

## A shorter prayer after the sermon



Lord, almighty God, may your holy Name not be blasphemed or abused because of our sin[14]. We have sinned in so many ways against You by not obeying your holy Word as we must. We have also stirred Your wrath by our ignorance, thanklessness and complaints. Therefore, discipline us as is right, but Lord think of Your great compassion and have mercy on us. Let us know the depths of our sin and repent. Better our lives. Strengthen the servants of Your church that they may faithfully and steadfastly proclaim Your holy Word. Strengthen the authorities that they may govern justly and with reason[15]. Keep us from all falseness and unfaithfulness, derail all evil and crafty plans against Your Word and church[16]. O Lord, please don't take Your Spirit and Word from us[17], but deepen our faith and grant us patience and steadfastness in all sorrow and adversity[18]. Come to the aid of your church, release it from all burdens, mocking and tyranny. Strengthen all faltering and grieving hearts. Grant us your peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who gave us this firm promise: "Truly, truly, I say to you ... whatever you ask in my name, this I will do ..." (John 14:12–13) and who commanded us to pray as follows:

Our Father who is in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.