

We offer you our prayers for the day and wish you a blessed Christmas season.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

The goodness and loving-kindness of God fills the whole earth with the radiance of glory. We pray for the Church throughout the world, that it may shine with the joy of faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. We pray for our companions in the Dominican Republic, and for our witness and ministry in Wilmington. Lord Christ, Light of life,
fill us with grace and truth.

Glory to God in the highest and on the earth peace. We pray for lasting peace in the Middle East and for Bethlehem today. Lord, give peace in our land and among the nations; peace in our homes and in all our dealings; through him who is the Prince of peace. Lord Christ, Light of life,
fill us with grace and truth.

Lord Jesus Christ, you came down to lift us up. We pray for all who are cast down at this time: we remember refugees and prisoners; the homeless and the homebound. We pray for the sick and the suffering, for all in our prayers. *[silence]* We pray for all who find today a sad or hard day. Comfort and strengthen them. Lord Christ, Light of life,
fill us with grace and truth.

We give thanks that you have opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. We pray for loved ones departed from us, who we remember now, *[silence]* that they may be one with you in your kingdom. Lord Christ, Light of life,
fill us with grace and truth.

Almighty God, we rejoice in the coming of Christ our Lord. We give thanks for all the blessings of our lives. *[silence]* As he has taken on our humanity, we pray that we may share in his divinity, and be radiant with love, justice, truth, and peace. Lord Christ, Light of life,
fill us with grace and truth.

Together let us pray for forgiveness of our sins:

Holy God, we have forgotten that we are made in your image. We have been selfish or cruel—hurtful to others and harmful to ourselves. We are sorry for what we have done, and what we have left undone. Please forgive us and restore us to the goodness you intend for us.

Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*