



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

A Service of Song, Word, & Table
July 27, 2025

* Please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray
Karah Ingraham, soprano

Spiritual, arr. H.T. Burleigh

OPENING MEDITATION

A WAY OF PRAYER
Parr's The Kindness of Presence
Our Father,

SOURCE: *from Peter*

Perfect Love,

We turn again to You.

*Guide us;
help us to love,*

so that Your Will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

*Give us this day
that which we need.
Fill us with hope and trust.*

*Help us to forgive
our brothers and sisters
(and ourselves as well);*

*and to look on them
as you look on us.*

*Give us strength to resist temptation.
When we are tempted, let us choose peace.*

Deliver us from our fears.

For what You love is safe.

*And Your love remains
forever and always.*

Amen.

HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

UMH 102

A READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Luke 11:1-13

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

“A Life of Prayer”

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying TFWS 2193

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECEPTION OF PARDON

We do not find it easy to speak of how we do not live as your people, but you call us to share our weaknesses and failures with you, Inviting God. Tempted to think your salvation is for a select few, we put up barriers for others. Clinging to all you give to us, we are reluctant to share with those in need. Surrounded by evil and violence, we find it easier to close ranks with those just like us, rather than seeking peace and reconciliation for our world. Forgive us, God of our salvation. Open our hearts to our siblings all around us. Open our minds to the word of hope you speak to us. Open our spirits to the presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who flings wide the open doors of your kingdom, that all might find life with you.

Silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Pardon

Receive the good news, my friends:
Christ came searching for us,
calling us by name,
leading us into God's kingdom.

**In Christ, we become new people:
empty, we are made full;
lost, we are found;
dead in sin, we are made alive.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

REGATHERING HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (vs 1,2) UMH 526

INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Living and redeeming God, in Christ, you have made us fully alive, setting us free from all that would hold us captive. As we bring these gifts, we do so in gratitude, abounding in thanksgiving for your grace. May these offerings be signs of our rootedness in you, bearing fruit for your kingdom. Let them be used to bring hope, healing, and new life to those in need. Keep us steadfast in Christ, walking in faith and filled with the joy of your transforming love. In the name of the one who makes us whole, we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY Die Allmacht Franz Schubert Lore Alán, tenor

Translation: Great is Jehovah, the Lord! For heaven
and earth proclaim God's might.
You hear it in the roaring storm,
in the loud, surging cry of the forest stream;
you hear it in the rustling of the greenwood;
you see it in the golden, waving corn,
in the glowing lustre of the lovely flowers,
in the sparkling, star-strewn heavens;
it echoes terrifyingly in the rolling thunder,
and flames in the lightning's swiftly flickering flight.
But your beating heart will reveal still more palpably
the power of Jehovah, the eternal God,
if you gaze up in prayer
and hope for grace and mercy.

* DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

May the God of grace be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the One who shares good gifts with us. Children of the living God,

give thanks to the One who loves us.

**We sing our praises to the One
who embraces us with righteousness
and showers us with kisses of peace.**

Our greatest joy is to sing
our songs of thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all eternity.
When you first spoke,

creation was conceived and brought forth:
birds to swoop through the clear blue skies
and butterflies to flit about
in the gardens of Eden.

We were offered the chance
to run free in your good universe,
but we immersed ourselves
in the petty philosophies of pride,
and were enticed
by the empty lies of the world.

You sent the prophets
to knock on our hardened hearts,
asking us to turn to you,
but we continued to dance
in the arms of sin and death.

That is when you sent Jesus,
to put on flesh's body,
so we might throw off
the chains of our captivity.

Therefore, we join with those in every time and place,
who have searched, and found you,
who have asked, and been answered,
who have knocked and been welcomed
in your all-forgiving grace and love,
singing our praises forever:

Holy, holy, holy, God of steadfast love.
Righteousness and peace are lifelong lovers in your kingdom.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes
to open the door to your forgiveness.
Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you, God of restored lives,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son.
In him,
you turned away from your anger,
so we might turn to you
to receive forgiveness.

In him,
you set down your indignation,
to hand us the Bread of Life.
In him,
death and sin were defeated
so we could be revived to life.
So, as we gather at this Table,
remembering how he not only lived and died,
but was raised to life by your love,
we proclaim that mystery called faith:

**Christ died, that salvation might be given to us;
Christ arose, ending the search for life forever;
Christ will come again, knocking on the doors of our hearts.**

Pour your Spirit of peace and hope
upon these good gifts
of the bread and the cup
and upon those who have gathered here
at your gracious invitation.
May the Bread which is broken
make us whole,
so we may go forth
to speak peace to a world
which has been fed violence and death.
May the Cup which is shared
open our hearts to the pain
of those around us,
so we may bring healing and hope.
When we leave this Feast,
may we follow your righteousness
into the streets of the world,
taking all we meet by the hand
to show them the path
to your heart.

And when our wills have been subsumed into yours,
and when your kingdom has come in its glory and grace,
we will gather with our sisters and brothers
from every time and place,
embracing and kissing all children of the living God,

sitting down at the great Feast of the Lamb,
singing your glory through all time and space,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION Dr. Dan Cummings

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* **SENDING HYMN** Sweet Hour of Prayer UMH 496

* **BENEDICTION**

You have heard the words of peace and hope from God, so go.

We will go to speak to those filled with fear and doubt.

You have been reminded of the One who came looking for us, so go.

We will go to search for all tossed aside by the world.

You have been embraced in the love and grace of the Spirit, so go.

We will go to open our hearts to all searching for hope.

POSTLUDE Dr. Dan Cummings