

# Amazing Grace

For SATB divisi a cappella

Duration: ca. 2:45

Arranged by  
GREG JASPERSE

Words by JOHN NEWTON  
TRADITIONAL AMERICAN MELODY

Flowing, with relaxed rhythm ( $\text{♩} = 82-90$ )

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the

Unis. *mf* 7

sound. A - maz - ing grace, how

sweet the sound.

sweet the sound that saved a wretch like

me. 15

me like me. I once was lost but

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now am found; was blind, but now I

*rit.*

17

Female solo *mf*

Through

Sop. Unis.

Alto sec. Oh Ah

Tenor Unis.

21 Bass

25 *a tempo*

man - y dan - gers, toils and snares,

*a tempo*

man - y dan - gers toils and snares I

*a tempo*

25

I have al - read - y come; 'tis

Unis.

have al - read - y come; Ah

29

AMAZING GRACE - SATB



33

grace that brought me safe thus far, and

grace that brought me safe thus far,

33

grace will lead me home. *end Solo*

grace will lead home. *mp* When

37

41

we've been there, when you and I've been there, we'll

41

Male solo *ff* 49 Slightly slower

When we've been...

Sop. *rit.* *ff.*

Alto sing His praise. Ah

Tenor *rit.* *ff.*

45 Bass sing

AMAZING GRACE – SATB



there ten thou - sand years, bright

Ah ten thou - sand Ah

years,

50

shin - ing as the sun.

shin - ing as sun. We've no less

54

end Solo 58 Broadening

Unis. *mf* *ff*

Unis. *mf* *ff*

days to sing His praise

days to sing His praise

59

*rit.* *mf* than

*rit.*

when

when we first be - gun.

63

*mf*



## PERFORMANCE NOTES

Hello singers and directors,

This arrangement of "Amazing Grace" is inspired by the male vocal jazz sextet, Take 6. Now if you're scratching your head and saying "Take who?" I suggest that you find some Take 6, especially some earlier recordings. Not only will you be inspired by them, you'll also know what to look forward to in this arrangement.

From a harmonic standpoint, the voicings are thick, crunchy and right up the vocal jazz alley. Tuning these chords without a straight choral tone will prove troublesome. There are some spots where the choral texture isn't as dense and you may choose to relax the tone, but be sure to remain in the style of the overall piece.

In terms of division on some of the "crunchier" or dense chords, be sure to distribute the singers evenly. I know this can complicate the voice-leading and the reading at times however it will put you in good stead when it comes to balancing and tuning these chords.

The diction is more conversational. It's always a good idea to practice saying the text before singing it so you get a sense of singing how you speak.

While it does say "flowing, with relaxed rhythm" you won't be able to set your metronome and go. Feel free to relax the tempo or move it along when it seems appropriate. Some of these ideas are already marked in the music.

As you consider all of this, let me remind you that it all boils down to the text. I really tried to write an arrangement that would bring the text to life. Don't get too lost on all of these ideas that you forget about the meaningful text of this beautiful song.

Sing amazingly,

Greg

