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# A FRESH START “IN THE BEGINNING” JOHN 1: 1 - 3

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021



H A P P Y

N E W

Y E A R



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# CALL TO WORSHIP

‘Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God’ (Psalm 42:5-6).



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O COME ALL  
YE FAITHFUL



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# OPENING PRAYER

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ, for you are the Lord of light and giver of life. We your faithful people come today to worship and adore you, for



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you are our Messiah, the Word  
incarnate. Help us in action and in  
truth to grasp the wonder of your  
incarnation, and the wonder of  
your presence with us.



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# CONFESSION

Loving God, you have searched us and known us completely, our fears and selfishness, our greed & thoughtlessness. Forgive us all our



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sins, for the sake of your Son  
Jesus Christ, who became like us  
that we might become like him;  
to the glory of your holy name.  
**Amen.**

# ASSURANCE OF PARDON



The true light that gives light to everyone has come into the world. To all who receive him, he declares 'Your sins are forgiven.'

**Amen. Glory to God in the highest.**



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# OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord of light and life, giver of every good gift, we offer you the gifts we have given for the sake of your kingdom. We give what we have and all we are for the glory of your name throughout the earth.

**Amen.**



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# READINGS

Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.



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# John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

# HOLY CHILD WHO CHOSE THE HEARTS OF MEN



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# REFLECTION: A FRESH START



In the beginning...  
John 1: 1 - 3

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

These are responsive prayers:

Jesus, incarnate Lord

**Hear us we pray.**



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Glory to God in the highest, for  
you are incarnate among us in  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord God,  
we give you thanks and praise that  
you gave the wonderful gift of  
your Son to be our Saviour. Help



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us to know your presence in  
our lives and in our homes.

Jesus, incarnate Lord,  
hear us we pray.



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We rejoice with the worldwide Church in celebrating your love for us in Jesus. We ask your blessing on those Churches where there is opposition and persecution at this time. May they

know they are not forgotten by  
us, their brothers and sisters in  
Christ.

Jesus, incarnate Lord,  
**hear us we pray.**



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We give thanks for your eternal promise of peace and goodwill. We remember before you those suffering hatred in its many forms: violence, war, famine, discrimination. We pray for all who this Christmas



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time feel fearful or neglected or  
hated.

Jesus, incarnate Lord,  
**hear us we pray.**

We thank you that you understand family life and experienced childhood in an ordinary home. We ask your blessing on our families, all those we love. We pray for all who have been separated from



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homes or loved ones. Lord we pray for Mark and family with his/their mum in hospital. May they know your love, peace, and protection at this testing time.



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Jesus, incarnate Lord,  
**hear us we pray.**



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We thank you that you came to restore what was broken and give life in all its fulness. We remember those who are ill and for those who have no joy in life. We pray for those who are fearful of the future



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and unable to cope with the present. May they know you came to heal and save.

Jesus, incarnate Lord,  
**hear us we pray.**



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Finally, Lord, we give thanks that our worship is united with all the worship on earth and in heaven.

We thank and praise you that you came for our salvation. So, we remember our loved ones who



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have died, and hold before you  
those who mourn.

Jesus, incarnate Lord,  
**hear us we pray.**



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



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# THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your will be  
done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**



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**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin  
against us.**

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

**For the kingdom, the power, and  
the glory are yours now and for  
ever. Amen.**

A photograph of a city street during a heavy snowfall. The street is covered in a thick layer of snow. On the left, there is a black lamppost with a glowing yellow light. In the distance, a bus is visible on the road. The trees and railings along the street are heavily laden with snow. The overall atmosphere is bright and wintry.

# SEE, AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW



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# CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Lord of creation, you came among us revealing your plan of salvation, formed before the creation of the world. Fill us with joy and peace as



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we begin this new year, that  
we may walk in the joy of your  
salvation, now and always.

**Amen.**



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And the blessing of God  
Almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be with you  
and all whom you love, now  
and for evermore.

**Amen.**



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Go in peace to love and serve  
the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.  
Amen.**