“Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit”
“Upon the mountain, I will pray”

The text of this week’s spiritual, “Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit”, has several Biblical references, including Moses’ experience on the mountaintop when he received the Ten Commandments, baptism in the Jordan River, and the “heavenly train” (the Underground Railway). Each stanza in this tune has two lines, after which the refrain is sung again.

“Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit” was sung for President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War by a group under the direction of Aunt Mary Dines, a former White House employee. Their singing of this song brought tears to the president’s eyes. Reports say that on one occasion the president even sang along during a concert.

Check out this performance from the J Clef Chorale: