

A Christmas Prayer

Loving God,Â ever faithful to your promisesÂ and ever close to your people,Â the earth rejoices in hope of the Saviourâ€™s coming,as it looks forward to the birthday of Christ.Prepare our hearts and help us to remove the sadness thatÂ hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which Christmas brings.May we celebrate the coming feast with love and thanksgiving. May families, especially those divided by misunderstanding andbitterness, experience much healing and forgiveness thisÂ Christmas.May all who are in any sort of misery or pain, especially theÂ misery of sin,allow themselves to be touched, by the compassion of themerciful Christ Child.

Now and always, as we journey on our pilgrim way, longing withall our hearts, for you to heal our present ills, lead us to eternal joy.Make us worthy to receive, from your hand, the Bread of Heaven,at the feast of eternal life.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Amen.