

The Lord’s Prayer

Translations & Paraphrases

Beloved

Beloved, our Father and Mother,
In whom is heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Followed by your royal way,
Done be your will and rule,
Throughout the whole creation.

With the bread we need for today,
Feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
Forgive us.
In times of temptation and test,
Strengthen us.
From 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.
Hannah Ward and Jennifer Wild
From "Human Rites," The Welcome Table, 2012

Traditional Usage

Our Father
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
They 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.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power,
And the glory, for ever. Amen.
From the Ritual of the former Methodist Church

Earth Dance

Our mother, which art the earth,
Nurturing are thy ways.
Thy web of life be woven.
Thy way be found within,
As it is all around.
Thank you this day for our daily bread and sweat
and forgive us our misuse of you,
as we forgive others their misuse of us.
And lead us not into exploitation,
But deliver us From lording it over you,
And over each other,
And over all our other fellow creatures.
For thine are the waters of life,
The hills, valleys and plains of home,
The breeding, seeding, feeding ground,
For now, and for as close to forever
As we will ever come.
Ah, woman! Our Father, Mother,
who are in the world and surpass the world,

Blessed be your presence,
in us, in animals and flowers,
in still air and wind.
May justice and peace dwell among us,
as you come to us.
Your will be our will;
You will that we be sisters and brothers,
as bread is bread, water is itself,
For our hunger, for quenching of thirst.
Forgive us.
We walk crookedly in the world,
are perverse,
and fail of our promise.
But we would be human,
if only you consent to stir up our hearts.
Amen.

Attributed to Karen Loveland.

Published by the Minnesota Women’s Press, 1999.

Our Father, Mother

Our Father, Mother,
who are in the world and surpass the world,

Blessed be your presence,
in us, in animals and flowers,
in still air and wind.

May justice and peace dwell among us,
as you come to us.

Your will be our will;
You will that we be sisters and brothers,
as bread is bread, water is itself,
For our hunger, for quenching of thirst.

Forgive us.

We walk crookedly in the world,
are perverse, and fail of our promise.

But we would be human,
if only you consent to stir up our hearts.

Amen.

From the BC IREPM Advent Prayer List, 2007

Contemporary Traditional

Our Father/Mother in heaven,
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done
On earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil:
For yours is the kingdom,
And the power,
And the glory, for ever. Amen.

Contemporary use of the traditional

not only uses the Father/Mother address for God,

it also updates the pronouns and some grammar.

Prayer of Jesus

Ground of all being,
Mother of life,
Father of the universe,
Your name is sacred,
beyond speaking.

May we know your presence,
may your longings be our longings
in heart and in action.

May there be food
for the human family today
and for the whole earth community.

Forgive us the falseness
of what we have done
as we forgive those
who are untrue to us.

Do not forsake us in our time of conflict
but lead us into new beginnings.

For the light of life, the vitality of life,
and the glory of life are yours now
and for ever. Amen.

From the Casa del Sol Center, Ghost Ranch, New Mexico.

From New Zealand

Loving God, in whom is heaven.
The hallowing of your name echoes
Through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by
The peoples of the earth!
Your heavenly will be done by all
Created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and
Freedom sustain our hope
And come on earth.

With the bread we need for today,
Feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
Forgive us.
In times of temptation and test,
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.

The Book of Common Prayer of New Zealand (Anglican)

New Zealand Aborigine

O most Compassionate Life-giver,
May we honour and praise you;
May we work with you to establish
Your new order of justice,
Peace, and love;
Give us what we need for growth,
And help us, through forgiving others,
To accept forgiveness.
Strengthen us in the time of testing,
That we may resist all evil,
For all tenderness, strength,
and love are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Bill Wallace, Aootearoa/New Zealand.

Gifts of Many Cultures, United Church Press, 1995.

Native American

O Great Spirit,
You are our Shepherd Chief
In the most high place.
Whose home is everywhere,
Even beyond the stars and moon.
Whatever You want done, let it, also,

Be done everywhere.
Give us Your gift of bread day by day.
Forgive us our wrongs
As we forgive those who wrong us.
Take us away from wrong doings.
Free us from all evil.
For everything belongs to You.
Let your power and glory
Shine forever. Amen.

Hattie C. Enos, Nez Perce, USA.

Gifts of Many Cultures, United Church Press, 1995.

From Central America

Our Father, who are in this our land,
May your name be blessed in our
Incessant search for justice and peace.
May your kingdon come for those who
Have for centuries awaited life with dignity.
May your will be done on earth
And in heaven,
And in the church of Central America,
A church on the side of the poor.
Give us today our daily bread
to build a new society.
Forgive us our trespasses,
Do not let us fall into the temptation
Of believing ourselves already new men and
women.
And deliver us from the evil of war,
And from the evil of forgetting
That our lives and the life of this country
Are in your hands. Amen.

Nicaragua. Gifts of Many Cultures, United Church Press, 1995.

Amen.