

Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations, 1568
Henry Bull (ca. 1562 - 1628)

John Hilton (1565 - ca. 1608)

p

Soprano
Lord, for thy ten - der mer - cy's sake lay

p

Alto
Lord, for thy ten - der mer - cy's sake lay

p

Tenor
Lord, for thy ten - der mer - cy's sake lay

p

Bass
Lord, for thy ten - der mer - cy's sake lay

Keyboard
(Optional)

4

S.
not our sins to our charge; but for - give that is past, and give us

A.
not our sins to our charge; but for - give that is past, and give us

T.
not our sins to our charge; but for - give that is past, and give us

B.
not our sins to our charge; but for - give that is past, and give us

Kbd.
(Opt.)

8

S. *pp*
 grace to a-mend our sin - ful lives. To de-cline from sin and in -

A. *pp*
 grace to a-mend our sin - ful lives. To de - cline from sin and in -

T. *pp*
 grace to a-mend our sin - ful lives. To de-cline from sin and in -

B. *pp*
 grace to a-mend our sin - ful lives. To de - cline from sin and in -

Kbd. (Opt.)

12

S. *pp*
 cline to vir - tue, that we may walk in an

A. *pp*
 cline to vir - tue, that we may walk in an up-right

T. *pp*
 cline to vir - tue, that we may walk in an up - right heart, in an up-right

B. *pp*
 cline to vir - tue, that we may walk in an up - right heart, in an up-right

Kbd. (Opt.)

16 *mf* 2nd time rit. e dim.

S. up - right heart, that we may walk in an up - right

A. heart, that we may walk in an up - right

T. *mf* heart, that we may walk in an up - right heart, in an up - right

B. *mf* heart, that we may walk in an up - right heart, in an up - right

Kbd. (Opt.) 2nd time rit. e dim.

19 1. 2.

S. heart be - fore thee now and ev - er - more, more.

A. heart be - fore thee now and ev - er - more, more.

T. *p* heart be - fore thee now and ev - er - more, that we may more.

B. *p* heart be - fore thee now and ev - er - more, that we may more.

Kbd. (Opt.) 1. 2.

Known only through various fragmented sources, *Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake* has been attributed to *Richard Farrant*, but his name was never associated with the anthem until late in the 18th century. Various earlier manuscripts agree in ascribing it to *John Hilton, the Elder*, of Trinity College, Cambridge. Many later editions included a contrapuntal 'Amen' section at the conclusion of the piece, but again, this inclusion didn't appear until editions in the 18th century and was probably composed and added at that time.

John Hilton (the elder) (1565 - ca. 1608) was an English countertenor, organist and composer of sacred choral and organ works. He was a countertenor at Lincoln Cathedral (1584-94), then organist at Trinity College, Cambridge (from 1594). Little definitive biographical information is known about his life.