

Prayer Focus 22nd December 2019

Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men! Luke 2:14

Father God You chose to show us peace and goodwill when we didn't deserve it.

We thank You so much for the gift of Your son Jesus.

Help us to spread the Christmas message of Joy by the way we live.

May we treat others with kindness and understanding even when we don't agree with them.

Your grace is so much greater than anything we could ever seek to demonstrate.

May we all as your body show love to one another that goes beyond "natural" abilities.

Unite all by Your Holy Spirit.

May we celebrate the uniqueness of each person whilst embracing the message of Christ.

We pray for friends, family and neighbours that they may experience the Christmas story
in a fresh way that does bring peace.

Hallelujah! May we celebrate with the angels in praising You. Amen

Be curious about other people's perspectives. It is a wonderful thing that God has created all of us uniquely, in his image. We can recognise this by listening deeply and seeking to understand others. Discuss, rather than debate, and ask questions.

Be humble. Just because someone has a different opinion to you doesn't mean they are wrong. If you find yourself reacting out of anger or offence, it's important to look at yourself first. What in you caused you to respond to the other person in that way? Is there something you need to give to God?

Find common ground. The Bible teaches that we are all one in Christ Jesus. It is possible for people with radically different opinions to have a very similar motivation for those views. What are the areas where you can find unity?

EBC & Local Focus:- Pray for all Ministers in the area that they will be able to enjoy Christmas and be able to rest. Pray for Mark and Jen to have a good post Christmas break.

Pray for all those attending a Christian service that they may experience the true meaning of Christmas and seek to learn more about Jesus.

Street of the Week :- Benlease Way

Community Prayer Diary:- Link Visiting – Jackie Gould

National & World Prayer Points:-

Please pray: For all Christians celebrating Christmas all over the world, that they would experience Christ's peace, joy and love.

Please ask God for protection for believers celebrating secretly.

For believers who, for whatever reason, are isolated at this time of year, or are grieving, or will be unable to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Pray for God's presence and comfort to surround them at this time.

That this Christmas, many more people would come to know Jesus – that His light and gospel will change hearts and lives in some of the more dangerous countries to be a Christian.