

America the Beautiful

Katherine Lee Bates (1858–1929)

Samuel A. Ward (1847–1903)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'America the Beautiful'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain, for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain! A - mer - i - ca, A - mer - i - ca, God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shi - ning sea!' The score is divided into four systems, with measure numbers 4, 8, and 12 indicated at the beginning of the second, third, and fourth systems respectively. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

2. O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
whose stern impassioned stress,
a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!
America, America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

3. O beautiful for patriot dream,
that sees beyond the years,
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America, America! God shed His grace on thee, and
crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.