

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession
December 6, 2020

Lord God Almighty, King of glory and love eternal, you are worthy at all times to receive adoration, praise, and blessing; we praise you now for sending your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, for whom our hearts wait. Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love, and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ, our Savior, and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth.

Strengthen us for worship in this Advent season, coming Christ. Bless and show your grace to each person watching this video, whether they know the community of Calvin Church well, or whether they are stopping by.

Thank you, God, for the encouragement we feel at the vaccines in development to inoculate against COVID-19. Give insight and perseverance to the scientists working on these vaccines. Put an end to this pandemic, loving God, and heal each one who suffers from the disease.

Mighty God, heal those who are sick or injured. Bring healing to Marian Heerema, recovering from a broken ankle. Bring strength to Dave Dykgraaf, recovering from chemo eye drops and cataract surgery. Bring comfort to Dee Bult after the death of Conrad Bult, and bring comfort to all those who grieve.

God of grace, we pray for reconciliation where relationships are broken. We pray for freedom for those who are victims of abuse or of human trafficking or of slavery.

Prince of Peace, bring your peace to every place of conflict or uncertainty or violence. Bring your peace to Indonesia, to Turkey, to Iran, and to every community in the United States that is burdened and damaged by violence. Bring peace inside every heart, bring peace to our families, bring peace to our congregation as we live together with a variety of strongly held views on many things – hold us together in Christ – and bring peace in our world.

Promise-keeping God, we rejoice in your faithfulness. Our hearts overflow with hope as we express our longing for the advent of our Lord. Prepare us to receive, honor, and follow him, our Messiah, the King of kings and Lord of lords. We pray together in the words he taught us:

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.***

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.