



A Prayer for Hope at Christmas

FROM THE SANCTUARY TEAM

God of all seasons, as we move through Advent and Christmas, we look for you.

You ask us to hold onto hope:

the hope that Jesus truly is Emmanuel, God with us;

the hope that you will bring light to the darkness;

the hope that this good news will reach everyone, even our own hearts.

It can be so hard to live in hope—to wait and wait,
through seasons of flourishing and seasons of languishing.

If we are able now to lean into hope,
may we hold hope for our neighbours who cannot.

And if we feel hopeless,

may we trust in the truth that our hope is held
by you and by our fellow saints on our behalf.

Jesus, as we hear the story of your coming,
and we wait on your promise to come again,
we ask that you show your presence among us here and now.

Help us to find our rest in you.
Be our strength and consolation,
and bring joy to our longing hearts.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,
fill us with your joy and peace,
and help us to abound in hope.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

