

# Hymn Lyrics

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## Prayer is the soul's sincere desire

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
unuttered or expressed;  
the motion of a hidden fire  
that trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh,  
the falling of a tear  
the upward glancing of an eye,  
when none but God is near.

Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,  
returning from his ways,  
while angels in their songs rejoice  
and cry, "Behold, he prays!"

The saints in prayer appear as one  
in word, in deed, and mind,  
while with the Father and the Son  
sweet fellowship they find.

No prayer is made by man alone  
the Holy Spirit pleads,  
and Jesus, on th'eternal throne,  
for sinners intercedes.

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,  
the Christian's native air,  
his watchword at the gates of death;  
he enters heaven with prayer.

O thou, by whom we come to God,  
the Life, the Truth, the Way;  
the path of prayer thyself hast trod:  
Lord, teach us how to pray!