

**Baba Yetu  
(Our Father)**

SWAHILI

Missionaries of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century used Swahili as the lingua franca for spreading Christianity across East Africa; consequently, a rich tradition of vocal music arose that blended European harmonies with traditional African call-and-response. **Baba Yetu** literally means ‘Our Father,’ and is a Swahili translation of The Lord’s Prayer. It serves as an overture to *Calling All Dawns*, blending African choral music with Western symphonic structure, thus beginning our journey of humanity from the cradle of civilization.

Baba yetu, yetu uliye  
Mbinguni yetu, yetu amina!  
Baba yetu yetu uliye  
Jina lako litukuzwe.

Our Father, who art  
in Heaven. Amen!  
Our Father,  
Hallowed be thy name.

Utupe leo chakula chetu  
Tunachohitaji utusamehe  
Makosa yetu, hey!  
Kama nasi tunavyowasamehe  
Waliotukosea usitutie  
Katika majaribu, lakini  
Utuokoe, na yule, muovu e milele!

Give us this day our daily bread,  
Forgive us of  
our trespasses  
As we forgive others  
Who trespass against us  
Lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from the evil one forever.

Ufalme wako ufike utakalo  
Lifanyike duniani kama mbinguni. (Amina)

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
On Earth as it is in Heaven. (Amen)

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