

THE GOLDEN BOOK — OF — FAVORITE SONGS



*A Treasury of the Best Songs
of Our People*



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Responsive Readings

LEADER: *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
And the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.*

ASSEMBLY: Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.

LEADER: *When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.
If thou hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God,
The Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.* —Psalms

UNISON: We hold these truths to be self-evident:

That all men are created equal;
That they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights;
That among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;
That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. —Thomas Jefferson

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

LEADER: *Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.*

ASSEMBLY: Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

LEADER: *We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live.*

ASSEMBLY: It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground.

LEADER: *The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract.*

ASSEMBLY: The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

LEADER: *It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.*

ASSEMBLY: It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion;

That we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth. —Abraham Lincoln

LEADER: *God hath made of one blood all nations of men, and we are his children—brothers and sisters all.*

ASSEMBLY: We are citizens of these United States, and we believe our Flag stands for self-sacrifice for the good of all the people. We want, therefore, to be true citizens of our great country, and will show our love for her by our works.

LEADER: *Our country does not ask us to die for her welfare; she asks us to live for her, and so to live and so to act that her government may be pure, her officers honest, and every corner of her territory shall be a place fit to grow the best men and women, who shall rule over her.* —Mary McDowell

UNISON: The Flag means universal education—light for every mind, knowledge for every child. We must have but one flag. We must also have but one language. This must be the language of the Declaration of Independence. —Woodrow Wilson

Pledge to the Flag

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

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America

(My Country, 'Tis of Thee)

America was written by Reverend Samuel F. Smith, a Baptist minister, who was born in Boston, October 21, 1808, and died November 16, 1895.

One of Dr. Smith's friends was the eminent musician, Lowell Mason. A friend had given Mr. Mason several German music books. Being unable to read German he took the books to Dr. Smith and asked him to translate some of the songs.

Dr. Smith says, "Turning over the leaves of the book one gloomy day in February, 1832, I came across the air, *God Save the King*. I liked the music. I glanced at the German words at the foot of the page. Under the inspiration of the moment I went to work and in half an hour *America* was the result. It was written on a scrap of paper I picked up from the table and the hymn of today is substantially as it was written that day."

The hymn was first sung, at a children's Fourth of July celebration in Park Street Church, Boston. It did not have great popularity until the Civil War. Since then it has become the best known and most frequently sung of our national songs. The origin of the music is uncertain. But one writer aptly says, "There certainly must be something more than ordinarily inspiring in an air which has struck the popular heart of two of the great nations of the earth."

SAMUEL FRANCIS SMITH

HENRY CAREY (?)

With a moderately quick motion

1. My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib-er-ty, Of thee I sing. Land where my
 2. My na-tive country, thee, Land of the no-ble free, Thy name I love. I love thy
 3. Let mu-sic swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song. Let mortal
 4. Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of lib-er-ty, To Thee we sing. Long may our

mf

fa-thers died! Land of the Pil-grim's pride! From ev-ry mountain side, Let freedom ring!
 rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills; My heart with rapture thrills Like that a-bove.
 tongues awake; Let all that breathe partake; Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.
 land be bright With freedom's ho-ly light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!

ff

God Bless Our Native Land

(Tune — America)

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| <p>1. God bless our native land,
 Firm may she ever stand
 Through storm and night!
 When the wild tempests rave,
 Ruler of wind and wave,
 Do Thou our country save,
 By Thy great might!</p> | <p>2. For her our prayers shall rise,
 To God above the skies,
 On Him we wait;
 Thou who art ever nigh,
 Guarding with watchful eye,
 To Thee aloud we cry,
 God save the state!</p> |
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CHARLES T. BROOKES AND JOHN S. DWIGHT

The American's Creed

"I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution; to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

—William Tyler Page