

Once to Every Man and Nation

James Russell Lowell, 1845

Thomas John Williams, 1890

$\text{♩} = 102$

1. Once to ev - ery man and na - tion, Comes the mo - ment to de - cide,
2. Then to side with truth is no - ble, When we share her wretch - ed crust,
3. By the light of burn - ing mar - tyr's, Christ, Thy bleed - ing feet we track,
4. Though the cause of e - vil pros - per, Yet the truth a - lone is strong;

In the strife of truth with false - hood, For the good or e - vil side;
Ere her cause bring fame and pro - fit, And 'tis pros - perous to be just;
Toil - ing up new Cal - v'ries ev - er With the cross that turns not back;
Though her por - tion be the scaf - fold, And up - on the throne be wrong;

Some great cause, some great de - ci - sion, Off - ering each the bloom or blight,
Then it is the brave man choos - es While the cow - ard stands a - side,
New oc - ca - sions teach new du - ties, Time makes an - cient good un - couth,
Yet that scaf - fold sways the fu - ture, And be - hind the dim un - known,

And the choice goes by for - ev - er, 'Twi'x't that dark - ness and that light.
Till the mul - ti - tude make vir - tue Of the faith they had de - nied.
They must up - ward still and on - ward, Who would keep a - breast of truth.
Stand - eth God with - in the sha - dow, Keep - ing watch a - bove His own.