

## Prayers for 10 January 2021

Father we have come to praise you,

The only true living God.

We have come to thank you for all the good things with which you fill our lives.

We have come to praise you for being so very wonderful.

We sometimes think that we know all about you,

but we soon realise that you are far, far greater than we can ever understand.

We say that you love us,

But your love is far, far more wonderful than anything we have ever known before.

We thank you for your love shown to us in Jesus Christ.

We thank you for showing us in Jesus that nothing can defeat your plans for your world.

We thank you that we can come with our fear, our greed, our pride, our cheating, our lies, our insecurity; that we can bring our lack of hope, our lack of purpose; and come with our questions, problems, worries, and all the things that make us feel like prisoners.

We praise you for Christ's life, death and resurrection.

We thank you that he can set us free from everything that spoils our lives.

Forgive us for allowing ourselves to be imprisoned in other people's ideas and expectations.

Forgive our foolishness and our pride.

Forgive our selfishness and the pain we bring to you, our neighbour, our family and friends, and ourselves.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit and give us the confidence and hope that come from knowing that we are your people.

We pray for those for whom today is a day of darkness and pain,

For those who have received bad news and those for whom the bottom has dropped out of their world.

May Christ hold them gently in his hands.

The Lord hears our prayer.

***Thanks be to God.***

We pray for those involved working in the NHS, for the members of the essential services

and hospital staff affected by all they have seen and heard.

We pray for those seriously ill in hospital, and for those for whom life will never be the same again.

We pray for those whose peaceful lives and untroubled existence have been shaken by the

knowledge of serious illness and those who have received bad news during this epidemic.

We thank you for the different vaccines that are now available, and we pray that it will be

distributed and administered in an orderly and effective way.

May Christ hold them gently in his hands.

The Lord hears our prayer.

***Thanks be to God.***

We pray for ourselves and the concerns that trouble our own hearts and minds and lives,

For all we know we must face in the coming weeks and months,

And for wisdom to know what to say and what to do,

For strength to stand firm and for faith to trust the one who alone is trustworthy.

May Christ hold us gently in his hands.

The Lord hears our prayer.

***Thanks be to God.***

We pray for those facing years of hardship and anxiety,

for those who are suffering hardship, loss of income, education and the way of life that has changed

life as it was and for those with nothing left and nowhere to go,

for those who are afraid and filled with despair.

May Christ hold them gently in his hands.

The Lord hears our prayer.

***Thanks be to God.***

We pray for those who have lost everything because of civil war or terrorist attack,

for those who are without home and family,

for those left as wandering, unwanted refugees.

May Christ hold them gently in his hands.

***Thanks be to God.***

We pray for America and that the election results will be accepted and that there will be a smooth transition of power, as we acknowledge your ultimate power over all of us.

Father, help me to live this day to the full,

Being true to You, in every way.

Jesus, help me to give myself away to others,

Being kind to everyone I meet.

Spirit, help me to love the lost,

Proclaim Christ in all I do and say.

***Amen***