

Rejoice that in Christ we can have the shameless boldness to approach God for all things. Rejoice that we may share in the glory of Christ that we read of yesterday.

Pray, cry out to your heavenly Father. Call upon him with the shameless boldness of a child knowing that he will hear and answer.

Friday, 6/2

Come to the prayer meeting **this morning at 6:30.**

Read **Revelation 4:1-11.** What a vision of the worship of our Father in heaven! How can we reflect that reality of who he is in our lives and worship today?

Worship him in heavenly glory today!

Pray that this heavenly worship would break through in our worship together this week.

Praise him with your favorite song adoring him entering into that heavenly worship.

Saturday, 6/3

Read tomorrow's sermon passage **Matthew 6:5-13** below and meditate on what it means to "hallow his name".

<sup>5</sup>"And now about prayer. When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I assure you, that is all the reward they will ever get. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly. Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> "When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered only by repeating their words again and again. <sup>8</sup> Don't be like them, because your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! <sup>9</sup> Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. <sup>10</sup> May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done here on earth, just as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us our food for today, <sup>12</sup> and forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us. <sup>13</sup> And don't let us yield to temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Prepare today for the gathered worship service tomorrow.

Pray for God's glory to be more and more manifested in the greater Portland area. Pray that He will cause many throughout Maine to see their slavery to sin and that he would call them to be his children through faith in Jesus Christ.

<sup>1</sup> Music and words by Patricia Van Tine ©1978 Maranatha! Music.

<sup>2</sup> Text © Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America.



CHRIST *the*  
REDEEMER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## "OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN" THE BASIS FOR PRAYER

Sermon notes from 5/28/06

**Matthew 6:5-13**

Rev. Per Almquist

<sup>5</sup> "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.

<sup>6</sup>But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>7</sup>And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. <sup>9</sup>"This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, <sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>Give us today our daily bread. <sup>12</sup>Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup>And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

Text

### I. Understanding the Basis

### II. Employing the Basis

#### A. Assurance in our relationship

#### B. Confidence that he will hear and answer

Message

Please consider the following questions as you seek the Holy Spirit's direction from this sermon:

1. What typifies your current heart and attitude in prayer
2. In what ways are your prayers like those of an orphan? Like those of a boarder? Like those of a child?
3. What is holding your heart back from having the assurance and confidence that comes from truly believing in God's love for you?

Application

# Taking Gathered Worship Home—Family and Individual Devotions

**F**ather. Few words can elicit the strength of emotion that can come from that single word. For some, there is a deep sense of love as we recall our fathers. For others, there is a deep sense of pain and anger as we remember how our fathers failed us. Why does Jesus only address God as Father? Why does he command us to address him as Father? What is the real significance of God as our Father?

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Please pray that we as a community of faith will learn His ways and walk in them to accomplish His purposes.*

**Sunday, 5/28** Read today's passage: **Matthew 6:5-13**. Have you thought much about the Lord's Prayer before?

**Meditate** on the Lord's Prayer. What do you see in it about God and your relationship with him that you had never noticed before?

**Rejoice** that through Christ you are a child of God.

**Pray**, "Our Father in heaven, I draw near to you with assurance and confidence, coming as a child to his Father who is able and ready to help me. Enable me to glorify you in all that I do; remembering that you are my Father through all of life—the trials and the triumphs. Thank you. I love you Father."

**Monday, 5/29** Read **1 John 2:28-3:3**. Why does John say, "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God"? What kind of love did the Father give to us that we should be called his children?

**Rejoice** in the great love of God that we can be called children of God.

**Sing** "Behold What Manner of Love"<sup>1</sup>

Behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us  
Behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us  
That we should be called the sons of God  
That we should be called the sons of God

**Pray** that God would open your eyes to see the glory of his love for you and open your life to experiencing the depth of that love.

**Tuesday, 5/30** Read **Galatians 4:4-7**. What is our relationship with God based on? What right do we have to come to him in prayer and ask him for anything?

**Meditate** on implications of being a child of God. What impact does that have on your life each and every day?

**Pray** the Lord's Prayer:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,"

*Ask God to use you in making His name hallowed (declared holy) among your family and friends.*

"Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

*Praise God for beginning His kingdom on earth. Ask Him to extend it today.*

"Give us today our daily bread."

*Thank God for all His provision for you. Ask Him for the things you need.*

"Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

*Ask God to make us so aware of how much He has forgiven us that we would be forgiving also.*

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

*Praise Christ for delivering us from sin and death and ask Him to continue to rescue us daily.*

**Wednesday, 5/31** Read **John 1:1-18**. By what do we have the right to become children of God (v.12)? By what power are we born or made children of God (v.13)? In what ways do you try to earn that right?

**Sing** "Children of the Heavenly Father"<sup>2</sup>

1. Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in Heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given.

2. God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish;  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.

3. Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4. Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

5. Lo, their very hairs He numbers,  
And no daily care encumbers  
Them that share His ev'ry blessing  
And His help in woes distressing.

6. Praise the Lord in joyful numbers:  
Your Protector never slumbers.  
At the will of your Defender  
Ev'ry foeman must surrender.

**Pray**, praise God for his wonderful love that chooses us to be his children by his power. Give thanks for his tender care that he extends to his children.

**Thursday, 6/1** Read **Romans 8:12-17**. We have been given a spirit that frees us from fear, a spirit that gives us assurance and confidence in our heavenly Father.