

Praying the Lord's Prayer

Martin Luther & C. S. Lewis

"Lord, teach us to pray."

-Luke 11:1

"Man is the creature with a mystery in his heart that is bigger than himself."

-Hans Urs von Balthasar

# The Descending Movement of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy 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.

# The Lord of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:8)

hallowed be thy name.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me" (John 17:6)
Thy kingdom come.

"I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God . . . for I was sent for this purpose." (Luke 4:43)

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

"My food is to do the will of him who sent me" (John 4:34)

"My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will. . . . may your will be done" (Matt. 26:39, 42)

# The Lord of the Lord's Prayer

Give us this day our daily bread,

"I am the bread of life" (John 6:35)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34)

and lead us not into temptation,

"For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted" (Heb. 4:15)

but deliver us from evil.

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one." (John 17:15)

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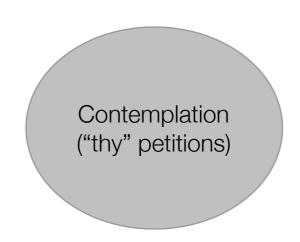
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## Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. (honour)
Thy kingdom come. (kingship)
Thy will be done (obedience)



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Give us this day our daily bread, (provision) and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, (forgiveness) and lead us not into temptation, (guidance) but deliver us from evil. (protection)

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Action

("us" petitions)

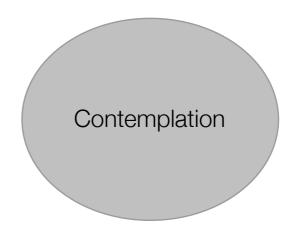
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# Martin Luther

How One Should Pray: For Master Peter the Barber (1535)



# A Simple Way to Pray

- the last of twenty-one publications on the Lord's Prayer by Luther
- Written for one of his oldest and best friends, Master Peter, whom he'd known for at least eighteen years
- Based on the structure of Luther's Small Catechism, which he regarded as one of his most important works
- Shortly after Luther wrote this, Master Peter was plunged into tragedy



## Luther's Small Catechism



## Ten Commandments

You shall have no other gods What closes this mean? Answer.
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## The Apostles Creed

The First Article.

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Of Hedemption.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord:
Who was conceived by the Huly Gheet, bern
of the Virgin Mary: suffered under Pontius
Plans, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into beneen, and sets on the right hand of Gud the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the leving and the dead. Blue over the mean 3-browner. Thelieve that Jesus Christ, frue God, laggetten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, barrrof the Virgin Mary, as my Lord. man, where the trippin stars any observable who has redeemed me, a lost and condemmed creature, purch seed and won [delivered] me from all sine, from death, and from the number of the death, and with poid or advertion with His holy, precious blood and with His innovant suffering and death, in order that I may be His own, and live under Him in his kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting rightcommess, imposence, and file acdness, even as He is case from the dead, lives and reigns to all elernity. This is most certainly

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## The Lords Prayer

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Check that the bridge service is spile second.

# A Simple Way to Pray

- "This in short is the way I use the Lord's Prayer when I pray it. To this day I suckle at the Lord's Prayer like a child, and as an old man eat and drink from it and never get my fill."
- About the Ten Commandments he says, "I take one part after another and . . . divide each commandment into four parts, thereby fashioning a garland of four strands."
- Same for petitions of Lord's prayer: instruction, thanksgiving, confession, prayer



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## The Second Article.

Of Redemption.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. What does this mean?-Answer. I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won [delivered] me from all sins, from death, and from thepower of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, in order

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I believe in the Holy Ghost; one holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. What does this mean?-Answer.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in which Christian Church He forgives daily and richly all sins to me and all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will give to me and to all believers in Christ everlasting life. This is most certainly true.

## the Lords Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven. What does this mean?-Answer. God would thereby tenderly urge us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children, so that we may ask Him confidently with all assurance, as dear children ask their dear father.

## The First Petition.

Hallowed be Thy name. What does this mean?-Answer. God's name is indeed holy in itself; but we pray in this petition that it may become holy among us also.

How is this done?-Answer. When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as the children of God also lead holy lives in accordance with it. To this end help us, dear Father in heaven. But he that teaches and lives otherwise than God's Word teaches profanes the name of God among us. From this preserve us, Heavenly Father.

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Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. What does this mean?-Answer. The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer; but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is this done?-Answer. When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel and will which would not let us hallow the name of God nor let His kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; but strengthens and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in faith unto our end. This is His gracious and good will.

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Give us this day our daily bread. What does this mean?-Answer. God gives daily bread, even without our prayer, to all wicked men; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it, and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?-Answer. Everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body, such as meat, drink, clothing, shoes, house, homestead, field, cattle, money, goods, a pious spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful magistrates, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

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And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. What does this mean?-Answer. We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor deny such petitions on account of them; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we pray, neither have we deserved them; but that He would grant them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much, and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. So will we verily, on our part, also heartily forgive and also readily do good to those who sin against us.

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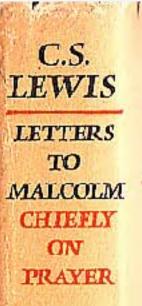


# C. S. Lewis

Letters to Malcolm: Chiefly on Prayer (1964)

## Letters to Malcolm

- Lewis's last book, published posthumously
- He had long wanted to write a book on prayer, but the breakthrough came when he decided to write it as an "overhead conversation" in a fictional correspondence.
- Written to Malcolm (married to Betty with a son George), the fiction done so well that many have thought it was real!
- Two laymen discussing together their problems in prayer.
- Topics include the liturgy, set versus extempore prayers, imagination in prayer, causality and prayer, prayer and personality, suffering and doing God's will, mysticism, the body in prayer, and using the Lord's prayer to structure our prayers.



BLES

## Letters to Malcolm

· Chapter 5 on his practice of "festooning" the Lord's Prayer

"I call them 'festoons', by the way, because they don't (I trust) obliterate the plain, public sense of the petition but are merely hung on it."

A pattern of concentric circles, like the waves the ripple out after a pebble hits the water: "And here can of course be taken not only for 'in my heart', but for 'in this college'—in England—in the world in general."

C.S.
LEWIS
LETTERS
TO
MALCOLM
CHIEFLY
ON
PRAYER

BLES



The Lord's Prayer as Jazz

A structure for improvisation

"Jazz is not just 'Well, man, this is what I feel like playing.' It's a very structured thing that comes down from a tradition and requires a lot of thought and study."

— Wynton Marsalis

# Improvising on the themes of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. (honour)

Thy kingdom come. (kingship)

Thy will be done (obedience)

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, (provision) and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, (forgiveness) and lead us not into temptation, (guidance) but deliver us from evil. (protection)