

Welcome and Announcements:

GREAT God of wonders! all Thy ways
are matchless, godlike and divine;
But the fair glories of Thy grace,
More godlike and unrivalled shine:

*Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?
Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?*

Such dire offence to forgive,
Such guilty, daring worms to spare;
This is Thy grand prerogative,
And in the honour none shall share:

*Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?
Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?*

Angels and men, resign your claim
To pity, mercy, love and grace:
These glories crown Jehovah's Name
With an incomparable blaze:

*Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?
Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?*

In wonder lost, with trembling joy,
We take the pardon of our God,
Pardon for sins of deepest dye,
A pardon sealed with Jesus' blood:

*Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?
Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?*

O may this strange, this matchless grace,
This Godlike miracle of love,
Fill the wide earth with grateful praise
And all the angelic hosts above:

*Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?
Who is a pardoning God like thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?*

Samuel Davies 1723-61

Prayer

Children's Talk:

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
for in my helplessness, You heard my cry
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails,
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
of death defeated and life without end.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
you're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness.
you're the risen One, heaven's champion,
and you reign, You reign over all!*

I long to be where the praise is never ending,
yearn to dwell where glory never fades,
where countless worshippers will share one song
and cries of 'Worthy' will honour the Lamb!

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
you're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the morning, glorious in holiness.
you're the risen One, heaven's champion,
and you reign, You reign over all!*

Stuart Townend 1963
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Prayer:

Bible Reading: 1 Peter Chapter 1 verses 1 and 2 and Chapter 5 verses 12-14

Chapter 1

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus,
Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and
Bithynia, ² elect according to the foreknowledge of
God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit,
for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus
Christ:
Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

Chapter 5

¹² By Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider
him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting and
testifying that this is the true grace of God in
which you stand.

¹³ She who is in Babylon, elect together
with *you*, greets you; and so *does* Mark my
son. ¹⁴ Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
was blind, but now I see.

'twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.

When I've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
I've no less days to sing God's praise
than when I first begun.

John Newton (1725-1807)

Message:

"What can we learn from Peter's method of encouragement?"

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied-
for every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am His and He is mine-
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

*Stuart Townend b 1963
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Close

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