

PRAYERS for December 26, 2021—First Sunday after Christmas

Worship Assistant: On this First Sunday after Christmas, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Lord God, the wait is over. The celebration of Your son's birth is here. How marvelous it is, that You sent Your Son to us for the sole purpose of the salvation of the world. Turn our eyes, minds, and lives to Jesus, our King and our heart's delight.

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

Worship Assistant: Father, Your word reminds us today of the importance of including children in the life and work of our congregation. Thank You for every teacher who works with children and teenagers at Word of God; thank You for the parents and grandparents who bring them. Help each one to grow in wisdom and favor with You, as Samuel and Jesus did.

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

Worship Assistant: Compassionate Father, this is a busy time of year and it can be hard to keep our eyes on You. Just for this week, help us to meet anger with kindness; to meet pride with humility; to meet misunderstanding with patience; to meet complaining with forgiveness. Teach us to love, and in so doing to bind our hearts closer to You and to each other. And then turn our hearts to the New Year, that the small changes we make this week will continue and grow in the coming year.

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

Worship Assistant: Gracious God, we pray for all those who are far from loved ones right now. Comfort them. We pray for those who are sick. Heal them. We pray for broken families that can feel a little more broken at this time of year. Help them to find their rest in You. We pray for the doctors, nurses and all medical personnel who care both for the sick and for those who can't care for themselves. Restore their hearts and minds. We pray for those who serve our community and our country. Give them strength and stamina in mind and body. We pray for those who travel. Keep them safe. We pray for so many whose names we speak our loud or say silently in our hearts.

(Wait 20 seconds for names.)

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

Worship Assistant: For Jesus' sake, dear Father, graciously hear and generously answer our fervent petitions, to your glory and for the benefit of all for whom we pray.

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