

LISTENING ALONGSIDE



ECHOING CHRIST

Lenten Devotions 2017

**Thursday,
April 6, 2017**

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

By John Newton, 1779

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am 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 hath 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.

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

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

"Amazing Grace" is one of the most recognizable Christian hymns in the English-speaking world. The text by English poet and Anglican clergyman, John Newton (1725–1807), was first published in 1779. Read John Newton's story at <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ch/131christians/pastorsandpreachers/newton.html>

There are numerous audio and video versions of "Amazing Grace" available online. Two interpretations can be found at the websites listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ipj07310a0I>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0syjecXN_no

You may need to cut and paste these links into your web browser.

Prayer

O God, we belong to you utterly.
You are such a Father that you take our sins from us
and throw them behind your back.

You clean our souls,
as your Son washed our feet.
We hold up our hearts to you:
make them what they must be.

By George McDonald

Ephesians 2:8-9:

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

Matthew 18:1-5:

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.