

*The Eileen Southern Initiative presents*

## LIFT EV'RY VOICE WEEKEND

April 7–9, 2022 | Harvard University

### COMMUNITY SING

**Saturday, April 9, 2022 | 11:00 a.m. | Science Center Plaza Tent**

**SONG LEADERS:** Dr. Felicia Barber, Westfield State University | Dr. Jason Max Ferdinand, Oakwood University  
| Dr. Marques L. A. Garrett, University of Nebraska-Lincoln | Dr. Brandon Waddles, Wayne State University

**CHORUSES:** The Aeolians of Oakwood University | The Kuumba Singers of Harvard College | Harvard Choruses

#### **GATHERING SONG**

- **Siyahamba**

Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos,  
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'.  
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos',  
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'.  
[ekukhanyeni kwenkos']

Siyahamba, hamba, Siyahamba, hamba... ooh  
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'.  
[ekukhanyeni kwenkos']

Siyahamba, hamba, Siyahamba, hamba... ooh  
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'.  
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos'.

*South African Hymn*

We are marching in the light of God,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
We are marching in the light of God.  
[in the light of God]

We are marching, marching, we are marching... ooh  
We are marching in the light of God.  
[in the light of God]

We are marching, marching, we are marching... ooh  
We are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God.

*(walking, dancing, singing)*

#### **THE SPIRITUAL**

- **Hold On**

**Verse I**

Nora, Nora let me come in  
Do's all fast'ned an' de winders pinned  
Keep yo' han' on dat plow  
Hold àn! Hold on!  
Keep your han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

Nora said, "Ya lost yo' track  
Can' plow straight an' keep a-lookin' back" ...  
Keep your han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

**Chorus**

Hold on, Hold on!  
Keep your han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

**Verse II**

Mary had a golden chain  
Ev'ry link was my Jesus' name

Keep yo' han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

Keep on climbin' an' don' you tire  
Ev'ry rung goes high'r an' high'r  
Keep yo' han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

**[Chorus]**

**Verse III**

If you wanna get to Heaven, let me tell you how  
Just keep yo' han' on de Gospel plow  
Keep yo'han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

If dat plow stays in yo' han'  
It'll lan' you strait into de promised lan' ...  
Keep your han' on de plow  
Hold on, hold on.

**[Chorus]**

- Sweet Low, Sweet Chariot

**Refrain:**

Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.  
Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see,  
Coming for to carry me home.  
A band of angels coming after me,  
Coming for to carry me home.

**[Refrain]****THE WORK SONG**

- John Henry (work song)

**Chorus**

John Henry was a steel drivin' man,  
A steel drivin' man,  
Steel drivin' man.

**Verse I**

John Henry worked on the railroad,  
worked with a hammer in his hand,  
hammered out steel 'til the day he went down,  
'cause he was a steel drivin' man.  
Oh Lord, 'cause he was a steel drivin' man.

**Verse II**

Captain he said to John Henry  
"Gonna bring me a steam drill 'round.  
Gonna bring me a steam drill out on the job.  
Gonna "whop" that steel on down.  
Oh Lord, "whop" that steel on down."

**Verse III**

Now John Henry said to the captain,  
"A man ain't nothin' but a man,  
Before I'd let your steam drill beat me down,  
I'd die with a hammer in my hand, Lord, Lord.  
I'd die with a hammer in my hand."

**THE GOSPEL TRADITION**

- I Shall Wear A Crown

**Verse I**

I shall wear a crown.  
I shall wear a crown.  
When it's all over.  
When it's all over.

**Verse II**

I shall see His face.  
I shall see His face.

*attr. Wallace Willis*

If you get there before I do,  
Coming for to carry me home.  
Tell all my friends I'm coming too,  
Coming for to carry me home.

**[Refrain]**

I'm sometimes up and sometimes down,  
Coming for to carry me home.  
But still my soul feels heavenly bound,  
Coming for to carry me home.

**[Refrain]****Verse IV**

Now John Henry went to the mountain,  
Told the steam drillin' man to step aside,  
said I'm gonna beat steel like no steam drill can,  
or I'll die with a hammer in my hand, Lord, Lord.  
I'd die with a hammer in my hand."

**Bridge**

John Henry was a steel drivin' man,  
John Henry was a steel drivin' man.

**Verse V**

John Henry lifted his hammer,  
Drove 'til his hammer caught fire.  
Last words I heard John Henry say,  
"A cool drink of water, 'fore I die; Lord, Lord.  
A cool drink of water, 'fore I die."  
Well they took John Henry from that mountain,  
Buried him down in the sand,  
And every locomotive that comes roarin' by says,  
"There lies a steel drivin' man, Lord, Lord.  
There lies a steel drivin' man.

*Thomas Whitfield*

When it's all over.  
When it's all over.

**Chorus**

I'm gonna put on my robe,  
tell the story how I made it over. (2x)

**[Chorus]**

Soon as I get home. (3x)

## RHYTHM & BLUES

### • Lean On Me

#### Chorus

Lean on me  
when you're not strong,  
And I'll be your friend,  
I'll help you carry on.  
For it won't be long  
'Til I'm gonna need  
Somebody to lean on.

Sometimes in our lives  
We all have pain  
We all have sorrow.'

*Bill Withers*

But if we are wse

But if we are wise  
We know that there's always tomorrow.

#### [Chorus]

You just call on me brother, when you need a hand  
We all need somebody to lean on.  
I just might have a problem that you'll understand  
We all need somebody to lean on.

#### [Chorus]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

### • Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing  
Til earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening 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.

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 have been  
watered,

*James Weldon Johnson & J. Rosamond Johnson*

We have come, treading our path through the blood of  
the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

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.

*Louise Shropshire*

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,  
We shall live in peace someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We shall live in peace someday.

### • We Shall Overcome

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,  
We shall overcome someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We shall overcome someday.

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand,  
We'll walk hand in hand someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,  
We'll walk hand in hand someday.

## CLOSING MEDLEY

### • Oh Happy Day

Oh happy day (oh happy day),  
Oh happy day (oh happy day),  
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed),  
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed),  
When Jesus washed (when Jesus washed),  
He washed my sins away (oh happy day),  
Oh happy day (oh happy day).

He taught me how to watch, fight and pray, fight and pray.  
And live rejoicing every day, every day.

Gospel Hymn, arr. Edwin Hawkins

### • Happy

It might seem crazy what I'm 'bout to say  
Sunshine she's here, you can take a break  
I'm a hot air balloon that could go to space  
With the air, like I don't care, baby by the way.

#### Chorus

Because I'm happy,  
Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof,  
Because I'm happy,  
Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth,  
Because I'm happy,  
Clap along if you know what happiness is to you,  
Because I'm happy,  
Clap along if you feel like that's what you wanna do.

Pharrell Williams

Here come bad news, talking this and that,  
Well, give me all you got, and don't hold it back.  
Well, I should probably warn you I'll be just fine.  
No offense to you, don't waste your time,  
Here's why:

#### [Chorus]

Bring me down, can't nothin'  
Bring me down,  
My level's too high to bring me down,  
Can't nothin' bring me down,  
I said, bring me down,  
Can't nothin' bring me down,  
My level's too high to bring me down,  
Can't nothin' bring me down.

## THE EILEEN SOUTHERN INITIATIVE

Today's community sing is presented as part of Harvard's **Eileen Southern Initiative**, a multi-faceted collaborative project designed to honor the career of Eileen Jackson Southern, whose landmark book, *The Music of Black Americans*, was published in 1971. Southern was the first African American woman tenured in Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences in 1976. The Initiative is led by Katie Callam (Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard GSAS Fellowships & Writing Center), Andrew Clark (Director of Choral Activities and Senior Lecturer in Music), Christina Linklater (Keeper of the Isham Memorial Library, Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Library), Carol J. Oja (William Powell Mason Professor of Music and American Studies), and Braxton D. Shelley (Associate Professor of Music, of Sacred Music, and of Divinity, Yale University).

## COMMUNITY SING PRODUCING ORGANIZATIONS

Harvard Common Spaces

Office for the Arts at Harvard

Massachusetts American Choral Directors Association

Community Renewal Fund, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Walter and Kate Endowment Fund of the Harvard Choruses

Harvard University Department of Music

Provostial Fund for the Arts and Humanities, Harvard University