



SPIRITUAL, NOT RELIGIOUS
THE ESSENCE OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

A Service of Song, Word, & Table
August 24, 2025

* Please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Dr. Dan Cummings

OPENING MEDITATION

A WAY OF PRAYER SOURCE: A Twenty-First Century Lord's Prayer

Great divine spirit of love that is at the core of everything
and from which all life flows,

We acknowledge your healing and transforming power.

May the spirit of unconditional love and forgiveness flow through
each of us and enable the realm of love to spread throughout the
world.

Like the flowers in the fields, ensure that we have the basics we
need to live

and give us the love and commitment to ensure that others have what they need too.

Give us the courage to acknowledge when we have done wrong,
to seek forgiveness from those we have hurt
and to forgive those who have hurt us,
so that we may be reconciled.

We acknowledge the power of self-giving love to transform individual hearts and the world.

We recommit ourselves to the unconditional love of others and the work of justice and peace.

Amen

HYMN Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart UMH 160

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Luke 13:10-17
This is the Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM We Are Singing, for the Lord is Our Light Hal Hopson Summer Choir

HOMILY “Whatever More”

MUSICAL RESPONSE I Want Jesus to Walk With Me UMH 521

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECEPTION OF PARDON

When we were children, we learned not to touch hot things so we would not be burned. If only avoiding sin was that easy! But sin seems so comfortable, so easy, and so harmless that we cannot stop ourselves from reaching out to touch it over and over again. Let us confess our sins to the One who chooses to forgive us and love us unconditionally, as we pray together, saying,

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

Yet once more, we come to you with our prayers, Holy God. Our crippling spirits keep us from following you. Our grudges weigh us down until we cannot walk straight in your way. Our anger becomes a

fire which scorches our friends and loved ones. Our fears blind us to the goodness in those we believe to be different.

Forgive us, God our Rock, and set us free from our wrong-doings and failures. From the day of our birth, we have known your love, grace, and hope. So may we offer you our joyful thanks, as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, reaches out to touch us with your healing forgiveness, yet once more.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

God chooses not to turn a deaf ear to us, but to listen to our prayers. God chooses not to shame us, but to save us.

This is, indeed, good news for us! We are set free to drink deeply from the waters of life. Thanks be to God! Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

REGATHERING HYMN

Marching to Zion (vs 1)

UMH 733

INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

May we welcome your gifts with thanksgiving, Loving God. May we share you gifts with grace, so others might be touched by your love, healed by your touch, fed and nourished by your compassionate as well as the fruit of your creation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Dr. Dan Cummings

*** DOXOLOGY**

UMH 94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to our Rock and Refuge.

Daughters and sons of God, give thanks to the One who saves us.

We lift our thanks and joy to the God who is our hope.

With a simple Word,
Creator of the Universe,
you caused chaos to tremble with fear,
 as mountains stretched
 to touch the clouds,
 and rivers cascaded
 through barren deserts.

With a single Breath,
life was given to our ancestors,
 who stood up straight
 to walk through your Garden.

But the spirit of sin
 put out its hand and crippled us;
death enslaved us
 with its unjust and cruel grip.

You touched the lips of the prophets,
appointing them to call us home,
but we could not lift our heads to see,
we would not turn our hearts to listen.
Yet, you would not leave us hopeless,
but sent Jesus to set us free.

Therefore, we joining our voices
with the faithful of all time and all places,
singing our songs of joy to you:

**Holy, holy, holy one, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you, God of the Ages,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Hope, our Trust.
Your Child from before time,
he became a son of Abraham,
 so we might all be a part of your family.

From the day he became human,
he taught us of your hopes for us,
so we would not give in to despair.
Seeing us held in the unrelenting grasp of sin and death,
he put out his hand and rescued us.

As we remember his life, ministry,
death, and resurrection yet once more,
we will proclaim that mystery we call faith:

**Christ had died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

Pour out your Holy Spirit
upon the gifts of the Bread and the Cup,
and upon your daughters and sons
who come to this Table.
We come with knees knocking,
with hearts pounding,
taking shallow breaths,
trusting and believing that
here, we will find healing,
here, we will be touched by your grace,
here, we will hear your Word of hope.
Then, fed by your love
and nourished by your dreams,
we shall go to bring your peace
to a warring world.
We shall speak out on behalf
of those whom society has rendered voiceless.
We will not be afraid to stand up straight
and look injustice and cruelty in the eye
and proclaim, "Enough!"

And then, when we are gathered
with our sisters and brothers
from the beginning of creation,
we will sit at the Table of the Lamb,
joining hands and lifting our eternal praise to you,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Traditional Lord's Prayer

Amen, amen, amen.

Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Dr. Dan Cummings, piano

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*** SENDING HYMN**

O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

UMH 430

*** BENEDICTION**

Having been welcomed with grace,
let us go out this day.

**We will go to serve all of God's children,
deciding to meet them where they are.**

Having listened to God's Word,
Let us go to share what we have learned.

**We will go to stand with those who are uncertain about life,
to walk with those who have stumbled on their journey.**

Having been set free by the Spirit
let us go to be sisters and brothers with all,
**we will go to release those bound by cruelty and injustice,
to bring healing to those crippled by fears.**

POSTLUDE

Dr. Dan Cummings