

Litany for Fathers

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ALL: Today we celebrate and remember Fathers

ALL: We know these men by many names:

4: Dad

3: Papa

1: Grandpa

2: Daddy

1: We celebrate men who watch in hope and wonder as his child grows within his partner.

3: We celebrate men who carry their child within their hearts with hope and wonder until the paperwork is complete, the waiting is done, and their child comes home.

2: We celebrate men who have no children of their own, but choose to nurture, mentor, and love our children.

4: We remember fathers and grandfathers who were gone too soon

1: But are thankful for men who came forward:

2: To Lend a helping hand

3: To listen

4: To be role models

1: To nurture

2: We remember father's who live in lands ravaged by:

4: War

1: Famine

3: Injustice

1: May they know:

4: Peace

2: Plenty

All: Justice

2: We remember father's in our country:

4: Who are jobless

3: Homeless

1: Without health care

2: Whose children go to bed hungry

3: May they have the means to care for their families without want

ALL: May we find ways to help

4: We remember with gratitude father's who came before us

1: Yet are grateful that times have changed

2: Our fathers and grandfathers learned to be

3" Good providers: "I put a roof over your head and food on the table"

1: Disciplinarians: "Wait until your Dad gets home"

4: They often times left the care giving and nurturing to Mom.

1: We are grateful that parenting is now shared.

2: The good

3: The bad

4: And everything in between

2: We rejoice in being;

1: Coach

3: Giver and receiver of hugs and kisses

2: Stay at home dad

4: Instigator of backyard fun

3: Teacher

All: We confess:

2: Our impatience

1: Our busy lives

3: That we sometimes tell our children who they should be and not let them be who they are.

4: Creator God, help us to know when it is time to lead and when it is time to listen

2: Help us to know that our children are their own person. Help us give them the tools for their journey

3: As our children grow and change help us to take time and enjoy each stage, Infancy to adulthood, and not lament the changes

1: Help us to remember to praise our children's accomplishments and to encourage them through their difficulties

2: Help us to know when to hold on and when to let go.

All: Today we rejoice in

1: Singing songs with our children

2: Science projects

3: Messy hands

4: Laughter

2: First steps and first words

1: The work that is parenting

4: Bath time

3: soccer

2: Teenage -ness

1: I love you's

4: Creator God we ask your blessing on us as we parent

2: Bless our children throughout their life's journey

All: Help us to parent

1: In hope

3: In faith

All: And in abiding love

