

**The United Church of Christ, Congregational
Burlington, MA
Second Sunday of Epiphany**

"We gather for worship, study, planning and mission to celebrate the life, teachings, death and living presence of Jesus Christ which frees us to love boldly and to serve gladly as God would want us to do."

January 16, 2022

10:30 A.M.

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Coming...

Musical Prelude

"Prelude on We Shall Overcome"

– African-American Spiritual, Adolphus Hailstork

Meditative Thought

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Jesus Christ was an extremist for love, truth and goodness."

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Introit

He Came Down; text: Cameroon traditional; tune: Cameroon traditional, translated and arranged by John L. Bell

He came down that we may have love,
He came down that we may have love,
He came down that we may have love,
Hallelujah forevermore. Why did he come?

He came down that we may have peace,
He came down that we may have peace,
He came down that we may have peace,
Hallelujah forevermore.

Praising & Learning...

***Call to Worship**

One: In the beginning, God ordered the chaos.

All: Let us worship God, our Creator!

One: In time, God brought forth the life of Jesus.

All: Let us worship, listening to our teacher and savior!

One: Today, God comes and move in Spirit.

All: Let us take a fresh breath of divine air!

***Opening Hymn**

"God Justice, God of Mercy" (#63 in *A Singing Faith*)

***Opening Congregational Prayer**

Gracious God of Loving Creativity, bless us with fresh ears, sharp minds, and open hearts as worship as we worship you and hear Jesus' questions for us. Move us with curiosity to discover new insights. Open our hearts to harbor deeper passion for following Jesus' Way of life and love. One in Christ we pray. Amen.

***Congregational Praise Response** #379, "Come, We Who Love God's Name" (1st verse)

God Justice, God of Mercy (#63 in *A Singing Faith*)

Come, we who love God's name, and let our joys be known;
Together God's great love proclaim, and thus surround the throne.

Children of God Time

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Congregational Response "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!"

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Litany of Faith

Inspired by Christian Scripture

One: Jesus asked his first followers, "Who do people say I am?" And, Jesus' followers replied:

All: John the Baptist! Elijah! One of the Prophets!

One: Then, Jesus asked: "But who do YOU say, I am?" And, Peter replied:

All: The Messiah!

One: And, following Peter, others and we have said:

**All: Son of God! Son of Man! God Emmanuel - God with us! Lamb of God!
Teacher! Wonderful Counselor! Advocate! Son of David! King of the Jews!
King of Israel! King of Kings! King of the Ages! King Eternal! Good Shepherd!
Prince of Peace! Light of the World! True Light! Bread of Life! Bread of God!
True Bread! True Vine! Good Teacher! Author and Perfecter of our Faith!
Deliverer! Alpha and Omega! Beginning and End! Word of God!
Way, Truth and Life! Savior!**

One: Savior! The one who saves us from sin?

All: Yes, Savior! The One who saves us from OUR sin!

Devotional Hymn #584, "I Am the Light of the World"

Reflecting & Praying...

Scripture Readings

Mark 8:27-29

"Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; & on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."

Our Sermon Questions of Faith: Jesus' and Our Own...

The Rev. Ed Koonz

"What Child is This for Us?"

Solo Freedom in the Air (Over My Head) – African-American spiritual
Debbie Claar, soprano

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying – Ken Medema

Committing...

Stewardship Invitation

Offertory Steal Away to Jesus – Robert J. Powell, based on STEAL AWAY,
an African-American spiritual

***Doxology**

#782

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
God's praise, ye hosts on high, proclaim,
Who doth create, redeem, sustain. Amen.
(Thomas Ken, 1692, adapted by Ruth Duck)

***Prayer of Dedication & Consecration**

Going...

***Commissioning**

One: Let us go, speaking of who Jesus is for us

All: We shall walk proclaiming him to be our teacher and savior!

One: Let us go, showing off his Way!

All: We shall walk following his loving Way more closely!

***Closing Hymn**

#593, "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

***Benediction**

Postlude Great Day! – Robert J. Powell, based on GREAT DAY, an African-American spiritual

*Please stand in body or spirit.

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**Church Vision Statement,
adopted February 2017:**

*At the UCC Burlington, we cultivate a thriving environment, which empowers us to embody the beloved, diverse community that Jesus modeled for us, proclaiming that **all are welcome, all are loved.** We celebrate our colonial roots as we change, adapt and grow into who God is calling us to be. We respect the sanctity of each person's spiritual journey and we are blessed by the gifts that each person brings to the life of the church. We join together in faithful service and advocacy with the ongoing hope that we can make the world a better, more just, and peaceful place for everyone.*

In 2021, UCC Burlington will focus on *healing and recovery* as our church goals for the year. We will work together, across the generations, to heal physical, emotional, and social wounds that have collectively injured us. We will support one another in our mutual healing so that we can recover as stronger and more faithful followers of Christ. This is inspired by the scripture from Micah 7:8,
“When I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me.

PASTORAL CARE

IF YOU HAVE NEED FOR URGENT PASTORAL CARE, contact Pastor Ed anytime via phone or text at 603-620-4498.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE PASTORAL CONVERSATION, with Pastor Ed at your home or in the office, please contact him via text, phone, or e-mail (RevEd85@aol.com) to make an appointment.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Lucy Damiani
Tom Killilea
Joyce Carpenter
Marilyn Langley's cousin Jack and friend's son Kevin
Cindy Phillips friends Kathy & Michael
Lucy Damiani's friend Anthony Desmond
Joe Stoddard's Mom Lillian
Alan Wright's cousin Tim
Barbara Moran
Anne Stafford
Luella Brown
Dave Ieradi's Dad and son Dano
Kelly Sievert's brother, Geoff
Mark Flecchia's mother Vivian
Jean Bastos
Rev . Elizabeth King
Jan Blandino
Bobbie Martino
Barbara Garland
Jessy McNeil's brother Mel and sister Grace
Henry Knopp
Everett Langley's brother George
John Heald's sister Susan & Mom
Jim Mungillo

Our First Responders! Our caregivers!
Urgent Care workers!
Military here and abroad!
BE SAFE!

Worship Participants Today January 16th

Interim Pastor: Rev. Ed Koonz
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Soloist: Debbie Claar
Lay Leader: Sally Willard
Head Usher: Deb Glancy
Ushers: Dick Butler
Greeter: Jan McSheffrey
Collector: Marcia Rich
Nursery: Chris Stahlinski
Sunday School: Remotely – Jan Costa

Worship January 23 at 10:30am

Interim Pastor: Rev. Ed Koonz
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Music/Solo: TBD
Lay Leader: TBD
Head Usher: Dick Butler
Usher: Deb Glancy
Greeter: Chris Stahlinski
Collector: Marcia Rich
Nursery: TBD
Sunday School: Remotely – Deb Raymond

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERING!

We now have the ability to sign up for any of the Sunday morning worship duties through the online tool **SignUp.com**

The link is:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/567269842043/false?popup=true#/invitation>

Donna Flecchia will walk you through the quick enrollment.

Dear UCC Burlington Congregants,

As you know from the news, the COVID-19 Omicron variant is rampant across the country. Although its infection is most dangerous to those who are not vaccinated, it can also infect and sicken those who are fully vaccinated.

To reduce risk to members of our congregation, the following measures will be put in place:

1. Adult Choir and Coffee Hour will be suspended.
2. We wish to reduce the number of in-person worship congregants. If you are able, please remotely participate in worship service using Zoom. The Zoom meeting link and bulletin are posted on our church website at: <http://uccburlington.org/>
3. If you come to the sanctuary for in-person worship, please wear a mask and socially distance yourself from others.
4. Church School will be fully remote.

These measures will remain in place until the Board of Deacons have an opportunity to discuss the matter again. The next Deacons Meeting is on Tuesday, 01 Feb 2022.

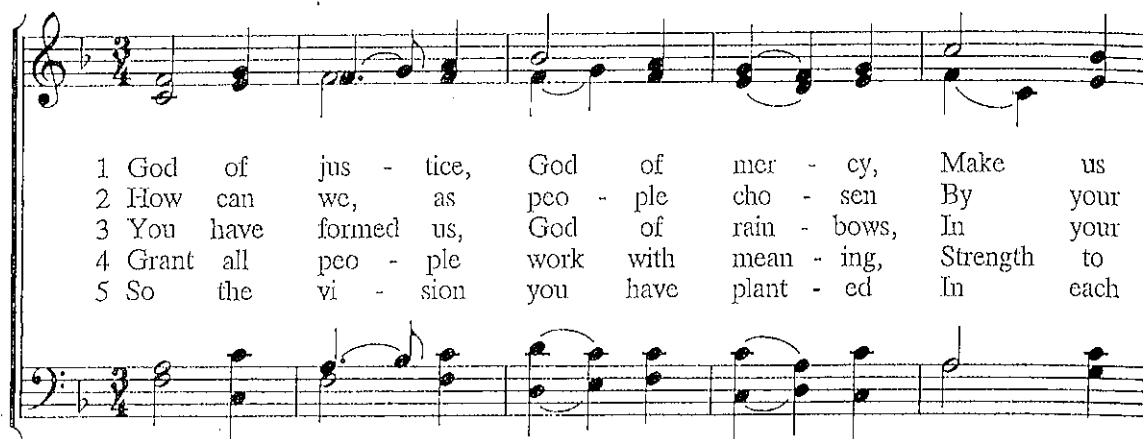
Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

The Board of Deacons

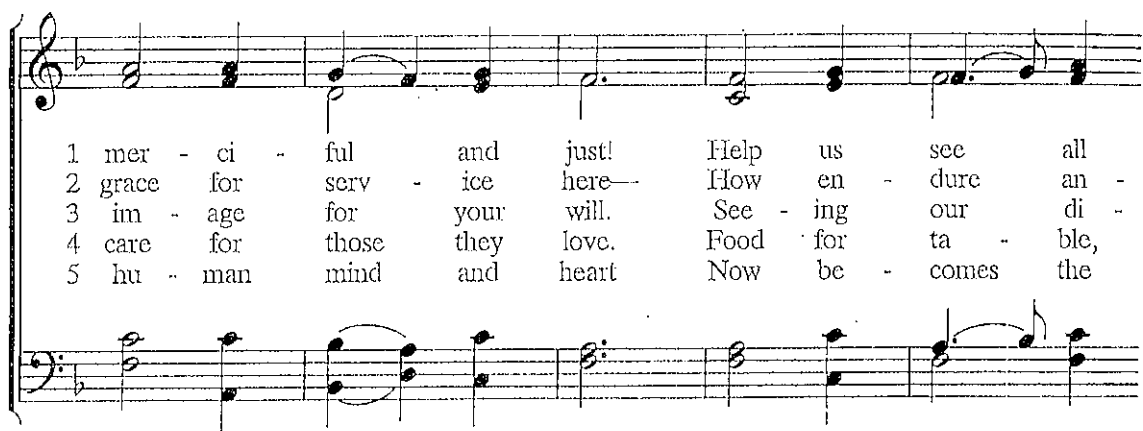
PS: If you don't quite remember how to use Zoom and you need a helping hand, please call Deb Glancy at 617-281-6697.

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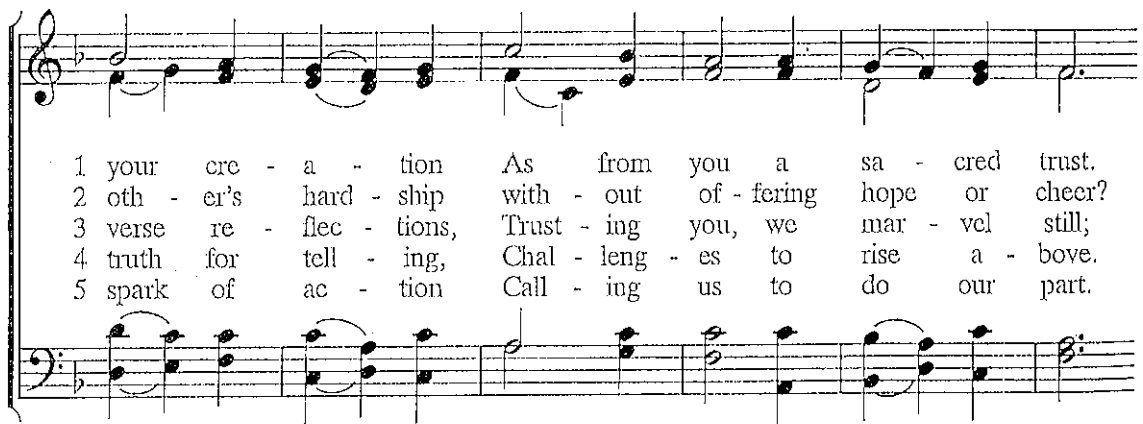
God of Justice, God of Mercy



1 God of jus - tice, God of mer - cy, Make us
2 How can we, as peo - ple cho - sen By your
3 You have formed us, God of rain - bows, In your
4 Grant all peo - ple work with mean - ing, Strength to
5 So the vi - sion you have plant - ed In each



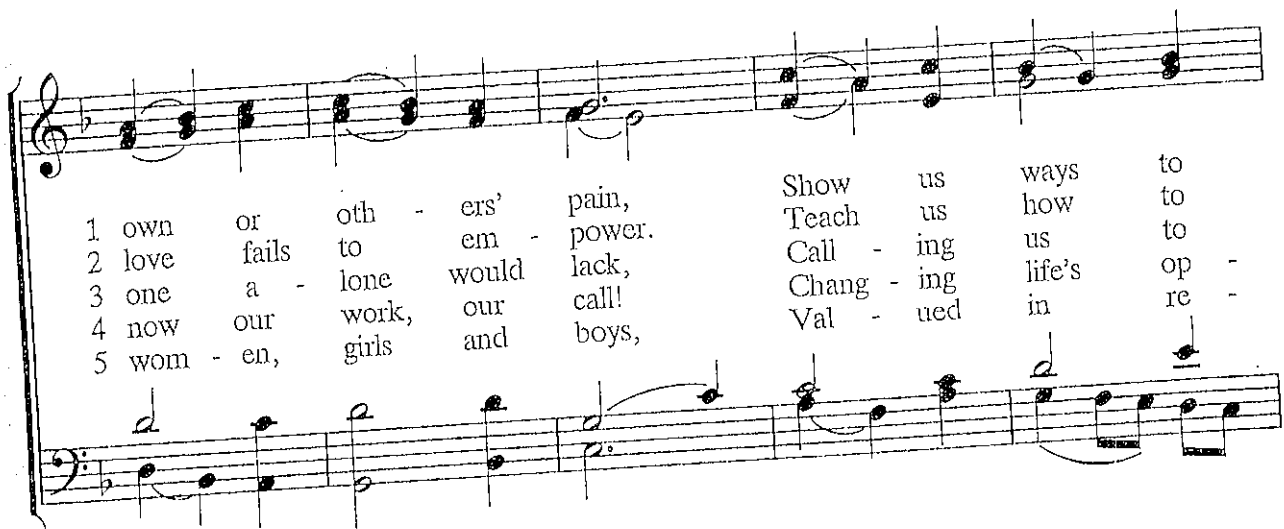
1 mer - ci - ful and just! Help us see all
2 grace for serv - ice here— How en - dure an -
3 im - age for your will. See - ing our di -
4 care for those they love. Food for ta - ble,
5 hu - man mind and heart Now be - comes the



1 your cre - a - tion As from you a sa - cred trust.
2 oth - er's hard - ship with - out of - fering hope or cheer?
3 verse re - flec - tions, Trust - ing you, we mar - vel still;
4 truth for tell - ing, Chal - leng - es to rise a - bove.
5 spark of ac - tion Call - ing us to do our part.



1 And when peo - ple cry in an - guish For their
 2 God, for - give us, we be - seech you, When our
 3 For our col - ors, strengths, and tal - ents Show what
 4 But re - mind us, God of jus - tice, This is
 5 Keep that vi - sion clear be - fore us: Men and



1 own or oth - ers' pain, Show us ways to
 2 love fails to em - power. Teach us how to
 3 one a - lone would lack, Call - ing us to
 4 now our work, our call! Chang - ing life's op -
 5 wom - en, girls and boys, Val - ued in re -



1 make a dif - ference. O dear God, make us hu - mane!
 2 be more faith - ful In this pres - ent cru - cial hour.
 3 work to - geth - er— Brown, red, gold - en, white, and black.
 4 pres - sive sys - tems In - to ones em - pow - ering all.
 5 sponse and wit - ness, Shar - ing chal - leng - es and joys.

Jane Parker Huber, 1983

Words © 1983 Jane Parker Huber

HYFRYDOL 87 87 D
 Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1855

I Am the Light of the World

John 8:12

Jim Strathdee, 1969; rev. 1981

In response to a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman

Unison Introduction **Refrain**

F B \flat C F

"I am the light of the world!"

B \flat C F Gm Dm C

You peo-ple come and fol-low me!" If you fol-low and love you'll

F Gm7 C B \flat F B \flat F *Last time, end*

learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.

F B \flat /D C F

1 When the song of the an-gels is stilled, when the
 2 ♪ To find the lost and lone-ly one, ♪ to
 3 ♪ To free the pris-oner from all chains, ♪ to
 4 To bring hope to ev-ery task you do, ♪ to

The musical score is written for a unison introduction and a refrain. It features a treble and bass clef staff in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score includes various musical notations such as chords (F, B-flat, C, Gm, Dm, Gm7, B-flat/D), rests, and lyrics. The lyrics are: "I am the light of the world!", "You peo-ple come and fol-low me!", "If you fol-low and love you'll learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.", and a four-line verse: "1 When the song of the an-gels is stilled, when the", "2 ♪ To find the lost and lone-ly one, ♪ to", "3 ♪ To free the pris-oner from all chains, ♪ to", "4 To bring hope to ev-ery task you do, ♪ to". The score ends with a final chord of F.

This text is based on a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman, a prolific twentieth-century writer, theologian, and teacher. The song grew out of Jim Strathdee's music ministry at an intercultural, bilingual congregation in Los Angeles.

Tune: LIGHT OF THE WORLD Irr.
 Jim Strathdee, 1969

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Gm Dm C

star in the sky is gone, When the
 heal the bro - ken soul with love, 7 To
 make the pow - er - ful care, To re -
 dance at a ba - by's new birth, 7 To

F Bb C F

sag - es and the shep - herds have found their way home, the
 feed the hun - gry chil - dren with warmth and good food, To
 build the na - tions with strength of good will, to
 make mu - sic in . . . an old per - son's heart, and

Dm Bb Gm7 C Return to %

work of Christ-mas is be - gun:
 feel the earth be - low, the sky a - bove!
 see all God's chil - dren ev - ery - where!
 sing to the col - ors of the earth!

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson, 1921; alt.

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

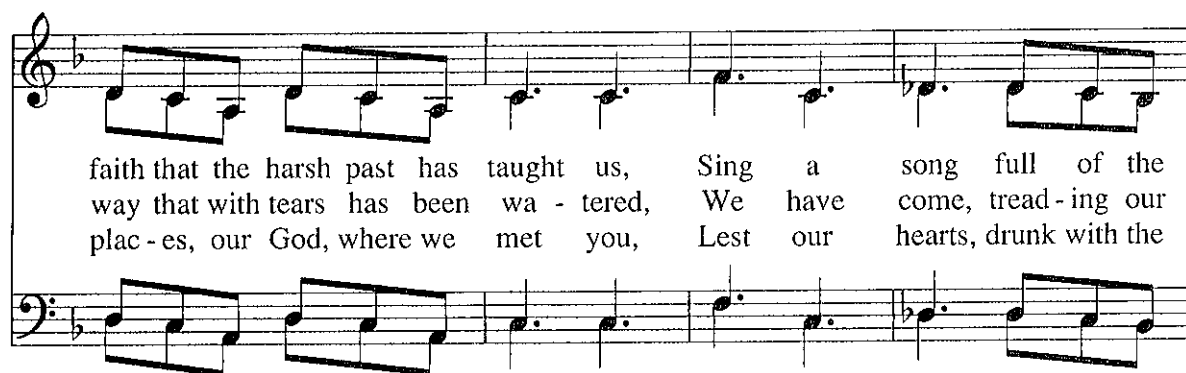
har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
 days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
 brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your

rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
 beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
 might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the

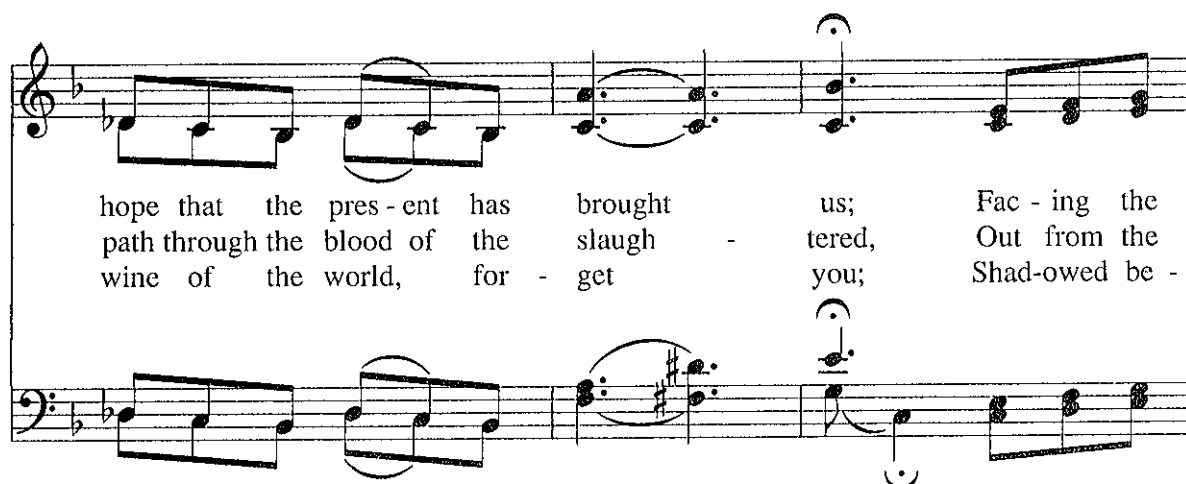
roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
 peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the

Poet James Weldon Johnson was the first African-American to pass the bar examination in the state of Florida, and served as U.S. consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua. He collaborated with his composer brother, John Rosamond Johnson, to write Broadway operettas and edit song collections. John appeared in vaudeville, directed London musicals, and headed the Music School Settlement in New York.

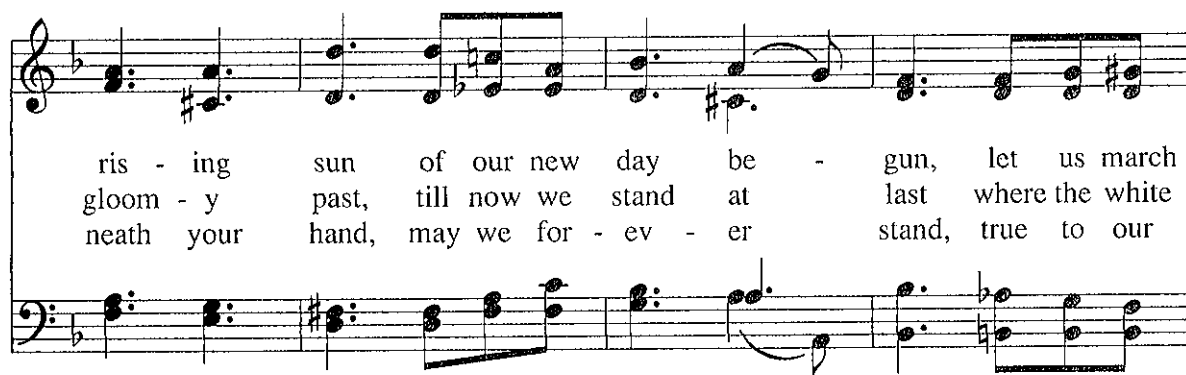
Tune: LIFT EVERY VOICE Irr.
 J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921



faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
 way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
 plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the



hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
 path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the
 wine of the world, for - get you; Shad - owed be -



ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
 gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
 neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our



on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 gleam of our bright star is cast.
 God, true to our na - tive land.