

Sunday 20th June 2021 at 10.30

Welcome and Announcements:

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,

to His feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like you His praise should sing?

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;

praise Him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless;

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us,

well our feeble frame He knows;

in His hands He gently bears us,

rescues us from all our foes:

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Widely as His mercy flows.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish;

blows the wind and it is gone;

but while mortals rise and perish

God endures unchanging on.

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise the high eternal one.

Angels, help us to adore Him;

you behold Him face to face;

sun and moon, bow down before Him,

dwellers all in time and space.

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise with us the God of grace.

Henry Frances Lyte (1793-1847)

Prayer

Children's Talk:

O Father, you are sovereign

in all the worlds you made;

Your mighty Word was spoken

and light and life obeyed.

Your voice commands the seasons

and bounds the ocean's shore,

sets stars within their courses

and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, you are sovereign

in all affairs of man;

no powers of death or darkness

can thwart Your perfect plan.

All chance and change transcending,

supreme in time and space,

You hold your trusting children

secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign,

the Lord of human pain,

transmuting earthly sorrows

to gold of heavenly gain.

All evil overruling

as none but Conqueror could,

Your love pursues its purpose -

our soul's eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign!

We see you dimly now

but soon before Your triumph

earth's every knee shall bow.

With this glad hope before us

our faith springs up anew:

our Sovereign Lord and Saviour

we trust and worship You.

Margaret Clarkson, b 1915

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Prayer

Bible Reading: Luke Chapter 15:11-32

¹¹ Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to *his* father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to *me*.' So he divided to them *his* livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'"

²⁰“And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²²“But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. ²³And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’

²⁸“But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹So he answered and said to *his* father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

³¹“And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³²It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’”

How deep the Father’s love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son,
to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen One,
bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross,
my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.
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I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music

Message: “What is so amazing about the Father’s love?”

To God be the glory, great things He has done!

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in:

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;
and give Him the glory, great things He has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God!
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives:

Great things He has taught us, great things He
has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son.
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

Close

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