



## 2018 Song of the Year: **Ode to Song**

### Dear singers of the world,

Thank you for your interest in being a part of World Singing Day. I invite you, your friends, your choir and anyone else to sing our 2018 Song of the Year "Ode to Song," sung to the melody of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy." You can sing it in 4-part harmony (see attached sheet music), make up your own arrangement, or simply sing the melody. You can sing along to the provided track, have your own accompaniment, or sing it a cappella. We encourage you to film yourselves singing it and to share it with us and on social media using #worldsingingday.

It's my vision that people of all ages in communities around the world will gather together on the same day each year to sing together, have fun, and celebrate our common humanity. Thank you for helping make that vision come true.

*Scott Johnson*

*Founder, World Singing Day*

...

Founded in 2012, World Singing Day invites people of all ages and backgrounds – from shower singers to celebrities – to sing with their friends, family, school groups, local clubs, or entire community on the third Saturday in October each year.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, World Singing Day is not religious or political, nor does it promote any one country or culture. Rather, it encourages people to put aside their differences and celebrate what we all share as human beings.

Contact us at [Music@WorldSingingDay.org](mailto:Music@WorldSingingDay.org)  
[www.WorldSingingDay.org](http://www.WorldSingingDay.org)



## 2018 Song of the Year

# Ode to Song

Lyrics curated by Scott Johnson  
Sung to the tune of Beethoven's *Ode to Joy*

*For World Singing Day's 2018 Song of the Year, I wanted to use a bold melody that millions of people around the world were familiar with. I chose Beethoven's Ode to Joy and took phrases from 20 popular songs to create Ode to Song, a tribute to the power of song with an invitation to sing along.*

Times they are a-changin' faster<sup>1</sup>  
Can you see what's goin' down<sup>2</sup>  
People long for love and laughter<sup>3</sup>  
Can you see it clearly now<sup>4</sup>

Take a sad song, make it better<sup>5</sup>  
Sing it out and sing it strong<sup>6</sup>  
Everybody get together<sup>7</sup>  
Raise your voice and sing along<sup>8</sup>

We're the ones to make the magic<sup>9</sup>  
And we've only just begun<sup>10</sup>  
Sing along and just imagine<sup>11</sup>  
How the world can be as one<sup>12</sup>

We did not ignite the fire<sup>13</sup>  
But we're standing in the flame<sup>14</sup>  
Do we lift ourselves up higher<sup>15</sup>  
Do we wallow in the pain<sup>16</sup>

Let us rise up, face the music<sup>17</sup>  
Take it to the streets today<sup>18</sup>  
Got a heart and soul, then use it<sup>19</sup>  
Do it now and don't delay<sup>20</sup>

We're the ones to make the magic<sup>9</sup>  
And we've only just begun<sup>10</sup>  
Sing along and just imagine<sup>11</sup>  
How the world can be as one<sup>12</sup>

### Song references:

1. Times They Are A-Changin', Bob Dylan 2. For What It's Worth, Buffalo Springfield 3. The White Cliffs of Dover, Vera Lynn 4. I Can See Clearly Now, Jimmy Cliff 5. Hey Jude, The Beatles 6. Sing, The Carpenters 7. Get Together, The Youngbloods 8. Close Your Eyes, Meghan Trainor 9. We Are the World, Michael Jackson 10. We've Only Just Begun, The Carpenters 11. Life's a Song, Rascal Flatts 12. Imagine, John Lennon 13. We Didn't Start the Fire, Billy Joel 14. Beautiful Pain, Eminem/Sia 15. Higher and Higher, Jackie Wilson 16. Get Over It, Eagles 17. Rise Up, Andra Day 18. Takin' It To The Streets, Doobie Brothers 19. Heart and Soul, Huey Lewis and the News 20. Do It Now, Ingrid Michaelson



# World Singing Day 2018 Song of the Year

“For this year’s World Singing Day singalong song, I wanted to use a bold melody that millions of people around the world were familiar with. I chose Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy* and took phrases from 20 well-known, and some not so well-known, songs\* to create *Ode to Song*, a tribute to the power of song with an invitation to sing along.”

-Scott Johnson, founder of World Singing Day

## Ode to Song

-MELODY-

Ludwig van Beethoven  
Lyrics curated by Scott Johnson  
Arr. Heather Stenner



Times they are a chang - in' fast - er. Can you see what's go - in' down?

5



Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. Can you see it clear - ly now?

9



Take a sad song, make it\_\_\_ bet - ter. Sing it\_\_\_ out and sing it strong. Ev -

13



- 'ry - bo - dy get to - ge - ther. Raise your voice and sing a - long.

17



We're the ones to make the ma - gic. And we've\_\_\_ on - ly just be - gun. Sing

21



a - long and just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.

25



We did not ig - nite the fi - re, but we're stand - ing in the flame.

## ODE TO SONG

-MELODY-

2 29



Do we lift our - selves up high - er? Do we wal - low in the pain?

33



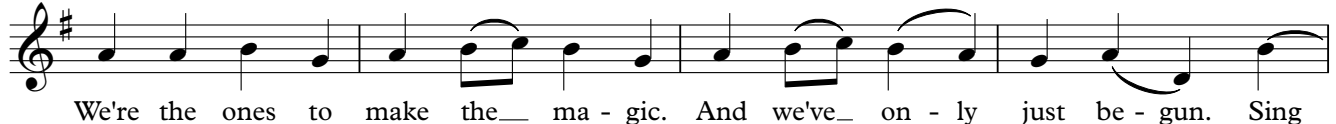
Let us rise up, face the\_\_ mu - sic. Take it\_\_ to the streets to - day. Got

37



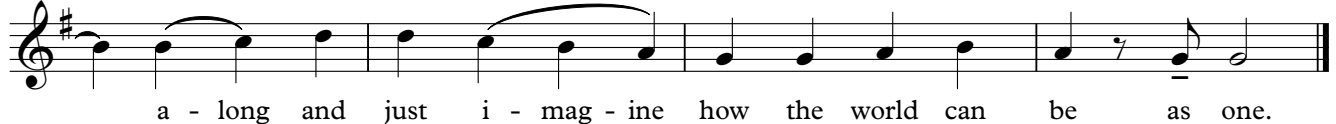
a heart and soul? Then use it. Do it now and don't de - lay.

41



We're the ones to make the\_\_ ma - gic. And we've\_\_ on - ly just be - gun. Sing

45



a - long and just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.

### \*SONG REFERENCES

Times They Are A-Changin'  
For What It's Worth  
The White Cliffs of Dover  
I Can See Clearly Now  
Hey Jude  
Sing  
Get Together

Close Your Eyes  
We Are The World  
We've Only Just Begun  
Life's a Song  
Imagine  
We Didn't Start the Fire  
Beautiful Pain

Higher and Higher  
Get Over It  
Rise Up  
Takin' It To the Streets  
Heart And Soul  
Do It Now

**Download** the *Ode to Song* SATB arr., lead sheets and more at [WorldSingingDay.org](http://WorldSingingDay.org).

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-Scott Johnson, founder of World Singing Day

## Ode to Song

-LEAD SHEET-

Ludwig van Beethoven  
Lyrics curated by Scott Johnson  
Arr. Heather Stenner

1 G D Em A<sup>7</sup>/E G/D D  
Times they are a chang- in' fast - er. Can you see what's go - in' down?

5 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G  
Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. Can you see it clear - ly now?

9 D G/D D G/D D B<sup>7</sup>/D<sup>#</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> G  
Take a sad song, make it\_\_\_ bet - ter. Sing it\_\_\_ out and sing it strong. Ev -

13 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G  
- 'ry - bo - dy get to - ge - ther. Raise your voice and sing a-long.

17 D G/D D G/D D B<sup>7</sup>/D<sup>#</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> G  
We're the ones to make the ma - gic. And we've\_\_\_ on - ly just be - gun. Sing

21 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G  
a - long and just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.

25 **A** G D Em A<sup>7</sup> G/D D  
We did not ig - nite the fi - re, but we're stand - ing in the flame.

# ODE TO SONG

-LEAD-

2

29 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G  
Do we lift our - selves up high - er? Do we wal - low in the pain?

33 D G/D D G/D D B<sup>7</sup>/D<sup>#</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> G  
Let us rise up, face the mu - sic. Take it to the streets to - day. Got

37 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G  
a heart and soul? Then use it. Do it now and don't de - lay.

41 D G/D D G/D D B<sup>7</sup>/D<sup>#</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> G  
We're the ones to make the ma - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing

45 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G  
a - long and just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.

### \*SONG REFERENCES

Times They Are A-Changin'  
For What It's Worth  
The White Cliffs of Dover  
I Can See Clearly Now  
Hey Jude  
Sing  
Get Together

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We've Only Just Begun  
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Higher and Higher  
Get Over It  
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Takin' It To the Streets  
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## Ode to Song

Music by Ludwig van Beethoven  
 Lyrics curated by Scott Johnson  
 Arrangement by Heather Stenner  
 & Kirk Wegter-McNelly

**♩=140**

**4**

Soprano *f* Times they are a chang - in' fast - er. Can you see what's go - in' down?

Alto *f* Times they are a chang - in' fast - er. *mf* Can you see what's go - in' down?

Tenor *mf* Times they are a chang - in' fast - er. *f* Can you see what's go - in' down?

Bass *mf* Times they are a chang - in' fast - er. Can you see what's go - in' down?

Chords: G, D, Em, A7/E, G/D, D

**9**

*G* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. Can you see it clear - ly now?

*G/F* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. *mp* Can you see it clear - ly now?

*C/E* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. *mf* Can you see it clear - ly now?

*Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. *mp* Can you see it clear - ly now?

*G/D* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. Can you see it clear - ly now?

*D7* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. Can you see it clear - ly now?

*G* Peo - ple long for love and laugh - ter. Can you see it clear - ly now?

ODE TO SONG  
(S.A.T.B.)

13

Take a sad song, make it bet - ter. Sing it out and sing it strong. Ev -

*mf* Sing it out and sing it strong. Ev -

*mp* Take a sad song, make it bet - ter. Sing it out and sing it strong. Ev -

*mf*

17

- 'ry - bo - dy get to - ge - ther. Raise your voice and sing a - long.

- 'ry - bo - dy get to - ge - ther. Raise your voice and sing a - long.

- 'ry - bo - dy get to - ge - ther. Raise your voice and sing a - long.

- 'ry - bo - dy get to - ge - ther. Raise your voice and sing a - long.

21

*mf* We're the ones to make the ma - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing

*mf* We're the ones to make the ma - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing

*p* Ma - - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing

*p* Ma - - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing



ODE TO SONG  
(S.A.T.B.)

25 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G

a - long and just i - mag - ine *f* how the world can be as one.  
a - long and just i - mag - ine *mf* how the world can be as one.  
a - long and just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.  
a - long and just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.

29 **A** G D Em A<sup>7</sup>/E G/D D

*f* We did not ig - nite the fi - re, but we're stand - ing in the flame.  
*mf* We did not ig - nite the fi - re, but we're stand - ing in the flame.  
*mf* We did not ig - nite the fi - re, but we're stand - ing in the flame.  
*mf* We did not ig - nite the fi - re, but we're stand - ing in the flame.

37 G G/F C/E Cm<sup>6</sup>/Eb G/D D<sup>7</sup> G

Do we lift our - selves up high - er? Do we wal - low in the pain?  
*mp* Do we lift our - selves up high - er? Do we wal - low in the pain?  
*mp* Do we lift our - selves up high - er? Do we wal - low in the pain?  
*mp* Do we lift our - selves up high - er? Do we wal - low in the pain?

ODE TO SONG  
(S.A.T.B.)

4

41

D G/D D G/D , D B7/D# Em A7 D7 , G

Let us rise up, face the mu - sic. Take it to the streets to - day. Got

*mp* Let us rise up, face the mu - sic. Take it to the streets to - day. *mf* Got

*mp* Let us rise up, face the mu - sic. Take it to the streets to - day. *mf* Got

*mp* Let us rise up, face the mu - sic. Take it to the streets to - day. Got *mf*

45

G G/F C/E Cm6/Eb G/D D7 G

a heart and soul? Then use it. Do it now and don't de - lay.

a heart and soul? Then use it. Do it now and don't de - lay.

a heart and soul? Then use it. Do it now and don't de - lay.

a heart and soul? Then use it. Do it now and don't de - lay.

49

D G/D D G/D D B7/D# Em A7 D7 , G *(a cappella)*

*mf* Ma - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing

*mp* We're the ones to make the ma - gic. And we've on - ly just be - gun. Sing

*f* We're the ones to make the ma - gic. *mf* And we've on - ly just be - gun. *f* Sing

*mp* Ma - gic. *mf* And we've on - ly just be - gun. *f* Sing

ODE TO SONG  
(S.A.T.B.)

♩=70

5

53 (a cappella)

a - long and just i - mag - ine just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.  
rit. . . . . mf rit.  
a - long and just i - mag - ine just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.  
mp mf  
a - long and just i - mag - ine just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.  
mp mf  
a - long and just i - mag - ine just i - mag - ine how the world can be as one.  
mp mf

**\*Song References**

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Times They Are A-Changin' | Life's a Song            |
| For What It's Worth       | Imagine                  |
| The White Cliffs of Dover | We Didn't Start the Fire |
| I Can See Clearly Now     | Beautiful Pain           |
| Hey Jude                  | Higher and Higher        |
| Sing                      | Get Over It              |
| Get Together              | Rise Up                  |
| Close Your Eyes           | Takin' It To The Streets |
| We Are the World          | Heart and Soul           |
| We've Only Just Begun     | Do It Now                |

**Download** the *Ode to Song* accompaniment track, lead sheets and more at [WorldSingingDay.org](http://WorldSingingDay.org).

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# “Ode to Song”

## Song Reference Challenge

### ANSWER KEY

Note: Some lines may have more than one song reference.

ORIGINAL SONG/ARTIST	ODE TO SONG LYRIC
Times They Are A Changin'/Bob Dylan	Times they are a-changin' faster
For What It's Worth/Buffalo Springfield	Can you see what's goin' down
The White Cliffs Of Dover/Vera Lynn	People long for love and laughter
I Can See Clearly Now/ Jimmy Cliff	Can you see it clearly now
Hey Jude/The Beatles	Take a sad song, make it better
Sing/The Carpenters	Sing it out and sing it strong
Get Together/The Youngbloods	Everybody get together
Close Your Eyes/Meghan Trainor	Raise your voice and sing along
We Are The World/Michael Jackson	We're the ones to make the magic
We've Only Just Begun/The Carpenters	And we've only just begun
Life's A Song/Rascal Flatts	Sing along and just imagine
Imagine/John Lennon	How the world can be as one
We Didn't Start The Fire/Billy Joel	We did not ignite the fire
Beautiful Pain/Eminem and Sia	But we're standing in the flame
Higher and Higher/Jackie Wilson	Do we lift ourselves up higher
Get Over It/Eagles	Do we wallow in the pain
Rise Up/Andra Day	Let us rise up, face the music
Takin' It To The Streets/Doobie Brothers	Take it to the streets today
Got a heart and soul? Then use it	
Do it now and don't delay	
We're the ones to make the magic	
And we've only just begun	
Sing along and just imagine	
How the world can be as one	



**Sing**

together

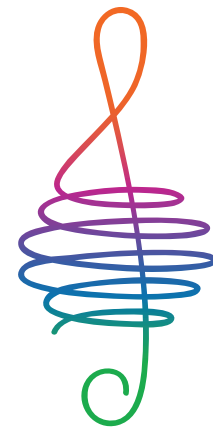


**Unite**

the world

WorldSingingDay.org • 3rd Saturday in October

# Singing from . . .



World  
Singing  
Day