



## Everlasting Father

### God as Everlasting Father

- Isaiah 63:7-9 and 64:8-12
- Psalm 103:9-14
- Numbers 11:12 and Isaiah 49:15 (maternal images)
- Psalm 68:5-6

### The King as Everlasting Father

- Psalm 72:1-2, 4, 12
- Psalm 82:3-4
- **Ezekiel 34:2-6 and 12-16 and 23-24**

### Jesus as Everlasting Father?

Thus God is addressed as Father in the Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6:9). It is "your Father who is in secret" who is addressed in prayer (6:18). It is "your heavenly Father" who "knows that you need all these things" (6:32). It is "the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" who will enter the kingdom of heaven (7:21). The disciples are to be perfect, "as your heavenly Father is perfect" (5:48).

Twice from the cross, moreover, Jesus addressed the Father: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34) and "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46).

### Jesus as Father in an Orphaned World

- John 14:18
- John 19:26-27
- Luke 18:15-17
- And in the Fourth Gospel, he addressed his disciples as "little children" (John 13:33). It is to the little children that Jesus gives his radical commandment in the intimacy of the family, that they should "love one another."