

## Prayers and Readings for January 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

**3 Jan: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1: 1-9 & 10-18**

**10 Jan: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11**

**17 Jan: 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6 & 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51**

**24 Jan: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20-**

**31 Jan: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28 - Communion**

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1. **Call to worship:** The Lord is the strength of his people, a fortress of salvation for his anointed one. Save your people and bless your inheritance; be their shepherd and carry them for ever. Psalm 28:8-9
2. **Prayer:** O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. We know your Son's authority is found in integrity and living truth, not the assertion of power over others. Open our imaginations to new dimensions of your love and heal us of all that severs us from you and one another, that we may grow into the vision you unfold before us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**
3. **First Reading**
4. **Prayer: (Adoration)** Almighty God you are inimitable. You alone make an agreement, a covenant with us. You alone love us and care for us. You alone call us to walk with you. As we journey into this New Year, help us today to see you are here with us, waiting to bless us and show us your grace. Help us today to learn more of you. Help us today to follow you alone. Change our hearts and our minds, so we might really be your special people. Through Jesus Christ your son, **Amen.**
5. **Second Reading**
6. **Prayer: (Confession)** *(based on Psalm 86)* Hear, O Lord, and answer me; for as rich as I may think that I am, I confess that I am poor and needy. Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save your servant who trusts in you. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to you all day long. Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you in their time of desperation and need. I pray that your mercy and forgiveness will come upon me, that my sins be blotted out and I can amend my ways through your grace. Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. Through Jesus Christ my 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 gift of life: for the breath that sustains life, 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, for people from other lands who call us to grow in understanding, for children who lighten our moments with delight and who offer us hope for the future. We thank you 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:** Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit and make us worthy of your call. Grant that we may shine with the radiance of your glory that others may see and believe and come and worship you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **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