or a - lone,



To live ac - cord - ing to Your word, And dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
If world - ly pres - sures fray the mind And love it - self can - not un - wind  
Whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame The cas - ual way we wear Your name,  
In old rou - tines or ven - tures new, May we not cease to look to You—



That You are Lord of all And will not let us fall.  
Its tan - gled skein of care: Our in - ward life re - pair.  
And by our faults ob - scure Your power to cleanse and cure.  
The cross You hung up - on— All You en - deav - ored done.



## Lift Every Voice and Sing

LIFT EVERY VOICE Irregular

James Weldon Johnson, 1921

J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921

## Introduction

1. Lift ev - ery  
2. Ston - y the  
3. God of our

voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring, Ring with the har - mo -  
road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod, Felt in the days when  
wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, Thou who hast brought us

nies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the  
hope un - born had died; Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our  
thus far on the way; Thou who hast by Thy might led us in -

lis - tening skies; Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
wea - ry feet Come to the place for which our \*fa - thers sighed?  
to the light; Keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

\*Or "parents."

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.