

## An Extra Resource provided by John Williams

*For those who wish to advance more deeply into the Lord's Prayer,  
attached is an enhanced version for you to quietly mull over.*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER EXTENDED

*I am using 'The Lord's Prayer' as a framework to support many items flowing in to combine into a broad stream of prayer.  
In response to a request from his disciples, Jesus said to pray like this – to let your praying flow in this vein.*

#### **Our Father in heaven,**

Dear Lord God, although we address you as being somewhere "there" in heaven, we know that you are not afar off, but actually present with us, and that you hear us as we pray. We cannot go where you are not. Lord, your presence comforts us. In your presence, we are comfortable.

#### **hallowed be your name,**

Your name is holy throughout the whole of creation and we bow before you. May we not misuse your holy name, ever. Your 'name' is precious. We honour you as our Lord God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

#### **your kingdom come,**

In creating us in your image you have given us freedom, the freedom to turn aside. But we have chosen to be your people, and acknowledge that you are the king, the one who rules. It is our desire that all peoples of the earth will acknowledge you and choose to rejoice in your kingship.

#### **your will be done,**

Your great gift to us is that you have a plan for us all. In being obedient to that plan, we are embracing your will. We know that your will for us is beyond our understanding. In you we trust. Help us to be obedient. Your love rests gently on us in our obedience.

#### **on earth as in heaven.**

May we seek to be daily followers of all you hold out to us, your people.

#### **Give us today our daily bread.**

For our needs, O Lord, we ask. Quell in us our wants and the desire to take more. May we care for your creation and resist stretching the resources of this land. May we redefine our needs to be only our 'daily bread'. In feeding us, gracious God, may all be equally fed.

#### **Forgive us our sins**

We are assured that whatever we confess to you in truth, you will forgive. In your sight, dear Lord, there are no secrets. Sharpen our self-assessments, so that all that is in your sight is also in our consciousness.

#### **as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Dear Father God, show us how to be true to you and our neighbours, receiving and giving in the same measure. Spur us to seek out injustice and set it right.

#### **Save us in the time of trial**

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, grant to us your graciousness and your understanding, so that we may repel darts of criticism and derision. May our words and acts show that your love overarches all else. Sustain us in our faith. Bless us with conviction, but interweave it with love.

#### **and deliver us from evil.**

Stay the hand of evil intent towards us. Stay the evil thought which may intrude upon us. Keep safe our children. May we all take joy in their innocence; never abusing it. Guard us from pride and all else which may separate us from you. We call to mind the needs of our friends and neighbours. Grant meaning to those who spend long hours of the night in pain or in mental anguish and bewilderment. It is our desire that you, our compassionate God, will reach out to them.  
*(name them now)*  
Grant them release.

#### **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours**

Great God, as your Son taught us, we have asked of you to consider the needs of our friends, of our neighbours near and far and to be mindful of ourselves as we approach you in trust, for you are all we can possibly imagine, and much more, way beyond our comprehension.

#### **now and forever.**

We measure time, but, to you, O Lord God, all time is equal. We face the future, which to us is immeasurable, trusting in your everlasting gracious care.

#### **Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**