This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:

A song of peace for lands afar and mine,
and sunlight beams on clover-leaf and pine.
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.

This is my home, the country where my heart is;
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him.

Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
and hearts united learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.
but other hearts in other lands are beating
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my self I give thee; let thy will be done.

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.
Few songs of faith have supported people from cradle to grave like this one. The great theologian Karl Barth said that its opening two lines were a summary of all that he had learned. The composer formed the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.
We Are One in the Spirit

They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em)

Fm Cm Fm

1. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
2. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
3. We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,

(Bm) (Em)

we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,

(Am) (Em)

and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride:
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

Refrain

(C) (Em) Dm Fm

Fm

And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our

(Bm) (Em)

Fm Bm Cm Fm Bm/F Fm

love; yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan’s on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

TEXT and MUSIC: Peter Scholtes, 1966

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
5 From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast, through

thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet
steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and
gates of pearl streams in the countless host,

name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
all hearts are one in thee, for all are thine.
hearts are brave again, and arms are strong,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints’ Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring “fellowship divine” celebrated by this text.
Harmony, stanza 3

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!

We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet

all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!