

Midday Prayers 2024: Transformation – Now! December : Emmanuel

Prayer of the Month

As we journey through Advent
we praise God for his Word
which leads us to the stable of salvation.
As we draw near to adore the Christ-child,
we share in the joy that the risen Lord
accompanies us every step of the way. Amen.

*Inspired by MU resources, the O Antiphons for
Advent, and the O Emmanuel sonnet in 'Sounding
the Seasons' by Malcom Guite: Canterbury Press*

Monday: Emmanuel- Rooted in Love

**'O Root of Jesse, you stand as a sign among
the peoples.'** *Isaiah 11.10*

Rooted in the Love of God, Christ is a sure
foundation for our faith. He is the alpha and
the omega, the beginning and the end.

**Lord, for the years your love has kept
and guided, we bring our thanks today.**

Lord of the years, all things come from you
and of your own do we give you. Rooted in
Love you give more than we deserve and
entrust us to safeguard creation.

Stand as a sign to those who lead and all who
follow – a sign that the earth is in our care;
a sign that the welfare of its people is our
responsibility; a sign that you are with us and
call us to be with you as servants in the world.
Keep us rooted in your Love.

**God be with us in our working and in
our resting. Amen.**

Tuesday: Emmauel– Bearer of Light

**'O Morning Star, splendour of light eternal
and sun of righteousness: Come, enlighten
those who dwell in darkness.'** *Malachi 4.2*

**Lord, for the times when darkness
overpowers us, be our guiding light.**

Creator of light and darkness, as we make our
footsteps in faith into the dawn of salvation,
may your Word be a lantern to our feet and a
light upon our path.

May your presence be a light of comfort, peace
and understanding to those for whom
Christmas time holds difficult memories.

May your Light illumine the dark places of
danger or despair bringing hope and courage.

God be with us in light and dark. Amen.

Wednesday: Emmauel - Key to Freedom

**'O Key of David, you open and no one can
shut; you shut and no one can open: Come
and set the prisoners free'** *Isaiah 22.22, 42.7*

**Lord for our land in this our generation
be pleased to hear our prayer**

Saviour of our souls,
be the guardian of our coming and our going.

Set us free from the guilt which imprisons and
disables us. Assure us of your forgiveness.

Be the hope of new life in the hearts and
minds of prisoners. Bless those who offer
rehabilitation and fresh start opportunities.

Be the hope of freedom for those imprisoned
by injustice or abuse, those disabled by
infirmity or fearfulness.

Be the open door to compassion and care for
all in distress.

**God be with us in our comings and our
goings. Amen.**

Thursday: Emmauel – Word of God

**'O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you reach
to the ends of the world. You govern all
creation with your strong yet tender care:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.'**
Wisdom 8.1

'In the beginning was the Word and the Word
was with God and the Word was God.' *John 1.1*

**Lord, for the word of life which fires us,
receive your people's praise.**

As we make our footsteps in faith in our daily
tasks, unfold for us the mystery of your grace:
the grace to accept whatever lies ahead;

grace to see each other as you see us;
grace to be thankful in all circumstances.

We give thanks for the work and witness of our worldwide President, Sheran Harper, and pray for her successor, Kathleen Snow.

Bless all who bring the gift of literacy to women and the skills to enable them to make a living and contribute to their communities.

God be with us in our praying and our doing. Amen.

Friday: Emmanuel- King and Cornerstone

'O King of the nations, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation, come to save the human race from fear.' Isaiah 28.14

In a world where people live in fear and with the consequences of conflict, injustice, poverty, homelessness and the abuse of power, Christ calls us to be a voice for change.

Lord, for our world of hunger, doubt and helplessness, we pray that Christ may reign.

For the homeless, for refugees and asylum seekers, we pray for hearts of welcome.

For the unjustly accused, and the innocent victims of conflict, we pray for resolution.

For the leaders of the nations, we pray Christ to be their cornerstone and foundation for community welfare.

God be with us as we witness to God's kingdom values. Amen.

Saturday: Emmanuel – Hope of Heaven

'O Emmanuel, our king and lawgiver, the desire of all the nations, Saviour of all people: Come and save us.' Isaiah 7.14

Rejoice: God is with us: now and evermore.

We thank you that you have kept and guarded us through many challenges and trials; a constant companion in sorrows and in joy.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us to live for Christ alone.

Lord of Life,
God-with-us in our current troubled times:
hold out your hands to our dying world and redeem the rags of our making into the swaddling bands of life. Be born in us today.

Hope of heaven, God-with-us as we face the challenges of life, sustain us as we seek to reflect your love in our lives, through prayer and action.

Name above all Names, God-with-us in joy and in sorrow, in success and in failure, and in all times and circumstances, unfold for us the mystery of your grace.

God be with us today, and in our good intentions. Amen.

Wave of Prayer: December

1-2 Dec: Mpumalanga in South Africa; Central Buganda in Uganda; Zonkwa in Nigeria; Bo in Sierra Leone; Newcastle in England and Barrackpore in India

3-5 Dec: Akot in South Sudan; South West Tanganyika in Tanzania; Aba & Irele-Ese Odo in Nigeria; Coventry in England and Cuttack in India

7-9 Dec: Namibia; Mount Kenya South in Kenya; Northern Izon & Ijebu North in Nigeria and Durham in England

10-12 Dec: Lusaka in Zambia; Shyogwe in Rwanda; Sokoto & Ikka in Nigeria; Ely in England and Karimnagar in India

14-16 Dec: Fianarantsoa in Madagascar; Central Tanganyika in Tanzania; Calabar & Igbomina in Nigeria; Derry & Raphoe in All Ireland and Banks & Torres in Vanuatu

17-19 Dec: Lui in South Sudan; Embu in Kenya; Orlu & Awori in Nigeria; The Murray in Australia and Medak in India

21-23 Dec: Archbishops, Bishops and all clergy in the Anglican Communion

24-26 Dec: Refugees, internally displaced families & those living in a climate of fear

28-30 Dec: All involved with the responsibility of caring for & supporting family life

31 December: Mothers' Union worldwide