



Seattle Labor Chorus Singalong at Northwest Folklife 2023

1. *Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around [E]*

*Ain't gonna let **nobody** turn me around (3x) Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around, I'm gonna keep on walkin', keep on a talkin, marchin' down to freedom land.

*Ain't gonna let **injustice**, turn me around....

*Ain't gonna let **no hatred**, turn me around....

2. *Come and go with me to that land*

*Come and go with me to that land (3x) where I'm bound (2x)

*There'll be **justice** in that land...

* We'll be **singing** in that land...

3. *Down on the Picket Line [C]*

*Gonna **lay down my sword and shield**, down on the picket line (3x) 2x

(Chorus) **I ain't gonna study war no more...(6x)**

*Gonna **work for peace** around the world, down on the picket line (3x) 2x **I ain't gonna study war...(6x)**

*Gonna **sing for justice** everywhere, down on the picket line (3x) 2x **I ain't gonna study war...(6x)**

4. *Have You Been to Jail for Justice [C]*

by Anne Feeney

*Was it Cesar Chavez? Maybe it was Dorothy Day
Some will say Dr. King or Gandhi set them on their way.
No matter who your mentors are it's pretty plain to see.
That, if you've been to jail for justice, you're in good company.

(Chorus) **Have you been to jail for justice? I want to shake your hand. 'Cause sitting in and lying down are ways to take a stand. Have you sung a song for freedom? or marched that picket line? Have you been to jail for justice? Then you're a friend of mine.**

*You law abiding citizens, come listen to this song.
Laws were made by people, and people can be wrong.
Once unions were against the law, but slavery was fine.
Women were denied the vote and children

worked the mines. The more you study history, the less you can deny it. A rotten law stays on the books 'til folks like us defy it.

(Chorus) **Have you been...**

*Now the law's supposed to serve us, and so are the police. And when the system fails, it's up to us to speak our peace. It takes eternal vigilance for justice to prevail. So get courage from your convictions. Let them haul you off to jail! (Chorus) **Have you...**

5. *Hold the Fort[C]*

*We meet today in freedom's cause and raise our voices high. We'll join our hands in union strong to battle or to die. (Chorus) **Hold the fort for we are coming. Union hearts beat strong. Side by side we'll battle onward, victory will come.**

* Look my comrades, see the union banners waving high. Reinforcements now appearing, victory is nigh. (Chorus) **Hold the fort....**

*Fierce and long the battle rages, but we will not fear. Help will come when 'ere it's needed, cheer, my comrades cheer. (Chorus) **Hold the fort....**

6. *I Stand with the Union [C]*

(Chorus) **I stand with the union. I stand with the union, people. I stand with the union. Hey everybody will you stand with me?**

(Leader: They own the lock, but not the key)

Hey, everybody, will you stand with me?

(Leader: I got a union that can set me free)

Hey everybody will you stand with me?

(Chorus) **I stand with the union....**

7. *If you want a union contract, organize [D]*

(Chorus) **If you want a union contract, organize (3x) If you want a union contract, organize, don't stop 'til you get it done.**

*There is power when we stand together. We are stronger when we rise as one. Together we can build a better world. And we won't stop 'til we get it done. (Chorus) **If you want a union contract, organize...**

*When the union's inspiration, through the worker's blood shall run, there can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun.

(Chorus) **If you want a union contract, organize...**





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8. *Oh, Freedom [C]*

*Oh, freedom (3x) over me, before I'll be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave, & fight for my right to be free.

*No more war and hatred (3x) over me....

*No more killing (3x) over me.....

9. *Power of the Union* by Si Kahn [C#]

*Some people never say no to the boss
They take what they get for their labor
Others will stand up whatever the cost
And fight for the rights of their neighbor.

(Chorus) **Every day, every night,
will you fight for the things that you believe in?
Will you stand, hand in hand,
Hand in hand with the power of the union?**

*Some people never say what's on their mind
In a hard time you hardly can find them
Others will stand up the first in the line
And hold on till there's hundreds behind them.
(Chorus) **Every day,....**

10. *Siyahamba/We are marching...[C]*

*Siyahamba kukan nyen kwen kos (4x)
Siyahamba hamba (2x) Siyahamba kukan nyen kwen kos (2x)

*We are **marching for better world,...**

*We are **singing for a peaceful world...**

*We are **building a community...**

11. *Solidarity Forever* by Ralph Chaplin [C]

*When the union's inspiration through the workers' blood shall run, there shall be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun. But what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one, for the union makes us strong. (Chorus) **Solidarity forever (3x) for the union makes us strong.**

*They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn. But without our brain and muscle not a single wheel can turn. We can break their haughty power, gain our freedom when we learn that the union makes us strong. (Chorus) **Solidarity forever...**

*In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold, greater than the might of armies magnified a thousand fold. We can bring to birth a

new world from the ashes of the old, for the union makes us strong. (Chorus) **Solidarity forever,....**

12. *Union Maid* by Woody Guthrie [D]

*There once was a union maid, she never was afraid of goons and ginks and company finks and the deputy sheriffs who made the raid. She went to the union hall when a meeting it was called, and when the company boys come 'round, she always stood her ground.

(Chorus) **Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union, (3x) Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union, (2x) 'til the day I die.**

*This union maid was wise to the tricks of company spies, she couldn't be fooled by a company stool, she'd always organize the guys. She always got her way when she struck for better pay, she'd show her card to the company guard and this is what she'd say:

(Chorus) **Oh, you can't scare me...**

*You all who want to be free, just take a tip from me, break outta that mold, we've all been sold. We've got a fighting history. The fight for people's rights with workers must unite, like Mother Jones, bestir them bones, to the front of every fight. (Chorus) **Oh....**

13. *We shall not be moved [D]*

*We're **fighting for our freedom**, we shall not be moved (2x) Just like a tree that's standing by the water, we shall not be moved.

(Chorus) **We shall not, we shall not be moved (2x) Just like a tree that's standing by the water, we shall not be moved.**

***United in the struggle...**

***We'll stand and fight together....**

14. *Woke up this morning-[G]*

***Woke up this morning** with my mind, stayed on freedom, (3x) Alelu, alelu, aleluiah

***Walkin' and talkin'** with my mind....

***Singin' and marchin'** with my mind...

Sing for social justice with us!

No-audition community chorus
Rehearsals: Tuesdays, 7 pm (Sept-May) at
5019 Keystone Pl. N, Seattle, WA 98103