

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, YEAR C
CHRISTMAS 1 DECEMBER 30, 2018

P The word of the prophets has been fulfilled: the Lord has come to His temple. Let us pray to God who is here with us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Each petition will conclude: Lord, you have given us your salvation:

Congregation response: **Hear the prayer of your servants.**

Petitions

We thank you Heavenly Father, for giving us the gift of your Son: the Word that became Flesh. We thank you for faithful pastors and teachers who preach this good news to us. Protect, guide and keep them in your love. By the Holy Spirit, open our hearts to hear your Holy Word and give us faith to receive it and put it into practice. We thank you for people willing to serve your church in whatever capacity they are able. Equip our members to meet the opportunities and challenges they encounter as they work to spread your word.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Loving God, be with the children of our church. We know you have wonderful plans for their lives! Guide their parents as they care for their earthly needs and grant them wisdom as they nurture their children's faith and bring them into God's kingdom through baptism. As a congregation, may we be models of loving encouragement so that our children experience and grow in a safe and welcoming church.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Loving Father, we pray for parents as they care for the children you have entrusted to them. Grant them wisdom and courage to raise their children in godliness and to be an example of your love. Protect them from harm and danger and give them health and strength to enjoy their special role.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Ever faithful God, be with families who are experiencing problems, where tensions blind their sight to forgiveness and love; where lack of money causes anger and frustration or where simple lack of consideration causes hurt. Show them a way through these troubles, to understanding and reconciliation.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Gracious Father, You have called us to pray unceasingly. Help the families in our parish, as they find ways to include you in their everyday prayer lives. Join them together, not just at meal and bedtimes, but anywhere, anytime, remembering that, Heavenly Father, You love all your children and care about our problems and joys, no matter how big or small. You want to be part of our lives.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Father, look with mercy on all who suffer sickness or injury. Comfort and protect them when they feel alone or afraid, strengthen them in recovery and grant them healing and health according to your good and gracious will. Lord we particularly bringto you in their time of healing.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Lord God we thank you for the gift of music and the musicians who lead our congregation each week. May they be vessels of the Holy Spirit as they share their gifts of music, in their hymns and songs and instruments they play. Renew their faith and enthusiasm as they lead us to sing your praises and fill our church with joyful music.

Lord you have given us your salvation: **Hear the prayer of your servants**

Concluding Prayer

P God our Father, we give you thanks for all you have done for us. Hear our prayers, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**