

PRAYERS FOR JANUARY 5, 2025

Holy God, at this dawn of a new year, we are gathered together to worship and listen—listen for your voice calling us to something new. Let us enter the New Year by coming to you in prayer. saying:God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

God of mercy, you live in everlasting glory, and your name is eternal. We give thanks that you have revealed to us the name of your only Son, Jesus, our Saviour, the name above every name, the only name by which we are saved, the name in which we have been baptized, and at whose name every knee will bow. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Merciful Lord, forgive us for the sins of the past year. As we look to a new year, we confess to you that we are anxious and uncertain, for we do not know what will come to us. Yet, Lord, we know that you will be with us according to your mercy. Bless the endeavours of our congregation this year and help us to grow in your wisdom. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

God of release, free those who are in bondage to sin, to addiction, to political corruption, or to any evil, that they may know the power of your incarnation and resurrection. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Bless the nations of the earth with leaders who are wise and just, with public servants who are compassionate and patient, and with citizens who are honourable and respectful. Bless all the lawful actions taken by our country. Do not let us grow weary in well-doing. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Bless the resources of the earth and the labour of all workers. Bless our children. Grant that they may grow in virtue and faithfulness until the end. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

May every season work for your good purposes. Send sun and rain, warmth and chill, in due measure to draw forth your bounty from the earth. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Have mercy on those who are lonely, tired, anxious, or despairing; on those without home, employment, or family, those who have lost hope and those whose holiday joy has become sorrow for any reason. Remember us in our dark times, and teach us all not to worry about the future. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

We give thanks for all the blessings of the past year. We pray for the church: for our Bishops Susan and Kathy, Bishop Anna, Anglican Primate Anne Germond, all pastors, deacons, and lay leaders, musicians and volunteers, Christ Lutheran in Kelowna – Rev. Barbara Groote, Shared Ministries in BC Synod, the Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, our sister congregation in Peru and Pastor Ana Maria Jara; God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

God of compassion, let the children of the world be granted the opportunity to live in homes where they are loved and cherished. May they be fed, clothed, housed and loved. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Shine your light through this faith community into the wider community. Make us a beacon for all who hunger and thirst for righteousness and who are in need of mercy. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Journey with all refugees and displaced peoples. Lead them in safety to a place where they will find security, that they rejoice in the care you have provided them. God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Ease the suffering of all who live with chronic illness, are undergoing treatments, awaiting surgery, experiencing distress or loneliness (especially). Surround them with family and friends who bring assurance; God of new beginnings – **fill our world with new hope.**

Hear all our prayers, gracious God, and receive them in the name of the Word made flesh, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray....

Our Father