

Come let us go with the shepherds to Bethlehem and find this thing which has come to pass

Almighty God our heavenly Father you promised through you Son to hear us when pray in faith. We give you thanks for the extraordinary Christmas story in which you came and lived within us. We give you thanks that you still come and make yourself known to us today. Give us an open mind to receive your word and follow your example

In this troubled world we ask you to bring your light, your healing and your hope

Lord in your mercy

The angels sang to the shepherds "peace on earth" Yet we look out on your world and see suffering through conflict and injustice. Let us remember when the Angel visited Mary, the words whispered were "do not be afraid". Give us all the faith of Mary to trust you in these strange times that we are faced with.

Lord in your mercy

You came as an infant child ,a refugee and showed us that every human life matters and that you love each and every one of us. That with you every persons potential can be fulfilled and there is hope for a better kind of world.

Lord in your mercy

In that love which passes all understanding we pray for the sick and the suffering those who through illness cannot be with us this Christmas those alone or depressed. We pray especially for Judy now in rehab, for Angela and Jo in care and any other loved ones known to us

Lord in your mercy

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ, we remember Claude Riches our much loved priest whose anniversary falls at this time according to your promises grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your Saints we commend ourselves and all Christian people to your unfailing love. Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your Son Our Saviour Jesus Christ