

## **PRAYERS for Christmas 2023**

At this time of year, when we celebrate the coming of the Christ child, Jesus, let's thank him for forgoing his Glory to be born as a vulnerable baby in challenging circumstances in order to save mankind.

Let's lift before the Lord all those currently finding themselves in vulnerable situations through war, sickness, deprivation and suffering of all kinds. May they receive comfort and the knowledge that the God of the whole world sees them and loves them.....

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn,  
give courage to all who are homeless;

Christ, who fled into Egypt,  
give comfort to all refugees;

Christ, who fasted in the desert,  
give relief to all who are starving;

Christ, who suffered on the cross,  
give strength to the persecuted and to all who suffer.

Christ, who rose again and is seated in Glory,  
Thank you for giving Hope to all who trust in you.

Lord of the Church, who has called us out of darkness into your marvellous light,  
make us one in heart and mind to serve you with love and joy for ever. May we be a blessing to all we meet, and share with others all that you have entrusted to us in your generosity.

Amen

## **Mission Prayers for Christmas & New Year**

### **Wycliffe**

- Pray for lives to be changed as people come to know Jesus through having the Bible in their own language.
- Pray for perseverance for linguists and translators who are working to write their people's languages so that they can have the Bible in the language they know best.
- Pray that God will guide translation teams around the world during the thorough checks for accuracy and clarity that are a key part of the Bible translation process.

### Genesis

- Thanks and praise to God for His ongoing provision, and for mighty blessings on this year's Genesis Christmas appeal
- For protection for all sleeping outdoors this winter, and the staff and volunteers who support vulnerable and disadvantaged people through the Gateway Centre, 'warm space' provision and the Foodbank centres.
- For those who are lonely and isolated to be invited and welcomed into communities offering meals and fellowship.

### Tearfund

- Prayers for Gaza and Israel and Tearfund's Middle East Appeal:
- Humanitarian workers - for protection for those who are working to provide help and medical supplies.
- Church leaders - for wisdom and strength to lead people through fear and uncertainty. Pray for bravery as they guide their communities and offer loving support.
- Christian communities and faith leaders across the region - for unity, connection, and mutual understanding so that they can help bring people together and show kindness.

### Warehouse

- Prayer for training young people in leadership.
- RESPOND. Working with local authority in emergency situations.
- Contextual bible study for groups in difficult circumstances.

### CMJ

- God's covering of the land.
- The innocent people in Israel and Gaza injured, traumatised, or mourning the loss of loved ones at this time.
- Wisdom and true leadership from those in power.