

All Are Welcome

Praying the Lord's Prayer



Peace United Church of Christ  
Duluth, Minnesota

In this booklet you will find  
many different versions of  
the Lord's Prayer.

These prayers are not meant to replace  
the traditional prayer;  
rather they are meant to  
inspire in each of us  
a deeper relationship with the prayer  
and the teacher who gave it to us.

Compiled by the Open and Affirming Committee  
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January 2010

## Poetic Rendition of the Aramaic Lord's Prayer (#5)

O Silent Sound,  
whose shimmering music pulsates  
at the heart of each and all,

Clear a space in us where thy melody  
may be perceived in its purity.

Let the rhythm of thy counsel reverberate  
through our lives,  
so that we move to the beat of justice, love and peace.

Then, our whole being at one with thy song,  
grant that the earth may be filled  
with the beauty of thy voice.

Endow us with the wisdom to produce and share  
what each being needs to grow and flourish,

And give us courage to embrace our shadow  
with emptiness,  
as we embrace others in their darkness.

But let us not be captive to uncertainty,  
nor cling to fruitless pursuits.

For from thee springs forth  
the rhythm, the melody, and the harmony,  
which restores all to balance, again and again.

Ameyn

Pages 19 & 20 as rendered by Mark Hathaway ([www.visioncraft.org](http://www.visioncraft.org))  
based on the work of Neil Douglas-Klotz ([www.abwoon.com](http://www.abwoon.com))  
In *Prayers of the Cosmos*, Harper & Row, 1990.  
From: [www.co-intelligence.org/lordsprayer2.html](http://www.co-intelligence.org/lordsprayer2.html)

## Poetic Rendition of the Aramaic Lord's Prayer (#1)

O Divine Womb,  
birthing forth the river of blessing  
which runs through all,

Soften the ground of our being,  
and hallow in us a space for the planting of thy presence.

In our depths, sow thy seed with its greening-power  
that we might be midwives to thy Reign.

Then, let each of our actions  
bear fruit in accordance with thy desire.

Impart to us the wisdom to bring forth  
the gifts of the earth  
and share them daily according to the needs  
of each being,

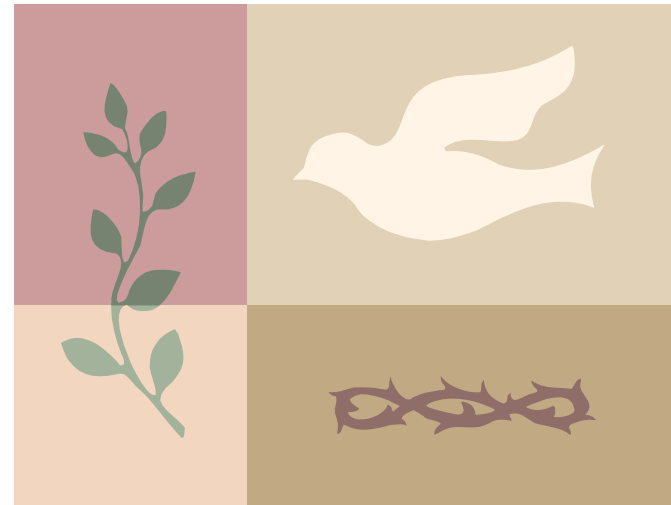
and restore that which has been usurped  
by injustice to its rightful owners,  
as we restore to others that which is not our own.

Do not let us be seduced  
by that which would divert us from our purpose,  
but make us sensitive to the moment at hand.

For from thy fertile soil is born the creativity,  
the life-energy, and the dance,  
from birthing to birthing,

Ameyn

## The Lord's Prayer



Traditional Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

Amen

Whose Prayer is it Anyway?  
Written by Brittany Dowdy

Our Lady who is the Essence of the Earth,  
we have called you by many names.  
Return now unto Your People.  
Speak Your Will, and it shall be done  
as Above, so Below

Please give us each moment: our life, light and love.  
If we have let you down,  
please forgive us and cleanse us,  
according to our own willingness to forgive others.

Lead us away from Lures  
and deliver us from Evil  
for You are Goddess, Queen of the Universe.

Yours is the Power, the Grace, the Wisdom  
and the Beauty  
Age unto Ages  
Ah-Main

## The Message

Our Father in heaven, reveal who you are.  
Set the world right;  
Do what is best – as above, so below.  
Keep us alive with three square meals.  
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.  
Keep us safe from ourselves and the devil.  
You are in charge! You can do anything you want!  
You're ablaze in beauty!  
Yes.Yes.Yes.

Written by Sharon Kirtley

Spirit of Love  
Who art in all  
Hallowed be thy name  
Thy goodness come  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our sins  
As we forgive those who trespass against us  
In times of temptation  
Help us do what is right  
For thine is the goodness and  
the power and the glory forever.

Amen

Written by Margret Gottlieb  
by way of Tom Liddle

Oh thou who Art – above and beneath and around all,  
within and between and among and beyond all:  
Thou art holy and nameless,  
ever present, ever loving, ever aware.  
May we live and die in awareness of Thee.  
Give us this day leaven for the lump of our lives,  
forgive us our forgetting, our blindnesses,  
our deafnesses, our cruelties,  
as we forgive those who ignore or deny us,  
and that which sees us not.  
Heal us from our fears, our angers, our obsessions.  
Lead us into right action, and protect us from  
dullness, dryness, and despair.  
Warm us with thy grace, water us with thy hope,  
and strengthen us with thy gentleness and power,  
now and forevermore.

Amen

Written by John Phillips

Our Omnipresent Father-Mother,  
hallowed be your name.  
May Your dominion be established.  
May Your will be done, on earth  
as it is in the heavens.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our debts  
as we have also forgiven our debtors.  
And do not let us enter into temptation,  
but protect us from error.  
For the dominion and the  
power and the glory are yours forever.

Amen

Written by David Bard

Fathering and Mothering God—Creative Spirit who brooded over the waters and brought forth the Heavens and the earth:

May we and all creation bless your name.

We pray for the coming of your new world—where justice reigns and war is a distant memory, where springs break forth in the desert and the wolf and the lamb lie down together, where mourning and crying and pain are no more and the river of the water of life flows crystal clear.

May this heavenly dream come to earth.

May we receive today the necessities of life: water, food, shelter, love.

Forgive us for the times we have gotten in the way of your dream - when we have turned away from the pain of the world instead of healing it, when we have held on to anger too long, when we have been careless in our treatment of others and the earth itself.

And give us strength and courage to forgive others.

When the journey of faith gets hard, and we are tempted to give up, lead us to a place of refreshment, help us get through the dark and difficult days.

We trust you in this.

For the kingdom, its power and its beauty are yours forever.

Amen

From Kahlil Gibran  
by way of Beverly Cave

Our Father in earth and heaven, sacred is Thy name.

Thy will be done with us, even as in space.

Give us of Thy bread sufficient for the day.

In Thy compassion forgive us and enlarge us to forgive one another.

Guide us toward Thee and

stretch down Thy Hand to us in darkness.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and in Thee is our power and fulfillment.

Amen

Written by Rev. David Bard, minister at  
First United Methodist Church, Duluth, MN

Loving God, Sacred One,  
Blessed be your name.  
May your kingdom come, your dream arrive,  
your purpose prevail,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today your daily bread.  
Forgive us the wrong we have done,  
as we forgive those who have wronged us.  
Help us steer clear of temptation,  
and protect us from evil.  
We trust you in this,  
for the kingdom, its power and its beauty,  
are yours forever.

Amen

## The Lord's Prayer

### Versions for Personal Reflection



From Letty Russel

Our Mother/Father  
who is everywhere,  
Holy be Your names.  
May Your new age come  
may Your will be done  
in this and every time and place.  
Meet our needs each day and  
forgive our failure to love  
as we forgive this same failure in others.  
Serve us in hard times,  
and lead us into the ways of love.  
For Yours is the Wholeness and the Power and the  
Loving forever.

Amen

Excerpt from *The Feminine Mistake* by May Kassian

Jeshua's Prayer

Our precious Mother  
who breathes Everywhere.  
Sacred are all your holy names.  
Your kindom flower.  
Your pleasure be enjoyed  
on Earth as in Heaven.  
You give us today our daily bread.  
You bless us as we bless all others.  
You invite us away from temptations  
and guide us to green pastures and blue lakes.  
For Yours is the Kindom  
the power and the beauty  
in all times and places  
Blessed Be.

(source unknown)

Prayer in Time of War  
Written by Ms. Wendy Lyons

*Our Father, who art in heaven*  
slow to anger, and great of mercy,  
lover of all peoples of the earth,  
*Hallowed be thy Name.*  
Remind us that “all the nations are as  
nothing before thee”, their governments  
but a shadow of passing age,  
*Thy kingdom come on earth.*  
Grant to thy children throughout the world,  
and especially to the leaders of the nations,  
the gift of prayerful thought and thoughtful prayer;  
that following the example of our Lord,  
we may discern what is right, and do it,  
*Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*  
Help us to protect and to provide for all  
who are hungry and homeless,  
especially those who are deprived of food and  
shelter, family and friends, by the tragedy of war,  
*Give us this day our daily bread.*  
Forgive us for neglecting to  
“seek peace and pursue it,”  
and finding ourselves in each new crisis,  
more ready to make war than to make peace.  
“We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves”,

Lords Prayer, from the original Aramaic

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,  
focus your light within us – make it useful.  
Create your reign of unity now  
through our fiery hearts and willing hands.  
Help us love beyond our ideals  
and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures.  
Animate the earth within us: we then  
feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all.  
Untangle the knots within  
so that we can mend  
our hearts’ simple ties to each other.  
Don’t let surface things delude us,  
but free us from what holds us back  
from our true purpose.  
Out of you, the astonishing fire,  
returning light and sound to the cosmos.

Amen

Translation by Neil Douglas-Klotz  
From: *Prayers of the Cosmos*

## Central American Lord's Prayer

Our Lord,  
who is in us here on earth,  
Holy is your name  
in the hungry  
who share their bread and their song.  
Your Kingdom come,  
which is a generous land  
that flows with milk and honey.  
Let us do your will,  
standing up when all are sitting down,  
and raising our voice when all are silent.  
You are giving us our daily bread  
in the song of the bird and the miracle of the corn.  
Forgive us  
for keeping silent in the face of injustice,  
and for burying our dreams,  
for not sharing bread and wine,  
love and the land,  
among us, now.  
Don't let us fall into the temptation of  
shutting the door through fear;  
of resigning ourselves to hunger and injustice;  
of taking up the same arms as the enemy.  
But deliver us from evil.  
Give us the perseverance and the solidarity  
to look for love,  
Even if the path has not yet been trodden,  
even if we fall;  
so we shall have known your kingdom  
which is being built for ever and ever.  
Amen

*Forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*  
Let us not seek revenge, but reconciliation;  
let us not delight in victory, but in justice;  
let us not give ourselves up to pride, but to prayer;  
*Lead us not into temptation.*  
Be present to all thy children ravaged by war;  
be present to those who are killing  
and to those who are being killed;  
be present to the loved ones of those who are killing  
and to the loved ones of those who are being killed;  
*Deliver us from evil.*  
Subdue our selfish desires to possess and  
to dominate, and forbid us arrogance in victory,  
*For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever.*

Amen

From: *Women's Uncommon Prayers: Our Lives Revealed, Nurtured, Celebrated*, edited by Elizabeth Rankin Geitz, Marjorie A. Burke, and Ann Smith

Written by Parker Palmer

Heavenly Father, Heavenly Mother.  
Holy and blessed is your true name.  
We pray for your reign of peace to come,  
we pray that your good will be done,  
let heaven and earth become one.  
Give us this day the bread we need,  
give it to those that have none.  
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,  
from each one to each one.  
Lead us to holy innocence  
beyond the evil of our days—  
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.  
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:  
forever your name is All in One.

Amen

Written by Jim Cotter

Eternal Spirit:  
Love maker, Pain bearer, Life giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.  
Loving God in whom is heaven,  
the hallowing of your name  
echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed  
by the people of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done  
by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace sustain  
our hope and come on earth!  
With the bread that we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb  
from one another, forgive us.  
From the trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory  
of the power that is love.  
Now and Forever.  
Amen

From: *Peace Prayer*, edited by Carrie Leadingham, Joann E. Moaschella, Hilary M. Vartanian