

## **Sunday 28 December – First Sunday of Christmas**

### **Prayers written by Sheila Gunson**

Dear Lord and Heavenly Father we come to you in prayer.

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of 2025 and many of us are inclined to say time flies!

At this time of year, we often reflect on the year that has passed.

We remember the many prayers for the conflicts around our world. The requests for resolutions to these and the hope we have that the leaders of the countries involved will hear your voice to bring the conflicts to an end and ease the suffering of the people. We will continue to pray for peace.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We remember the many prayers for our churches across the world and we pray that the growth in attendance that has been reported will continue and we welcome people and help them to grow in your love.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We have this year seen Anne-Marie leave us and move to Wales. We have prayed for your blessings on her and her ministry there and we will continue to do so.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We have asked you in our prayers to guide those who are seeking the right minister for us and for those seeking the right church for their ministry and that together we may discover your way for the future here in St Luke's Tiptree and see your kingdom grow.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

As we look back on our year and the prayers we have prayed: our prayers of thanks, prayers of praise and prayers of requests. You have listened to each one and helped us through good and bad. Thank you.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

Our Prayers have included asking for your love and healing for those unwell. We pray for Jericho Hasieber and Jo

Please take a moment to pray for those we know who are unwell and ask for God's love and healing.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

In our prayers we also remember those who have died throughout the year. There are too many to mention but they are all remembered and loved. Recently we have lost Roger Traveller, Nina Watts, Maria Tanti and June Denis.

Comfort the families and friends at this time.

During this Christmas time we have had a Memory Tree provided by EK and B . Hearts with names of loved ones have been placed on the tree and we now pray for each one mentioned and their families.

From our Memorial Book we remember Valerie Goodhew, John Pamphilon and my lovely husband Graham Gunson, you are missed and loved and time spent with you was a joy.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We now look forward to a New Year with the challenges it will bring for the world and its leaders, our churches and us. Using the words of the prayer during vacancy we ask now that you will help us

to share responsibility  
grow in faith  
Love one another  
care for those in need  
reach out to others  
welcome newcomers

Lord Jesus help us to guard and grow this church.

Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

