


Prayers of the People (Year C: Advent 4, 12-22-2024)

Lector: Start here!



As we joyfully await Christ's coming, we offer our prayers and thanksgivings, saying: God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For the Church, as the celebration of the incarnation draws near, we pray for our siblings in Christ throughout the world, especially for those whose very faith endangers their lives. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Clergy and people of Holy Cross, Carlsbad and for the growth of evangelism in the diocese. In the Military Cycle of Prayer, we pray for United States Naval Ship Yukon. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For an end to oppression and injustice, that we be among those who exalt the lowly and fill the hungry with good things, rooting out the proud of heart and drawing courage from the power of your arm. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For a change in this country's attitude and laws regarding guns and gun violence, for those who lost their lives at yet-another school shooting in Madison, Wisconsin this week and for the victims and communities of the other 321 incidents of school shootings in 2024. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For this community of St. Mark's, that we be enriched by welcoming the marginalized and the stranger and continue to be drawn to a future of service in you, while remembering and honoring those who guided us into service and faith. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For ourselves, that our hearts be magnified and made bigger than we think possible. That this season stir in us such faith that we dedicate ourselves to be your light in a darkened world. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For those who will come to St. Mark's this season. That all guests, volunteers and parishioners may share a spirit of generosity and love and find the face of Christ in one another. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For a spirit of joy and thanksgiving, that we are truly grateful for all the gifts and opportunities that God offers us and rejoice in the blessings which come to us each day. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the suffering. May they find healing and peace, especially those we now name either silently or aloud... [**10 seconds of SUSTAINED silence**]... God of love, **hear our prayer.**

For the dead, especially Greg Caillat, and those on the threshold of death. That they and we be welcomed into the place of glory God has prepared for us. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant:

Shepherd of Israel,
you gently support the one who is with child
and call forth the Lamb who dances in the womb,
Stir our hearts to recognize Christ's coming,
as Elizabeth recognized his presence
in Mary's radiant obedience to your desire,
an open our souls to receive the one
who came to love your flock.
We ask this through your Son,
our redeemer, Jesus, who is your Christ. **Amen.**