

Social Action Songs & Lyrics

Civil Rights Songs

We Shall Overcome

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday (today)
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall overcome someday.

Verses:

We'll walk hand in hand...
We shall live in peace...

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round

Chorus:

Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round,
Turn me 'round, turn me 'round.
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round,
Keep on walkin', keep on talkin',
Marchin' up to freedom land!

Verses:

Ain't gonna let **fear**...
Ain't gonna let **injustice**...
Ain't gonna let **no racism**...
Ain't gonna let **segregation**...
Ain't gonna let **injustice**...
Ain't gonna let **hatred**...
Ain't gonna let **oppression**...

This Little Light of Mine

Chorus:

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine—
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verses: *(Common variations)*

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...
All around the Town, I'm gonna let it...
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine...
Let it Shine 'till Justice comes. I'm gonna let it shine...

This Little Light of Mine *descant* – NEW!

I can change the world
I'm gonna let my spirit shine
If you will shine with
Then soon we'll be doin' fine
All together now
We'll make it brighter for every kind
And we'll change the world one little light at a time

Hold On (Eyes on the Prize)

Chorus:

Hold on, hold on,
Keep your eyes on the prize, Hold on.

Verse 1:

The struggle's long, but we are strong,
Keep your eyes on the prize, Hold on.

Woke Up This Morning / Stayed on Freedom

Woke up this morning with my mind Stayed on
freedom x3 Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah

Verses:

I'm walking and talking with my mind...
Ain't nothing wrong keeping my mind...
I'm singing and praying with my mind...

Gospel Songs

Oh, Happy Day!

Oh, happy day, oh, happy day,
When Jesus washed, when Jesus washed,
He washed my sins away.

Bridge:

He taught me how, to watch, fight and pray,
And live rejoicing every day!

Glory Hallelujah, Since I Laid My Burdens Down

Glory, Glory Hallelujah,
since I laid my burdens down (x2)

I feel better, so much better...
Got my dignity, yes my dignity...
Lord I'm loving, yes, I'm loving...
Friends don't treat me like they use to...
Got my brothers and my sisters...
Lord you know how much I need you...
Glory, Glory Hallelujah...

Movement Music

Singing for Our Lives - Holly Near

We are a gentle, angry people,
And we are singing for our lives. *(repeat)*

We are a justice-seeking people...
We are a land of many colors...
We are gay and straight together...
We are a peaceful, loving people,

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I am Willing - Holly Near

Chorus:

I am open and I am willing
To be hopeless would seem so strange
It dishonors those who go before us
So lift me up to the light of change.

Verses:

There is hurting in my family
There is sorrow in my town
There is panic in the nation
There is wailing the whole world round

May the children see more clearly
May the elders be more wise
May the winds of change caress us
Even though it burns our eyes

Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion
Give me a desert to hold my fears
Give me a sunset to hold my wonder

Circle Chant – Linda Hirschorn

Circle round for freedom
Circle round for peace
For all of us imprisoned Circle for release
Circle for the planet
Circle for each soul
For the children of our children
Keep the circle whole

In these Hard Times – Linda Hirschorn

Part 1:

In these hard times, there will always be singing;
always be singing in these hard times (repeat)

Parts 2 and 4:

Yes there will always be singing; yes in these hard
times (repeat)

Part 3:

Yes there will always be singing; yes in these hard
times; Yes there will always be singing; singing in
these hard times.

Interfaith Lyrics

Om Mani Padme Hum

"Om Mani Padme Hum" is a Tibetan Buddhist mantra that is often used in chants to invoke compassion and peace. It's one of the most famous and widely recognized Buddhist mantras.

Hine Ma Tov

Lyrics (translated):

Hine Ma Tov u-ma-na'im,
Shevet achim gam yachad.
(How good and how pleasant it is,
For brothers to sit together in unity.)