

AFDS 8/13/23

## Rewriting the Lord's Prayer

*Most of us grew up with the same fairly standardized version of the Lord's Prayer. What if it's true translation is very different from what we grew up with?*

The following is from Neil Douglas-Klotz, *Prayers of the Cosmos* (one possible translation from the Aramaic of the Lord's Prayer)

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos, focus your Light within us; make it useful.  
Create your reign of unity now: Your one desire then acts with ours... as in all Light, so in all forms.  
Grant what we need each day in bread and insight.  
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' guilt.  
Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back.  
From You is born all ruling will; the power and the life to do, the song that beautifies all, from age to age it renews.  
Truly, may the power and the life and the song be the ground from which all my actions grow. Amen.

Another version of the Lord's Prayer, this time by Parker 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.

What if we re-write the Lord's Prayer for ourselves, as our spiritual needs are *today*?

### **For discussion:**

What might you change to either/both of the above to make it fit YOU better?

What surprised or pleased or annoyed you about either of the above translations?