### Prayer of the Faithful

# 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year C

### Presider

Our God is a God of joy, who delights to be with us. As people of faith, we rejoice in our Saviour, who hears us when we call him and renews us in his love.

### Reader

We pray for Pope Francis and the bishops of the Church. Through their words and actions, may they spread the message of joy throughout the world that God is present among us.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all Christians living under religious persecution. May they be free to openly celebrate the coming of the Saviour this Christmas.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for families where there is division and tension. May the true spirit of Christmas touch their hearts and lead to healing and peace.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for our faith community. As we prepare for Christmas, may our hearts be open to the many ways we can serve others.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for …

Lord hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick of our parish and for all who have asked for our prayers.  
We pray for those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they all now take their place at the banquet of the Lord.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

### Presider

Come, O come, Emmanuel. Draw near to your people whose hearts are open to you in prayer. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.   
**Amen.**