## PRAYERS for December 25, 2022 – Christmas Day

Worship Assistant: Rejoicing in God's glorious gift of grace on this Christmas morning, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Worship Assistant: Mighty God, this morning we make a joyful noise and sing praises to You. You are the light that shines in the darkness, and You have richly blessed us with love and joy, with hope and optimism, with grace and truth, and with many other gifts. We thank You for sending Baby Jesus, Your very best gift, into the world this Christmastime.

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

Worship Assistant: Child of Bethlehem, because You came as a baby who is our Savior, we can pray to You and know that God in heaven hears us. You came as a helpless baby to be our Lord. You came as a humble baby to remove our pride. You came as a lowly baby so that we might be lifted up to You. You came as a pure baby so that You might take upon Yourself our sin. You are Emmanuel, God with us. For this we most heartily thank You. We do not need to seek far and wide, high and low to find God. You are our Lord and our God.

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

Worship Assistant: Everlasting Father, we pray today for the Christians around the world who are not able to openly celebrate Your Son's birth. We ask for Your protection on those who suffer threats, punishment, and death for His sake. Be with them, comfort them, and support them with Your strength and love. Be with all the displaced people around the world and help them find answers for their safety and homelessness. Help us to stand strong with the victims of terror attacks and wars that happen around the world as You comfort their loved ones. Surround the members of our military who are away from home today. Guard them, protect them, and encourage them. Be with all believers who celebrate today and help them to remember that Jesus is the true reason for Christmas.

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

Worship Assistant: Wonderful Counselor, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the great physician of our souls and our bodies. Give us Your rest and peace. Give wisdom and skill to the doctors and nurses who care for those suffering illness and pain. Be with all those who carry heavy burdens. Have compassion on all who are alone, those in the mission fields, those who are away from home and family, and those who have gone before us to be with You. We thank You for being our guide and our rescuer. We pray especially for friends and family on our prayer list and all 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: Prince of Peace, You left Your Father's throne for us and taken the sins of the world upon Yourself for us. You are willing to fulfill all righteousness for us. Thank You for Your amazing grace and love. We know that even when we aren't faithful to You, You are faithful to us. We pray that we will stay forever faithful to You. As Your love has drawn You from heaven to earth, we ask that someday Your love will lead us from earth to heaven to be with You for eternity.

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