



Remembering Martin

A Sermon By Bishop Andy C. Lewter

This week we celebrate
the birthday of Dr.
Martin Luther King





His birthday reminds us that he is the only person to be recognized such who was not a US president

In addition, he is the only person of color to be recognized as such



His birthday reaffirms that his fight for social justice and civil rights were on the right side of history

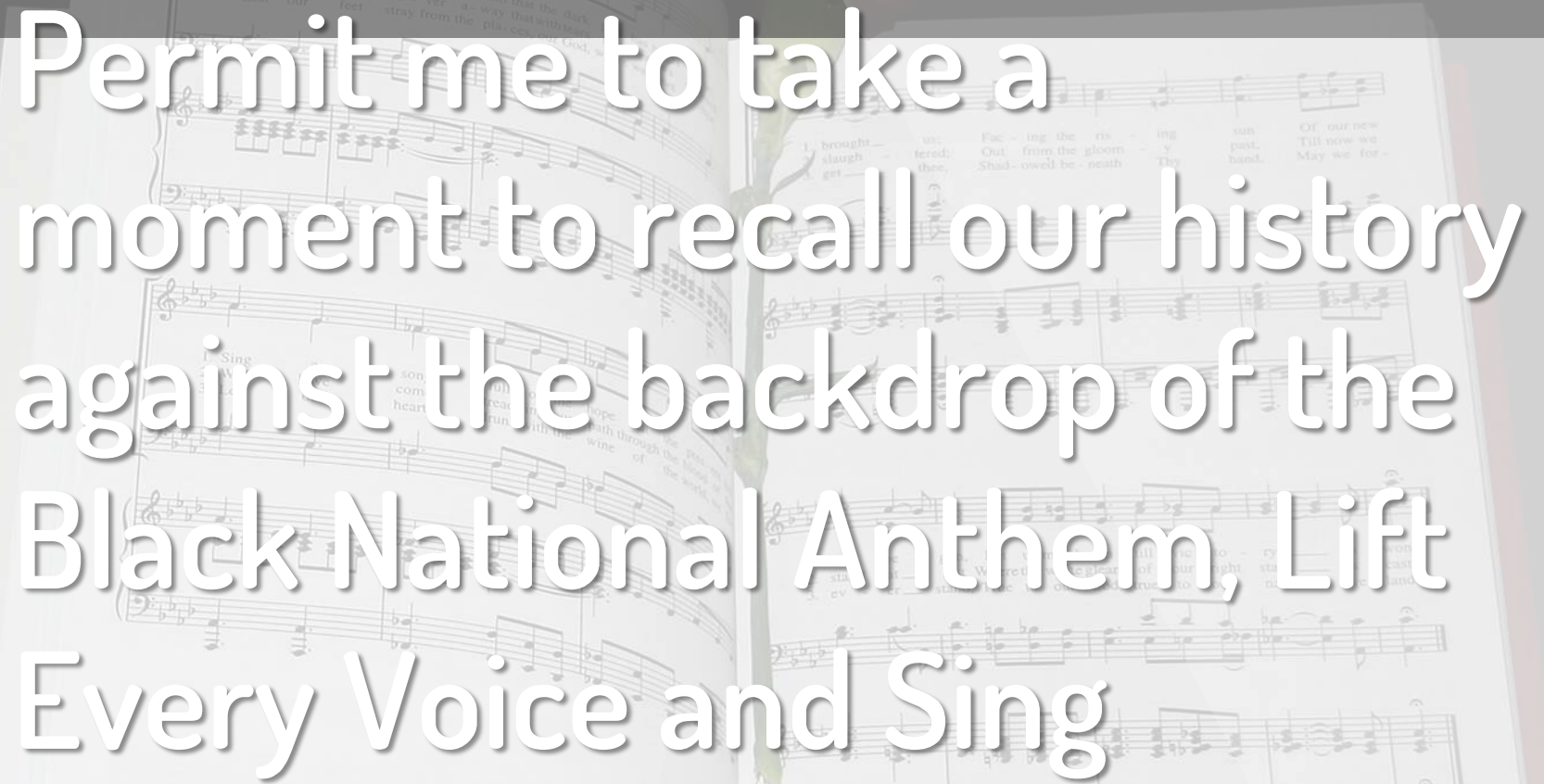
We can barely imagine what life

in America
would be like if
he had not been
for a Martin
Luther King



While February is the official Black History month, there is no way we can think of Dr. King without thinking of our history





Permit me to take a
moment to recall our history
against the backdrop of the
Black National Anthem, Lift
Every Voice and Sing

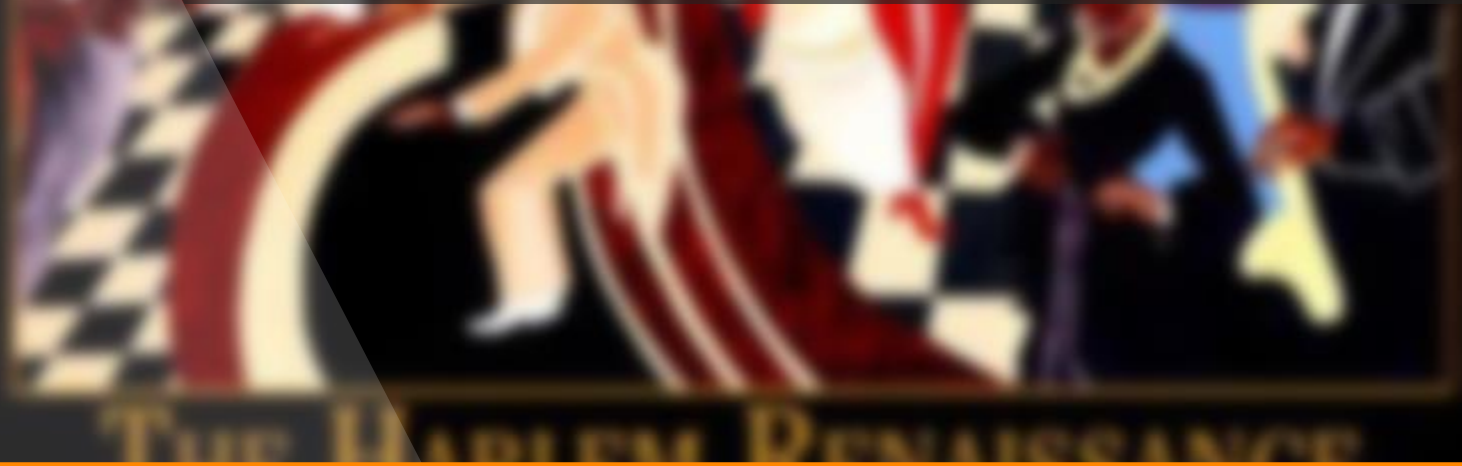


Incidentally, Lift Every Voice and Sing was written by James Weldon Johnson, one of the outstanding members of the Harlem Renaissance



This year we
celebrate the
100th
anniversary of
the Harlem
Renaissance

This era lasted from the early 1920's right up to World War II



**It came on the heels
of the Great Migration
where Blacks fled the
south to escape Jim
Crow and limited
economic opportunities**




The Harlem Renaissance coined the term "New Negro" and abandoned the older term of "colored" that was used by the dominant culture

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An assortment of writers, entertainers, sports figures and civil rights leaders made this a pivotal period of our history

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In the Old Testament King Josiah rediscovers a copy of the Law in the rubble of the temple and spends the rest of his life restoring Israel's relationship with God

In like fashion, let us use this birthday celebration to remember our past and chart a new path to our future



THANKS!

...For Watching