



Selections from

## A Christmas Prayer for the Home



by Henry Van Dyke

Father of all men, look upon our family,  
Kneeling together before thee,  
And grant us a true Christmas.

With loving Heart we bless Thee:

For the gift of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ,  
For the peace He brings to human homes,  
For the good-will He teaches to sinful men,  
For the glory of Thy goodness shining in His face.

With joyful voice we praise Thee:

For His lowly birth and His rest in the manger,  
For the pure tenderness of His mother Mary,  
For the fatherly care that protected Him,  
For the providence that saved the Holy child  
To be the Saviour of the world.

With deep desire we beseech Thee:

Help us keep His birthday truly,  
Help us to offer, in His name, our Christmas prayer.

In praying and praising, in giving and receiving,  
In eating and drinking, in singing and making merry,  
In parents' gladness and in children's mirth,  
In dear memories of those who have departed,  
In good comradeship with those who are here,  
In kind wishes for those who are far away,

In patient waiting, sweet contentment, generous cheer,  
God bless us every one, with the blessing of Jesus.

In whose name we keep Christmas,  
And whose words we pray together:

*Our Father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

From *The Book of Jesus* edited by Calvin Miller