

THE FIRST PETITION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER



THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



REVIEW: THE INTRODUCTION

- ❖ **Our Father who art in heaven**
- ❖ *What does this mean?*
- ❖ **With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.**

THE FIRST PETITION

- ❖ **Hallowed be Your Name**

- ❖ *What does this mean?*

- ❖ **God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.**

- ❖ *How is God's name kept holy?*

- ❖ **God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!**

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- ❖ In the past, names told us something about a person:
- ❖ For instance, in the original Bible languages:
 - ❖ Adam means “dirt man”
 - ❖ Samuel means “God has heard”
 - ❖ Jesus means “YHWH Saves”

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- ❖ Surnames originally served the same function:
- ❖ “Smith” was someone who worked with metal.
- ❖ “Baker” was someone who baked
- ❖ “Johnson” meant son of John
- ❖ “D’Allegro” meant someone was from Allegro

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- ❖ What does YOUR name mean?

THIS STILL HAPPENS TODAY

- ❖ While our surnames may not mean today what they once meant, we take on other names that do have meaning, like:
 - ❖ Nicknames (What's yours??)
 - ❖ Email names - Mine is ResQRev, what's yours?
 - ❖ Pen Names

GOD'S NAME IS HOLY

- ❖ God's Name, when misused, is an attack on God Himself.

THE FIRST PETITION

- ❖ This is a prayer of ADORATION.
- ❖ When we pray this petition, we are praying that His Name would always be holy among us.

THE FIRST PETITION

- ❖ This petition is directly linked to the Second Commandment:

“You shall not misuse the name of the Lord, your God.”

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie or deceive by His name, but call upon Him in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

THE FIRST PETITION

- ❖ When we say that God's name is holy, we pray only to the true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (called the "Trinity"). We do not pray to idols, ancestors, saints, angels or anything else that God has created.
- ❖ This ties in with the First Commandment, "You shall have no other gods."

Through Jesus, we share in God's Holiness

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HOW DO WE KEEP GOD'S NAME HOLY?

- ❖ By refusing to take His Name in vain:
 - Cursing
 - Swearing (Which, by the way, includes the statement, “Oh my God” or... the more recent text shorthand, OMG)

HOW DO WE KEEP GOD'S NAME HOLY?

- ❖ Avoiding using “Satanic Arts”
 - Ouiji Board
 - Seances
 - Fortune Tellers
 - Horoscopes, etc...

HOW DO WE KEEP GOD'S NAME HOLY?

- Using His name only for Prayer, Praise and Giving Thanks.

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CLOSING PRAYER

❖ Pray together:

Holy Father, Your name is holy in itself. We pray that through the words which we speak about You and the lives we live as those marked by Your sacred name in Baptism, we may never profanee Your name but honor it in all that we say and do; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.