

A Christmas Prayer

O loving God,
through the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ,
you have touched humanity with grace.
As a child, he delighted us, and as a man
he taught us to be grateful for our lives on earth
and for the promise of life forever in your presence.
He taught us to love one another without reservation
and to love and care for the earth and its produce,
the gifts we received from you in creation.
He gave us an example to imitate,
an example of self-sacrifice,
an example of gratitude to you,
an example of commitment to love and peace and justice.
As we celebrate his Nativity,
we thank you for all of these gifts,
and we pray for those who suffer today from poverty or illness.
We thank you for the company of our family and friends
and for the food and drink that sustains us
as we continue to live as his disciples.
We make this prayer in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Greg Tobin
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