

## Year A – Second Sunday in Advent

Brothers and sisters, with readiness to welcome Christ, Who showers us daily with His mercy and grace, let us open our hearts and present our needs to Him.

That the Church, like John the Baptist's voice in the wilderness, may never cease proclaiming the truth, even under the most difficult circumstances.

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

That God may pour out His grace, enabling the nations of the world to live at peace with one another.

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

That governments may heed the call of the Gospel and respect the dignity of all mankind.

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

That those who defend us at home and abroad may be protected by God's grace and strengthened by our prayers.

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

That we may be a forgiving people so the world may know that there is forgiveness in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

That we may seek the Kingdom of God above all else.

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

For your own special intentions. **(Pause)**

**Lord in Your mercy,                    Hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, we thank You for Your forgiveness and we rejoice that our redemption is near. Hear our prayer and prepare our hearts for the return of Your Son who lives and reigns with You forever and ever.

**Amen.**