Prayer for January

'Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.'

As we move into the new year after all the celebrations of Christmas, let us pause for a moment to truly thank God for Jesus and for all He has done for us as individuals and as a Church.

Give thanks for all those who passed through our doors over the Christmas period and pray that the message of hope will take root in their hearts and grow strongly.

Thank the Lord also for those who came to the first Tuesday café, please continue to pray that it will be a blessing to the Community and a safe space to all who come along. We ask that it will thrive and that the Lord will bless it.

'May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.' 2Thess. 3:5

Please enable us through your Holy Spirit to understand the privileges we have as your children, to recognise that you delight in our prayers and are eager to spend time with us. To have confidence that when we pray according to your will, you are ready to answer. Help us to intercede for all those around us who don't know your love and grace.

In the country we pray for our leaders, for Boris Johnson and his Cabinet. Let their decisions be wise, made with the wellbeing of the country at the forefront of their minds. We ask especially for wisdom for all those involved in the Brexit negotiations, let there be an end to the backbiting and animosity. We pray too for all the other E.U. nations, that our relationship with the people will be healthy and respectful.

With the world in such turmoil, we pray for all Christians facing persecution. We can't imagine how they must feel, but we are one in Christ, and pray for them. We pray also for a revelation for those who persecute them: 'But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.' Matt 5:44

We give thanks that the Government in Myanmar has allowed 50 churches to re-open. An answer to prayer for people who have remained faithful through great hardship.

We ask that we will be bold in persevering in prayer this year believing that our loving Father is anxious to engage with us.

'May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His Grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.' 2 Thess. 2:16-17

Amen