

## Prayers and Readings for March 2021

If you wish to join in with our telephone worship, please call **0333 011 0616**, then enter the access code, **286 7552** followed by # (not £ as the lady says!). You will be asked to say your name and enter # and, in a moment or two you will be connected. Please dial in before 11am

**7 March:** Exodus 20:1-17 • Psalm 19 • 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 • John 2:13-22

**14 March:** Numbers 21:4-9 • Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 • Ephesians 2:1-10 • John 3:14-21

**21 March:** Jeremiah 31:31-34 • Psalm 51:1-12 • Hebrews 5:5-10 • John 12:20-33

**28 March:** Isaiah 50:4-9a • Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 • Philippians 2:5-11 • Mark 11:1-11 (Palm Sunday, Communion)

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- 1. Call to worship:** Send out your light and your truth to be my guide; let them lead me to your holy hill, to your dwelling place. Psalm 43:3
- 2. Prayer:** Lord God, as we gather to worship, we pray that you will meet with us wherever we are. Be it in our homes, our pace or work, even over the telephone. Join our hearts in wholehearted worship, that we may give you glory and praise. Breathe Your word into our souls; engrave Your covenant of grace into our minds and hearts. Cultivate Your character in us, inspire and shape us, unite and encourage us, that our lives may reflect Your love and justice to the world. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, **Amen**
- 3. First Reading**
- 4. Prayer: (Adoration)** Living God, we come to give you the glory. As we continue our journey through the Lenten season, open our hearts and minds so that the coming weeks and the Easter time will be holy for us. May we live this time expecting that in some way You will meet us. We may not understand ourselves as much as we would like, but we step into this Holy season trusting in the tradition of which we are part – that by pondering Your walk towards the cross, by focussing on Jesus' last journey and by looking towards His death and resurrection, somehow You will speak to us on our journey. You will honour our effort and intention and draw us closer to You. Hear our prayer, in the name of Jesus, **Amen**
- 5. Second Reading**
- 6. Prayer: (Confession)** Merciful God, have mercy on our souls, according to your unwavering love; according to your abundant mercy wipe away our sins and the guilt we have carried for so long. Instead write on our hearts your love and your boundaries for our lives that we are free from our sins by your salvation. Lord we would see Jesus, we would love Jesus, we would follow Jesus, we would serve Jesus through your grace. Lord, create in us clean hearts, Renew your spirit within us. Do not turn us away from your presence, do not take your holy spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain in us a willing spirit. Through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, **Amen**.
- 7. Third Reading**
- 8. Prayer: (Thanksgiving)** God of all blessings, source of all life, giver of all grace: We thank you for the food of this earth that nurtures life, for the love of family and friends without which there would be no life. We thank you for setting us in communities: for families who nurture our becoming, for friends who love us by choice, for companions at work, who share our burdens and daily tasks, for strangers who welcome us into their midst. We thank you for this day: for life and one more day to love, for opportunity and one more day to be of service to you and to others. We thank you for the gift of life: for the breath that sustains life, for your grace and for your promise to be with us, to be our God, and to give salvation. For these, and all blessings, we give you thanks, eternal, loving God, through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen**
- 9. Fourth Reading**
- 10. Prayer: (Intercession)** Pray for those things that come to you from the bible readings. Pray for the world situation, your own community and family and friends. Pray for those that are suffering and those that work tirelessly to help others. Pray for our governments and leaders. Pray for your church and fellowships. Remember those that are unwell.
- 11. Lord's Prayer**
- 12. Closing Prayer:** The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever. Let us live in that steadfast love wherever we go knowing that God so loved the world. And the blessing of God who created us, Christ who redeems us and the Spirit who sustains us go with us always. **Amen**
- 13. Grace:** May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen