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# The Cross Beside the Flag

A Patriotic Service for the Use of Young  
People's Societies, Sunday Schools  
and Red Cross Organizations

LIBRETTO BY  
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FILLMORE MUSIC HOUSE  
528 ELM STREET, CINCINNATI, O.

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# The Cross Beside the Flag

## CHARACTERS AND COSTUMES

AMERICA.—White skirt, red tunic, blue sash.

CHRISTIANITY.—White Greek costume.

LIBERTY.—White with girdle and liberty cap.

HOPE.—White or pale blue, golden fillet and girdle.

PEACE.—White, with white fillet, and long, half-folded wings.

MERCY.—Red Cross costume.

DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM.—White dresses. Carry flags.

LOYAL SONS.—Boy Scout, or other suitable uniform.

All of these costumes should be inexpensive, and can be very quickly and easily made.

**No. 1. Processional.**—*Organ, piano or orchestra.*

*Chorus enters, either front or rear, as is most convenient, passes to place, and remains standing during the invocation.*

**No. 2. Invocation.**

## No. 3. Lord of the Nations.

Song Prayer by the Chorus.

*With reverence.*

1. Lord of the Na - tions, Fa - ther of all,  
2. Lord of the Na - tions, Light of the blind,  
3. Cleanse Thou our mo - tives, E - ven by fire,

Lord of the na - tions, List to our call; Just are Thy judg - ments,  
Dark - ness il - lu - mine, Spir - its un - bind; Lord of the na - tions,  
Take from our spir - its E - vil de - sire; Lord of the na - tions,

Right - eous and true, Faith that is fal - t'ring In us re - new.  
God of all grace, Show us our broth - ers Face un - to face.  
Ho - ly and strong, More than from dan - ger Keep us from wrong. A - men.

Enter AMERICA, alone. She seems sad, and after a moment, seats herself and rests her head upon her hand. Enter DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM, who gather about her and sing. When they have finished she rises and greets them.

## No. 4. America Beloved.

Two-Part Song by Daughters of Freedom.

*Affectionately.*

1. A - mer - i - ca be - lov - ed, prize of the pilgrims' quest; A -  
 2. Be - yond the smoke of bat - tle heav - en e - ter - nal lies; A -

*mp Accomp.*

mer - i - ca be - lov - ed, in thee our hearts have rest; Un -  
 above the cries of ha - tred the pray'rs of saints a - rise; For

count - ed ships sail toward thee, un - count - ed wealth is thine; A -  
 those who shall come aft - er, God keep thee true to - day; A -

America Beloved.

mer - i - ca be - lov - ed, thou dost our love en - shrine.  
mer - i - ca be - lov - ed, for thee, for thee we pray.

REFRAIN.

A - mer - i - ca be - lov - ed, thine an - cient faith re - new; A -

mer - i - ca be - lov - ed, may God pre - serve thee true!

AMERICA—

O happy spirits, true to me  
And to my dream of liberty,  
How often, in unclouded days,  
How I rejoiced in your glad praise!  
Doubt not but still with joy I hear  
Your song of still unbroken cheer.  
But these are days, O spirits free,  
When liberty comes dear to me;  
And I am often sad, and slow  
To smile as in the long ago.  
But sing ye on, and still have faith,  
That, spite of shameless greed and sin,  
Eternal love at last shall win,  
And truth be mightier than death.

(Enter CHRISTIANITY)

Ah, here come some who shares with me  
My burden. Christianity,  
Endow me with Thy holy power,  
Lest I should fail in this hard hour.

CHRISTIANITY—

America, be true to me!  
The past, and those who made thee free  
To-day are calling unto thee.  
The world has linked thy name with mine,  
Wilt thou not claim thy right divine?  
Is not thy emblem high unfurled,  
A token to a warring world?

(Points to Flag)

AMERICA—  
A token? Ay, but can they see  
For battle-smoke?—the struggling hosts?  
Have our proud aims been idle boasts?  
What sayest thou, Christianity?

CHRISTIANITY—  
I falter not, O trusted friend,  
The light that guides me is divine;  
When hate shall die and wars shall end,  
Still, still that constant light will shine;  
I falter not, but bowed with grief  
I look upon a world laid waste,  
Its loveliness deformed, defaced,  
And know not how to bring relief.

AMERICA—  
Who if not thou the hurt canst heal?  
Who if not thou canst lift and cheer?  
Is not this, then, thy mission here—  
The sad world's utmost need to feel?

CHRISTIANITY—  
I feel, ah yes! but human hate  
Is strong my utmost power to scorn,  
For I can teach, can urge, can warn,  
But after that I can but wait  
On human choice, for good or ill,  
And humbly trust that, soon or late,  
Despite blind eyes and wayward will  
Men will God's purposes fulfill.  
But thou, America, be strong;  
Truth conquers though the fight be long.  
One word, to make thy heart less sad:  
A guest comes, who shall make thee glad,  
A guest who will, if asked, abide  
Let not her welcome be denied,  
But hail her, give her welcome fit,  
And bid her at thy table sit.

(Enter LIBERTY)

AMERICA—  
What guest? Surely, not Liberty,  
For she at all times dwells with me.  
My name and place must I resign  
If I shall call her guest of mine!  
(Goes to meet LIBERTY, and they clasp  
hand affectionately)  
O Liberty, true comrade thou,  
And never half so dear as now!

LIBERTY—  
America, do thou be true!  
Let not thy birthright be denied;  
Nor stand thou with the evil side;  
Thy ancient covenant renew,  
And let not dreams of selfish quest  
Ere turn thee from thy own soul's best.  
Stand thou for freedom's gift, once more,  
And seek it purely, as before  
In the far past, O favored one,  
And shrink not till thy task is done.

AMERICA—  
But ah, the price, dear Liberty!  
Such toll thy friendship takes from me!  
My sons—the best and needed most—  
A noble, and selected host.

LIBERTY—  
Such, O America, I ask—  
Great souls, for a titanic task;  
True friend, I sorely need thee now,  
Dare not thy fair, proud head to bow;  
Look up, and with a nobler pride  
Make thou thy claim, nor be denied;  
Pay thou the price, nor deem it great,  
So thou be true to thine estate,  
And stand with me on freedom's side.

AMERICA—  
I will be brave for thy dear sake,  
And true to thee, sweet Liberty,  
But see that none shall false claims make,  
In thy name, lest I turn from thee.

LIBERTY—  
I thank thee. And I say this word  
To lift thy sadness. I have heard  
A guest is on her way—a guest  
Whose coming shall bring joy to thee.

AMERICA—  
A guest? What guest, O Liberty?  
(And speaking aside to CHRISTIANITY)  
Said I not truly?

LIBERTY—  
One most blest  
Whom thou wilt welcome. List to her—  
This sad, sad hour's interpreter,  
But look thou first on these, who bear  
Thy name, and thy proud symbols wear.

## No. 5. Pantomime.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" is sung as a solo, or quartet, and illustrated in pantomime by the Daughters of Freedom, who lay aside their flags for this number. Lights should be turned low.

*First Stanza.*—Bodies bend forward, right hands shading eyes; chorus, arms outstretched in entreaty.

*Second Stanza.*—Bodies bent forward, right hands pointing; chorus, heads bowed, hands clasped.

*Third Stanza.*—Bodies erect, heads thrown back, arms in attitude of defense; chorus, heads bowed, hands clasped.

At the close of the solo, the stanza may be played through again while the characters move right and left and take up their flags, then resume their position at the front of the stage.

## No. 6. Lift Old Glory High.

Full Two-part Chorus by Daughters of Freedom.

1. Lift Old Glory high be-fore the world, Let its steadfast stars be all unfurled,  
2. Lift Old Glory high whate'er the cost, Lives for freedom spent are nev-er lost;

Let its beau-ty to all lands appear, Let the nations know we hold it dear.  
Tho' a nation's sons for her must die, Let Old Glory still be lift-ed high.

CHORUS. *f*

Red, to pledge us loy-al to endure; White, to bid us keep our hon-or pure;

Blue, to show a nation's heart is true, Dear Old Glo-ry, our own Red, White and Blue! . . . . .  
Red, White and Blue!

MILITARY MARCH. Bugle. Enter LOYAL SONS. March. Then stand at attention during song, "Land of Plenty." (The Publishers suggest "Onward, Christian Soldiers" for the music for this military march. It can be had of them for orchestra, if wanted.)

## No. 7. Land of Plenty.

Song by the Chorus.

NOTE.—If "Onward, Christian Soldiers" is played in E♭ for the military march preceding, it will modulate into this song without any interlude.

*Joyfully, with spirit.*

1. Land of plen - ty, land of beau - ty, Dear, dear land!  
2. Vain - ly cru - el foes as - sail her, Dear, dear land!

Un - to thee we pledge our du - ty, Dear, dear land!  
Sons of hers would scorn to fail her, Dear, dear land!

Stars of night shine bright - ly o'er her, All good gifts go  
Best of lands we proud - ly name her, For our own we

on be - fore her, To the peace she loves restore her, Dear, dear land.  
proudly claim her, Ours the blame, if a - ny blame her—Dear, dear land.

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AMERICA—  
Brave champions of a noble cause,  
Half faltering I send you out.  
What waits for you? The conqueror's  
shout,  
The homeward march, the world's ap-  
plause,  
I trust, and yet I can not know;  
I can not see the road you go.  
There may be only sacrifice  
Unseen by any human eyes,  
And humble heroism, unsung  
In praise by any human tongue.  
But this I say—be true! hold high

Your emblem, toward God's clean blue  
sky;  
And keep it and the honor I  
Am trusting to you, clean and true—  
All, all I trust to God and you!

COMMANDER OF LOYAL SONS—  
America, we pledge to truth  
Our lives, our honor and our youth;  
We will not sully thy dear name;  
We will not let thee suffer shame;  
To thee we give thy rightful due—  
America, we will be true!  
LOYAL SONS (Right hands uplifted)  
7 America, we will be true!

AMERICA—

O, how my heart goes out with these  
Who in my name shall cross the seas!  
Brave youths, for you fond prayers arise,  
Dearer are ye than wealth and ease,  
Ye are America's fair prize,  
The jewels of her coronet,  
I beg that you will not forget.

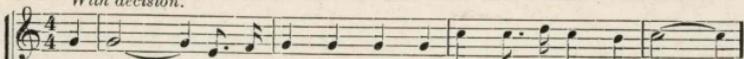
LOYAL SONS stand at attention while AMERICA sings "Be True."

## No. 8. Be True to the Best.

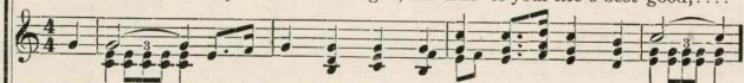
Solo by America, Daughters of Freedom joining in the Refrain.

NOTE—We suggest that America sing thru the song and chorus, then the Daughters of Freedom join her in repeating the chorus.

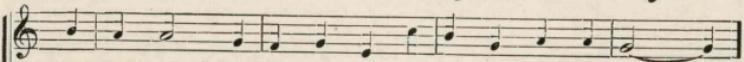
With decision.



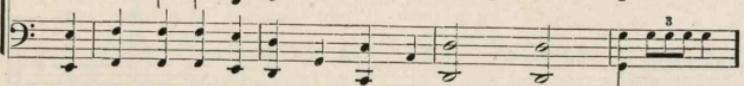
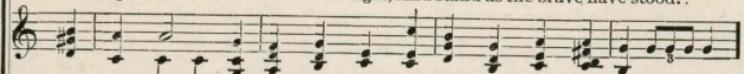
1. Be true ..... to the best you know; Be true to the dreams within;.....  
2. Be true ..... to your soul's best light; Be true to your life's best good;....



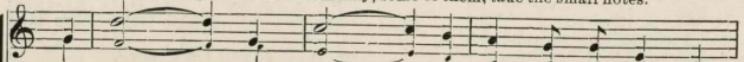
Play four measures for Prelude.



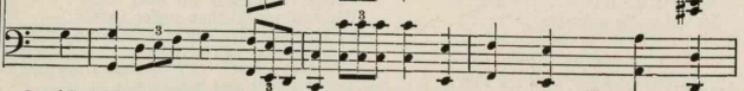
Keep hon - or as clean as snow, Untouched by the stain of sin.....  
Look up to the cross-marked height, And stand as the brave have stood..



REFRAIN. Daughters of Freedom may, some of them, take the small notes.



Be true,..... Be true!..... He los - es who stoops to



Be True to the Best.

The musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "win!... Be true!... Be true!... Be true to the dreams within!". Above the final measure of the vocal line is the instruction "Ad lib.". The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in a 2/4 time signature and features a mix of chords and melodic lines.

LIBERTY—

O Loyal Sons, I lead the way—  
Afar the call is sounding loud;  
I forward press, serene and proud,  
For victory shall crown the day.

(Bugle. LIBERTY turns, as if to pass out)

AMERICA—

O Loyal Sons, not Liberty  
Alone shall go with thee;  
Dear to my heart indeed is she,  
But sometimes hot of blood.

LIBERTY—

What? What?  
Dost thou then say my blood is hot?  
Is it not for humanity  
That I take fire, I ask of thee?

AMERICA—

Well, grant it so, I still would send  
Another with thee, well-loved friend,  
My loyal Christianity  
Thy comrade in the march shall be.

CHRISTIANITY—

Our cause is one—the truth makes free;  
Sayest thou not so, O Liberty?

LIBERTY—

Our cause is truly one. Go thou  
Along with me, and teach me how  
To wait—to know that God is just,  
And we who strive must also trust.

(Exeunt LIBERTY, CHRISTIANITY, LOYAL SONS.)

AMERICA—

I pay the price. In loneliness  
I wait the issue. To dream or guess  
Is idle. I must bide the day.

(Enter MERCY. AMERICA advances and stretches out her hands)

O Mercy, fair and strong to aid,  
How welcome thou I need not say;  
On thee my anxious heart is stayed,  
On thee my heavy load I lay.

MERCY—

I fain would make thy burden less,  
But needier hearts upon me press;  
I bring thee news of battle-fronts  
Where shock succeeds war's awful shock,  
Where cities fall and mountains rock  
And ashes smoke where homes were once.  
I plead with thee for half-crazed men,  
For women, gaunt and full of fear,  
For starving children, trembling when  
We come to offer food and cheer;  
America, not of thine own  
Must thou think only, at this hour;  
What profit is thy wealth, thy power,  
If thou hear not the shot, the groan,  
The orphan's cry, the widow's moan?

AMERICA—

Sweet Mercy, let me pardon pray;  
I am not hard of heart, indeed,  
But full of mine own people's need  
And perils which beset their way.

MERCY—

One blood through all creation flows;  
Where'er men strive for nobler laws,  
For freer speech, the free man owes  
His service to the common cause.

AMERICA—

O Mercy, serve the world to-day,  
And I and mine with thee will serve,  
Nor let our purpose weakly swerve  
When thou shalt show to us the way.  
(Turns to DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM.)  
O happy spirits, will ye go,  
If Mercy shall a hard way show?

LEADER—

We will!

ALL—

We will!

AMERICA to MERCY—

These are thine,  
They follow at the Red Cross sign!

MERCY—

I speak a sad world's thanks in mine!

## No. 9. DRILL AND PANTOMIME.

DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM.

MARCH AND FORMATION. (*The Publishers suggest for orchestra, if one is used, the march entitled "Success" for this drill.*)

*First Position.*—Single line, facing audience, flags at rest. Mark time.

*Second Position.*—Double line, flags raised. Mark time.

*Third Position.*—Double columns, right and left. Mark time.

*Fourth Position.*—Four squares, right, left, center back, center front, flags waving. Mark time. AMERICA and MERCY in center of platform. Return to third position and repeat.

*Fifth Position.*—Squares close in, forming cross, AMERICA and MERCY still in center. Mark time. Reverse and repeat, then hold position in tableau, flags uplifted. Soft music.

*Sixth Position.*—Large circle, AMERICA and MERCY in center, flags at rest.  
*Seventh Position.*—Close in by twos, forming wheel, carry flags, march, AMERICA in center, MERCY moving to extreme left.

*Eighth and Ninth Positions.*—Like fourth and fifth, omitting tableau.

*Tenth Position.*—Double column on right, flags at rest. Mark time. Advance by twos, forming semi-circle, facing AMERICA; bend low, as if for her blessing. She extends her arms. Hold position for tableau. Soft music. (*If orchestra is used, the Publishers suggest "Organ Echoes" for this music.*)

(*Exeunt DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM, following MERCY.*)

(*Note.*—A more elaborate drill can be substituted, if the stage is large enough. However, it should not be so long as to break the unity of the service.)

AMERICA—

Sweet bells, as from afar I hear;  
 They seem to speak a word of cheer;

(*Soft music, with the effect of distant bells.*)

And through my lands on every side  
 Devout believers praises sing.

(*Sits quietly as if listening while the song, "Out of the Darkness" is sung by the Chorus.*)

## No. 10. Out of the Darkness—Victory.

Song by the Chorus.

Musical notation for the beginning of the song, featuring a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef.

*Joyously, with spirit.*

Musical notation for the first two lines of lyrics, continuing the melody and accompaniment from the previous section.

1. Out of the darkness of death and night, Je - sus arose, who was life and light;  
 2. Out of the hor -ror of war and hate, He will bring light to the hearts that wait;

Musical notation for the final line of lyrics, concluding the piece with a final cadence.

He who was life and light in - deed, Je - sus arose, and mankind was freed.  
 Jesus a -rose, and is liv - ing yet, He will not fail, He will not for - get.

Out of the Darkness.

CHORUS.

Sing hal-le-lu-jah, for Je-sus lives! Sing hal-le-lu-jah, for life He gives!

Sing hal-le-lu-jah, for men are free! Vic-to-ry! sing vic-to-ry! sing vic-to - ry!

(At the close of the song AMERICA rises and comes forward.)

AMERICA—

The Holy Christ! He lives to-day,  
But, somehow, He seems far away,  
O, now His gentle face to see,  
As He was seen in Galilee!  
I wonder when will come to me  
The guest who was to bring me cheer.  
I need her now. What, comes she here?

(Enter HOPE.)

O radiant one, what smiles are thine!  
Most welcome, for I feel thou art  
The guest who was to cheer my heart  
Ang cast thy happier lot with mine.

HOPE—

My name is Hope, O nation blest;  
America, I am thy guest;  
Look up—the Christ of Galilee  
Is living yet, and cares for thee;  
Not vainly did He live and die;  
Not vainly does He reign on high;  
America, trust thou His might!  
He still gives love, He still gives light.

AMERICA—

O, would He would the sick world heal!

HOPE—

It shall be done, if men will trust;  
Let greed and pride lie low in dust,  
And to the pitying Christ appeal.

# No. 11. Heal Thou the Hurt of the World.

Duet by America and Hope.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, then a quarter rest, and continues with a series of chords and single notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

*Pleadingly.*

The second system of musical notation includes the first two lines of lyrics. The treble staff continues the melody from the first system. The lyrics are:  
1. Thou who dost pit - y the sons of men, Heal Thou the hurt of the world;  
2. Thou who didst kneel in the garden's gloom, Heal Thou the hurt of the world;

The third system of musical notation includes the next two lines of lyrics. The treble staff continues the melody. The lyrics are:  
Live Thou with anguish-wrung souls a-gain, Heal Thou the hurt of the world.  
Give it not o - ver to death and doom, Heal Thou the hurt of the world.

The fourth system of musical notation includes the final two lines of lyrics. The treble staff continues the melody. The lyrics are:  
Thou who didst walk where the stricken lay, Healing the sick at the close of day,  
Thou who didst make in our flesh abode, Thou who didst faint on the cross-tre road,

### Heal Thou the Hurt of the World.

Still with Thy stricken ones do Thou stay; Heal Thou the hurt of the world.  
Lift from Thy children their crushing load; Heal Thou the hurt of the world.

*Rit e dim.*

Still with Thy stricken ones do Thou stay, Heal Thou the hurt of the world.  
Lift from Thy children their crushing load, Heal Thou the hurt of the world.

HOPE—

Not all the world is wrapp'd in woe;  
A vision I am bidden show  
To cheer thy anxious, watching eyes,  
That thou, America, mayst know  
What for thee in the future lies,  
If thou in truth and faith abide,  
And lift the cross the flag beside.

AMERICA—

What vision, welcome guest, I pray?

HOPE—

The picture of what shall be yet,  
Beyond the horror and the loss,  
If thou in Christ's dear name shall set  
Beside thy flag, His holy cross!

(HOPE draws aside a curtain and shows the tableau, *The Cross Beside the Flag*. In center PEACE, on left hand LIBERTY, uplifting flag, on the right CHRISTIANITY upholding cross. The curtain is drawn by HOPE, and the song, "The Cross Beside the Flag," is sung behind the curtain. The tableau is then shown again, with the added figures of representatives of the LOYAL SONS and DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM kneeling on either side.)

## No. 12. The Cross Beside the Flag.

Quartet, to be sung behind curtain.

*With affection and confidence.*

Be-side the flag must stand the cross, The pity-ing Christ re-veal-ing; For

bit-ter grief and cru-el loss, His love a-lone has healing. O Christ, to Thee the

world must turn, To Thee is our ap-peal-ing; Thou dost o'er all Thy sad ones yearn,

**REFRAIN.**  
The world to Thee is kneel-ing. The flag, . . . the cross, . . . The pity-ing  
Beside the flag must stand the cross,

Christ re-veal-ing; For bitter grief and cru-el loss, His love alone has heal-ing.

Closing Hymn, "AMERICA." Chorus and Congregation. All standing and facing towards the Flag. The Congregation sing first verse; the Chorus and Characters sing the second, and all, with bowed heads, sing softly the last.

## No. 13. America.

SMITH—CARRY.

*Congregation:*  
 1. My coun - try, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib - er - ty,  
*Chorus and Characters:*  
 2. God save our no - ble men, Bring them safe home a - gain,  
*All (softly with bowed heads):*  
 3. Our fa - thers' God, to Thee, Au - thor of lib - er - ty,

Of thee I sing; Land where our fa - thers died, Land of the  
 God save our men; Keep them vic - to - ri - ous, Pa - tient and  
 To Thee we sing: Long may our land be bright With free - dom's

pilgrims' pride, From ev - ery moun - tain side Let freedom ring.  
 chiv - al - rous, They are so dear to us, God save our men.  
 ho - ly light; Pro - tect us by Thy might, Great God, our King, A - men.

## No. 12. Benediction.