AN EARLY PUBLISHED VERSION OF THE LORD’S PRAYER

From the Holy Gospel of St. Matthew, chapter 6 verses 9 to 13

(in the Tlingit language)

translated by: Reader Ivan Nadezhdin
documented by: Ivan Goncharov

November 1854 A.D.

YAKUTSK

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ST. PETERSBURG

Digital Typography

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Preface to the 2nd Digitally Typeset Edition

Glory to Jesus Christ, our True God, for all things! Through the prayers of His Most Pure Mother, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, and through the prayers of St. Innocent (Veniaminov) – Equal to the Apostles and Enlightener of North America, St. Matthew the Evangelist, and Sts. Cyril and Methodios – Equals to the Apostles, this publication has been realized. The textual base for this edition of “An Early Published Version of the Lord’s Prayer” in the Tlingit language is from a footnoted reference in Volume 2, Chapter VIII of the travel journal of Ivan Goncharov, entitled: “ФРЕГАТЪ ПАЛЛАДА: ОЧЕРКИ ПУТЕШЕСТВИЯ ИВАНА ГОНЧАРОВА ВЪ ДВУХЪ ТОМАХЪ” (The Frigate Pallada: Descriptions of the Voyage of Ivan Goncharov in Two Volumes), which was originally published in 1858. A more detailed description of the footnoted reference, its sources and history, is provided in the “Transcriber’s Note” section at the conclusion of this document. The transcriber has done his best to transcribe the text accurately, reflecting the intricacies of the accented Russian orthography used for the Tlingit language in the 19th century and early part of the 20th century.

Slavonic and English translations of the Lord’s Prayer from the Holy Gospel of St. Matthew 6:9-13 have been added in this publication. The Slavonic translation is from the bilingual Slavonic-Russian Synodal version of the New Testament (НОВЫЙ ЗАВѢТЪ ГОСПОДА НАШЕГО ИСУСА ХРИСТА), 2nd edition, Synodal Typography, St. Petersburg, Russia, 1885, pg. 22. The English translation is taken from THE NEW TESTAMENT OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST (Authorized Version), Thomas Nelson & Sons, New York N.Y., 1899, pg. 9. Minor emendations to the English text were made by the transcriber of this present publication to correspond with standard Orthodox Christian usage (e.g. deliver us from evil = deliver us from the evil one, etc.).

No modifications were made between the 1st and 2nd digitally typeset editions of this publication.

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На колошенскомъ языку:

*The Lord’s Prayer. St. Matthew 6:9–13*

*In Tlingit:*

Аишь ааги, кусу Тыкикъ статыгіа, укатуванъ исаги.

Атъенкана Царствіе јаги; еуккаксты тліутахъ твъ јаги, тлізткъ. васса тыкикъ;

Катувахагіатъ ачить-ты яекигикатъ;

Ишантенъ атакъ итунатъ уанъ люшикегіатъ, — васса уанъ ишантенъ та атутехъ ныгате аткуту-сыагіка.

Лйль тучйхъ аисаакъ люшикегигетъ; закасныхъ уанъ цивиккікувутахъ.
In English:

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

In Slavonic:

Оче нáш, нèже гëй на нèрфëх, да сèйтëм нìмë твоë:

дà пëйдëтэц çëрткëë твоë: дà бëдëтэц вòлë ткоë, йìкэ нì нèйи, нì на зëмли.

Хлёб нáш нìдëшних джëкë нáмë днëсë:

Й вëртëкн нáмë дòлгë нáшë, йìкэ й мëи вëртëкнëмë дòлжнëкëмë нáшëмë:

Й не бëдëн нáчë бòз напáсть, но нìзкëн нáчë ëв аёкáлëг.
An Early Published Version of the Lord’s Prayer: Mt. 6:9-13
Молитва Господня на Тлингитском языке: Mt. 6:9-13

Transcriber’s Note: The travel journal “The Frigate Pallada: Descriptions of the Voyage of Ivan Goncharov in Two Volumes” was originally published in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1858. It describes the voyage of the writer Ivan Goncharov as part of an official embassy of the Russian Empire to Japan in the years 1852 to 1855. This work enjoyed great popularity throughout the 19th and 20th centuries and was subsequently re-printed in multiple editions, both as its own title and also bound together in compilations of Ivan Goncharov’s collected literary works.

For the purposes of this re-transcription of the Lord’s Prayer in Tlingit (2011), the following editions of “The Frigate Pallada” were consulted:

i) ФРЕГАТЬ ПАЛЛАДА. ОЧЕРКИ ПУТЕШЕСТВИЯ ИВАНА ГОНЧАРОВА ВЪ ДВУХЪ ТОМАХЪ. ТОМЪ II. Издание третье, съ перемѣнами. С.-ПЕТЕРБУРГЪ. ИЗДАНИЕ КНИГОПРОДАВЦА ИВАНА ИЛЯЧА ГЛАЗУНОВА, 1879 г., стр. 521.


ii) ПОЛНОЕ СОБРАНИЕ СОЧИНЕНИЙ И. А. ГОНЧАРОВА. ТОМЪ СЕДЬМОЙ. САНКТПЕТЕРБУРГЪ. Издание ГЛАЗУНОВА, 1884 г. – ФРЕГАТЬ ПАЛЛАДА. ОЧЕРКИ ПУТЕШЕСТВИЯ ВЪ ДВУХЪ ТОМАХЪ. ТОМЪ II. стр. 513.


iii) ПОЛНОЕ СОБРАНИЕ СОЧИНЕНИЙ И. А. ГОНЧАРОВА. ТОМЪ СЕДЬМОЙ. САНКТПЕТЕРБУРГЪ. Изданіе ГЛАЗУНОВА, ИЗДАНИЕ ВТОРОЕ, 1886 г. – ФРЕГАТЬ ПАЛЛАДА. ОЧЕРКИ ПУТЕШЕСТВИЯ ВЪ ДВУХЪ ТОМАХЪ. ТОМЪ II. стр. 492.


iv) ПОЛНОЕ СОБРАНИЕ СОЧИНЕНИЙ И. А. ГОНЧАРОВА. ТОМЪ СЕДЬМОЙ. С.-ПЕТЕРБУРГЪ. Изданіе ГЛАЗУНОВА, ИЗДАНИЕ ТРЕТЬЕ, 1896 г. – ФРЕГАТЬ ПАЛЛАДА. ОЧЕРКИ ПУТЕШЕСТВИЯ ВЪ ДВУХЪ ТОМАХЪ. ТОМЪ II. стр. 492.

An Early Published Version of the Lord’s Prayer: Mt. 6:9-13
Молитва Господня на Тлингитском языке: Mt. 6:9-13

In Volume 2 Chapter VIII entitled “Изъ Якутска” (From Yakutsk), dated November 1854, Ivan Goncharov describes his meeting with the Orthodox Christian missionaries in Yakutsk. He details the careful, diligent work of St. Innocent (Veniaminov) and the other missionaries in translating the prayers and holy writings of the Orthodox Church into the local languages of Russia’s Far-East. Included among Ivan Goncharov’s observations is a footnote containing examples of three translations of the Lord’s Prayer in the Sakha (Yakut), Evenki (Tungus), and Tlingit (Kolosh) languages.

При этомъ письмѣ я приложу для вашего любопытства образецъ этихъ трудовъ: молитву господню на якутскомъ, тунгузскомъ и колошскомъ языкахъ *), которая сообщена мнѣ здесь ... Якутскъ, ноябрь 1854.

With this letter I am enclosing for your interest a sample of these works: the Lord’s Prayer in the Yakut, Tungus and Kolosh languages *), which were provided to me here ... Yakutsk, November 1854.

The example of the Tlingit-language Lord’s Prayer given in the footnote of Chapter VIII (transcribed on page 3 of this document), does not match any other known Tlingit version of the Lord’s Prayer ever published:


ii) 1895 & 1901 published version – translated by Fr. Vladimir Donskoi and Michael Sinkiel’, published in МОЛИТВЫ НА КОЛОШИНСКОМЪ НАРѢЧИ (Prayers in the Tlingit language), Sitka, 1895, and also in КРАТКАЯ ИСТОРИЯ ВЕТХАГО И НОВАГО ЗАВѢТА (Short History of the Old and New Testaments), New York, 1901.

iii) 1896 published version – originally translated by Rdr. Ivan Nadezhdin in the 1850’s, published in СБОРНИКЪ ЦЕРКОВНЫХЪ ПѢСОНОГЬНѢЙ И МОЛИТВОСЛОВѢЙ (Collection of Church Hymns and Prayers), San Francisco, 1896.
At first, it was thought that the translation contained in the footnote of “The Frigate Pallada” might have been an unknown work of St. Innocent (Veniaminov) himself, which was lost when his monastic cell caught fire in Yakutsk on February 23, 1858. (ref. Paul D. Garrett, “Saint Innocent: Apostle to America”, St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, Crestwood N.Y., 1979, re-printed 2006, pg. 14)

However, upon closer examination, the translation faintly resembled the 1896 published version of the Lord’s Prayer by Rdr. Ivan Nadezhdin. This provided enough of a lead to investigate Rdr. Ivan Nadezhdin’s manuscript translation of the Holy Gospel of St. Matthew from the 1850’s. This comparison provided a near-identical match (with allowances for typographic variances), and the mystery was solved. Thus, it can be concluded that the version of the Lord’s Prayer in the Tlingit language published in Ivan Goncharov’s “The Frigate Pallada” was sourced from Rdr. Ivan Nadezhdin’s unpublished Tlingit manuscript of the Holy Gospel of St. Matthew.

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