

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
The Third Sunday of Advent – December 12, 2021

Intercessor: *Jane Whittemore*

Creating God, as we gather on this the Third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Joy on our Advent wreath. With joy we await the birth of your son, the Christ Child. We lay our prayers, petitions, praise, and concerns at your feet as we continue to pray for our sisters and brothers in British Columbia, our Companion Diocese of Amazonia, and for all people everywhere whose lives have been shattered by natural disasters, climate change, conflict of any kind and the global pandemic. We pray that you ease their suffering and bring them from their darkness into your light

Asking: Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

We acknowledge that we are on the ancestral land of the Anishinaabe, Attawandron and Haudenosaunee people, the Dish With One Spoon Covenant and Huron Tract Treaty. We give thanks for their deep faith that led them to value and care for this land for thousands of years. Show us the joy in your creation that is all around us.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we pray for the Church, Bishop Todd, and all who await your son. In His coming in joy, you will make all things new.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we pray that those who govern always sense the sanctity of life and always consider those they represent. We pray that they make decisions with courage and integrity, resisting any temptation to abuse the trust placed in them.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we pray for our community of Stratford and all communities, where you meet us in the lives of our families, neighbours, and friends. Coming or going, you are always with us wherever we find ourselves. We pray that through your son we may find a common joy that unites us and all mankind.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we pray that we may give voice to the voiceless. Knowing that you know their needs and the needs of all who bow before you we pray for all who have asked us to pray for them: *Marilyn, Angela, Peter, Nikki, Rob, Ilene, Judy, Marion, Abby, Jack, Ulrika, Marilyn, Lisa, Alexia, Judy, Ed, Heidi & Jared, Jenelle, Richard, Mary, Robert, Bob, Heather, Nigel*. Please wrap them in your healing arms and bring them peace in their afflictions.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

We pray for those in our St. James family who are celebrating birthdays this week: *Nancy Parkinson, Peter Ryde, Jeff Hawkins, Robert Lott, John Spencer*. Creating God, in our celebrations we stop to pray for those who are unable to find joy in celebration asking that they know they are not alone.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we hold in your healing presence those facing bereavement. We pray for those who have died and for the children who never returned. May they rest in peace and rise in glory knowing the deep peace of Christ.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.

As you go forward, “may the God of hope bring you such joy and peace in believing that you overflow with hope in the power of the Holy Spirit”.*

Amen.

**The Iona Community, Iona Abbey Worship Book*