

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

God My Father

TUNE: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Numbers 23:19; Psalm 104:29-30; Isaiah 6:3; Malachi 3:6; Matthew 6:9;
Luke 1:77-79; John 7:37-39; 14:21, 23; Acts 17:24-28; Romans 8:35-39;
1 Corinthians 13:12; Ephesians 3:20; 1 Timothy 1:17; 6:15-16; James 1:17

♩ = 76

B♭ F7 C B♭ D7 F# Gm Gm Gm Gm Dsus D E♭ Cm6 B♭ B♭ F C7 E F E♭

1. Light of lights, un - cloud - ed Sun, Full, com - plete, un - chang - ing One,
 2. Rush - ing riv - er, end - less sea, Flood - ing all e - ter - ni - ty,
 3. Mer - cy vast and un - con - tained, Nev - er fail - ing, nev - er strained,
 4. Your own breath, my flesh and bone, Full, com - plete in You a - lone,

B♭ F7 B♭ Dm7 Gm E♭ B♭ B♭ F B♭ F7 Gm E♭ B♭

Un - im - ag - ined, un - be - gun, Ho - ly, ho - ly, God my Fa - ther!
 Liv - ing wa - ter here in me, Life un - bound - ed, God my Fa - ther!
 Un - ex - plored and un - ex - plained, Love un - fath - omed, God my Fa - ther!
 Deep - ly know - ing, deep - ly known - One for - ev - er, God my Fa - ther!

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss; arr. by Ken Bible

HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR!
7.7.7.8.

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TOPICS: God Our Father; God's Love; Lord's Prayer; Praise & Worship

LEAD-IN: "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth...He himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'... 'We are his offspring.'" (Acts 17:24-28, NIV)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Our Father in Heaven

The Jews rarely called God Father before Jesus came. The whole nation of Israel was called God's son, and the king was sometimes referred to as His son. But an individual would not call God Father.

To the Jews, God's name was so holy they wouldn't even speak it. Those who copied scripture would take a bath before writing it. Yet here came this uneducated peasant calling God His Father. Read John 5:17-18. The Jews sought to kill Jesus because He referred to Almighty God as Father.

Yet Jesus teaches us to speak to God the same way. In fact, we are encouraged to call Him Abba, which roughly translates as Daddy. Though we are weak and pitiful creatures living on a speck of dust in one corner of the universe, the Great Creator wants us to speak to Him in the most personal and familiar terms.

Since prayer is the breath of our relationship with God, how wonderful to address Him as Our Father. A warm, trusting relationship is established from the very beginning. What a privilege to call God by this simple, personal name!

I call Him Father, and we are one-on-one, face-to-face. Now prayer is not the daunting task of trying to reach up and talk to the Eternal Creator. Prayer is personal conversation, a quiet whisper directly from my heart to the ear of the Father. Simple. Warm. Intimate. He loves me. He is listening. I belong. I am welcome here.

This one I call Father is in heaven-- high above all history, almighty, all-knowing, holy. And this One who is above all is Father to me. I can come to Him as a small child with all my needs, unafraid and in complete confidence.

“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:11-13, NIV).

When I come to God, He not only gives me what I need. He gives me His own Spirit. His gives me himself. Somehow He joins His life to mine, enabling me to be the person He wants me to be. What a wonderful gift! What a loving Father!