

THE LORD'S PRAYER WITH AMY-JILL LEVINE

KJV (Matthew)

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
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

NIV (Matthew)

Our Father 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.
Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

NLT (Matthew)

Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored.
May your Kingdom come soon.
May your will be done here on earth,
just as it is in heaven.
Give us our food for today,
and forgive us our sins,
just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us.
And don't let us yield to temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

NAS (Matthew)

Our Father who is in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Your Kingdom come.
Your will be done,
On earth it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
[For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen]

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NRSV

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.

THE WAY

Our Father in heaven,
we honor your holy name.
We ask that your kingdom will come now.
May your will be done here on earth,
just as it is in heaven.
Give us our food again today, as usual,
and forgive us our sins,
just as we have forgiven those who have
sinned against us.
Don't bring us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one. Amen.

THE MESSAGE

Our Father in heaven,
Reveal who you are.
Set the world right,
DO what's 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're in charge!
You can do anything you want!
You're ablaze in beauty!
Yes. Yes. Yes.

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NRSV (Matthew)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.

NRSV (Luke)

Father,
hallowed be your name

Give us each day our daily bread
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone
indebted to us
And do not bring us to the time of trial.

Didache (One scholar's translation)

Our Father,
who is in heaven,
your name shall be made holy,
your kingdom shall come,
your will shall come to be as in heaven and
upon earth,
you shall give us our bread for our need
today,
and you shall forgive us our debt as also
we are forgiving our debtors,
and may you not bring us into trial,
but you shall rescue us from the wicked
one,
since it is your might and glory into the
ages.
You shall prayer three times of the day in
this manner.

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(A LITTLE MORE INFO)

Vocabulary

- **Abba:** Father
- **I will be what I will be:** God's name as revealed to Moses
- **Father in the Heavens:** Has political overtones (Caesar was "father of the fatherland").
- **Hallowed:** "Sanctified, made holy, exalted & glorified."
- **For tomorrow or For the future:** A better translation of the Greek for "Daily."
- **Sin:** In Hebrew "sin" is a thing so a good metaphor for sin might be "debt" or "trespasses."
- **Do not lead us into something:** The Greek here translates as "temptation," "test," "trial."
- **Evil:** Greek *ho poneros* translates as "The evil one."
- **Didache:** Also called *The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles*. An anonymous early Christian text written in Koine Greek, dated around the first century, it contained instructions and addressed ethics, the sacrament and church organization. The Didache may have been the first written catechism.

Prayer Guidelines

1. Do not be ostentatious. Focus is on God, not the one praying
2. Speak to God in private when not in communal worship
3. Do not "heap up empty phrases." God knows what you need – keep it simple.

Five common functions of prayer

1. Allows for the honest expression of our feelings
2. Communication that can improve a relationship
3. A way to unite ourselves to our communities and to our pasts
4. Communal prayers remind us that we are all in different places in our lives
5. Helpful for discernment

A note on "For thine is the Kingdom ..." (in case you've always wondered)

- This verse does not appear in either Matthew or Luke, but rather comes from the Didache, the Peshitta (the Syrian translation of the Bible) and a number of other early manuscripts.

An amusing final note for those who do not have AJ's book: AJ reports that when she was in first grade in CT, her teacher led her class in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, in which AJ pledged her loyalty to

“liver tea;” singing the Star Bangled Banner, in which AJ sang about the “donnzerly light;” and the praying of the Lord’s Prayer, during which AJ bowed her head and prayed:

“Our Father, who art in Heaven, Harold be thy name,” followed shortly thereafter with her plea that God “Lead us not into Penn Station.”

Keeping this in mind, let us ponder Jesus’ own words: *“Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven” (Mt 18:3).*