

PRAYER IN THE HOME for CHRISTMAS

GATHERING

I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people, for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.
Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. Alleluia!

Let us light a Christmas candle to remember that God is with us.

Lord Jesus, Light of Light, you have come among us.
Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in the world.
Glory to God in the highest!

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

CONFESSION

The sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings. Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour, you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, and be cleansed from all our sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BIBLE READING

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.

We believe and trust in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.

Christ, born in a stable,
give courage to all who are homeless.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, for whom the angels sang,
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,
give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

**Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,
you know us and love us,
you share our lives
and hear our prayer.
Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray
to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

May Christ, the Sun of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will.

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God.