

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

We have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him.

Matthew 2: 2

Scripture Readings:

- Isaiah 60: 1-6
- Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14
- Ephesians 3: 1-12
- Matthew 3: 1-12

God's glory shines in each one of us. He changes us when we recognize that. The Holy Spirit empowers us with kindness and love. He gives us courage and strength to live out the gospel story. Just as He used John the Baptist, He uses us today. Be open to His leading in all we do. Share this glory!

Collect: Eternal God, who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son. Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Jesus, the hope of the nations, is shown to the world. We are all companions on a spiritual journey. As we travel together let us pray. Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray that the worldwide church may always be ready to travel in your way and in your direction.

Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

We pray for the nations as they live through conflicts and struggle with identity. We long for all people to acknowledge the true and living God. Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for the families and the communities we represent asking for a spirit of generous love, understanding and mutual respect. Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for all who are finding their way tedious, lonely or frightened at the moment, for those who have lost their way and do not know what to do for the best. Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We pray for those who have come to the end of their earthly journey and for those who have died unprepared. Light of the world: shine in our darkness.

We offer our thanks and praise for the way you see us when we are still far off and welcome us home. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

January 12, 2025

The Baptism of the Lord

A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3: 17

Scripture Readings:

- Isaiah 43: 1-7
- Psalm 29
- Acts 8: 14-17
- Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

God is all powerful. He came down upon Jesus at His baptism by John saying "this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." We pray God will say this of us. As we live daily in His love, may He be pleased with all that we do to the glory of His name to spread love and kindness to everyone we meet.

Collect: Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed Him to be your Son, anointing Him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

We pray for all baptized Christians to live out their calling in loving and holy lives. We pray for those preparing for baptism and confirmation, for parents and grandparents to be given the grace and perseverance to keep faithfully the promise made.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

We pray for peace and integrity in all our dealings as individuals and in local, national and international conflicts, for openness to hear God's wisdom and courage to follow His lead.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for harmony and understanding in our relationships with family and neighbours, for the willingness to both give and receive and for the generosity of forgiving love.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for those whose weariness or pain make it difficult for them to pray. May they sense the support and love of the church of God.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We pray for those whose souls have left behind their frail and broken bodies and can now fly freely to live in God's company for the whole of eternity. Bless and comfort their loved ones and bring us all in your good time to share the joy of heaven.

Come, Holy Spirit: fill our lives.

We give you thanks for calling us by name and keeping us safe through all the storms and difficulties of this life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

January 19, 2025

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Jesus maintained His glory and His disciples believed in Him. John 2: 11

Scripture Readings:

- Isaiah 62: 1-5
- Psalm 36: 5-10
- 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11
- John 2: 1-11

God has given the gifts of the Spirit to all who follow Him. Pray to know your spiritual gifts for we all have a gift from God. What is yours? May your gift shine so others can see it!

Collect: Almighty God your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world. May Your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of His glory, that He may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God has chosen us and is ready to transform our lives for the good of the world. Drawn by God's love and constant faithfulness to us, let us pray.

We pray for all those who would love to believe but cannot yet trust in the living God because of the unloving behaviour of His followers.

Fill us, Lord: fill us to the brim.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

We pray for all who give orders and have influence over other people. We pray that all peoples may be led justly and with sensitivity.

Fill us, Lord: fill us to the brim.

We pray for all our relationships which need your transforming love. We pray for those we irritate and upset and those who have hurt and upset us.

We pray for those whose lives feel empty and lacking real meaning. We pray for those whose frailty, pain, or illness makes it difficult to pray.

Fill us, Lord: fill us to the brim.

We pray for those who are dying and those who have completed their life on earth that they may be brought to peace and everlasting joy.

Fill us, Lord: fill us to the brim.

We thank you for all the joys of loving relationships, all the friendships we share and the love we are enabled to give.

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

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

January 26, 2025

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

The Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives.

Luke 4: 18

Scripture Readings:

- Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10
- Psalm 19
- 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31
- Luke 4: 14-21

Jesus stood up in the temple and read scripture from Isaiah in the Town of Nazareth. He read “The Spirit has come to Him and has chosen Him to tell the good news to the poor and announce freedom for prisoners, give sight to the blind and free everyone who suffers.” God has also chosen us to be His hands, feet and eyes here where we live to help Him in living out the gospel message. Jesus was affirming to others that He is chosen by God. How are we measuring up to what God expects from us?

Collect: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Let us still our bodies and our minds as we pray together.
Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

Lord God, as we call to mind that we are members of the worldwide church, we pray for those who are insulted or persecuted for our shared faith. We stand alongside them now.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We pray that all of us who inhabit planet earth in this age may learn to hear you again and respond to your voice of love.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We pray that wherever materialism or stress or sorrow or sin have deafened us to your will, we may be prompted to put things right.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We pray that our homes may be places where you are welcomed and recognized through the good and troubled times.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We bring to your love all our fellow members who are ill, injured or sad. Alert us to see how we can help and give them a real sense of your comforting presence.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

We remember those who have travelled through life and now have gone through death into eternity. We thank you for their lives and commend them to your keeping. Prepare us all through our living for eternal life.

Open our ears, Lord: and teach us to listen to you.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 2025

Thank you, Lord God, for all you have shown us through Jesus and through word and sacraments week by week.

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

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace