***Prayers for 9th of January 2022***

On this January morning, we come to you with gratitude and joy. We thank you for your loving and kind spirit that guides and protects us.

Lord, in your loving way, please help us to focus completely on you at this time of prayer. Help us to listen out for you. Help us to appreciate the joy and wonder that come from spending time with you. Let us feel your presence and your spirit like a warm and comforting hug this morning.

***Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer***

Thank you, Lord, for seeing us through 2021.

Thank you for all the wonderful times of celebration – the big and the small, minute details that we were able to celebrate last year. Thank you too for saving us from dangerous situations and for all the times that you gave us clarity and direction.

Thank you for all the times you challenged and nudged us to do better and be better people – better friends, better sisters and brothers, better mums and dads, better to our work colleagues and better members of our communities.

We ask that this year, as we look to the future with hope, may we reflect on the past and remember the lessons you have taught us. May we also dedicate the time and the stillness of mind to focus on you so that we are transformed and renewed through 2022.

***Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer***

I pray for us as a church community. Help us to be a successful church in the way that You define Lord. Tell us what you want from us and help us to be a place of love, light and kindness – a refuge for those that are afraid, hurting or in need of comfort.

Loving father help us to step outside of our biases, judgements and comfort zones with open arms, with you as our role model so that we build a place that is attractive to all and where people can feel your presence and love.

Lord, we know that life is not always pleasant, but we ask that you show us where you need us to be the most and give us the desire to be there to help.

All the glory belongs to you Lord and as we strive to be a successful church, I pray that you make us brave, taking all cowardice and fear from our hearts as we go about our daily lives.

***Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer***

We pray for the sick and those in need who have nowhere to turn. January can be a difficult time with regards to finances, mental health and feelings of loneliness. With all the excitement of Christmas well and truly over, help us to know and feel your presence and assurance, knowing that with you, all things are possible.

***Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer***

Lord, grant us peace above all else no matter the circumstances we may face this year. And as I bring these prayers to a close, I ask that we go forth with certainty from you Lord, declaring Your word in Philippians that says, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” And I pray Lord that the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

You are the true source of fulfilment, happiness and joy and we thank you, Father for listening to us today!

***Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer***

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