

 Knaphill Methodist Church

 “Let us pray”

 A Prayer Diary for

 December 2021

***“Go, tell it on***

***the mountain,***

 ***Over the hills***

***& everywhere;***

 ***Go, tell it on***

***the mountain***

 ***That Jesus is***

***His name.”***

 **H&P 135 refrain**

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| **This month’s daily ‘themes’ are all inspired by lines from hymns, carols & songs in the Advent & Christmas sections of *Singing the Faith*. So as well as praying the prayers, you can share a ‘Seasonal Quiz’ of Guess-the-Song!** |
| **Day/Date** | **Hymn/Song quote 🡺 Theme** | **Pray for …** | **✔** | **Notes****Thoughts****Action** |
| 1stWednesday | *Come thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free*  L1&2 V1 StF 169 | * … all those imprisoned in body, mind or spirit: for real justice; for compassion & help to meet their needs; for strength for those fighting for them; for safety & ‘release’.
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| 2ndThursday | *Lord, we need you now in this world of ours.*  L3&4 V2 StF 168 | * … a person, or situation, currently in the news, where there is great need: for the protection of those involved; for others to be stirred to right action; for relief & resolution.
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| 3rdFriday | *O come, O Day-spring, come & cheer our spirits by your advent here;* L1&2 V5 StF 180 | * … advent preparations: for care, focus & thought; that whatever you do or say, you will be rejoicing, & ‘*singing the wondrous story*’ L1 V1 StF 323 to those who need to hear it.
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| 4thSaturday | *Evil like a cloud covers the people.* L2 V1 StF 170 | * … those plotting evil deeds: for their plans to be thwarted; for God’s spirit to infiltrate & change their hearts; for vigilant security, for ‘good calls’ & ‘God’-incidents’.
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| **5th****Sunday** | *Here among us now, Christ the Light kindles brighter flames in our trembling hearts*  L1&2 V3 StF 170 | * … KMC: for God to enlighten us from within; for an awakening to deeper faith; for an emboldening of our spirits to take action; for our ‘shining’ the Good News into our homes, our communities & wherever we go.
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| 6thMonday | *Thy son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold;*  L3 V2 StF 187 | Reflect on Jesus as Immanuel – God with us: What difference does this make to your life, & the way that you live? Pray for ‘encounter’. |  |  |
| 7thTuesday | *But His angels here are human … the heart-beats of our love.* L3a&4b V3 StF 188 | * … the Salvation Army: for their care & commitment; for the distribution of the gifts received to those in need; for those working over Christmas; for their safety & blessing.
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| 8thWednesday | *With the needy, poor & lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.* L5&6 V2 StF 214 | * … all those who are currently home-less, living in poverty, or down-trodden: for safe, warm shelters; for good food; for loving care; for help into better conditions; for hope.
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| 9thThursday | *‘To me be as it pleaseth God,’ she said,* L2 V3 StF 187 | * … truly knowing God’s will: for a humble heart; for the yielding of your life & self-will over to only that which pleases Him.
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| 10thFriday | *He comes the broken heart to bind,* L1 V3 StF 171 | * … anyone you know, or know of, who is heart-broken now: for ‘seeing’ the bigger perspective; for a listening ear; for wise advice; for healing; for a brighter outlook.
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| 11thSaturday | *O little town of Bethlehem,* L1 V1 StF 213 | * … Bethlehem – a city now separated by the 8m high West Bank Barrier: for Muslim & Christian communities denied access to their farms for work & their places of worship; for greater tolerance, respect, humanity & peace; for the safety of Christ-mas tourist-pilgrims visiting the Holy Land.
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| **12th****Sunday** | *Through their message – chall-enged, shaken – hearts awaken:* L5&6 V2 StF 165 | * … Dave, & those preaching & leading worship: for inspired & refreshing perspect-ives that captivate worshippers; for the deep Truth of a ‘familiar’ story to sink in & change.
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| 13thMonday | *It is written down in the Bible so you might believe.* L2 V1 StF 209 | * … the Scriptures being read & spoken: for God to speak through them afresh & stir people to faith. Pick up & read YOUR Bible.
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| 14thTuesday | *Pain & sorrow, tears & sadness changed for glad-ness* L5&6 V1 StF 165 | * … anyone you know: for God’s abiding presence to be felt with them; for comfort & peace; for solutions to problems; for self-valuing as a child of God; for joy & hope.
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| 15thWednesday | *The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.* L4 V3 StF 186 | * … people in Afghanistan: for more food & basic supplies for daily life; for families to stay together – especially the safety of women & girls; for agencies to be able to deliver aid where it is needed; for justice.
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| 16thThursday | *Praise to the God who waits with us … who shares our suffering & our loss,* L1&3 V3 StF 183 | * … those suffering or/& grieving: for patience to endure; for perception of God’s hand on them; for relief & peace; for ‘solid’ resurrection hope; for support of fellowship.
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| 17thFriday | *Jesus comes! Jesus comes! We will make Him welcome!*  L3-5 R StF 178 | * … refugees: for the protection of lives; for safe passages & safe havens; for kindness & compassion, & support to restart & fit in. *“whatever you did .. you did for me.”*Matthew 25:40
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| 18thSaturday | *We pray; cast out our sin, & enter in; be born in us* L2b-4a V4 StF 213 | Find some time alone with God & get ‘up-to-date’ with your personal prayers of confession. Seek forgiveness. Ask for rebirth. |  |  |
| **19th****Sunday** | *So light up the fire & let the flame burn, open the door,* L1-2a R StF 167 | * … KMC: for the Holy Spirit to ‘fire us up’ with God’s love for Him, & for others; for our door, and our ‘warmed hearts’, to be open & welcoming. *‘Let the (your) fruit grow.’*
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| 20thMonday | *Songs that paint a cosy Christmas miss the truth of God above!* L1&2 V4 StF 220 | * … someone for whom Christmas will be difficult this year: for companionship & care; for ‘good’ memories; for transformation; for release; for love, joy & peace. HELP THEM
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| 21stTuesday | *Then to the watch**-ful shepherds it was told,* L1 V2 StF 195  | * … non-believers with open hearts: for the Spirit’s preparation of them to ‘hear’ the Good News; for the courage of Christians to tell, & live, the message. What will YOU say?
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| 22ndWednesday | *And to those who never listened to the message … winter but no Christmas* L1-3 v4 StF 197 | * … non-believers with ‘hardened’ hearts: for a ‘melting’ of prejudice & unbelief; for opportunities for encounters with the Good News; for seeds to be sown; for Christians to help & encourage true ‘seekers’.
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| 23rdThursday | *Oh and love shone down over the world.* L3&4 R StF 203 | * … the whole earth: remember that it *“is the Lords’ & everything in it.”* 1 Corinthians 10:26

For good stewardship & care; for respect & preservation of all life; for Creation to be seen & understood as God’s handiwork, made with love, for us. |  |  |
| 24thFriday | *Enter, then, O Christ most holy; make a Christmas in my heart;* L5&6 V3 StF 197 | * … yourself: for a better understanding & intimacy in your relationship with Jesus.
* … for each of those that you love: for growth in their faith, or a coming to faith.
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| 25thSaturday | *Come and worship, worship Christ the new-born King.* L3&4 R StF 190 | Wherever you are, include a way to celebrate & praise God for His coming to be among us in Jesus at the 1st Christmas: re-read/re-tell the story, sing, dance, wonder … |  |  |
| **26th****Sunday** | *Who would think that what was needed to transform & save the earth … a child*  L1-2&6 V1 StF 222 | Reflect on God’s salvation plan, brought to earth in the person of a ‘baby’ - Jesus.* … any children in your life: for joy & a positive experience of Christmas; for coming to faith & knowing Jesus as their Saviour.
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| 27thMonday | *Born in the night ... a long way from your home; born in a borrowed room.* L1,3&6 V1 StF 193 | * … those giving birth, & being born, in challenging circumstances: for safety & reduced trauma; for good health care; for recovery & healing: for improved life chances.
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| 28thTuesday | *Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me for ever,*  L1-2a V1 StF 191 | * … those dying: for peace of body, mind & spirit; for awareness of the presence of God, & of loved ones; for gentle release of this life; for overwhelming joy in glory in the next; for comfort & strength for those left.
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| 29thWednesday | *‘Fear not,’ said he (for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind),* L1&2 V2 StF 221 | * … those existing in fear - those with a mental illness; those with poor mental health; those terrified by others: for their, & others, safety; for courage to reach out for help; for support to ‘escape’; for restoration & true life.
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| 30thThursday | *Kneel in homage, bringing precious gifts from lands afar,*  L2 V2 StF 196 | What has God ‘gifted’ you with? Is it time to lay it before Him in service? How is God calling you to ‘give to Him’ in the coming year? Reflect: how will you kneel in homage? |  |  |
| 31stFriday | *And man, at war with man, hears not the love-song which they bring.* L5&6 V3 StF 205 | * .. all the people of the world in the next year, especially in war-zones, conflicts, dictatorship & harsh regimes: for greater humanity; for every human life to be valued; for God’s kingdom to break in; for love & peace to reign. What is YOUR part in ‘*Thy Kingdom come*’? Commit to work for it.
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