

Commissioned by VOCE of Carmel, Indiana
in celebration of 20 years of choral excellence, 2026

I CAN SING!

for 3-part mixed voices and piano*

Words from "The Gift to Sing"
by JAMES WELDON JOHNSON (1871–1938)

Music and additional Words by
GREG GILPIN

With quiet energy (♩ = ca. 138)

PIANO *pp*

4 PART I *pp* 5

I can sing!

PART II *pp*

I can sing.

PART III *pp*

I can

* Also available for S.A.T.B. (52809) and S.S.A. (52811).
PianoTrax accompaniment available (A-00016702).
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7

decresc.

decresc.

I can sing!

sing!

decresc.

p



10

mp

No

mp

No

cresc.



13 PARTS I & II

nights are dark, _ no days are long, *cresc.*
 PART III *mp* *cresc.*
 while in my heart _ there lives

mp *cresc.*

16 *mf*
 _ I can sing! _ I can
 a song. I can, I can _ sing! _
mf

19 *mf* *mp* *mp*
 sing! _ And oh, I have _ a mag -
 I can _ sing! _

22 *mp* *cresc.*

to turn the gloom _ to cheer - ful day. I can

cresc.

ic way, _____ I can,

25 *mf*

sing! _____ I can sing!

mf

I can _ sing! _____ I can _ sing! _____

28 *mp*

Mu - sic _ is all a - round me,

mp

_____ Mu - sic _ is all a - round me,

mp

31 *mf* *mp*

a cir - cle of song. Mu - sic — is

cir - cle of song. — Mu - sic — is

34 *cresc.* *cresc.* *cresc.*

all a-round me. This is where I be -

all a-round me. This is where I be -

37 *f* *mp* [39]

long. Let's dance with feet — and sing

long. —

f *mp*

40 *cresc.*

with voice, _____ We can

mp *cresc.*

and let our hearts _ all now re-joyce. We can,

cresc.

43 *mf*

sing! _____ We can sing! _____

mf

we can _ sing! _____ We can _ sing! _____

mf

46 47

mp

_____ All of heav - en all of earth, _____

mp

49 *mp* *cresc.* *mf*

tell the world _ of mu - sic's worth. We can sing! _____

cresc. *mf*

_____ We can, we can _ sing! _

52

_____ We can sing! _____

_____ We can _ sing! _____

55 *mp* *mp*

Mu - sic _ is all a - round me, a cir - cle of

Mu - sic _ is all a - round me,

58 *mf* *mp*

song. Mu - sic — is all a-round me.

mf *mp*

cir - cle of song. — Mu - sic — is all a-round me.

61 *cresc.* *f*

This is where I be - long.

cresc. *f*

This is where — I be - long, —

cresc. *f*

64 *decresc.*

be-long. —

decresc.

I — be-long. —

decresc.

67

mp

No nights _ are

mf *decresc.* *mp*

70

dark, _

mp

no days are long, _ no days are long, _

73

while in my heart, _

there lives a song, _ there lives

76 77 *mf*

No nights _ are dark, _

a song. _ no

79

while in _ my

days are long, _ no days are long, _

82 *mp*

heart, _ And

there lives a song, _ there lives a song. And

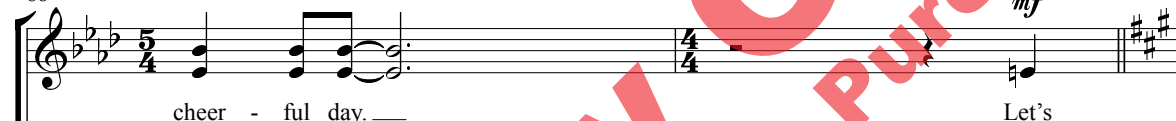
mp

3/4

85

cresc. poco a poco*cresc. poco a poco**mp cresc. poco a poco*

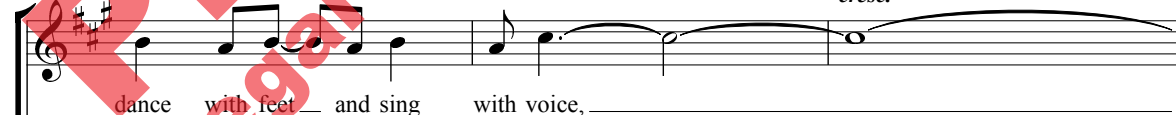
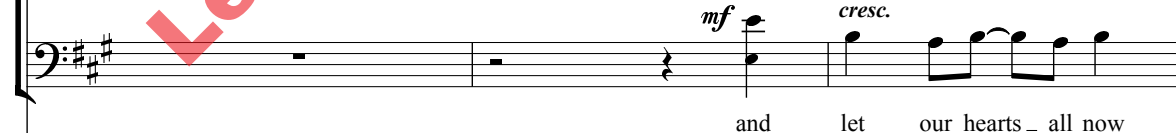
88

mf

cheer - ful day.



90

cresc.*mf**cresc.**mf**cresc.*

93

f

We can sing! We can

re-joyce. We can, we can sing!

96

sing!

We can sing! All of heav - en, all

98

mf

99

mf *cresc.*

tell the world of mu - sic's worth. We can

cresc.

of earth, We can,

cresc.

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102 *f* sing! _____ We can sing! _____

f we can _____ sing! _____ We can _____ sing! _____

105 *mp* Mu - sic _____ is all a - round me,

mp Mu - sic _____ is all a - round me,

108 *mf* a cir - cle of song. *mp* Mu - sic _____ is

mf cir - cle of song. *mp* Mu - sic _____ is

111 112

all a-round me. This is where, _____

all a-round me. This is where, _____

114 *mp* this is where, _____ *mp* this

mp this is where, _____ *mp* this is where _____

117 *f* is where I be - long. _____ *mf* I can

_____ *f* I be - long. _____

f

120

cresc. poco a poco

musical score for measures 120-122, featuring vocal and piano parts with lyrics: sing! I can sing! I can sing!

123

musical score for measures 123-125, featuring vocal and piano parts with lyrics: We can sing! We can sing!