

Worship For Sunday 24th January 2021

Prepared by Neil, talk by Phil Warburton based on Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and Mark 1:14-20. Prayers for the World has been prepared by Hilary.

Let us pray in the words Becky wrote as our prayer of thanks and confession at our last communion:

Lord Jesus, I know that I am your beloved child, and I have accepted your death as penalty for my sins. You took that pain for me. No such love has ever been demonstrated than yours.

Lord Jesus, I come before you in humility and ask you to examine my heart today. Show me anything that is not pleasing to you. Reveal any secret pride, any unconfessed sin, any rebellion or lack of forgiveness towards others that may be hindering my relationship with you.

So I ask for your forgiveness for anything you reveal to me that is not pleasing to you.

Today I remember and celebrate your faithfulness to me. Thank You, Jesus. Thank you for your love and unmerited favour.

Every time I think of you, Lord, I want to recommit my life, my heart, my thoughts, my everything to you. Fill me today with your powerful Spirit.

We pray In Your Precious name,

Amen

We read in Psalm 51:

**¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

**¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.**

**¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

Also in Psalm 18:

**² The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield^[a] and the horn^[a] of my salvation, my stronghold.**

Let us Worship together.

Song: Ancient of days

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBcP1ICgUIM>

Matthew 10 v 8, Jesus sends out the 12:

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and illness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: ‘Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: “The kingdom of heaven has come near.” ⁸ Heal those who are ill, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy,^[a] drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

So, freely give of yourselves in the power you have also been given.

Let’s listen to the song, So Freely, sung by Dave Bilbrough.

[So Freely- Dave Bilbrough - YouTube](#)

Matthew 6, Do not worry:

²⁵ ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life^[e]?’

²⁸ ‘And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?” ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Do not worry about tomorrow, rather seek first the Kingdom of God.

[SEEK YE FIRST \(The Kingdom Of God\) | The Maranatha / Karen Lafferty | Worship Song | With Lyrics - YouTube](#)

Let us praise God with all our hearts, minds and souls.

[Andy Piercy - Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! - YouTube](#)

Let’s read a report from Toks on our Week of Prayer.

Psalm 118

¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

Thank you Lord for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you that you are Able to bring hope in even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purposes. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your mercy and grace. Thank you that you are always with us and will never leave us. Thank you for your incredible sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Amen

The week of prayer took place on Zoom from 18/1/21 – 22/1/21

We thank God for a successful week of prayer, we had between 8 at the lowest and 11 at the highest number of attendees every day . We were led by the Holy Spirit and we thank God as we continue to anticipate answered prayers.

The different ways in which the leaders led each day enabled inclusiveness and a richness of responses from everyone who attended

Some people who unfortunately were unable to attend sent in their prayer requests they were all remembered in prayer

Each days speaking notes were posted on the church website to enable those unable to attend to feel a part of the prayers and hopefully have individual prayers in their homes

Prayers for the World – prepared by Hilary

There were many topics I could have used for PFW today – people suffering from Covid, the vaccination programme, the flooding in the north of England, amongst others.

But the thing that stands out most for me is the transfer of power in the USA.

I'm sure most of us will have heard about the violent scenes and the deadly riot at the US Capitol on January 6th and so firstly I want us to thank God that there was a peaceful transition on Wednesday.

We saw the President bow his head during prayers at the inauguration in Washington and later Joe Biden, who is Catholic, referred to his faith multiple times during his address.

Both faith leaders and the president himself, called for prayer for the country.

During an address to the nation delivered moments after he was sworn in, President Biden asked Americans to join him in a moment of silence for victims of the COVID-19 pandemic and to continue praying in the days ahead for peace and healing.

“Let us add our own work and prayers to the unfolding story of our great nation,” he said. “If we do this, then when our days are through, our children and our children’s children will say of us, ‘They gave their best. They did their duty. They healed a broken land.’”

At a church on Capitol Hill, the preacher said that the new president and all of us must turn to God for support if we hope to overcome the challenges currently facing the country.

He said “Our country has deep troubles. From whence shall our help come ? Do we look to the mountains or do we look to the depths? Today, as every day, we look to God for that divine assistance that saves, that rescues, that can calm and unify.”

In a nearby church, President Biden joined with Vice President Kamala Harris and congressional leadership from both parties to offer similar prayers and reflect on the significance of Inauguration Day.

At another church, a sermon and Bible readings on the importance of caring for people in need was held and the preacher encouraged Joe Biden to turn to God for support during the difficult moments that lie ahead.

“My deepest prayer for you today, as a priest, citizen and friend, is that you always remember that the Lord is near and no matter the sound and fury around you, that God wants to give you peace, a deep-seated peace that will sustain you.”

Let us pray for America.

Heavenly Father, we bring the country of USA to you and ask for peace to prevail.

We ask for wisdom for the new President, his Vice President and leaders from both parties, that they remember the words they heard spoken on Wednesday.

President Biden has already acknowledged you and we pray that he will continue to seek your help on a daily basis.

We pray that the leaders will look to you for guidance in all they do as they seek to bring unity to the country.

We thank you that the transfer of power was a peaceful transition and we ask that people of all backgrounds will seek to support and move forward in an attitude of unity.

We ask Lord that this new leadership will be fair in its dealings with all its people and work towards a peaceful and united country.

We ask these prayers in Jesus name

Amen.

Following on from this, I am reminded of our time of Prayer on Tuesday. As people were praying I had a picture in my mind of a small rowing boat heading out to sea through MASSIVE waves. Is this how you feel right now? We are heading out into the wilderness, the storms. What with Covid, a crumbling building and the lack of a minister.

God continues to say to us repeatedly, "I am faithful, do not worry". Let's listen to what God is saying and be faithful to Him.

Before our talk let's move into His presence.

[Noel Richards - To Be In Your Presence - Lyric Video - YouTube](#)

Our talk today is given by Phil Warburton – .

With readings from Jonah 3:1-5 and 10, also Mark 1:14-20:

Jonah goes to Nineveh

3 Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ² 'Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.'

³ Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, 'Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.' ⁵ The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Mark 1:14-20

Jesus announces the good news

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ ‘The time has come,’ he said. ‘The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!’

Jesus calls his first disciples

¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ ‘Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will send you out to fish for people.’ ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Link to talk: <https://youtu.be/izSVN5bvR3E>

Let's join in, if we can, as we hear our last song.

[Robin Mark - Days of Elijah \(Official Lyric Video\) - YouTube](#)

The Blessing, I pray for you. Pray it for each other.

May God the Father, who made you, keep you

May God the Son, who died for you, protect you

May God the Holy Spirit, guide you, every step of the way

Amen.