



WILMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter

April 2023

Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Titus 2:14

(I WILL SING of) MY REDEEMER

Philip P. Bliss, author and James McGranahan, composer

*I will sing of my Redeemer
and his wondrous love to me:
on the cruel cross he suffered,
from the curse to set me free.*

*I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy
he the ransom freely gave. [Refrain]*

*I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
how the victory he giveth
over sin and death and hell. [Refrain]*

*I will sing of my Redeemer
and his heav'nly love to me;
he from death to life has brought me,
Son of God, with him to be. [Refrain]*

Refrain:

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer!
With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.*

The author, Philip P. Bliss, wrote these lyrics sometime before he died in 1876, while trying to rescue his wife from a railroad collapse and fire. The text was found in his luggage, which had survived the train wreck. The composer, James McGranahn, was given the text when he was offered the position to replace Bliss as the church's song leader. It first appeared in print in the church's songbook in 1877. (Source: [101 Hymn Stories](#), by Kenneth W. Osbeck)

What an ironic sequel to Bliss' 1874 involvement with author, Horatio Spafford in composing the music for "*It Is Well With My Soul*", after the loss of Spafford's four daughters in a sea accident.

During this time of celebration of God's gift of our Salvation through the willing sacrifice and glorious Resurrection of His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, let us also remember His unending Holy Love for His children. Even in times of tragic, unimaginable loss, He is with us, giving us peace and grace, preserving our God-given gifts for encouragement to our survivors, and, finally, Returning to take us to live with Him for eternity!

Upcoming Events

Saturdays 9:00 AM **Men's Prayer Meeting** 11:00 AM **organized visitation**
First Sunday, 9:30 AM **Pancakes with the Pastor**
April 2,9, 23, 30 5:30 PM **New Beginnings Class**
April 4: End of Winter Term for Antioch Bible Institute
April 13 6:30 PM **Men's Bible Study** at Patterson's
April 23....11:00 AM **Adventures In Truth** with Dr. Jim Rankin