

Song Story #25 – *We Will Pray*

I've been privileged to lead worship for the National Day of Prayer gathering at the Minnesota State Capitol almost every year since the early 90's. To me, the idea that we actually still have a government sanctioned day set aside to pray, seems amazing! And in light of the fact that this official day exists and our nation and state and world seem so desperately in need of God's intervention, I always wonder how can we not take advantage of it and gather and pray. So, for me, to be invited to lead worship for such an event is something I can't say no to.

With that backdrop, in 2007, I wrote the song "We will Pray". But the song didn't start out as "We Will Pray". I first wrote it as "We Must Pray". I was thinking about the National Day of Prayer when I wrote it and was thinking of it as a challenge to call Christians to pray. But even though I wrote it with the NDOP in mind, by 2011, I still hadn't sung it there or recorded it for some reason.

But in 2011, I had a lunch meeting with Pastor Greg Pagh, who was (and still is) a friend and a pastor of a Lutheran Church in town of Otsego, Minnesota. In that meeting, he told me about an organization he had founded called "Bless Minnesota" that had a goal of mobilizing Christians in every town of Minnesota to pray for their neighbors. And he was wondering if I could write a song for that movement. I told him that I happened to have a song that might already be a fit. So I showed him, "We Must Pray". He like it a lot and felt like it was the song. But a couple days after that meeting, he called me and asked me if I'd be willing to rename it and change the lyrics to "We Will Pray" instead of "We Must Pray". He wanted it to be a more positive declaration of what we are going to do instead of what we should do. I had no problem with that and "We Will Pray" was reborn.

We later recorded a video of it at Calvary Lutheran Church in Golden Valley with a wonderful, one-time, racially diverse "Heart of the City Choir" and included first on a compilation album of Heart of the City songs for Bless Minnesota entitled, "We Bless" and later on our Heart of the City Band "Healing in You" album. Here is a link to the video on YouTube: [We Will Pray - Heart of the City Band and the Heart of the City Worship Choir - YouTube](#)

We Will Pray

Words and Music by Dan Adler

1. In our private holy hour, we will pray
In the Nation's seats of pow'r, we will pray
In the church and on the street and wherever we can meet
We will pray, we will pray, we will pray

CHORUS: It's time for us to call on God today
For only He can guide us on our way
To the humble He draws near, from the proud He turns away
So we will pray, we will pray, we will pray

2. For the leaders of our land, we will pray
And for guidance from His Hand, we will pray
For each home and every school, that the Prince of Peace will rule
We will pray, we will pray, we will pray

3. When terror threatens peace, we will pray
And when wars will never cease, we will pray
Lest we face the days ahead in the dark of fear and dread
We will pray, we will pray, we will pray

CHORUS: It's time for us to call on God today
For only He can guide us on our way
To the humble He draws near, from the proud He turns away
So we will pray, we will pray, we will pray (Repeat last line twice more)

TAG: May Your Kingdom come! May Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven, may Your Kingdom come
May Your will be done, oh Lord! We will pray, we will pray, we will pray
We will pray, we will pray, we will pray
We will pray, we will pray, we will pray

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