

**Prayers of the People**  
**Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2022**  
**Intercessor: Dianne McCabe**

Creating God, 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. On this third Sunday of Advent as we light the candle of joy, we pray that we may see the joy in your creation as the First Peoples did.

**Creator, Hear and Have Mercy**

Creating God, As we await the birth of your son we pray for Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan; Linda our Primate; Marinez Bishop of Amazonia and Primate of Brazil, all Bishops, Priests, Deacons and all who minister in your church. We give thanks today for the appointment of Bishop Chris Harper as our new National Indigenous Archbishop.

**Creator, Hear and Have Mercy**

Creating God, we pray for the world that there may be integrity in leadership; mercy and justice for rich and poor, strong and weak; that conflicts will cease among the nations and all will feel respected. We pray for peace and stability for the people of the Occupied Territories, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Yemen, Taiwan, Libya, and all corners of the world where there is unrest.

**Creator, Hear and Have Mercy.**

Creating God we pray for this city of Stratford and all communities represented here today. We pray for those around us now and their needs, and for the families we represent and their needs. May the love of Christ be shown in what we do and how we speak and how we spend. We are thankful for the Connection Centre at St. Paul's, St. James Food Bank and St. Stephen's 'Our House' initiative. May they bring some joy into the lives of all they serve.

**Creator Hear and Have Mercy,**

Creating God, In compassion we call to mind all who are locked in physical or emotional pain, all who are weighted down with worry, guilt or despair. Restore and refresh them, comfort and free them. Knowing that you know their needs we pray for bodies minds and spirits to be healed and for those who have asked us to pray for them: *Marilyn, Angela, Niki, Rob, Judy, Richard, Mary, Robert, Bob, Heather, David, Stephen, Doug, Jim,*

*Maribel, Carol, Ellen, Nancy, Diane, Eric, Terry, Susan, Anne, Mary Lou, Ann, Olivia, Vivienne, Betty, Mary, Richard, Marion, Bob, Paul, Diane, Suzanne and the family that S.A.L.T. III is sponsoring as they finally are preparing to travel to Canada.*

**Creator Hear and Have Mercy.**

Creating God, we pray for those in our St. James family who are celebrating birthdays this week: *Peter Ryde, Nancy Parkinson, Bob Lot, Jeff Hawkins, The Venerable John Spencer.* May we always be mindful that there are many who feel they have nothing to celebrate and no one to celebrate with.

**Creator Hear and Have Mercy.**

Creating God, The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bob Jones, fondly remembered by Marie Jones and family. As a resurrection people, we commend to the Father's love those who have died to this earthly life. May they, and we in our turn, experience for ever the joy of eternal life.

**Creator, Hear and Have Mercy**

“May the Church always be faithful in telling the good news, comforting the desolate, actively loving justice and drawing many to freedom. Through the joy of the Father's loving forgiveness.”\*

\*Living Water, Prayer of the Faithful. Susan Sayres