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A CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOR LONELY FOLKS.

Lord God of the solitary,
Look upon me in my loneliness,
Since I may not keep this Christmas
in the home.

Let not my sins cloud me in.
But shine through them with forgiveness in the face of the child Jesus,
Put me in loving remainbrance of the
lowly lodging in the stable of
Bethlehem,
The sorrows of the blessed Mary, the
poverty and exile of the Prince of

For His sake, give me a chearful cour-age to endure my lot. And an inward comfort to sweeteen it.

Give me good work to do.

That I may forget myself and find peace in doing it for Thee.

Though I am poor, send me to carry some gift to those who are poorer, Some cheer to those who are more lonely, Grant me the joy to do a kindness to one of Thy little ones;
Light my Christmas candle at the gladness of an innocent and grateful heart.

Strange is the path where Thou leadest

me; Let me not doubt Thy wisdom, nor lose Thy hand. Make me sure that Eternal Love is revealed in Jesus, Thy dear Son. To save us from sin and solitude and

Teach me that I am not alone, But many hearts, all round, the world, Join with me through the silence. —Henry Van Dyke.