

December 24 & 25 Intercessions

The congregational response, as printed in today's bulletin
Light of the world: **shine in the darkness.**

Pity and pardon this world of conflict, deaf to the message of peace ... Bring harmony where there is strife between nations and where people are divided by suspicion and bitterness ... Heal those who have no peace within themselves.
(pause)

Light of the world: **shine in the darkness.**

We pray for the families and friends with whom we celebrate this happy time ... Give us true love, unselfish desires and grateful hearts . (pause)

Light of the world: **shine in the darkness.**

We pray especially for the children, for their unclouded joy at this time ... Create in us a pattern of human love that will lead them to the love of God who sent his Son as a little child. (pause)

Light of the world: **shine in the darkness.**

We pray for those who cannot feel the joy of Christmas, through the burden of sickness, bereavement or other distress ... Comfort with your presence all who are separated at this time from those they love ... Bring the light of Christ into their afflicted lives. (pause)

Light of the world: **shine in the darkness.**

Have mercy on the departed who, having shared with Christ their human birth and infancy, have shared with him also the death of the body ... Make their joy complete, in the Kingdom where there is neither birth nor death but abundant life without end. (pause)

Light of the world: **shine in the darkness.**

Through Christ who is the hope of the nations and the joy of all people, we make our prayers to God who is most wonderfully with us. **Amen**