

A Musical Moment by Amy

June 26th – **O Canada**

July 1, 1867. Not too many of us were around to mark the occasion of our country becoming the Dominion of Canada. (As a child, my dad used to work for the Dominion Stores, so I always thought there was a double-meaning to the holiday. Anyway, I digress.)

In 1983, Dominion Day became Canada Day, so I'd like to focus on our national anthem for this week's moment.

All the lyrics to our nation's anthem are rarely sung, but they describe the vastness of our prairies; the pines and maples; the rearing of men and women to protect our land. But the fourth verse is so powerful: *"Ruler Supreme, Who hearest humble prayer; Hold our Dominion in thy loving care. Help us to find, O God, in thee A lasting, rich reward. As waiting for the better day, We ever stand on guard."*

As a nation, as a congregation, as individuals, may this always be our prayer. This July 1st we will stand together – albeit differently this year – patriotically, in our symbolic red and white clothing, hats, flags and other accessories. But may we also remember to ask our Creator to keep us in His care. Psalm 33:12 tells us "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance." Make this July 1, 2020 an event to remember God, our great nation and our leaders. In some way, commemorate this holiday and stand on guard, not only for our country, but for our God, Keeper of our Dominion. *"God, keep our land glorious and free. O Canada, we stand on guard for thee."*