

## **A Service for Fathers' Day**

*We come before God, opening our hearts,  
minds and lives to God's tender care.*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with us all.

See what love the Father has given us,  
that we should be called the children of God.  
You are my sons and daughters, this day I  
have begotten you.

See what love the Father has given us.  
As many as received him, to them he gave  
power to become the children of God.  
See what love the Father has given us.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the  
Holy Spirit.

See what love the Father has given us,  
that we should be called the children of God.

*cf 1 John 3.1*

### **A special Prayer for today**

Heavenly Father,  
you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of  
Mary,  
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.  
Bless *all fathers* as they care for their families.  
Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience;  
support them in the work they have to do,  
protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our brother and friend. Amen.

### **Confession**

*Keep silence as you call to mind habits of mind, body and soul that have prevented  
you from showing God's love. You may like to picture the Father running to meet the  
prodigal Son returning home.*

**Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.  
We turn to you again as your children.  
Have mercy on us,  
Bring us back to yourself  
as those who once were once lost but are now found  
and have new life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*cf Luke 15*

May the God of love bring *us* back to himself, forgive *us our* sins, and assure *us* of his  
eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Word**

*See notice sheet.*



## **The Creed**

We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*cf Ephesians 3*

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

*Spend some time thinking of what it means to you to call God 'Father.'  
Bring your thoughts to God.*

- *In baptism we are adopted into God's family. Remember the family of faith throughout the world, pray for unity and fellowship.*
- *Remember the love you have known in your life. Ask God to help you show love in your home that it may be a place of love, security and truth.*
- *Give thanks to God for those who have nurtured your life and your faith.*
- *Remember all Fathers, Step Fathers, Grandfathers, Foster carers and other carers, all who care for children. Ask God to strengthen all families living under stress.*
- *Remember refugee children, and orphans*
- *Pray that all may find in our churches their true home; that the lonely, the marginalized, the rejected may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus.*
- *Pray that as we see the brokenness of our world there would be healing among the nations; food where there is hunger; freedom where there is oppression; joy where there is pain; that love may bring peace to all God's children.*
- *Pray for those who have died and those who mourn.*

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy,  
help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love, to serve your purpose,  
and to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*As God's children, and heirs with Christ we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father:*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **A final prayer**

The Lord God almighty is our Father: he loves us and tenderly cares for us.  
The Lord Jesus Christ is our Saviour: he has redeemed us and will defend us to the end.  
The Lord, the Holy Spirit is among us: he will lead us in God's holy way.  
To God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be praise and glory today and for ever. Amen.