



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

A Service of Song, Word, & Table
August 10, 2025

* Please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Dr. Dan Cummings

OPENING MEDITATION

A WAY OF PRAYER

SOURCE: First Nations Version

O Great Spirit, our Father from above,
we honor your name as sacred and holy.

Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day--
the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.
The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong
to us.

Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from
your good road,
and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.

Aho! May it be so!

HYMN More Love to Thee, O Christ UMH 453

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Luke 12:32-40
This is the Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God!

HOMILY “Let Me Be Full, Let Me Be Empty”

MUSICAL RESPONSE Thy Kingdom Come Karen Marrolli Summer
Choir/Linda Davidson, flute

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECEPTION OF PARDON

We are blessed when we trust in God, but too often we offer our
loyalty to idols. We are blessed when we see each other as family, but
we prefer to see them as strangers, even enemies. So, let us come
with our prayers to the One who loves without reservation and offers
compassion without conditions. Join me as we pray, saying,

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

**We must admit, Loving God, that if faith is a trust which
cannot be confirmed, it is easier not to trust. Of if faith is the
gut feeling that hope is just around the corner, we prefer to
keep our eyes closed. And surely, if faith is to be lived out in
difficult moments, we often leave it behind at home.**

**Call us into your backyard, God of wonder, to point up to the
stars and remind us that we cannot begin to imagine, or count,
how many times you will forgive us. Give us the trust to have
faith in you, the faith to hope in you, and the assurance you will**

surround us with the grace, hope, and wonder shared with us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Like our ancestors in the faith, we can dare to trust in the promises of God, even without any actual proof staring us in the face. This is the good news of God's love.

We will trust in those things that last, in the grace, which counts, in the mercy no one can take away from us. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

REGATHERING HYMN Give Me Jesus Spiritual
In the mornin' when I rise, in the mornin' when I rise,
In the mornin' when I rise, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus,
You can have all this world. Give me Jesus.

INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All it takes is one person, then another, then more, who hear God's hopes, trust God's promises, and have the faith to merge our gifts together, so they can be used to bring hope, healing, grace, and peace to our communities, to our sisters and brother. This we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY Dr. Dan Cummings, piano

*** DOXOLOGY**

UMH 94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

May the God of faith be with you!

May God be with you as well!

Let us open our hearts in trust.

God fills them with grace in every moment.

Join together in singing songs of thanksgiving.

We lift our voices in glad adoration to our God.

When there was only the emptiness
of chaos, God of our hearts,
you dared to imagine that from
things unseen might come wonders
to behold:

stars too many to count in the night,
flowers varied in colors and shapes,
creatures that roamed, flew, swam.
You spoke the Word which brought
all this into being for those who are
created in your image of hope and love,
but we chose to trust temptation's lies
and to hope in the emptiness of death.

In dreams, with words, with love,
women and men continued to call us
back to you, who would fill us with grace,
but we always turned away, trusting
power, hate, fear, injustice instead.

Then, you chose to become one of us,
so we might see hope walking among us,
so we might taste grace in fish and bread,
so we might know love that never ends.

With those who have faith which astounds us,
with those who long to see your beloved Community,
we join our voices in praise and wonder:

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!**

By grace,

you set aside glory to become
one of us, Christ of creation,
so we might be filled with compassion
we can share with others.

By faith,
you told stories of servants,
of prodigals, of children,
so we could see ourselves
as who God longs us to be.

By trust,
you dared to let death wrap
its cold arms around you,
so we might be released
into the comforting embrace
of resurrection's hope.

By grace, we come to this Table.
By hope, we tell the story of Jesus.
By faith, we share the mystery of salvation:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Now you come, Holy God,
pouring out your Spirit
on the gifts of the bread and cup
and on your people gathered here.
May the bread which is broken
give us the strength to go and
choose love, not hate;
to share hope, not fear;
to gather people together, not divide them.
May the cup of grace
nourish us to be the ones
who offer compassion without conditions,
who offer justice and grace to all,
who will love without reservation.

And when all time has come to an end,
we will sit at the table in your backyard,
feasting with our sisters and brothers
under the stars we never stopped counting,
rejoicing with them in your grace,
God in Community, Holy in One.

Traditional Lord's Prayer

Amen, amen, amen.
Hosanna in the highest! (3x)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION *Dr. Dan Cummings*

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* **SENDING HYMN** Be Thou My Vision UMH 451

* **BENEDICTION**

As God's people, let us be ready:

to bring light into the shadows,
to confront the bullies around us.

As followers of Jesus, let us be ready:

to invite strangers into our hearts,
to set the table for everyone.

As those gifted by the Spirit, let us be ready:

to choose love, not hate;
to feed those who wander
through both food and fear deserts.

POSTLUDE *Dr. Dan Cummings*