

10. I Lift My Voice

Words & Music by Andrea Ramsey
Boulder, CO | 2017

Defiantly (♩ = 60)

1. When I lift my voice, let it be in song, A de - fi - ant note in the
2. When I lift my voice, let it be for good, Let me care as much as I

face of wrong, I won't stand a - lone, we'll stand side by side, 'cause we
know I should,

know that love is al - ways jus - ti - fied. When they try to di -

vide us, it will on - ly u - nite us.

I lift my voice.

Andrea writes:

"I was inspired by the line 'with glad defiance in my throat, I pierce the darkness with a note' from James Weldon Johnson's poem, *The Gift to Sing*, and I created this tune in hopes of acknowledging the power of music and the importance of community in pursuing justice and unity."



Start Local, Stay Vocal

This song is part of the Justice Choir Songbook!

Justice Choir is a template for bringing communities together to inspire strength, solidarity, and change in situations that demand social, economic, and environmental justice, and amplifying that message peacefully, on the local and national level, through singing. It is constructed around:

1. Justice Choir Songbook

A downloadable resource of new (and newly-arranged) songs created in response to the issues of our time. Free and available to all, it is made possible by Westminster Presbyterian Church of Minneapolis. The songs were selected from a national Call for Songs, and co-edited by Abbie Betinis, Ahmed Anzaldúa, and Tesfa Wondemagegnehu.

2. Local Chapters of Singers

Justice Choir Chapters plan local events and conversations, group sings, lead crowds in singing at marches and rallies, and might even have a rehearsal here and there. Chapter choirs might have rolling, flexible rosters, or set attendance. If you want to rally your local community through song, consider forming a Justice Choir Chapter! For more information, please contact executive director Abbie Betinis at justicechoir@gmail.com.

Get Involved!



@JusticeChoir



@JusticeChoirALL



justicechoir@gmail.com

Download the full Justice Choir Songbook: www.justicechoir.org

About our Creative Commons License

Each of our songwriters has generously agreed to let us distribute their work under a Creative Commons (CC) license. **You may legally copy and distribute these songs for non-commercial use, free of charge, as long as you:**

- 1) Include all attributions and license info.** *To easily meet this requirement, print/copy the pages in full.*
 - All credits must be clear and readable: 1) songwriter names, 2) copyright info, and 3) JusticeChoir.org
 - The Creative Commons license must be clear and readable. The music must reference the "Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License" (or "Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 4.0"). If possible, link to this page for more info: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>
- 2) Distribute the music in any non-commercial (non-profit) way.** *The music must be free.*
 - give the music to anyone (family, friends, chorus, organization, etc.), as long as it's free to them
 - post the music anywhere (social media, webpage) as long as the music doesn't include third party advertising

Optional, but recommended:

- 1) When sharing online, tag Justice Choir (see our handles above), or use #JusticeChoir so we can like & share too!
- 2) When you perform the songs, let the songwriters know! Their contact info is at the bottom of each page.
- 3) Include this information page when distributing the music, so others will know how they can share it too.

You may perform these songs in any non-commercial venue with no additional permissions, licenses, or fees.

- in any venue managed by a non-profit organization (ex. school, churches, most community centers)
- in any government building or public space (ex. capitol rotunda, city park)
- to perform in a commercial space (ex. coffee shop, bar, arena, on radio/TV), simply report your performance to the songwriter's Performing Rights Organization (ASCAP/BMI/SESAC), just as you would any music under copyright.

Additional permissions are necessary for all commercial/for-profit use, including:

- to sell the sheet music, or to reprint or publish songs. Obtain permission from the copyright holder.
- to sell recordings, as audio (ex. CDs, iTunes, Spotify), or video (ex. DVD). Obtain licenses from the copyright holder.
- to place advertising in recordings (ex. monetize YouTube videos). Obtain permission from the copyright holder.
- to make derivative works. To distribute arrangements, for sale or free, obtain permission from the copyright holder.