On this holy night/day the world resounds with joy, for God is with us! With glad hearts let us place all our hopes in the hands of our gracious God.

For peace in every land,

that the many peoples of the earth will own their common humanity and live together in harmony.

For the whole human family,

that the eyes of all will be opened to see creation as God's gift entrusted to them.

For all Christian believers,

that their practice of faith and love will shine the light of salvation across the face of the earth.

For our nation and its inhabitants old and new,

that Australia will be a land of peace, generosity, justice, and compassion.

For asylum seekers being held in indefinite detention,

that their pain and anguish will be replaced without delay by the joy of freedom.

For all who are separated from loved ones or are lonely this Christmas,

that friends and neighbours will draw them into a circle of love.

For our families,

that the celebration of Christmas will unite us in joy and thankfulness, and wherever needed, in forgiveness and reconciliation.

For one another.

that the birth of Christ will inspire in each of us new faith in God's saving love.

For the recently deceased (*name*) and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time,

that with all the saints they will see the glory of God.

God of all light and love, your eternal Word has taken flesh in our world. Open our eyes to see his beauty in all things.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

We invite you to light a candle for all people, and our world.

