



<County: Northern>

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<Text: Speculum Vitae>

<fol. 4r>To whilk the seuen vertous vs ledys  
And to the seuen medys all  
That to y<sup>e</sup> blyssed hedys shuld fall  
Of all yis poyntes J think to say  
who so will here yam all he may  
<lat><4 words></lat>  
The *pater noster* first men leres  
For it is hede of all prayers  
It is a prayer mast sufficiaunt  
Till all that it will haunt  
And mast seker whar so yai ga  
For this lyfe and the tother als swa  
wharfor ilk man@ that has tayn@  
The trouth of baptym@ at the fount stane  
That prayer shuld lere & tent  
Trugh haly kyrkes commandment  
And yai that will not lere ne knaw  
That prayer despyses goddys law  
Thar-for the maner is this to luke  
when fyrst a chyld is set to buke  
The *pater noster* he sall furst lere  
For it is mast preciouise prayer  
That lesson@ god allmyghty  
Taght <sup>[h]</sup>is discipyls specialy  
Thar-fo<ill><1 letter></ill> it may be right called  
Goddys prayer as we it halde  
<fol. 4v>whar-for yai yat vndyrstand will  
This lesson@ as thai shuld trugh skyl  
Thay shuld be-come both mek & mylde  
And as deboner as a chylde



Swylk er the verray scoleres right  
Of one wyse maister gode of myght  
That of his wysdome oft yam le~~r~~ lerys  
And thechys yam as his awn scolers  
Bot we may fynd many a man@  
That ye naked letter anely can@  
Of y<sup>is</sup> prayer that gode wrought  
Bot the vndirstandyng can@ yai not  
Thar-for think yam it sauorles  
For yerin fele yai no swetnes  
Full lytyll deuocion hafe yai  
Jn that prayer when yai it say  
Bot who so vndirstandys it wele  
A sweter prayer yai it fele  
This prayer shuld be prayسد ay  
By-for all the prayers y<sup>t</sup> we say  
For it is preuilaged as we see  
By the reson@ of thinges thre  
Ane is dignite yat highe is  
Another thing is shortnese  
The third thing is grett profet  
That on many wyse commys on@ it  
Fyrst y<sup>is</sup> prayer may be called  
<fol. 5r>A prayer of dignite as J hald  
For crist it made furst to say  
And taght is discipyls swa to pray  
A prayer of shortnes we it call  
For in short wordys cryst mad it all  
A prayer of profyt it is right  
For trught it we aske of god of myght  
All that is nedefull for this lyf here  
And for the tother tht is mare clere  
This prayer is short in word wrought  
It is in sentence lang in toght  
It is lyght to say prayande  
It is suttell to vndirstande  
Short in word is this prayer~  
For men it shuld lyghtlyer lere  
And thurgh shortnese of it be kynde

Haf it the ~~th~~ tytter~ in yer mynde  
 Jn sentence is lange to se  
 For the more deuocion yerin shulde be  
 For the naked letter that is not heuy  
 Men shuld say by mouth anely  
 And all the grett sentence of it  
 vndirstand and in hert knytt  
 It is alswa lyght to say  
 For men shuld trught it ofter pray  
 Suttell to vndirstand is it  
 <fol. 5v>For men shulde mare sett yer wytt  
 On the sentence of it namely  
 Trugh grett besynes and study  
 <lat><4 words></lat>  
 This bede puttes all ill away  
 And all that gode is wynnes vs ay  
 It festyns in vs all good to last  
 And makys our hert to god stedefast  
 Jn this prayer er askynges seuene  
 whilk yai er J shall yam neuene  
 Of whilk sewyn J fynd trugh skylle  
 Thre that duse a-way all ill  
 J fynd alswa thre other~ askynges  
 That all that goode is to vs brynges  
 Bit is thar ane as J can tell  
 That festyns our hert in all god to dwell  
 Swa that ilkan@ of yai askynges ser~  
 has sere officces <exp>l</exp> as 3e shall her~  
 <lat></lat>  
 Frust thre duse a-way all ill  
 That oft falled loude or styll  
 For all maner of ill we call  
 Outher y<sup>t</sup> was is or may be-fall  
 For the ill that has be don@  
 Thus we say to for-do it son@  
 <lat></lat>  
 <fol. 6r>Jn this We aske to cleren our toght  
 For-gyffnes of that we haue mys wrought  
 For ill that men may after do

þus we say as falles thar-to

<lat></lat>

In this we aske sum sleght to se

A-gayn all ill that may be

For the ill that we do ilk a day

we say thus to put it a-way

<lat></lat>

In this we aske right abstinence

Of all ill that fylles our *conscience*

3it er~ *yer* other askyns thre

For all kyns gode y<sup>t</sup> may be

For all maner of good oyer bodely is

Or gastely good or endeles

For bodely good he to haue

Our sustinaunce yusgates we *g* craue

<lat></lat>

In this we aske strenght and myght

For to sustane our lyf now right

For gastely good her to styr vs

To lufe god yan say we thus

<lat></lat>

In this we ask both nyght and day

Stede-fast will to *serue* gode ay

<fol. 6v>For god to haue with-outyn ende

yan say we thus wher so wende

<lat></lat>

In this the blys of hewyn we craue

And grace to be worthy it to haue

For festenyng of our hertes to stand

In gode yusgates we say *pray*and

<lat></lat>

In this we aske will sted-fast

with-outtyn fallyng in god to last

Swylk maner of *prayer* <sup>[askynges]</sup> bene

In this haly *prayer* sene

Bot this *prayer* begynnys right

With four wordes of gret myght

On whilk at the begynyng hynges

All the spede of the sewyn askynges



Trugh four wordes yat may we fele  
Jf we vndirstand yam wele  
How that we shall reule vs by skylle  
To do that mast is goddes will  
Thar-for furst be-houes vs nede  
Jf we shall of our askynge spede  
Pes four wordys vndirstande  
And lede our lyf as yai command  
Elles ne er we not worthy  
To be herd of gode almyghty  
<fol. 7r>Thes er yai foure wordes to here  
That er the entre of y<sup>is</sup> prayer~  
<lat></lat>  
Pese er on ynglysch yus to neuene  
Fader oures that þ ys in hewyn@  
þes foure mykylle mater byndes  
As clerkes in yer bukes fyndes  
The fyrst word is pater right  
That is a word of grete myght  
For it may make vs sone to spede  
Of our askynge when@ we haue nede  
As we may both see and fele  
Jf we vndirstand that worde wele  
For saynt Bernard says y<sup>t</sup> ye prayer~  
That begynnys right on@ y<sup>is</sup> maner~  
With this swet name to neuene  
That is called fader of hewyn  
Gyfe ane hop to purchas  
All that we aske her of grace  
Þis word fader to vndirstand  
That makes swet all ye remenand  
Schewys vs ~~that~~ <sup>[what]</sup> we shall trowe  
And what we shall do here & howe  
It shewys vs the lenth of goddes beyng  
þat is ay withoutyn@ endyng  
For god w<sup>t</sup>-outtyn begynnynge is  
And his lastynge is endeles  
<fol. 7v>He is begynnynge with-outyn begynnynge  
And he is ende with-outyn endyng

Yat ordaned yame that is ware  
 To lyf with hym for euer mare  
 3e shall wele vndirstand yan  
 That fyrst when gode shuld make man@  
 Ilk man to gode yan ordaned he  
 Bot he wyst what ilk man wald be  
 who wold be goode & who wold be ill  
 For-thy he gaff ilk man@ a fre will  
 For to chese or for to hold  
 Goode or ill whether he wold  
 For he destaned no man to blys  
 Bot anely yam y<sup>t</sup> wold be his  
 Phete<?> pater styrs vs to knawe euene  
 Thre thinges in gode fadir of hewyn@  
 And thre thinges in his sons to see  
 That lufe ye fader w<sup>t</sup> hert fre  
 Fyrst in gode the fader is myght  
 And yer with wysdome & godnes right  
 Jn gode the fader is all yes thre  
 For he is gode in trinite  
 Myght ys ay in hym@ anely  
 For he is gode fader allmyghty  
 Maister and lord as clerkes cane tell  
 Of hewyn and erth and of hele  
 And of all thinges maker~ he is  
 And begynnyng of all goodenes  
 <fol. 8r>So may men as J vndirstande  
 Knawe his myght that is ay lastande  
 Jn gode the fader is wysdome  
 yat of hym-self anely be-houes come  
 Trugh whilk he his men3ei ledys  
 And gouerne yam wysely and spedys  
 And namely his childer y<sup>t</sup> he wroght  
 Yat luffys hym wele in hert & toght  
 So may men knaw wha so will  
 his wysdome be kyndely skylle  
 Jn gode ye fader is bounte  
 yat is the thyrd thinge to see  
 For gode the fader his childer luffys

And sumtyme here he yam prufs  
 And when he sese y<sup>t</sup> yai do wrange  
 He bettes and chastys yam he mange  
 And if yai forsayk hym for *certayn*  
 And sythyn will turn@ to hym a-gayn  
 he yam resaues debonerly  
 And fayn is of thar company  
 So may men knawe the goodenese  
 yat in gode the fadir is  
 þarfor shuld his childer all  
 As oft as yai fader call  
 knawe in hym yese thinges thre  
 Myght wysdom and bounte  
 þhat in his childer men may knawe  
 <fol. 86r>And puttys yam@ a-way by-hynd his bake  
 And all yat may seme good and ill  
 To ye most good he *turnes* be skylle  
 Jn dede ye mek prayses othir ay  
 On yis wyse yat is to say  
 He worshipis othir w<sup>t</sup> good will  
 And dusse yam reuerence by skylle  
 He *serues* yam@ as fals yerto  
 And dusse yam@ ye g<sup>[o]</sup>ode y<sup>t</sup> he may do  
 He puttes othir befor hym tyte  
 Till alkyn@ worship and *profete*  
 Þe third branch y<sup>t</sup> meknes rayses  
 ys when@ a man@ hym@-self mysprayses  
 Bot ye mek man@ on@ ye same wyse  
 As he *prayses* othir hymself mysprayses  
 To dispyce hym-self has he na drede  
 Jn hert in mouth and in dede  
 Jn hert ye mek will blethly  
 hald hym@-self will & vnworthy  
 And no3t knaw ye good yat he has done  
 Bot by-hynd his bak puttes it sone  
 On his wyckydnes he *thynkes* ay right  
 And puttes yan be-for in his sight  
 Jn mouthe ye mek hym@self reproues  
 <fol. 86v>Of all his myse yat on@ hert houes

He snybbes his werkys and his dedys  
 His wordes his thoghtes y<sup>t</sup> he dredys  
 He wryes hym-self thurgh tong swyft  
 Of all his mysdedys oft in shryft  
 Jn dede hym mysprays will  
 he 3eldys yat he aghe & duse y<sup>t</sup> ys skyll  
 He dusse penance for saul boyt  
 And puttys hys fleche ay vndir his foyt  
 Almus dede he duse blythly  
 And all ye werkys of mercy  
 Þe fourt branch as men@ may pruf  
 Js when@ a man@ will pouert luff  
 So dusse ye verray meke in hert  
 On@ four maners he lufs pouert  
 He lufs poere men@ company  
 And haldys ye maners of yam haly  
 He tholes for goddys luf and assays  
 Hungre and cold and othir myssays  
 He begges *prays* whar so he wendys  
 Of good men yat er god frendys  
 Rychesce he for-sakys right  
 And fleys yam with all hs myght  
 Rychese shuld men@ hat and fle  
 <fol. 87r>For thre skyls as 3e may se  
 For *perrels* yat in rychese hynges  
 For ye gooddes y<sup>t</sup> of pouert sprynges  
 And for gode hym@-self wals pouert fele  
 For yes skyls shuld men@ luff it wele  
 þe fyft branche ys to *serue* blithly  
 As when@ a man@ ys ay redy  
 To *serue* ye nedfull as he cane  
 So duse ye verray meke man@  
 To *serue* and help hym@ is right leif  
 All yat haue nede and gret myschif  
 ye meke as wele will hym hast  
 To *serue* ye lest as ye mast  
 As gode dyde yat sympilly lete  
 when@ he weshe hys discipils fete  
 He gaf vs ensampill to knawe



To be bouxsom@ and bere vs lawe  
 Bot meknes ys mek man@ lerys  
 To boughe and *serue* in aght maners  
 Ye meke hym@ bowes to *serue* redily  
 And sympilly with all his body  
 And clenly ⁊ and wele in all thyng  
 And treuly w<sup>t</sup>-outen@ faillyng  
 And comonly with all ys his myght  
 <fol. 87v>And wyghtly with good <sup>[hertt]</sup> and ~~myght~~ light  
 And stalworly whar he shall to wend  
 And lastandly till his lyf ende  
 Ye meke hym laghes to *serue* redily  
 As ye shipman@ yat ay is redy  
 When he has nede to ryne and skipe  
 As he war wode to gouerne ye schipp  
 ye meke hym laghes to *serue* sympply  
 As duse ye schip yat ys no3t wily  
 yat mekely gase with-outyn@ stryfe  
 Whidir ye hyrd-man@ will hym@ dryf  
 ye meke hym@ lag<sup>[h]</sup>es to *serue* clenly  
 Both with hert and als w<sup>t</sup> body  
 For he hates here no thyng so mekyll  
 As to please ye werld yat ys fikyll  
 ye meke hym laghes to *serue* treuly  
 As duse ye bouxsom lady  
 yat in foly will no man@ please  
 Bot hir lord anely for hys eese  
 ye meke hym@ laghes to *serue* commonly  
 As dusse ye asse yat berys oft heuy  
 yat berys as blythly barly as whete  
 And as fast gas for small as for grete  
 And as blythly berys stanes as brede  
 And lede or yrne as gold rede  
 <fol. 88r>ye meke hym@ laghes to *serue* wyghtly  
 As he yat ys light and semy  
 When@ bouxsomnes hym@ ledys in state  
 And goddys will w<sup>t</sup> his *prelate*  
 ye meke hym laghes to *serue* stalwardly  
 As he yat ys strang and myghty

yat all his strenghe thurgh meknes  
 To goddys strenghe changes y<sup>t</sup> mast ys  
 ye meke hym@ laghes to *serue* lastandly  
 As he yat *neuer* mare ys wery  
 And no mare ys wery yan@ ye son@ ys  
 yat ye mare he ryse on@ lenghte  
 Ay ye mare he gaders strenghe  
 ye sext branch ys yis to se  
 As when@ a man@ will losse fle  
 As duse ye man@ wham@ meknes ledys  
 For two thynges y<sup>t</sup> he gretely dredys  
 For ye wynd of wayn@-glory shill  
 And for tempest of tonge y<sup>t</sup> js ill  
 Fyrst for ye wynd of wayn@-glory  
 ye meke man@ fleys loosse sleghtly  
 As gode dyd when@ he ys folk had fede  
 And helyd ye seke fro yam@ he flede  
 And tyll a Montayn@ droghe hym nere  
 <fol. 88v>For yat he na losse wold here  
 In orysonne yar wold he be  
 To teche vs how we shuld losse fle  
 For tempest of tonges ye meke man@  
 Fleys also losse in yat he cane  
 As duse a mayden@ in hir flourys  
 yat lufs a man@ wele paramourys  
 hir shames as tyte as sho may wyte  
 yat any man@ persayue it  
 So dusse ye meke man@ when@ he herys  
 yat men@ spekys of his manerys  
 To pryue places yan@ sekys he  
 And vntill hirnes losse for to fle  
 yar may he be in pees and rest  
 And spek with his two frendys best  
 With gode and w<sup>t</sup> hym-self anely  
 And yan as he a sekir company  
 yar may drese he hym to gode right soght  
 And gode to hym@ thurgh haly toght  
 yar fyndes he swytnes of vlace  
 yat god hym@ gyfe in priue place

Þe seuent branche is yis to frayst  
 Ouere all thynges in gode to trayst  
 So duse ye meke ~~m~~ whame hopp hynges  
 <fol. 89r>he trastys in gode thurgh two thynges  
 Thurghe haly conscience to se  
 And thurghe hardynes of hert so fre  
 he traistes thurghe haly conscience  
 when@ he thynkes on@ goddys presence  
 Thurgh haly toght with gastely eghe  
 And hi ys rauyshede to hewyn@ so heghe  
 yan seys he ye werld lytyll yat tyde  
 vn@to ye regarde of hewyn@ so wyde  
 He seys it foule thurghe ye ayere  
 vn@to ye regarde of hewyn@ so fayre  
 Full vgly semys it till his sight  
 As to regarde of hewyn@ so bright  
 And all woyd semys ye world to be  
 As to regarde of grete plente  
 yat he yan@ seys in hewyn@ ryke  
 Of all kyn@ good y<sup>t</sup> ye hert may lyk  
 yan@ begynnes he ye world dispyse  
 For hym@ thynk it no3t bot fantyse  
 yan@ hates he all ye ryches  
 Of ye world and all ye nobylnes  
 For when@ he seys it all samen@  
 hym@ thynk it no3t bot a barne game  
 <fol. 89v>Or as a dreame in his slepe  
 yan@ forsakys he worldys worshipp  
 Thurghe hardynes of hert stabyll  
 he trustys in gode so mercyabyll  
 when he dare abyde so wele  
 ye angers of ye world and fele  
 And all kyn noys thole and prufe  
 Or tak ye dede for goddys lufe  
 ye seuent branche now haue J rede  
 yat in ye mek mans hert er sprede  
 As yai sprynge both mare and lesse  
 Out of ye vertue of meknes  
 þat ledys a man@ by ye right way

To ye blyssedhede yat is to say  
 Of gastly pouert yat gode pays  
 And to hys mede as gode yus says  
 Blyssed be ye poere in gast  
 For hewyn@ ryk yairs ys mast  
 here may men@ se who so tak hede  
 Whar of it *seruys* ye gyft of drede  
 It ys ye last yat we craue  
 Bot it ys ye furst y<sup>t</sup> we shuld haue  
 yat gyft may ye seuent askyng  
 Of ye *pater noster* vntill vs brynge  
 <fol. 90r>yat may vs fra all ill defende  
 ye whilk gyft ihesu cryst vs sende  
 <lat></lat>  
 Anothir gyft 3it may we gyte  
 As here <1 word> ys in yis bok sete  
 yat after ye gyft of drede shuld be  
 And yat ys ye gyft of pyte  
 ye whilk ye sext askyng may wyn@ vs  
 Jn ye *pater noster* so *precious*  
 yis gyft of pite is swylk a grace  
 yat to charite it may vs chace  
 And our hertes so strenghe & fest fast  
 yat no fayndyng vs may done cast  
 ye gyft of pete ys full myghty  
 jt puttes a-way ye syn@ of invie  
 Out of ye hert yar it ys in  
 And settys frenshipp in stede of y<sup>t</sup> syn@  
 <lat></lat>  
 Envie in thre partys may spred  
 Jn herte in mouthe and in deyde  
 Jn hert it spredys thurghe thre thynges  
 yat in ye invious mans hert hynges