

**Alternative versions of the  
Lord's Prayer Collected from  
various sources**

(THE MESSAGE, 2002)

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.  
You're in charge!  
You can do anything you want!  
You're ablaze in beauty!  
Yes. Yes. Yes.

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FROM 'HUMAN RITES' BY  
WARD AND WILD.

"Beloved,  
our Father and Mother,  
in whom is heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
followed be your royal way,  
done be your will and rule,  
throughout the whole creation.  
With the bread we need for today,  
feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one  
another,  
forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test,  
Strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure,  
spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil,  
free us.

For you reign in the glory of the  
power that is love,  
Now and forever.  
Amen."

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NEW ZEALAND PRAYER BOOK

Eternal Spirit  
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.  
Loving God, in whom is heaven.  
The hallowing of your name echoes  
through  
the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed  
by the peoples  
of the earth!  
Your heavenly will be done by all  
created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and  
freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today,  
feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one  
another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, spare  
us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free  
us.  
For you reign in the glory of the  
power that is love,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

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MARK BERRY – EMERGING  
CHURCH MOVEMENT

O Breathing Life, your Name shines  
everywhere! Release a space to plant  
your Presence here. Imagine your

possibilities now. Embody your desire in every light and form. Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom. Untie the knots of failure binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' faults. Help us not forget our Source, Yet free us from not being in the Present. From you arises every Vision, Power and Song from gathering to gathering. Amen - May our future actions grow from here!

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### PARKER J. PALMER

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother, Holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come, We pray that your good will be done, Let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need, Give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, From each one to each one. Lead us to holy innocence Beyond the evil of our days — Come swiftly Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy: Forever your name is All in One.

### RETRANSLATION (FROM THE ARAMAIC)

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere! Release a space to plant your Presence here. Imagine your possibilities now. Embody your desire in every light and form. Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom. Untie the knots of failure binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' faults. Help us not forget our

Source, Yet free us from not being in the Present. From you arises every Vision, Power and Song from gathering to gathering. Amen - May our future actions grow from here!

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### LORD'S PRAYER IN TIME OF WAR MS. WENDY LYONS

Our Father, who art in heaven, slow to anger, and of great mercy, lover of all peoples of the earth, *Hallowed be thy Name*. Remind us that "all the nations are as nothing before thee," their governments but a shadow of passing age; *Thy kingdom come on earth*. Grant to thy children throughout the world, and especially to the leaders of the nations, the gift of prayerful thought and thoughtful prayer; that following the example of our Lord, we may discern what is right, and do it; *Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven*. Help us to protect and to provide for all who are hungry and homeless, especially those who are deprived of food and shelter, family and friends, by the tragedy of war; *Give us this day our daily bread*. Forgive us for neglecting to "seek peace and pursue it," and finding ourselves in each new crisis, more ready to make war than to make peace. "We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves"; *Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us*. Let us not seek revenge, but reconciliation; Let us not delight in victory, but in justice; Let us not give ourselves up to pride, but

to prayer; *Lead us not into temptation.* Be present to all thy children ravaged by war: Be present to those who are killing and to those who are being killed; Be present to the loved ones of those who are killing and to the loved ones of those who are being killed; *Deliver us from evil.* Subdue our selfish desires to possess and to dominate, and forbid us arrogance in victory; *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.* Amen.

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### ANDREW JONES: A BLOGGERS PRAYER

Our Father who lives above and beyond the dimension of the internet Give us this day a life worth blogging, The access to words and images that express our journey with passion and integrity, And a secure connection to publish your daily mercies. Your Kingdom come into new spaces today, As we make known your mysteries, Posting by posting, Blog by blog.

Give this day, The same ability to those less privileged, Whose lives speak louder than ours, Whose sacrifice is greater, Whose stories will last longer. Forgive us our sins, For blog-rolling strangers and pretending they are friends, For counting unique visitors but not noticing unique people, For delighting in the thousands of hits but ignoring the ONE who returns,

For luring viewers but sending them away empty handed, For updating daily but repenting weekly.

As we forgive those who trespass on our sites to appropriate our thoughts without reference, Our images without approval,

Our ideas without linking back to us. Lead us not into the temptation to sell out our congregation, To see people as links and not as lives, To make our blogs look better than our actual story.

But deliver us from the evil of pimping ourselves instead of pointing to you,

From turning our guests into consumers of someone else's products,

From infatuation over the toys of technology, From idolatry over technology

From fame before our time has come.

For Yours is the power to guide the destinies behind the web logs,

To bring hurting people into the sanctuaries of our sites, To give us the stickiness to follow you, no matter who is watching or reading.

Yours is the glory that makes people second look our sites and our lives,

Yours is the heavy ambience,

For ever and ever,

Amen

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### KITCHEN MOTHER VERSION

GEORGE ELLA LYON

Our Mother Who Art

in the kitchen

cooking us up

hallowed may we see  
all that is  
Your kingdom here  
delivered into our hands  
Your will in children  
and trees leaping out  
on earth  
as if it were Heaven.  
Give us this day  
bread we could feed  
the world  
and snatch us bald-headed  
if we try to swallow it all.  
Don't forgive us  
till we learn it is all for giving.  
That salve you've got in a pot  
on the back of the stove  
only heals when everybody has some.  
And heed us not  
if we believe You look like us  
and love us best  
and gave us the True Truth  
with a license to kill Others  
writ inside.  
Deliver us from this evil.  
for it is Yours,  
this kitchen we call Universe  
where you stir up our favorite treat,  
the Milky Way,  
folding deep into sweet  
our little sphere  
with its powerful glory  
of rainforests and oceans and  
mountains in feather-boa mist  
forever  
if we don't blow it up  
and ever  
if we don't tear it down  
Amen  
(Ah women

Ah children  
Ah reckon She's about fed up.  
We better make room at the table  
for everybody  
before She yells - OUT!  
and turns our table over,  
before She calls it off  
this banquet we've been hoarding  
this paradise  
we aim to save  
with bombs.)

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EARTH DANCE based on the Lord's  
Prayer published in Minnesota  
Women's Press, December 1999  
Author thought to be Karen Loveland,  
as member of Unity Church, Santa  
Rosa, CA Passed on in 2000 by Nancy  
Carroll  
Our mother,  
which art the earth,  
Nurturing are thy ways.  
Thy web of life be woven  
Thy way be found within,  
As it is all around.  
Thank you this day for our daily  
bread and sweat  
and forgive us our misuse of you,  
as we forgive others their misuse of  
us.  
And lead us not into exploitation,  
But deliver us  
From lording it over you,  
And over each other,  
And over all our other fellow  
creatures.  
For thine are the waters of life,  
The hills, valleys and plains of home,

The breeding, seeding, feeding  
ground,  
For now, and for as close to forever  
As we will ever come.  
Ah, woman!  
Our Father, Mother,  
who are in the world and surpass the  
world,  
Blessed be your presence,  
in us, in animals and flowers,  
in still air and wind.  
May justice and peace dwell among  
us,  
as you come to us.  
Your will be our will;  
You will that we be sisters and  
brothers,  
as bread is bread, water is itself,  
For our hunger, for quenching of  
thirst.  
Forgive us.  
We walk crookedly in the world,  
are perverse, and fail of our promise.  
But we would be human,  
if only you consent to stir up our  
hearts.  
Amen.  
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The Lord's Prayer  
(from Dominican Sisters Retreat,  
March 1993, Great Bend, Kansas)  
Prayed with alternating sides...  
Side 1: Side 2:  
Our Father Our Mother  
Who art in heaven Who are in all the  
earth  
Hallowed be they name Holy is your  
truth

Thy kingdom come May your wisdom  
come  
Thy will be done, on earth Your circle  
be one uniting  
as it is in heaven heaven and earth  
Give us this day our daily bread Give  
us today a nurturing spirit  
And forgive us our trespasses Heal  
through us as we  
as we forgive those who trespass  
ourselves are healed  
against us  
Lead us not into temptation Lead us  
into Fullness of life  
But deliver us from evil And liberate  
all that is good  
For thine is the Kingdom, For the  
Wisdom, the power and the glory  
Presence and the Goodness are Yours  
All: Now and forever  
Amen.  
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Dear One, closer to us than our own  
hearts, farther from us than the most  
distant star, you are beyond naming.

May your powerful presence become  
obvious not only in the undeniable  
glory of the sky, but also in the  
seemingly base and common  
processes of the earth.

Give us what we need, day by day, to  
keep body and soul together, because  
clever as you have made us, we still  
owe our existence to you.

We recognize that to be reconciled  
with you, we must live peaceably and

justly with other human beings,  
putting hate and bitterness behind us.

We are torn between our faith in your  
goodness and our awareness of the  
evil in your creation, so deliver us  
from the temptation to despair.

Yours alone is the universe and all its  
majesty and beauty. (Progressive  
Christianity) Good caring presence  
within us, around us, and above us;  
Hold us in a sense of mystery and  
wonder. Let the fullness of your  
goodness be within us and around us;  
Let all the world know your ways of  
caring and generosity.

May we find we have all we need to  
meet each day without undue anxiety.  
Overlook our many stupidities, and  
help us to release everyone from their  
stupidities. May we all know that we  
are accepted. Strengthen us that we  
will reach out to the best, always with  
the faith to rise above the ugly  
realities of our existence. And we  
celebrate the gifts you have given us –  
the rich kingdom of life's possibilities  
the power to do good and the  
triumphs of good and the moments  
when we have seen the glory and  
wonder of everything. You are life's  
richness. You are life's power. You  
are life's ultimate meaning –Amen.  
*Francis Macnab in "The Historical  
Jesus Goes to Church"*

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Eternal Spirit,  
Source of all that is and ever shall be,  
Loving Parent in whom we discern  
heaven,  
May knowledge of your holiness  
inspire all peoples,  
And may your commonwealth of  
peace and freedom flourish on earth  
Until all of humankind heed your call  
to justice and compassion. May we  
find the bread that we need for today,  
And for the hurts we cause one  
another  
May we be forgiven in the same  
measure that we forgive. In times of  
trial and temptation, help us to be  
strong;  
When life seems overwhelming, help  
us to endure;  
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver  
us. May you reign in the power of  
human love,  
Now and forever. Amen. (Tom Hall)

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Loving Creator  
we honor you,  
and we honor all that you have made.  
Renew the whole world  
in the image of your love.  
Give us what we need for today,  
and a hunger to see the whole world  
fed.  
Strengthen us for what lies ahead;  
heal us from the hurts of the past;  
give us courage to follow your call in  
this moment.  
For your love is the only power,  
the only home, the only honor we  
need,

in this world and in the world to  
come.

Amen. Paraphrased by Sarah Dylan  
Breuer.

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God so holy, full of grace,  
make the world a better place.  
Give us the food we need for  
today.  
Forgive us our wrongs  
when we go astray.  
Help us always to do good,  
and love others, like we should.  
God we love you; we are yours.  
Swing wide open heaven's doors.  
Amen.