

### **“Hallowed Be Thy Name: a translation both old and new”**

By Karen Hering, as delivered February 26, 2017 at Unity Church-Unitarian.

Author note: The following interpretation of the Lord’s Prayer was inspired by many other translations but is especially informed by **Neil Douglas-Klotz’ book, *Prayers of the Cosmos*** (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1990), and its exploration of the ancient Aramaic words of Jesus and their meanings. I join Douglas-Klotz in the hope that other new “inspired translations” will continue to be written as we together keep planting and tending the kernels of meaning in Jesus’ Aramaic words in our hearts and in the world today.

### **Our Father**

*Beloved one  
Source of all Being, Promise of all our Becoming,  
Divine parent, who reminds us we are all related,*

### **Our Father who art in heaven**

*Spirit of Life abounding everywhere – within, among and beyond us –  
in the stars above, shining across time and space,  
in the birdsong awakening a new day and the roar of ocean waves breaking on the shore,  
in the whisper of our breathing and the wordless ground beneath our feet.*

### **Hallowed be thy name**

*Holy are the many names by which we know you and make space for you —  
God and Goddess, Gitche Manitou -  
Great Spirit, Compassionate Heart, Allah,  
Kwan Yin, Awakened One,  
Gift of Reason, Creative Muse –  
Holy are the names that clear a place in language and in heart where you have room to grow;  
and sacred is the Love beyond and beneath all naming.*

### **Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven**

*Here in the clearings we have made, may the peace and justice, love and healing that we long  
for now be cast  
like seeds of a new consciousness planted in our dreaming and in our faithful doing.  
May these sacred seeds take root in our hearts and minds;  
May they grow and bloom in our lives, our communities, our world.*

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

*Relieve our constant hunger  
with nourishment and wisdom.*

### **And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us**

*Untangle the knots we all have tied that keep us shackled in harmful thinking, speaking, being  
and doing,*

*as we too loosen the knots made by others – mending our relationship with one another  
and opening the snarled systems of injustice that bind us all and oppress too many.*

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

*Let us heed the charge to “Stay woke!,” awakened to love’s movement and demands.  
Spare us the suffering and diminishment that come from severing our ties to one another and to  
life’s sacred sources,  
And ripen in us a living commitment to love and action that does not sleep.*

**For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory**

*For in the widest web of life and the truest dream of beloved community is our deep belonging,  
our greatest strength,  
and life’s shimmering beauty.*

**Forever and ever, Amen.**

*May we remember this today and every day,  
Gathering and growing into the beloved community for which we work and pray.  
May this be our prayer. Amen.*

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