



## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH FOR DECEMBER 18, 2024 ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICE

- P** Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption and the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, for Your holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Save and defend Your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the holy Sacraments, making them perfect in love and in all good works, and establishing them in the one true faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Preserve our nation in justice and honor that we may lead a peaceable life with integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land especially the president and congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of this state, and to all those who make, administer and judge our laws. Help them to serve this people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and order our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to the nations, especially the deployed members of our military, that tranquility and harmony may be established among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** By Your and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity. Be with those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near and bring consolation to those who mourn. Grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, dear Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.