

PRAYERS FOR JANUARY AND THE NEW YEAR

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God..... in Him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it.” (John 1 v1...4 & 5)

~~~~~

In my life, in my heart, Christ comes with the Spirit of fire! This is God’s brand new start, giving me my heart’s desire. In this place, at this time, in my life, IMMANUEL! (StF 554 v 3)

~~~~~

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- * For the celebration of Christ’s coming into the world.
 - * For all who have been able to be with friends and family at this festive time.
 - * For successful surgery for Bart’s father Robert
 - * For the continuing uptake of the vaccine, whether 1st, 2nd or boosters.
 - * For the scientists and all who have to make difficult decisions for our protection.
- ~~~~~

My eyes be open to your presence, my ears to hear your call. My heart be open to your love and in your arms to fall. My mind be open to your word, my soul to Heaven’s cure. That I be open to you Lord, this day and evermore! (StF 560 v 1)

~~~~~

### Prayers of concern:

- \* The postponement of the Alpha course, that people don’t lose their enthusiasm to explore their faith and “find their purpose.”
  - \* All who are becoming unwell as Covid infections increase.
  - \* The many concerned with loss of income and increase in the cost of living.
- ~~~~~

### Prayers for those known to us:

Steve’s brother-in-law Jonathan, very ill in Cyprus; Perry Swain, a friend of Annie & Phillippe; Julie, family & friends following the death of Julie’s father; David & Elizabeth; Christine’s brother Colin; Theresa; Bob; Jennifer Carter in hospital; Paul & Caroline Boac; Sharon & Fiona; Lynda & Sadie; Alan & Pauline; Rosalind; Dorothy; Vic, Anne & son Chris; David Reely; Paul Allison; Mitchell & family; Rebecca – Joan Shrubshall’s granddaughter; Barbara Bunyan friend of Richard Aucott

~~~~~

Christ, through whom all things were made, **sustain all creation**. Christ, exalted in the lowest and the least, **give us humility**. Christ, present in the poor and oppressed, **fill us with compassion**. Christ, forsaken in the hungry and homeless, **minister to them through our hands**. Christ, present where two or three are gathered, **be known among us**. Christ, present in word, sacrament and sign, **grant us your peace**. (The Methodist Worship Book)

~~~~~

Brighten your day and lighten your way, lessen your cares with daily prayers. Quiet your mind and leave tension behind. Find inspiration in hushed meditation. (Helen Steiner Rice)