

Prayers of the People Christmas Eve, Friday December 24, 2021

Rejoicing in the love of God, let us pray to the Lord, saying, **Lord of glory, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, on this most Holy Night, we pray and give thanks for this beautiful earth. God bless every home, every heart, every human being in every nation. Bless all your glorious creation.

ALL: Lord of glory, hear our prayer.

God of love, wherever we go, wherever we are, you are with us. We commend to your gracious care any who find themselves far from home, all who are struggling to find a home and for any living in refugee camps, back alleys or on park benches. We pray for all recovering from natural disasters and for all who find themselves in any kind of danger or despair. We ask your blessing for doctors, nurses, aid workers, caregivers, for all who work to bring hope and healing.

ALL: Lord of glory, hear our prayer.

Holy Father we pray for governments of this and every land. May nations turn from oppression, imperialism and warfare and seek the welfare of the people and the land. Help us to use wisely the gifts of forgiveness and reconciliation which you have given us for the good of all.

ALL: Lord of glory, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus you are the light of the world and the Prince of Peace we so desperately need. Bless your Holy Church, that it may boldly proclaim the good tidings of salvation to all the ends of the earth. With the Anglican Communion we pray for the Church of Nigeria, for the land and the priests and the people. With our diocese we pray and give thanks for St. Thomas's Kingston and for their priest The Ven. Bill Clarke. We ask your blessing for Bishop Michael, Canon Nancy and the parishes of Kente and Marysburgh. Holy Father, may we, your people, be like the angels who shared the good news with the shepherds, by the power of the Holy Spirit may we bear witness to the Saviour who was born for us and for all. In these uncertain times may we bring your love to our hurting world.

ALL: Lord of glory, hear our prayer.

Jesus our Emmanuel, we give thanks that you came not only in the form of a human baby, but continue to dwell with us through the power of your Holy Spirit. We lift up before you now loved ones in particular need of the knowledge of your presence with them. We ask your kindness for Eleanor and Joyce. We pray for healing for Jeff and your comfort for Kathy, Sarah and Aiden. Now Lord we name aloud or silently others we carry in our hearts who are in need of your care:

Lord may your healing touch be felt in their hearts.

ALL: Lord of glory, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. We pray for all who are grieving as they face Christmas without precious loved ones at their side. We remember Keith, Marion, Donald, Clifford and Eva, in whose loving memory, to your glory the beautiful altar flowers have been given. Lord keep them forever safe in your love. Lord comfort all who mourn.

Lord Jesus, just as you come to us daily, may we consciously make time to come to you, not just this day but every day of our lives. May this Christmas be good news for millions of tired and anxious people. May the angels sing for them. May your love come home to them. God of amazing Love, we offer these prayers in love of you and in the name of your most blessed gift, your Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**