

**Baba Yetu
(Our Father)**

SWAHILI

Missionaries of the 19th-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)