

PRAYERS for December 11, 2022 – Third Sunday of Advent

Worship Assistant: As we await the coming of our Savior in mercy and majesty, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Heavenly Father, we give You honor and glory. We have so many things for which to be thankful: our Lord God, our lives, our families, our friends, our church, and our country. We thank You for making Yourself known to us through Jesus Christ and for sending Him to be the light of the world. We proclaim with faithfulness that You are our God. During this Advent time, help us be patient and wait for the coming of Your Son.

Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Blessed God, Your Word reminds us that You lead us through the desert and the wilderness of this earth. You restore our lives and our hope. Everlasting joy will be ours and sorrow will leave us. Establish our hearts with patience and a spirit of encouragement and help us lead others to follow Your Word and Your example. Protect Your people around the world who are being hurt by the unbelievers and by their governments. Teach those of us who live in comfort and security to honor their witness and reassure them in their troubles. Turn their tormentors from evil ways. Bring relief to all who suffer, send help to all who are troubled, ease the anxieties of all who are distressed, and comfort those who mourn.

Lord in your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Merciful God, You are always more ready to answer than we are to cry out to You; more ready to forgive our sins than we are to ask for grace from You; and more ready to listen to our prayers than we are to pray to You. Break down our resistance, banish our worldliness, overcome our thoughtlessness, and remove our willfulness. Remind us of the beauty and joy of Jesus who came to save us. Let nothing stop the coming of Christ Jesus into our hearts.

Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Healing Father, You bring hope to Your people in this sometimes hopeless world. You bring peace to Your people in stressful and dangerous times. You bring strength to Your people who are in need of Your comforting arms. Surround and keep safe the Buba family as they leave us to live in Ethiopia. We treasure our friendship with this beautiful family and know that You are placing them in the place of Christian witness that is of Your choosing. They will be missed at Word of God. Lord, we plead for Your care on behalf of our friends and family members who are on our prayer list and those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Lord God, conform the hearts and minds of our earthly rulers to Your will. Give them wisdom to bring safety and peace to their citizens. Surround our military, police, and first responders as they bring security to the people. Move our hearts to thoughts and deeds of goodwill to all men as we deliver gifts to Southland Rehab this week and fill the bags with food for the Real Life Center this morning. Help us to love one another by knowing that You first loved us. Let our hearts be full of Your Word, and speed the day when everyone may walk in Your peace and joy. **Lord, in Your mercy..... hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen