

Dec 13 – Pray for the church, that God’s love would flow through all of us today.

Dec 14 – Pray for all those who are suffering from Covid-19 and those who have lost loved ones.

Dec 15 – Give thanks for the ability to be in contact with one another – through phone, by mail or internet, and face to face conversation.

Dec 16 – Pray for all those who are working to supply Christmas dinners, in all sorts of places.

Dec 17 – Pray for all those who are searching spiritually, that they may find the love of Christ.

Dec 18 – Pray for those children who rely on free school meals and who struggle during the holidays.

Dec 19 – Pray for college and university students returning for the holidays, that their families would not be infected by Covid-19 on their return.

Dec 20 – Pray for God’s people in every time and space, for united and faithful witness to the Gospel.

Dec 21 – On this shortest day of the year, give thanks for the light of Christ.

Dec 22 – Pray for all those who will be at work at Christmas.

Dec 23 – Pray for all those in residential and nursing homes and the staff.

Dec 24 – Remember Christmas Eve services that you have been to and give thanks for Nativity Plays, Christingles, carol singing and Jesus himself, born as a baby in Bethlehem, yet Lord of all.

As our 40 days of prayer comes to an end why not.....

- Continue to commit a time each day to pray;
- Remember that prayer is two way – take time to listen as well as speak;
- Each time you pray, ask that we would all be ‘less of self and more of Thee’ (from the hymn “O the bitter shame and sorrow”;
- Encourage others in church to pray.



Cromford, Holloway, Matlock, Matlock Moor and Tansley Methodist Churches

## LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS



For the 40 days from 15 November until Christmas Eve, let us join in prayer together, to seek “the light which blazed out of the darkness, which could not be put out” (from John 1), Jesus Christ. From our solitariness we can be united, in love, hope and yearning for a new and better way.

Each day you are asked to spend some time in prayer. Use the themes in this leaflet as a guide, but start each day with the following:

**“Lord, teach me to pray. Help me to talk with you and not at you. Help me to hear your voice in whatever way you choose to talk to me. Take me deeper today in my relationship with you.”**

Nov 15 – thank God for Jesus, our risen Saviour and for the hope of eternal life we have in Him. Pray for friends who do not know him and for opportunities to talk with them and share the love of Christ.

Nov 16 – pray for those who are concerned about their employment or who are seeking work. Pray that their needs would be met.

Nov 17 – Pray for Christians who are persecuted because of their faith, that God would bless them with strength and courage.

Nov 18 – Pray for children, for teachers and all who work in schools, for their safety and to keep well.

Nov 19 – Pray for those who volunteer at food banks, soup kitchens and night shelters and for all those who use these facilities.

Nov 20 – Pray for the NHS.

Nov 21 – Pray for times of rest. Thank God for days off and for times of recreation.

Nov 22 – Pray for our preachers and worship leaders and for all who enable our worship to happen on line.

Nov 23 – Pray for our families. Ask God to bless them.

Nov 24 – Pray for those who suffer from abuse. That they would be able to speak up and find a way to a better life.

Nov 25 – Pray for the church family, that we would be united in love and service to our community.

Nov 26 – Pray for world leaders, that they would seek to lead wisely and with peace and justice.

Nov 27 – Give thanks for those people who have influenced you for good.

Nov 28 – Pray for farmers and those who produce food.

Nov 29 – Give thanks for Messy Church, holiday clubs and after school clubs, in fact anywhere where children can hear of the love of Jesus.

Nov 30 – As you buy your Advent Calendar, pray for an opportunity to talk to someone about Advent and what it means to you.

Dec 1 – Open the first window in anticipation and remember those who feel they have nothing to look forward to.

Dec 2 – Thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit and ask the Holy Spirit to refill you again and again.

Dec 3 – Pray for charities who usually get most of their income at this time of year and whose work is suffering because of the current situation.

Dec 4 – Pray for those scientists who have worked so hard this year searching for a vaccine against Covid-19.

Dec 5 – Give thanks if you are able to be out and about doing Christmas shopping today (and for those who might do it on your behalf).

Dec 6 – Pray for our churches, for church councils and circuit meetings that we may be steered in the direction God wants us to go.

Dec 7 – Pray for places of work and for all those employees who on furlough.

Dec 8 – Pray for the emergency services.

Dec 9 – Pray for postal workers, couriers and all those who enable our on line shopping to reach us.

Dec 10 – Give thanks for the beauty you can see, whether countryside, garden or potted plant.

Dec 11 – Pray that you will be a good and faithful witness to your neighbours.

Dec 12 – Give thanks for your friends and ask God to bless them.