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<Tranche 1>

<p. 6><line 9>But yis prayer~ be-gynnes ryght
with four~ wordes of gret myght
on whiche at ye begynnynges hynges
al ye spede of ye seuen askynges
Thurgh foure wordes yat may we fele
yf we won vnderstonde hom wele
how schen we reules be skylle
to do yat is most goddes wille
þer-fore first be-houes vs nede
yf we schen of oure askynges spede
yese foure wordes vnderstande
& lede oure lif as yai comande
elles arn we noght wrthy
to be herd of god almyghty
yese arn ye foure wordes to her~
yat arn ye entre of yis prayer~
<lat>Pater noster qui es in celis~</lat>
yese ben on englys yus to neuen
fader our~ y^t art in heuen
yese foure mekel matir~ bynden
als clerkes in her bokes fynden
ÞE first word is pater ryght
yat is a word of grete myght
For hit may make vs sone to spede
of oure askynges when we han nede
As we may bothe se & fele
3hif we vnderstond y^t word wele
for saynt berned says y^t ye prayer~



yat begynnes right on yis maner~
w^t yis swete name to neuen
yat is called fader of heuen~
Gyues an hope to purchase
al y^t we aske here of grase
yis word fadir to vnderstande
yat mas swete all ye remenande
Schewes vs what we schen trowe
& what we schen do here & howe
hit schewes ye lenghte of goddes beynge
yat is ay with-out endynge
For god w^t-out begynnynge is
<p. 7>And his lastynge is endlis
He is begynnynge w^t-out begynnynge
& he is ende with-uten endynge
yat ordende hom y^t hys wor~
to leue w^t hym euer-mor~
for 3he schul wel vnderstonde yan
y^t furst when god schuld make man
ylke mon to be gode ordende he
but he wist what ilke mon wold be
who wold be gode who wold be ille
for he 3hefe vche a mon a . fre wille
For to chese or for to hald .
Gode oyer ille wheyer yai walde
But he destynde no mon to blisse
But þo only yat wold ben hisse
zhit pater stires vs to know euen
thre thynges in god fader of heuen
And thre thynges in his sons to se
yat loues ye fader with hert fre
First in god ye fader is myght
& yer-w^t wysdome & godenes ryght
In god ye fader arn all yes thre
For he is a god in trenite
Myght is ay in hym only
For he is god fader almyghty
Maister & lord as clerkes con telle
of heuen & erthe and of helle

& of al thynges maker he is
 And begynnynge of all godnes
 So men mon@ as J vnderstande
 know his myght y^t is ay lastande
 Jn god ye fader is wysdome
 y^t of hym-self only most come
 Thurght whiche he is meny ledes
 & gouernes hom wysely & spedes
 And nomly his childer y^t he wrought
 yat louen hym wele in hert & thought
 So may mon know . who so wille
 hys wisdom be kyndly skille
 Jn god ye fader is bounte
 yat is ye thrid thyng to se
 For god ye fader his childer loues
 And some-tyme her~ he hom proues
 & when he sees yat yai do wronge
 he betes & chastes hom a-monge
 And if yai forsake hym for sertayn
 & sethen wil torne to hym agayn
 he hom receyues debonerly
 <p. 8>And fayn is of her company
 So may men know ye godenes
 yat in god ye fader is
 yer-fore schelden his childer alle
 als of as yai fader calle
 know in hym yese thynges thr~
 Myght wysdome and bounte
 3hit in his childer men may knowe
 thre thynges to tel her~ on rowe
 yat yai han of ye fader mast
 As j . wil schew 3ow in hast
 ye two ben noblete & riches
 ye thrid is beute als a geste
 Noblete first is as . j . wene
 Jn hom y^t goddes childer bene
 for more noblete may no mon se
 yen it is goddes childer to be
 yat is so heghe & emperoure

& kynges of al kynges of honour~
 Riches to hom also falles
 yat men goddes childer calles
 for more riches may no mon haue
 yen god on his childer vouches saue
 for god mas hom his heyres right
 of ye kyndome of heuen bright
 yere alle riches yat may falle
 arn sene & alkyn delites w^t alle
 Beute in goddes childer is
 for god hom made to his likenes
 And aftur his schap y^t is so fair~
 he made her soules of ye hair~
 More beute myght neuer be sene
 yen in his likenes as . j . wene
 for so grete beute as is yer-in
 No hert may thenk ne ymagyn
 yer-fore his childer schelden thenk ay
 Als of sythes as yai fader say
 on yis thre thynges y^t yai haue
 of ye fader y^t wele vouches saue
 Siche thynges on hom for yair~ byhoue
 yer-for~ yai howe wele hor fader loue
 Also yis word y^t fader is calde
 Askes of vs syx thynges to halde
 yat j . wil reken here on rowe
 yees six schelden his childer knowe
 Loue & drede and obedience
 Seruice honeur~ & reuerence
 þe first thyng yat god askes of vs .
 <p. 9>ys loue y^t we loue hym yus
 with alle oure hert in body wroght
 with alle oure soule w^t al our~ thought
 w^t al oure hert yat is to say
 As we on no thyng nyght ne day
 Set oure hert to loue mar~
 yen on god how so we far~
 Ne in no thyng y^t mon may neuen
 haue more delyt yen in god of heuen

w^t al oure soule we schuld hym loue
 yat is to say if we wille proue
 we schuld titter thole if we wer wyse
 oure lif be parted from our~ bodyse
 ben from god departed be
 yat is oure fader full of pyte
 yat is we schuld ye deth er take
 Er we schuld our~ fader forsake
 we schuld hym loue w^t al our~ thought
 yat is to say yat we schuld noght .
 Oure wit ne oure vnderstondynge
 ne oure thought thurgh ymagynyng
 A-boute no thyng more occupie
 yen in god fader almyghtye
 Be Seconde thyng at drede als so
 To haue in hert where so we . go .
 yat we god drede with alle our~ myght
 Thurgh sonnes drede yen do we ryght
 And noght thurgh ye drede y^t men calles
 Carles drede yat ofte falles
 For carles dreden her lord thurgh awe
 & noght for loue as men may knawe
 ye gode sonnes thurgh loue has drede
 To wrath her fader in word oyer dede
 yis may wele be sones drede cald
 Seche drede in hert schuld we hald
 And drede ay mor~ goddes greuance
 yen payn of helle or hys vengeance
 for drede of payn only to se
 ys drede with-uten cherite
 Alle y^t men dose in seche a drede
 Schal *turne* hem to litel mede
 But first thurgh ferdnes may drede begyn
 Only for vengeance of synne
 Thurgh wheche men may begyn do wele
 And afturward a Swete loue fele
 yat ye holy+gost w^t drede schal knyht
 Jn her hertes to stable her wyt
 Drede mas a mon syn for-sake



<p. 10>And loue mas a mon gode *vertues* take
yai yat yis two in hert wen halde
god sones mon@ right be calde
yo sones mon@ calle her~ baldly
god her fader almyghty
Pe thrid thyng obedience is
yat is to say buxhemnes
yat we be buxhem to do goddes wille
& alle his comandmentes to fulfille
for ye sone schuld be obediente
to do ye fader comandmente
his comandmentes who so wil loke
he may fynd hom afturward in yis boke
Pe furthe thyng is *seruice*
for we arn halden of office
to *serue* god oure fader to pay
w^t alle ye besynes y^t we may
& al our~ hert & al our~ wil geue
To do yat hym is most leue
Schiche *seruice* may most lye
In alle ye werkes of mercye
As men may fynd in yis boke
Afturward who so wil loke
Pe fyfte thyng is honour~ tolde
yat we schuld all 3onge & olde
loue god w^t grete talent
of al godes y^t he has vs sent
On whiche gode we schuld take kepe
& spend hom in hys wyschepe
& in non ryotes ne folyes
& yf we don we arn noght wyes
for vs be-houes a-count gyfe
of y^t we do whil we here lyfe
& of al y^t god here wil vs sende
& schew how we hom spende
& of al ye folyes yat we do
& of vchene hour~ & tyme *yerto*
yer-fore we schuld god honour~
vche a tyme & vche a hour~

oyer in word or in dede
 or in thoght hym to honour be dede
 & thonke hym oft & loue hym ay
 of yat he dose vs nyght & day
 so schuld ye godsons be skille
 honour ye fader y^t is his wille
 Reuerence is ye sext & ye last
 For we schuld w^t hert stede-fast
 Do god all manere of reuerence .
 <p. 11>And nomly here in his *presence*
 In chirche and in stedes with-oute
 yere his body is born aboute
 we schuld reuerence knele doune
 be hit in feld or be hyt in toune
 his *presence* here is ouer alle
 yer~ we may speke to hym or calle
 But holy chirche hys hous j . halde
 yat is most stede of prayer calde
 yere schuld we hym most reuerence do
 with deuocion@ y^t falles yer-to
 For when we speke to god or pray
 we schuld do hym reuerence ay
 þat is to say loue and knele
 with vn-kouert hed yen do we wele
 & when we noght knele we schelde stonde
 3if we may wele yat ware semande
 & noght syt yere w^t couerd hede
 To speke with god in holy stede
 Ne in chirche yat falles his hous to be
 we schuld noght speke of vanite
 For las reuerence we don hym yan
 yen we wold do an erthly man
 for yf we wern als j . vnderstonde
 In ye kynges chamber of engelonde
 To pray ye kynge of hys grace
 how wold we bere vs in yat place
 wold we noght yer~ in hys syght
 Do hym reuerence w^t alle our~ myght
 And kepe vs so y^t we nothyng

Schulden say y^t myght displece ye kynge
 Mekel mor~ reuerence yen schuld falle
 To god yat is most kynge of alle
 For he is kynge of alle kynges
 Of whom al grace & godnes sprynges
 yer-fore to god yat we to pray
 we schuld do ye reuerence y^t wo may
 So may we all our~ askynge haue
 yf hit be skylful yat we craue
 Siche reuerence to ye fader falles
 of his childer y^t on hym calles
 yer-fore we schuld nyght & day
 when we ye *pater noster* say
 As meke childer & buxom be
 To oure fader ful of pyte
 Als we wille y^t he be to vs
 A gode fader & gracious .
 And if we wille his gode childer be .
 <p. 12>Vs be-houes alle folies fle .
 And loke yat we be clene w^t-yn
 when we schun *pater noster* begyn

<Tranche 2>

<p. 309><line 17>ÞE first degre mesure is cald
 yat is a man suld mesur~ hald
 In ye vnderstondyng of symply
 Of ye trouth thurgh symple stody
 And in all ye articles of hyt
 w^t-outen any musyng of wit
 For why mesure he passes yat will
 Thurgh Musyng seke and kynd skill
 As Mistrowand men dus namly
 yat ye trouth mesures *in* som party
 Aftur yair~ vnderstandynges mast
 & yat trauail of wit yai wast
 Bot yai suld mesure aftir goddes will
 yair vnderstondyng & yair~ skill
 To ye mesure of ye trouth verray

as gode cristen men dus aye
 and saynt paule says yus by skill
 Be no mon more wys yen right trouth will
 Bot lede hys wit thurgh sobrenes
 Aftur yat ye mesure of trouth es
 and salamon to hys son says 3hit
 Swete son he says mesure yi wit
 yat is to say as clerkes con se
 yat you noght of swa self wit be
 ne so fycched in ye surquydry
 yat you ne be buxom yer-by
 for to trow to all gode counsaile
 yat bothe to lyf and saule may vayle
 & yat you leue yi-self wit and bowe
 To yaim y^t ar mare wys yen yowe
 And specialy thurgh gastly myght
 Jn ye articles of ye trouth right
 <p. 310>yen suld leue yair-self wit and will
 & yair-self vnderstandynge and skill
 And putt yaim in seruage
 Of ye trouth for most avauntage
 As says saynt poule & noght 3hern to se
 Reson kyndly yere nan may be
 And yis curious men oft dus
 y^t of ye trouth ouer mykel wil muse
 bot who so wil his owen soule saue
 And ye blys of heuen haue
 hym by-houes aftur right trouth wirk
 And trow as trouth of haly kyrk
 þE secound degre of sobrenes
 yat ye second maner of mesure es
 Js when men right mesure settes
 yat all maner of outrage lettes
 Jn ye will namly of 3hernynge
 And ye appitite of likynge
 whar-thurgh men may so ordayne
 A bridell to hald ye will agayne
 yat is to say ye bridell of skill
 w^t whilk men suld lede ye will

yat hyt may noght ryn ouer tite
 To flesschly 3hirnynges ne to delite
 whar-fore ye wys mon of grete wit
 says yus oponly in haly writt
 hit is noght enoghe says he
 ye couetys of vanyte
 In ye 3hernyng of ye hert lyght
 bot y^t you restreyne yi hert & yi will right
 For-why if you to yi hert will do
 All yat hit will & assent yer-to
 you mas grete ioy to yin enmyes
 yat ar ye fyndes y^t ye ay spyes
 As a man dus on ye same manere
 yat mas joy to his aduersare
 Agayn wham he suld fyght in fyld
 when he to hym will hym 3helde
 y^t mon 3heldes hym to ye fynd right
 As he yat is ouer-comen in fyght
 yer-fore saynt Petre y^t god wele loued
 says yus as yese clerkes has proued .
 J . bid 3ow he sayd in godes name
 yat 3he yat er here fer fro hame
 As vncouth men and pilgryms
 kepe 3ow wele here as goddes lym
 Fro 3hernynges of flessch y^t ay fyghtes
 Agayn ye soule boye dayes & nyghtes
 <p. 311>He yat is pilgryme as 3he may se
 And comes in a straunge cuntre
 yere mony schrewes & robbours bene
 as is in mony cuntres sene
 yat pilgrms yat passes by ye strete
 Spyres and waytes w^t yaim to mete
 To rob yaim and fro yaim reue
 all yat yai haue and noght yaim leue
 all ye gode men of yis world here
 Or strange men to proue on yis manere
 For yai ar out of yaire cuntre
 yat is paradys yar~ yai wold be
 yat is ye land and ye eritage

Of gode men yat flees outrage
 yai ar gode pilgrims as ye boke telles
 For-why yai thynk her~ nothyng elles
 Bot make yair iornays day and nyght
 Till yai come to yair cuntre right
 yere yair right heritage lys
 yat is ye Cyte of paradys
 ye whilk goddes pilgrms by right ways
 sekas ay here as saynt paule says
 yat will noght for a-vauntage
 In yis world here haue heritage
 swilk pilgrims y^t will passe sykerly
 Puttes yaim in gode company
 yat ledes yaim right as me may proue
 And sykerly in trouth and loue
 Trouth to pilgryms schewes ye way
 and loue yaim beres nyght & day
 Til yai be broght to yat cuntre
 yere yair right heretage suld be
 On whilk yai sett so fast yair thoght
 yat ye way yeder deres yaim noght
 he yat hym to swilk company gyues
 thar noght drede robbors ne thyues
 yat waytes ye stretes yar~ men wyndes
 As . j . haue tald yai ar fyndes
 yat robbes & tas all yo namly
 yat has noght w^t hym gode company
 All yos y^t thurgh sere fandynge
 Fulfilles here yair~ wiked 3hernynges
 yat promptes yaim in ye fyndes handes
 And in hys snares & in hys bandes
 Trouth and loue of god almyghty
 w^t-haldes ye hert stedfastly
 <p. 312>And w^t-drawes hit fro al wiked yoght
 & fro foule will yat hit assent noght
 To no syn yat comes ouer-twhert
 yus trouth & loue w^t-haldes ye hert
 right as men dus w^t ye faucon
 yat to flyght is oft boune

w^t ye gesses men halde hym still
 yat he flyghe not aftur hys will
 ye hert is as ye faucon to flight
 yat fayne wold fle if hyt myght
 yat men may hald as men may proue
 w^t ye gesses of trouth and loue
 ye hert oft fleghes perillously
 So yat hyt perissches hit-self yer-by
 And falles sone as j . 3ow telle
 In ye fowlers gyldres of hell
 yat is ye fynd yat waytes ay
 To take yat foule yf he may
 yer-fore ye gode men y^t ar wys
 Restreynes yair~ willes fro folys
 & yair~ 3hernynges fro all y^t ill es
 thurgh attemperaunce & sobrenes
 whar-for senec y^t was ye wysman
 Says yus as j . shew 3ow can
 Jf you loues wele says he
 To be sobre and attempre
 restreyne yi 3hernynges fro folys
 And put a bridell to ye couatys
 For as men halde ye hors agayn
 w^t a bridel yat wald ryn fayne
 yat he ne ga noght at hys will
 right so men may hald ye hert still
 with ye bridill of sobrenes
 And of temperaunce y^t syker es
 yat hit ne may on nan wys
 gyue hyt to worldly couatys
 ne till na-n+other vanyte
 So suld ye hert restreyned be
 YE thrid degre y^t men suld hald
 Js mesure in wordes & speche cald
 For salamon says yat ye wys man
 & ye wele lered y^t wysdome can
 Mesurs all hys wordes ryght
 & tempres hys speche w^t all hys myght
 And saynt jerome says ye gode techer



yus as ye boke may witnes bere
yat by weght of wordes to neuen
js comon@ lyf attempted euen
<p. 313>yat is to say and till vnderstande
Aftur ye wordes of ye tung stirande
Men may knaw who so can
ye wit or ye folly of ye man
And yer-fore ye wys mon of wit
spekes yus & says in holy writ
yat ye wordes yat wys men neuen~
Jn balance arn weghed ful euen
yat is to say y^t he yat is wys
hys wordes wehes w^t-out fayntys
Jn ye balance of reson@ and skill
And of discrecion@ & noght of will
So yat ye wordes in weghyng
hald ryght mesure in all thyng
hit ben som men of swilk will
yat con noght hald yair tung still
Bot lat ye tung ga whil hyt may~
And gyues no kepe what yai say~
be hyt gode or ill yat yai speke
Or sothe or legh noght yai reke
yo men may wele lykend be
Till a Milne as men may se
yat is w^t-outen flod-3ate
yere ye water to ye Mylne has gate
yat ye clowes of ye Milne is cald
yat ye water fro ye whele may hald
yat turnes a-boute & noght blynnys
Ay as ye cours of ye water rynnes
right so comes to yair tung be vse
Jlle wordes as water to ye Milne duse
Bot ye wysmon of gode condicion@
Settes ye clowes of discrecion@
To kepe & hald ye water agayn
Of foule wordes & speches in vayn
And yer-fore says ye wysmon yus
Jn holy writ as ye boke schewes vs

lett not ye water go he says
 yat is to say w^t-hald always
 yi wordes of ill entencion@
 At ye clowes of discrecion@
 For-why salamon says alswa
 he yat lates ye water ga
 Ouer hastily agayne skyll
 he ys oft cause of mykel jll
 Of motes of stryues of other thynges
 yat of ye wiked tung oft sprynges
 And yer-for~ says ye wysman wele
 Jn haly writ as men may fele
 <p. 314>Sett yi wordes he says in balance
 To wehe yaim euen for all chaunce
 And yi mouth a bridil with all
 And take kepe yat you noght fall
 thurgh yi tung by-fore yi~ face
 yat spyse ye where so you gace
 who so will noght when he may
 wehe hys wordes er he yaim say
 Jn ye balance of discrecion@
 As yis boke yer-of mas mencion@
 he falles in ye handes of hys enmys
 yat er ye fyndes yat hym ay spys
 when ye enmys yat will duell
 On were til yai ha tane ye castell
 Fyndes ye 3hates opon wyde
 yai entre lyghtly on yat syde
 right so ye fyndes y^t waytes to wyn
 ye castell of ye hert with-jn
 when yai fynd open ye mayster 3hate
 y^t is ye mouth yar yai haue gate
 yer-fore says ye prophet Dauy
 Jn ye sauter yus oponly
 J . haue set he says as j . couthe
 gode kepynges vnto my mouthe
 Agayn my enmys y^t is agayn me
 yat is ye fynd yat j . may noght se
 ye kepyng of ye mouth is yis



As dd says yat was of hys
Discrecion@ and skill to fele
yat examyns ye wordes wele
yis is ye balance of mesure dyght
of whilk ye wysmon spekes right
yar ye wordes suld be euen layde
and wehed by-for~ er yai wer~ sayde
Men suld know yat suthfastnes
Haldes ye balance yat so euen es
For sothfastnes acorde may
ye entenciou@ of ye hert ay
And ye wordes of ye mouth fre
All to-gyders as yai falles to be
So yat ye mouth say noght elles
Bot sothfastnes as ye hert telles
For men suld for no mons loue
Ne for worldly gode y^t men may proue
Ne for fauor ne for hatrede
Ne 3het for no drede of dede
loue to folwe suthfastnes
And to say soth when myster es
<p. 315>Ne men suld say no lesyng yan
Ne falshede in word of no man