



Prayer List for January

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Name of Jesus

Philippians 2:5-11

God takes on human form

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross. (Phil. 2:5-8)

Psalm

Psalm 8

How exalted is your name

Additional Readings

Numbers 6:22-27

The Aaronic blessing

Luke 2:15-21

The child is named Jesus

Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! ELW 634

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant love in every heart for the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Friday, January 2, 2026

Ninth Day of Christmas

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

Hebrews 11:1-12

Abraham's faith

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. (Heb. 11:1-3)

Psalm

Psalm 20

Answer us when we call

Additional Reading

Genesis 12:1-7

Abram and Sarai

Hymn: Faith of Our Fathers, ELW 813

Creating God, you have made the wonderful world that greets us every new day. May we be moved by the faith of our ancestors as your word resonates within us, generating faith and bringing us into your unfolding future.

Saturday, January 3, 2026

Tenth Day of Christmas

Psalm 72

Prayers for the king

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice. . . .
May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring gifts.
May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service. (Ps. 72:1-2, 10-11)

Additional Readings

Genesis 28:10-22

Jacob's ladder

Hebrews 11:13-22

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob act on faith

Hymn: May the God of Hope Go with Us, ACS 984

God of justice, you call the leaders of the world to attend to the needs of those who are most vulnerable. When they waver in commitment, raise our voices to defend those in danger and at risk.



Sunday, January 4, 2026

Second Sunday of Christmas

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

God with us

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.
(John 1:10-14)

Psalm

Psalm 147:12-20

Praising God in Zion

Additional Readings

Jeremiah 31:7-14

*Joy as God's scattered flock
gathers*

Ephesians 1:3-14

*The will of God made known
in Christ*

Hymn: Love Has Come, ELW 292

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Monday, January 5, 2026

Twelfth Day of Christmas

Hebrews 11:32—12:2

Surrounded by a cloud of witnesses

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb. 12:1-2)

Psalm

Psalm 72

Prayers for the king

Additional Reading

Joshua 1:1-9

Be strong

Hymn: Go Tell It on the Mountain, ELW 290/TFF 52

Holy God, our beginning and ending, thank you for the witnesses who have shown us your way. Teach us to run the race with eyes fixed on Jesus, that, seeing him clearly, we might be drawn to be like him.



Blessing for a Home at Epiphany

Matthew writes that when the magi saw the shining star stop overhead, they were filled with joy. “On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother” (Matt. 2:10-11). In the home, Christ is met in family and friends, in visitors and strangers. In the home, faith is shared, nurtured, and put into action.

Twelfth Night (January 5), Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6), or another day during the time after Epiphany offers an occasion for gathering with friends and family members for a blessing for the home. Someone may lead the greeting and blessing, while another person may read the scripture passage. Following an eastern European tradition, a visual blessing may be inscribed with white chalk above the main door; for example, 20 + CMB + 26. The numbers change with each new year. The three letters stand for either the ancient Latin blessing *Christe mansionem benedicat*, which means, “Christ, bless this house,” or the legendary names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar).

Greeting

Peace to this house and to all who enter here.
By wisdom a house is built,
and through understanding it is established;
through knowledge its rooms are filled
with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Prov. 24:3-4*)

Reading

As we prepare to ask God’s blessing on this household,
let us listen to the words of scripture.
In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.
The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.
From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.
(John 1:1-4, 14, 16)

Inscription

This inscription may be made with chalk above the entrance:

20 + C M B + 26

Write the appropriate character (left) while speaking the text (right).

The magi of old, known as

C Caspar,

M Melchior, and

B Balthasar

followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us

20 two thousand

26 and twenty-six years ago.

+ Christ, bless this house,

+ and remain with us throughout the new year.

Prayer of Blessing

you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star.

We pray that you bless this home and all who live here
with your gracious presence.

May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide,
your truth our light, and your peace our benediction;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then everyone may walk from room to room, blessing the house with incense or by
sprinkling with water, perhaps using a branch from the Christmas tree.*



Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Epiphany of Our Lord

Matthew 2:1-12

Christ revealed to the nations

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matt. 2:7-11)

Psalm

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

All shall bow down

Additional Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Nations come to the light

Ephesians 3:1-12

The gospel's promise for all

Hymn: As with Gladness Men of Old, ELW 302

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Time after Epiphany

The season of Christmas rejoiced in Emmanuel, God is with us. In the time after Epiphany, the story moves from Mary's arms into the world, where Jesus teaches, heals, and feeds those he meets, manifesting the good news of heaven in daily life. On the Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6), hearts and homes join the whole church in recognizing God revealed in Jesus. The time after Epiphany invites us to consider: How might our faith in Christ shine in our lives, shared for the sake of friends and family, neighbors near and far?

Table Prayer for Epiphany and the Time after Epiphany (January 6– February 17)

Generous God,

your delight for creation is revealed in Jesus,
who sets wide tables and feeds multitudes,
who breaks and becomes bread for the whole world.

May this meal strengthen our bodies and illuminate our spirits
so that our whole lives shine with love from heaven.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.