

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
24 December 2023 Advent 4/Christmas Eve

Real God

Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son Jesus to become as one of us. We praise You this Advent for Your gift of true life in Jesus, far beyond what we could ask or imagine. Bring us to true thanksgiving as we contemplate Your lavish giving in this time of waiting. Amen.

Real Church

National and local leadership, we pray for:

- our Primate, **Linda Nichols**
- ELCIC Bishop, **Susan Johnson**
- our Diocesan Bishop, **Geoffrey Woodcroft**
- and Synodical Bishop, **Jason Zinko**
- the National Indigenous Bishop, **Chris Harper**
- our Metropolitan, **Greg Kerr-Wilson**
- the Council of the North - Diocese of Athabasca
- the Bishop of our Companion Diocese, **Michael Lubowa**

Anglican Communion worldwide, we pray for: The Episcopal Church of the Philippines

ACC: The Director and staff of General Synod Communications and Information Resources; Amal Attia, Treasurer and Chief Financial Office and the staff of Financial Management and Administration

ELCIC: Trina Gallop Blank, Assistant to the National Bishop, Communications and Resource Generation, and the staff of Communications

Diocese of Rupert's Land: Our Congregations and Communities.

St. Aidan's: We pray for Rev. Merv Lanctot as our interim pastor. We ask that You would bless him as he leads us through this time of transition, and bless Susan as she supports Merv and this parish with her own giftings. Walk with Pastor Dave and Elaine as they enter a new chapter in their lives which will demand faith and trust in You. May we show them our love and appreciation during this coming week, just as they have cared for us through all our joys and difficulties.

Missions: We pray for Naomi House, thanking You for the privilege of helping in this refugee ministry. Bless the staff and all residents. We pray for Aiman in his recent

move out of our sponsored room, and for his family, that they will soon be reunited with him here. And we bring before you the new refugee family of four that have arrived at Naomi House. Give them the grace and energy to accustom themselves to all they will have to deal with as they settle in.

Real Lives

Heavenly Father, we pray for peace on earth, both at home and abroad. We pray for adequate food and shelter for those in need in Winnipeg. We ask for healing for those suffering from addictions; from mental, emotional, or spiritual health issues; and for those dealing with illness or other physical afflictions. We pray for personal strength of character to reach out to someone who is lonely this Christmas season and welcome them into our homes.

Lord, we pray that the governments of the world would work to bring prosperity and safety to all people, recognizing Your sovereignty as Lord and giver of all good things.

We lift up the people of Israel and Gaza who are engaged in such a deadly struggle, and the people of Ukraine as they continue to battle against oppression and injustice. We ask that You would bring peace and healing to these troubled lands.

We pray for those in hospital, personal care homes, or who are homebound:

Barbara, Bill, Carol, Deb, Elizabeth, Harold, Joy, Kathy, Kathy and David, Laird, Margaret, Pam, Pearl, Sue.

We remember and give thanks for those recently departed in Christ, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. Bless them with Your peace as we pray in the name of Your Son, Jesus, in the Holy Spirit.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayers.