

# PRAYERS SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY

*Use the prayer points below, the full prayer underneath, or come up with your own prayer*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Call to prayer*

Jesus Christ has been revealed to us in the proclamation of the word. Let us bring our prayers and petitions to the Father in his name.

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Suggested intercessions*

- \* for all members of the body of Christ, that each may be honoured for the gifts they offer in service to the whole
- \* for layreaders and others who read the word of God in worship
- \* for those disabled by blindness or other physical disabilities
- \* for those caught in poverty or oppression, and for those who are unjustly imprisoned
- \* for all the nations on earth, that they may live in peace with one another

*Concluding prayer*

Lord, may your word be heard wherever your people gather, so that they are set free to bring your good news to all the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## FULL PRAYER

*Jesus Christ has been revealed to us in the proclamation of the word. Let us bring our prayers and petitions to the Father in his name.*

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of your Son- the Word made flesh. Thank you for revealing yourself to us through Jesus, and for all that you've done to bring us forgiveness and new life. Forgive us our many sins and purify our lives. Help us to follow Christ in faith-filled repentance and devotion.

*Lord in your mercy:*     **hear our prayer**

We pray for this land of Australia. Thank you for the abundant blessings you shower on us here. Graciously protect us from fire and flood, from war and disease, from famine and strife, and from every kind of disaster. Draw all Australians into the radiance of your light, so that we may properly care for and use the resources of this wonderful country.

*Lord in your mercy:*     **hear our prayer**

Thank you for the blessings of good government and civil peace. We commend to you our Prime Minister (*insert name*), and our Premier (*insert name*). Help all in government and positions of responsibility maintain honesty and truth, justice and peace. And give our leaders wisdom and compassion in policy regarding refugees. Draw us into the radiance of your light, that we may be obedient to proper authority.

*Lord in your mercy:*     **hear our prayer**

Support all people in their proper vocation, dear Lord, and help all those who are unemployed. Bless our arts and culture, our science and technology. Draw us all into the radiance of your light, that we may each give faithful service to you in our various callings.

*Lord in your mercy:*     **hear our prayer**

We pray for the churches in Australia. Keep your people true to your word, regular in the use of the means of grace, and genuine in repentance and renewal. Where there is error correct it, and bring the churches to unity in you. Draw us into the radiance of your light, that we may give a clear witness to you in this land.

*Lord in your mercy:*     **hear our prayer**

Have mercy, Lord, on those suffering in the shadows of darkness and caught in the traps of sin and death. Shine on them with your grace and peace. Give health and strength to all we know to be in need, and whom we now name silently in our hearts...*(brief silence)*

*Lord in your mercy:*     **hear our prayer**

Lord, may your word be heard wherever your people gather, so that they are set free to bring your good news to all the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**