

Prayers from Various Prayer Calendars

Sunday, December 17

- **LCMS** – For opportunities to proclaim the Gospel in this season. When the world is open to hearing the story of Christmas, may we be unashamed in our witness.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Somalia – Pray the many young people currently disillusioned with Islam will turn to Christ.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord, You sent John the Baptist to proclaim the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Grant that we who prepare to celebrate the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ may die to sin and rise to new life, that we may treasure up and ponder in our hearts the Christ announced by Your forerunner.

Monday, December 18

- **LCMS** – That all Christians might see the needs of their neighbor and love with the love of Christ.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Central African Republic – Christians reflect Christ's love and forgiveness to persecutors.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Lord, richly and daily forgive our sins and the sins of all believers. Bless our Synod president, our district president, our circuit visitor, and all pastors in Christ. Gather and preserve Your Holy Christian Church by Your voice, and send us faithful preachers who will not deny but confess Your truth.

Tuesday, December 19

- **LCMS** – For all who only attend worship at Christmas, that the Spirit works faith through the hearing of the Word.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Uzbekistan – Pray for Christians who can be fined for meeting in unregistered churches.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Father, be the source of strength and comfort in every home. Bless the children of our families, that every darkness be lightened by Your Son's gracious visitation. Preserve them from dangers to body and soul, guide them by Your Word in wise paths, and keep them firm in the faith until life's end.

Wednesday, December 20

- **LCMS** – That we may believe the truth of the two natures of Christ.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Sudan – Pray for believers in the Nuba Mountains who are receiving practical aid.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Lord, rule over all things in heaven and on earth. Until that day when Your Son comes in glory to usher in His kingdom, give wisdom and insight to leaders, that we may live peaceable lives.

Thursday, December 21

- **LCMS** – For St. Thomas, apostle. That with him we might believe and confess that Jesus is Lord and God.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Oman – Pray that new believers will find a thriving community to help them grow in Christ.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Lord, many are afflicted with pain, sickness, trials and difficulties. Be merciful to them, that they may be granted health or strength to endure their afflictions. Help us all to see that when Christ returns in glory, our bodies will be incorruptible and immortal when He makes all things new.

Friday, December 22

- **LCMS** – Father, for faithful reading of Your Word, that it may result in faith in Jesus Christ, Your Son.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Eritrea – Pray Christians continue to worship despite the threat of arrest and imprisonment.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Heavenly Father, Your Church eagerly awaits the return of her Bridegroom. Grant that we would not grow weary. Strengthen us through Your Word and Sacraments, that we would ever hold fast Your promise of salvation won for us by Christ.

Saturday, December 23

- **LCMS** – For pastors who serve in our midst. That they might proclaim the truth of the Good News of Christmas.
- **Persecuted Christians** – Burkina Faso – Praise God for Christians who boldly worship despite attacks on churches.
- **Weekly Prayers of the Church (LCMS)** – Lord, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection, we draw strength from His ascension, where He ever stands as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**