



Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

What a treasure the Lord's prayer is! And we have it in our minds. Jesus gave it to us. It is a sacred gift from the Lord.

Over the next six weeks I will share sermons on this wonderful prayer. Today we will consider the beginning of the prayer, "Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name."

If you have not had the opportunity to join us for worship, I encourage you to do so this Sunday. The following phone numbers are the ones to dial between 10:15am and 10:30am:

1-312-626-6799 or
1-346-248-7799

And when prompted for a Meeting ID enter:
867 5713 3623 #

The disciples of Jesus came to Him one day and said, "Lord teach us to pray." May we learn together how to pray this amazing prayer.

You are special to me.

God Bless You, Edd

Valley Christian Church

First Sunday After Pentecost

June 7, 2020

PRELUDE

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us pray, "O God, hallowed be your name,"
People: And let us live in honor and praise in our daily lives.
Leader: Let us pray, "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,"
People: And let us act in love and justice, that we will contribute to God's reign of love.
Leader: Let us pray, "Give us this day our daily bread,"
People: And let us share our abundance with others, that God's blessing may be spread throughout God's creation.
Leader: Let us pray, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."
People: And let us repent, receive forgiveness and be renewed in God's love to forgive others.
Leader: Let us pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
People: And let us open our eyes, our hearts and our minds that we might sidestep our own obstacles and resist creating obstacles for our neighbors.
Leader: Let us pray all of these things in the name of God, whose love overcomes all.
People: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Take Time to be Holy"

*Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.*

*Make friends of God's children,
help those who are weak,*

Forgetting in nothing God's blessing to seek.

*Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.*

*Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.*

INVOCATION

Father God, we gather as your children who long for your parental love. Come and hold us tight. Come and calm our fears. Come alongside of us in worship, O God, and grant us your peace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:5-9

MEDITATION

"Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed Be Your Name"
See Insert for Meditation

HYMN

"This is My Father's World"

This is my father's world

And to my listening ears

All nature sings, and round me rings

The music of the spheres

This is my father's world

I rest me in the thought

Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas

God's hand the wonders wrought

This is my father's world

The birds their carols raise

The morning light, the flowers bright

Declare their maker's praise

Our God has made this world and

shines in all that's fair

In the rustling grass, I hear God pass,

who speaks to me everywhere

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

Loving Father, it is comforting to know that you ache and long for your children. That your greatest desire is for each of us to be whole and home with you. The sufferings of your children are your sufferings, too.

The sickness and tragedies and heartaches and brokenness in our lives never go unnoticed or unfelt by you. You are a God of compassion, who promises never to leave us or forsake us. Father, you hear the cries of our hearts and our deepest desires. Thank you for your love, unconditional, undeserved,

PASTORAL PRAYER

unending, undeniable! Our true home is with you. Abba Father, we love you. Amen!

**CALL TO
COMMUNION**

Grant that we find joy in our hearts as we approach the holy tables in our homes. Not as a people of sin, but as a people redeemed in the blood of Christ.

**COMMUNION
HYMN**

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

My faith looks up to thee

Thou Lamb of Calvary

Savior divine

Now hear me while I pray

Take all my guilt away

O let me from this day

Be wholly thine

**COMMUNION
PRAYER**

Pray together the Lord's Prayer

**HOLY
COMMUNION**

Partake of the holy communion
(Bread, juice or whatever is available to you)

**WORDS OF
INSTITUTION**

Hear the words of Jesus when he said, "Take eat and take drink."

**SHARING OUR
OFFERING
WITH GOD**

Share your church offering and special Pentecost offering with the church by mail or bring it by the church office. Thank you for your love gifts.

**OFFERTORY
PRAYER**

Father, as your children who love you, we offer to you these gifts of love because of who you are, what you have done, and what you will do. In Jesus' name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Our heavenly Father has done great things for us. We have been filled with good things today. We have been fed the bread and cup of life. May these two blessings guide us on this new week of life. Thanks be to God. Amen.



Turn
unto the
LORD
your God:
for he is gracious
and merciful. JOEL 2:13

MEDITATION

Sunday, June 7, 2020

“Our Father Who is in Heaven,
Hallowed Be Your Name

One day Jesus was praying. His disciples were sitting near and watched Him pray. They noticed that after He prayed, He was filled with refreshment, renewal and spiritual energy. So they asked him, “Teach us to pray.”

Do you notice in the scripture of Luke 11:2 His answer to their question? He does not say, “If you pray,” he says, “When you pray.” Praying is necessary for journey in life.

So Jesus says when you pray he offered what we know as the Lord’s prayer. Both Luke and Matthew record this wonderful prayer. It is the “signature prayer of the followers of Jesus.” The Lord’s prayer is the universal prayer for Christian worship and personal devotion.

Jesus starts this model prayer with the word “Our”. This is a significant pronoun. For when you pray the Lord’s prayer there are no first-person singular pronouns in the entire prayer. Jesus did not teach us to pray, “My Father who is in heaven.”

You cannot pray the Lord’s prayer and even once say “I”. You cannot pray the Lord’s prayer and once say “My”. Nor can you pray the Lord’s prayer and not pray for another for when you pray for daily bread, you must include your brother; For others are included in each and every plea; From the beginning to the end of it, it does not once say “Me”.

So the prayer begins, “Our Father”. Of all the names, Father is God’s favorite. We know He loves this name most because this is the one He used most. While on earth, Jesus called God “Father” over two hundred times. In His first recorded words as a young boy Jesus said, “Didn’t you know I must be in my Father’s house?” (Luke 2:49). In His final triumphant prayer from the cross (over)

He proclaims, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” (Luke 23:46) In the gospel of John alone, Jesus repeats this name of Father 156 times.

When Jesus calls God Father he would have used the word “Abba”. “Abba is the Aramaic name used by a Jewish child for his or her father. Aramaic is a Jewish dialect spoken by the Jews in Jesus’ time. Literally, “Abba” means “Daddy”. It is a term of affectionate intimacy. No one in the scriptures of the Old Testament dared to approach God in such an intimate way of calling God father. This is one of the reasons the disciples were stunned by the way Jesus prayed. He talked to God like a son might talk to his Daddy. Jesus not only prayed this way but expected His disciples to pray this way too.

A little boy was standing on the banks of the Mississippi River waving and shouting at a steamboat that was going by. He was encouraging the steamboat to come to shore. A stranger came by and said, “That is foolish young man. The boat will never come ashore because of your request. The captain is too busy to notice your waving and shouting.” Just then the boat turned and headed for shore. The little boy grinned and said to the stranger, “the captain is my Daddy.”

The Captain of the Universe is our Abba. He pays attention to our petitions because He loves us. The first word in the Lord’s prayer of “Our Father” encourages us to believe in the affectionate intimacy of the Lord of the universe, but that does not mean we should take God for granted.

“Hallowed be your name” helps us not forget that our Father is also the Lord of the universe. “Hallowed” be your name is a reminder that we are called to be humble before the ruler of all things.

Today the first words of the Lord’s prayer, “Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name” calls us to be uniquely personal and very humble before our God. Our Father’s name is holy. We pray in these opening words of the Lord’s prayer that we might make His name holy in our lives by our words and deeds.