

## Morning Prayer for 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

*You may wish to light a candle while we pray*

<sup>24</sup> Be strong and take heart,  
all you who hope in the LORD.

Psalm 31:24

### Opening Sentences

O Lord open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### Psalm 31

<sup>1</sup> In you, LORD, I have taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> Turn your ear to me,  
come quickly to my rescue;  
be my rock of refuge,  
a strong fortress to save me.

<sup>3</sup> Since you are my rock and my fortress,  
for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> Keep me free from the trap that is set for me,  
for you are my refuge.

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commit my spirit;

deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.  
<sup>24</sup> Be strong and take heart,  
all you who hope in the LORD.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### **Bible Reading: Genesis 8:1-14**

<sup>8</sup> But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. <sup>2</sup> Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. <sup>3</sup> The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, <sup>4</sup> and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. <sup>5</sup> The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible.

<sup>6</sup> After forty days Noah opened a window he had made in the ark <sup>7</sup> and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. <sup>9</sup> But the dove could find nowhere to perch because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. <sup>10</sup> He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. <sup>11</sup> When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. <sup>12</sup> He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

<sup>13</sup> By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. <sup>14</sup> By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **Prayers**

Eternal Lord,  
our beginning and our end:  
bring us with the whole creation to your glory,  
hidden through past ages  
and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Space will be left for personal intercessory prayer – either silent or out loud.*

**Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen**

We say together the prayer which Jesus taught us;

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **The Conclusion**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please do stay on for virtual coffee and a catch up if you can.*

