

## God Loves And Accepts Us

*"...for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" Luke 15:24 NRSV*

God loves and accepts us as parent does child,  
without reservation, no matter how wild,  
rebellious, repelling the grace that God gives.  
Yet, wondrous, this Parent still loves and forgives.

Our maze of confusion and prisons of fear,  
our searches for meaning when nothing seems clear,  
our strong-willed rebellion against such great Love,  
can end with commitment to Life from above.

For Christ has redeemed us; the cross is now past;  
respond then to strong Love which nothing outlasts.  
Accept God's acceptance of you through Christ's grace;  
God's Spirit will guide you; then, serve every place.

Words: R. Frederick Crider ©2015    Scripture: Luke 15:11-32 (The Prodigal Son)    11.11.11.11

Suggested tune: Welsh melody from John Robert's Canaidau y Cyssegr, 1839 (cf. #103 UMH)    ST. DENIO

("Christ has already saved us. The cross has already happened." United Methodist theologian David Lowes Watson)

To: Rev. Dr. Rod Miller, Towson (MD) United Methodist Church upon his sermon on acceptance, Ash Wednesday 2015

