



Juneteenth 2025

Song

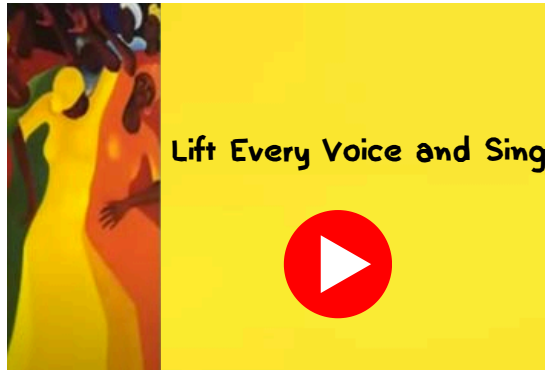
Black National Anthem | Lift Every Voice and Sing

[3:34 min]



Stephenson, Mrs. Charles
(Grace Murray).
[Emancipation Day Celebration,
June 19, 1900],
photograph, June 19, 1900;

(<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth124053/>;
accessed June 2, 2025),
University of North Texas
Libraries, The Portal to Texas
History,
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/austin-history-center-austin-public-library-pica-05476/>;
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LEARN MORE!

*The Song
Explained*



By America
History Geek
[17 min]

Insights *by Howard Thurman*

“There is something in every one of you that waits and listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself. It is the only true guide you will ever have. And if you cannot hear it, you will all of your life spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls.”

“Look well to the growing edge!

All around us worlds are dying, and new worlds are being born.
... This is the basis of hope in moments of despair, the incentive to carry on when times are out of joint and people have lost their reason, the source of confidence when worlds crash and dreams whiten to ash.
Look well to the growing edge!”

Reflect & Share

How do the quotes by Howard Thurman connect to the Juneteenth themes of liberation, hope and renewal?

How do they call us to continue the journey toward justice and equity?

What can you do to raise awareness that the work of justice and equity remain our shared responsibility?

What do you need to continue this journey of protecting and advancing justice and equity with resilience, persistence and hope?



Let's Pray

A Prayer to Commemorate Juneteenth

by Fr. Steven Bell, CSP

Almighty and Ever-Faithful God,

You, whose Word of Liberty was proclaimed by Moses to free the Israelites from Egyptian enslavement sent that same Word, heralded on Juneteenth in a proclamation of emancipation, to our African American brothers and sisters inhumanly bound in American enslavement.

Though our Freedom Journey is far from ended and the Freedom Proclamation continues to unfold, we give you thanks and praise for seeing us to this point on our mighty long way.

Thank you, Lord,
for fortifying our sisters and brothers of
ebony skin and stout spirits
whose faithfulness and courage released their
calloused hand
from the oppressive yoke of their enslavement
to plow new paths of citizenship and opportunity
for themselves and successive generations.

And, we thank you, Lord,
for the strength and resolve You bestowed
upon the arduous work and fervent prayers of all
who, throughout history, have had to trod stony
roads and bear bitter rods
in order to rise up against the pervasive oppressions
of unjust racial persecutions and structural
racial inequities.

As we come together in this momentous occasion,
we ask for Your Word of Liberty to continue to
inform us and more of Your blessings to aid us
along this toilsome journey towards true
justice and equity.

Grant us Your grace
to open the eyes of all who are blinded by
the poison of intolerance.
May we all see Your image inscribed within
everyone we encounter.

Lend us Your love
to free the hearts of all who are shackled by
hatred and guile.
May we dwell within Your love that binds us
together as a Sacred Family unified as One

Allot us Your mercy
to expand all minds beyond the confines of
prejudice, apathy, fear and discrimination.
May these works of the Evil One flee at the
presence of Your light.

With Your Holy Spirit, empower us to be
Ministers of Liberty
as we repair, restore, and renovate all that
has been broken
by the blight of continued systemic racism
and racial oppression.

May Your work in us be our work in the
world that gives glory to Your Holy Name
and inspires us all to be our better selves.

We ask these graces of You as we ask of all
things, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer Courtesy Of:

Fr. Steven Bell, C.S.P. – Paulist Fathers



School Sisters of Notre Dame

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