

The Lord's Prayer Song in Auslan

DISCUSSING SIGN MODIFICATIONS IN THE SONG

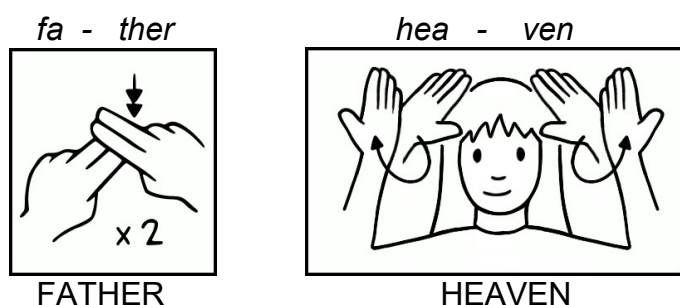
This paper is a discussion about how Auslan signs are modified in the song.
(There is also an Auslan video covering this).

FATHER IN HEAVEN

- Location Modification:

1. These signs are signed higher up in the signing space and to the side, indicating that the signer is addressing to the Father which is located up there in heaven
2. The signer's face and eyes are towards the Father in heaven, because the signer is praying/singing TO the Father and not to the audience

The word, "father" in English has two syllables, so when singing in Auslan, to make the sign FATHER flow with the song, sign FATHER with the first movement for the first syllable, and the repeated movement for the second syllable. Do the same with the word, "heaven".



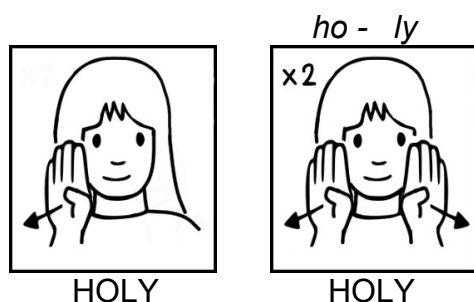
The HEAVEN sign is a bit iconic in that it shows the sky opening upwards.

HOLY

- Sign Modification:

The sign for HOLY is shown using one hand in the online Auslan Sign Bank. However when in church, and among Deaf Christians, you will often see HOLY being signed with double hands, and the movement repeated. This is to show the intensity and reverence of this sign.

This "holy" word has two syllables, so when singing in Auslan, to make the sign HOLY flow with the song, sign HOLY with two hands, the first movement for the first syllable, and the repeated movement for the second syllable:



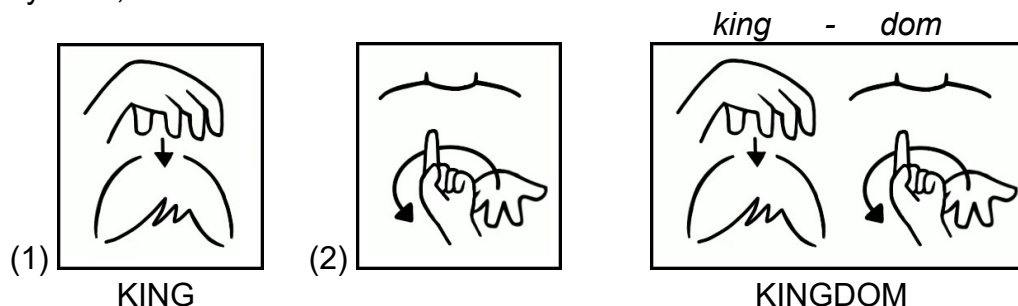
YOUR

The movement of this sign is directed to the place where the Father is.

KINGDOM

This is a compound of two signs, KING (1) and a depicting sign showing a person entity (number 1 handshape) representing the King, and the area (number 5 handshape) representing the King's rule around the King (2).

The word, "kingdom" has two syllables, so to make the Auslan sign flow with the word in the song, you can sign KING for the first syllable, "*king*" and the depicting sign for the second syllable, "*dom*".



COME

The location of this sign starts with the place where the Father is, and moves towards the signer, where the earth is.

WILL

The closest Auslan equivalent to the meaning of this word in this song is WANT, so the sign WANT is used instead of the sign WILL.

DONE

In Auslan, the closest equivalent to the English word "done" is FINISH. There are two ways you can sign FINISH. The most commonly used FINISH (1) which is two GOOD handshapes shaken sideways, can also mean to stop, cease, desist, so it does not really represent the meaning of the word, "done" in the prayer song, so for this reason, another Auslan sign for FINISH is used (2) which is two GOOD handshapes moved into number 5 handshapes. This describes as something completed, fulfilled, and is more similar to the "FINALLY" / "PAH!" sign (3). This FINISH sign (2) is usually with a "fish" lip reading pattern.

