



in our villages, towns & cities

Prayer

December 2018

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, Good will toward men.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour let us give thanks for the wonderful hope we have in our hearts and let us give thanks for the way that God has kept, guided and blessed us in the past year. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas with grateful thanks for your prayers and all that you have given to HOPE in the past year.

Roy Crowne, Executive Director Of Hope

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- 1 Dec** In this final month of 2018 let us pray for those we know who find December a difficult time. Pray God's blessing on those who are feeling under pressure, that they might discover the real meaning of Christmas through the love and practical help of Christians who are seeking to bless as Jesus blessed
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- 2 Dec** Heavenly Father, we pray that Your Church on earth will be a welcoming Church: listening, noticing needs and helping people find a spiritual home. Help us to be priests in the truest meaning of the word, bringing others to You in prayer, and reflecting Your love back to those who come to Church today. We pray that each of us will look for that person in Church today that You would have us seek out and share your Love with
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- 3 Dec** Please continue to pray for those people who received a Silence Booklet at a Remembrance Service. We pray that they will continue to look at them, dwell on the words and find new life in Jesus
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- 4 Dec** Lord we pray today for our neighbours and work colleagues who once knew You but have lost their faith. As we approach this Christmas season, may the story of the incarnation remind them how much You love them, and may they choose to make a new start with You
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- 5 Dec** Many Churches will provide night shelters for homeless people this winter. Please pray for each sleeper, that they will know that God delights in them. Pray that the Church will be a 'spacious place' where they can recover self-respect, and that many will find these shelters provide a step to wholeness this year.
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- 6 Dec** Paul found a way to make the message of Jesus relevant to the Athenians. Christmas gives Christians all kinds of opportunities to talk about Jesus. Pray that, as we communicate God's love, our language will connect with people's hearts and our actions will demonstrate the Kingdom
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- 7 Dec** Give thanks for all the Churches etc that are using the Talking Jesus Course and pray that as a result this course will inspire Christians with the confidence to talk to people about following Jesus
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- 8 Dec** Not only does God listen to us but He also draws near to us, speaking words of challenge and transformation. Father we remind ourselves that Your Word took on flesh and blood in Your Son Jesus Christ. We pray that many would find the good news this Christmas
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- 9 Dec** Pray for the Carol Service being held in Rugby Football ground at four. Pray that the reality of an ever-present, Immanuel God will become real to men, women and children who do not go to church, but will happily attend an event at their team's football ground
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- 10 Dec** Heavenly Father, thank You for sending me out into the world in Your strength. I want my friends to know You, but I often lack confidence to tell them about You. Please give me the right words to say. Show me where they need practical help so I can serve them
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- 11 Dec** Today we pray for our five friends who do not yet know Jesus. We pray for them by name and exercise our faith to believe that this Christmas time some of them will experience the reality of Jesus for themselves
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- 12 Dec** A Saviour came into the world and darkness was destroyed by light. How can we be people of light? Lord this Christmas, we pray that every church congregation in every corner of the UK may be good news to their communities. Lord, make us those who bring light into places of darkness
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- 13 Dec** Loving God grant me your peace this day: Speak peace over my home. Speak peace over my work. Speak peace over all I love and those who love me. Grant patience in times of waiting – that the world may know your gift of peace, through Jesus, Prince of Peace
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- 14 Dec** We pray for all our Christian students who are home from University for Christmas and we pray that they will be refreshed, uplifted, blessed and encouraged by their time with family and Church. Keep them close to You we pray Heavenly Father
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- 15 Dec** Father, thank you that forgiveness is always available from you. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Please help all those who need to forgive their enemies to do so with grace and love, and to embrace all that is involved, with Christ's help
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- 16 Dec** There will be many Carol Services today and Father God our hearts yearn and long for people to become aware of the real Christmas Story
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- 17 Dec** Christmas is a time when our Churches are overflowing with people who do not normally come to Church. We pray for all those who will deliver the Christmas message and ask that they will know Your Power and Love as they speak the words, they have prepared
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- 18 Dec** Thank You, Father God, for your peace that passes all understanding and for your constant presence with us, holding and sustaining us through difficult times. We ask you to bring comfort and hope to all those who have loved ones serving over seas in the armed forces. Surround them with Your peace we pray
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- 19 Dec** Father, we pray that the power of Your Presence will break into our prisons, and into the lives of prisoners. We pray for those implementing prison reform, for agencies caring for ex-offenders, and for restorative justice projects. We pray too that Churches will know how to bring help and hope to staff and inmates alike
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- 20 Dec** Father God there is no one, no life, no story that is beyond Your power to love and transform so give us the faith to continue praying for those situations that we think are impossible and see you bring about the possible in Your Precious Name
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- 21 Dec** Sometimes, we get so caught up with the busyness of the season that we forget that Jesus is the reason! He is the answer to the yearning of every human heart. Give thanks for His life, and for all He has given you. Pray today for a renewed desire to follow wherever He leads you
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- 22 Dec** God came in human flesh and there was no room for Him. Even when things seem to have gone wrong, God is still in the midst and in control. This Christmas we pray for those known to us whose lives have not turned out the way they imagined they would. May they find new hope in this season
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- 23 Dec** Father God we come to you again today during this Advent time of expectancy, ready to go with Your Spirit on an adventure of new discovery. May our prayerfulness outweigh our busyness; may our burdens, cares and concerns be outweighed by the Emmanuel Presence of Jesus Christ in our lives today
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- 24 Dec** As we stop to celebrate Christmas, pray that the Christmas story would give new hope to all: to believers who know it so well, and to those still looking for meaning in their lives. May we all look at our Redeemer King, born in poverty, to transform our world
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- 25 Dec** Today we celebrate the birth of the one who promised Peace, Joy and Love
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- 26 Dec** Lord Jesus, You are the meaning and the hope of my life. Strengthen me to live my life in such a way that those around me see hope at work. Give me opportunities to live out my faith in such a way that others are inspired to look to YOU
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- 27 Dec** Father, your heart and purpose is that peace may come. You have revealed Jesus as the Prince of Peace. We offer to you the areas of conflict in the world and ask you to raise up the peacemakers in the nations. We bless your purposes on the earth. In Jesus Name
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- 28 Dec** Father we pray for unity among the Churches where we live. We ask You to bless each Church leaders and their congregations and help them to develop a spirit of love and openness towards one another
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- 29 Dec** Father God we pray and thank you today for the faithful supporters of HOPE who by their financial giving have enabled Your work to go forward
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- 30 Dec** Father God we thank you for the wonderful gift of Prayer and that we can approach your throne and intercede to see things change in our Nation. Help us to continue to pray in the Name of Jesus
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- 31 Dec** Father God as I see the old year out and the new year in may I seek Your Face on how I can make a difference in 2019. Father may I be bold and look for those areas you would have me get involved in
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