



# **A Lord's Prayer Hymn Festival**

FPC  Music & Arts

# A Festival of Hymns Based on the Lord's Prayer

*Music for Congregation – Choir – Organ and Instruments*

*with prayers and meditations by Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

**Sunday 19 – April 2026 – 10:15 AM**

## **BELL PEAL / GREETING and WELCOME**

Eddie Bellis

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(The asterisk invites all to rise in body or spirit.)*

Brent Sower

O God, I call to you, early in the morning,  
O God, we call to you at times just like these.

I cannot do it alone,  
we cannot do it alone.

Praise and thanks to you for the morning,  
praise and thanks to you for the now.

Praise and thanks that we are never alone, hear us as we worship you;  
hear us as we voice our prayer and praise  
and thanks for your never-ending love.

Thanks be to God.

### **\*OPENING HYMN 41**

O Worship the King

LYONS

(VERSE One—All; VERSE Two—Upper Voices;  
VERSE Three—Lower Voices; VERSE Four—Choir; and VERSE Five—ALL)

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Brent Sower

O God, you started it with me.

**You haunted me and would not let me loose;**  
repeatedly—now here, now there—you have suddenly stepped in my way;  
**you have captivated me, enticed me,**  
**and made my heart pliable and willing;**

you have spoken to me of your longing and eternal love of your faithfulness and might;

**when I sought strength, you strengthened me;**

when I sought support, you supported me;

**when I sought forgiveness, you forgave my guilt.**

I did not want it, but you overcame my will, my resistance, my heart.

**God, you have drawn me irresistibly,**  
**and I have given myself to you.**

Lord, you have persuaded me, and I have let myself be persuaded.

**You have grabbed me as one without a clue—**  
**And now I cannot get away from you anymore.**

You are too strong for me; you have won.

**Amen.**

# *The Lord's Prayer:* *Our Father who art in heaven,*

## FIRST MEDITATION

Eddie Bellis

*In our time...there is a seeking, and anxious groping and searching for divine things. A great loneliness has come, a loneliness that is found only where god forsakenness reigns. In the midst of our great cities...we see the greatest amounts of loneliness and homelessness. But the longing grows that the time will nonetheless come again when God dwells among people, when God lets himself be found. In the middle of this frantic activity stands the one word of Jesus Christ: "I...am...with...you!" You don't need to do a lot of seeking and questioning and looking for Mysterious manifestations. I am with you. Whether we see him or not, feel him or not, want him or not—that is all the same in view of the fact that Jesus is with us, simply everywhere we are, and that we can do nothing about it.*

## \*HYMN

*He Lives*

ACKLEY

**(VERSE) I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;  
I know that he is living, whatever men may say;  
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need him he's always near.**

**(REFRAIN) He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives; he lives within my heart.**

**(VERSE) Rejoice! Rejoice! O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!**

**The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find,  
None other is so loving, so good and kind. (REFRAIN)**

## \*HYMN 837

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

SHOWALTER

(VERSES One and Three)

+++

***hallowed be thy name,***

## SECOND MEDITATION

Anne Keener

*God is our God, the Lord, the One who lives. If we can say "God," it is only because God, in his incomprehensible grace, has made himself known to us. When we say "God," it is as if we can hear God himself speaking to us...calling us...comforting us...commanding us; we feel him acting for us. "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run...and are safe."*

**HYMN 625**

*How Great Thou Art*  
(VERSES One and Four)

HOW GREAT THOU ART

**HYMN 462**

*I Love to Tell the Story*  
(VERSES One and Three)

HANKEY

+++

***thy kingdom come,***

**THIRD MEDITATION**

Sam Belcher

*The basis of the love of God for humankind lies not in human beings, but solely in God. The basis on which we as real human beings can live and can love the real human beings around us lies again solely in the incarnation of God, in the unfathomable love of God for humankind. The figure of misery and of pain. This is what the Reconciler of the world looks like. The guilt of humanity has fallen on him. This is what it costs God to be reconciled with the world. In the figure of the crucified One, human beings recognize and find themselves. Accepted (loved) by God, judged and redeemed in the cross; that is the reality of being human.*

**\*HYMN 136**

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*  
(VERSES One and Three)

GO TELL IT

**\*HYMN 119**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*  
(VERSES One and Three)

MENDELSSOHN

+++

***thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.***

**FOURTH MEDITATION**

Brent Sower

*The will of God can lie hidden very deep under many available possibilities. And because it is not a predetermined system of rules, but new and different in different life situations, the will of God must be tested again and again. Heart, mind, observation, and experience must work together in this testing. Because it is not at our own human disposal but solely by the grace of God that we know his will, and precisely because this grace is and wants to be new every morning, this testing of the will of God must be taken very seriously. Neither the voice of the heart nor some kind of inspiration, nor some kind of generally valid principle can be confused with the will of God, which is revealed anew only to the one testing it. For this reason each new day brings the question how—today and here and in this situation—I will remain with God, with Jesus Christ, and be preserved in this new life.*

**HYMN 450**

*Be Thou My Vision*  
(VERSE One—Upper Voices; and VERSE Two—Lower Voices)

SLANE

**HYMN**

*I Surrender All*

**SURRENDER**

(VERSE) **All to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.**

(REFRAIN) **I surrender all, I surrender all;  
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.**

(VERSE) **All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to thee;  
Fill me with thy love and power, let thy blessing fall on me. (REFRAIN)**

+++

***Give us this day our daily bread,***

**FIFTH MEDITATION**

Eddie Bellis

*In the strictest sense, possessions...things (like food), are intended for today.  
"Today's trouble is enough for today." Only those who place tomorrow in  
God's hands and receive what they need to live today are truly secure.  
Receiving daily liberates us from tomorrow.*

**HYMN 14**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

**DIX**

(VERSES One and Five)

**HYMN 525**

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

**LET US BREAK**

(VERSES One and Two)

+++

***and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.***

**SIXTH MEDITATION**

Anne Keener

*Forgiveness is without beginning, forgiveness is without end; it happens  
daily, without ceasing. This comes from God. Being silent, bearing, and  
loving without ceasing, also comes from God.*

**HYMN 792**

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

**BALM IN GILEAD**

(VERSES One and Two)

**HYMN 649**

*Amazing Grace*

**AMAZING GRACE**

(VERSES One and Four)

+++

***Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.***

**SEVENTH MEDITATION**

Sam Belcher

*The "oh" of our wishes and the "oh" of prayer are two different things.  
The former, from need, the latter, from our need, as God has taught us to see it.  
The former, demanding, the latter, humble and confident. God,  
through the Holy Spirit, must teach us the right "oh", these are the "sighs  
too deep for words" of the Holy Spirit, who represents us before God.  
"O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!"*

**HYMN**

*He Leadeth Me*

HE LEADETH ME

(VERSE—Upper Voices) **He leadeth me! O blessed tho't!  
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!  
What e'er I do, where e'er I be,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!**

(REFRAIN—All) **He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
by his own hand he leadeth me.  
His faithful foll'wer I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.**

(VERSE—Lower Voices) **Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine,  
Content, whatever lot I see,  
since 'tis thy hand that leadeth me! (REFRAIN—ALL)**

**HYMN 418**

*Softly and Tenderly*

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

(VERSES One and Three)

+++

***For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.***

**EIGHTH MEDITATION**

Brent Sower

*God spoke his word of power over death. What does this mean?  
How are we to understand it? This raises a lot of questions for us.  
What...is...resurrection. What is the meaning of the empty tomb?  
There is an abundance of questions...of curiosity, of interest in  
superstitions, of many mysterious things—about which we can gain  
no pleasure. The questions grow from a hundred to a thousand,  
and still...we are not satisfied. One thing is important:  
God committed himself to Christ (and to us) and touched him with eternity.  
Now Christ lives. He lives because God lives and because love lives.  
For us, that is enough.*

**\*HYMN 838**

*Standing on the Promises*  
(VERSES One and Four)

PROMISES

**\*HYMN 268**

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*  
(VERSES One and Four)

DIADEMATA

**\*CLOSING PRAYER**

Anne Keener

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND LIVES**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise him, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,  
whose power uplifts! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Brent Sower

**\*HYMN 39**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

**\*BENEDICTION**

Anne Keener

**\*POSTLUDE**

**Participants in Today's Hymn Festival**

Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor  
Anne Keener, Commissioned Pastor  
Sam Belcher, Director of Youth Ministries  
Brent Sower, Liturgist; Caroline Freiburg, Acolyte  
Michael P. Snoddy, Director of Music & Organist  
The Chancel Choir and Adam Trokler, instrumentalist

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for all who serve  
in the Flower Ministry (arranging, rearranging, and delivering) by Jane Boyette.*

**Prayer List**

**New:**

Marlene and Gary Cole's friend, Cathey Mason  
Norm and Linda Parker's daughter  
Leah Stein's friend, Duane Dearfield  
Sarah Brown's friend, Marilyn Peters  
Cathie Davidson's grandson, CPT Tyler Davidson and friend, Judy Shuford  
Barb Heerman's friend, Owen Charley and family

**Deaths:**

Ted Bechtel, March 30, 2026

**Members:**

Ann Brown, Barbara Crunk, Jeff Doering, Carolyn Hayes, Caleb Lillard, Anne Osborne

**In Memory:**

Megan Sturm	April 20, 2021	Louise Colln	April 24, 2022
Anne Eberle	April 21, 2015	Julia McGirt	April 24, 2022
Barbara Lee	April 21, 2016	Jean Beavers	April 24, 2023
Tom Clarkson	April 22, 1998		

**Worship-Music & ARTS Event for May**

*Nationally Recognized Concert Organist Dr. Alcee Chriss*

Sunday, May 17 – 3:00 PM

*(Reception following in Wilson Hall)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Learn what to do before EMS arrives** in this hands-on training series led by Don Arnold, with facilitators Kaitlyn Bennorth, Tammy Love, and Blair and Larry Reynolds. Sessions include rescue breathing, chest compressions, and AED use **TODAY, April 19**; choking response for adults, children, and infants on **June 7**; and bleeding management on **June 28**. All classes will be held in the Barr Conference Room. Healthcare professionals interested in volunteering may contact [don.arnold@vumc.org](mailto:don.arnold@vumc.org).

**Wednesday Night Live (WNL):** 6 PM- Dinner; 6:45-7:30 PM- Adult, Youth, and Children programs. Sign up on the FPC website or the Connection Card. This is our last WNL of the season. Pastor Eddie will lead the second presentation and discussion of *False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Re-founding Democracy* by Jim Wallis. This study invites us to reflect on our faith in today's climate and consider how we can live out a gospel that transforms our communities and our nation. All are welcome to come for the meal, stay for the conversation!

**Adults 55+:** Will you miss WNL meals and enjoy fellowship? Why not enjoy dinner at the Franklin Chop House (1101 Murfreesboro Rd) at 5PM every Wednesday night this Summer? Dinners start Wednesday, **April 29**. No need to sign up, just show up!

### **FISH Service Opportunities:**

**April 23**, 6:30 PM UKIRK Dinner with Vanderbilt & Belmont Students

**April 25**, Room In The Inn: prepare, pack, and serve lunch to guests.

**May 2**, FPC Workday at Hard Bargain Assoc. 9:30 AM–1:00 PM, meeting at Ty's House (608 Mt. Hope Street) to help with yard work, painting, and minor repairs.

**May 16**, FPC will serve alongside GraceWorks Ministries at Fairview Middle.

**June 2**, Volunteer with Williamson County Animal Shelter at 10 AM

**Senior Sunday: May 3** join us for a special worship service honoring our graduating seniors, followed by a banquet in Wilson Hall which is open to the congregation. Senior Bibles are available in Wilson Hall. Stop by to leave an encouraging note.

**FPC Music & Arts: Sunday, May 17** at 3 PM we welcome African American Concert Organist Alcee Chriss III. Celebrated for his "grace, skill, and abundant proficiency," Dr. Chriss has performed throughout North America and Europe and is University Organist and Artist-in-Residence at Wesleyan University. In addition to his concert career, Alcee is active as a church musician, guest lecturer, and remains engaged with his lifelong love of gospel and jazz.

**Summer Wonder Hour Volunteers Needed:** Are you passionate about the wonders of creation? Can you share your love of nature one Sunday morning this summer? Summer Wonder Hour for elementary students needs you! Topics from insects to trees to mountains are welcome! Email [katiegottlieb@yahoo.com](mailto:katiegottlieb@yahoo.com) if interested.

**Exploration Sunday School Class:** Sundays at 9:00 AM join us in Room 209 or on Zoom for Wrestling with Doubt – Finding Faith. Explore questions like "Where is God when bad things happen?" and "Does God hear our prayers?" with best-selling author Adam Hamilton and discover how trust in God can grow even through doubt. Contact: Doug Halleen at [doug.halleen@mentorakid.org](mailto:doug.halleen@mentorakid.org).

**April Basic Essentials:** April's highlighted collection is Asher's Animals; a ministry created in memory of Asher that provides stuffed animals to children experiencing illness or trauma. Help share comfort and keep his legacy alive by donating a new, tagged stuffed animal (small to medium size) to the cart.

### **Upcoming:**

**May 17:** Confirmation Sunday

**May 31:** Red Cross Blood Drive

Use QR code to visit the  
Events/Registrations page.

