Prayers of the People Fourth Sunday in Advent, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019 Year A

To the words God of love, we reply hear our prayer

On this last Sunday in Advent let us pray God of love Hear our prayer

At Christmas we pray for your church in the world. We pray for all faithful people who worship at this time God of love Hear our prayer

We pray for all nations and their rulers. For anyone with power over the lives of others. May they show compassion God of love Hear our prayer

God our creator, this is our season of sharing. We thank you for the abundance that surrounds us. Keep us mindful of the needs of others, the hungry, the homeless and the oppressed. God of love Hear our prayer

Free us from prejudice and fear. Deepen our understanding of your love so that we can humbly appreciate our place in your world. God of love Hear our prayer

Gracious God, at this time in our prayers let us be aware of each other. We think of those whose minds are menaced by thoughts which worry or wound them. We pray also for those who are ill or in some kind of distress or grieving, especially those we now name silently or aloud. God of love Hear our prayer

We pray for those whose families are scattered this Christmas. For those who travel, keep them safe and for those of us who celebrate this season that we all hold God's hope, peace, joy and love in our hearts.

Amen