

A Tribute to James Weldon Johnson's "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

© The Rev. Dr. Judith Davis, April 12, 2021

(Adult winner)

You lifted our hearts to sing for liberty.

You filled a scroll with your beautiful images

of farewell to the dark past

and a new rising sun of hope.

You unlocked the stone defeat of slavery.

You showed us a love of ourselves

to carry us through muddy times

and to look to the purple mountains of love.

You found us a key to the locked door of fear.

You opened that door to vast freedom

with our God training us to be soldiers of truth

and teaching us to live in the light.

You led us into the light.

You gave us a sundial of truth

to direct us beneath God's hand,

and to stand at last in the glow of God's love.