**Points for Prayer (1) – 4th November 2021**

GIVE THANKS FOR:

* The knowledge that our unchanging God is in control of everything He has made and is continuing to work out His purposes, even at this difficult time;
* God’s wonderful works and the beauty of His creation;
* The nature and of character of our God: His love, mercy, grace and forgiveness;
* The ‘clean hands’ and ‘pure heart’ of the Lord Jesus Christ through which we can approach Almighty God and be accepted by Him;
* God’s willingness to stoop down to receive us and to be received by us;
* The forgiveness we can receive from God and the comfort He offers;
* The servant hearted nature of Kinver Methodist Church and the ways in which we care for each other: being especially thankful for the faithful work of the Pastoral Team;
* The technology enabling us to keep in touch and share worship online. Give thanks for the Prayer Meeting held over Zoom and for the livestreaming of Sunday worship;
* The extensive library of videos which has been built up on our YouTube channel. Pray that people will continue to engage with Word for the Week/Weekend and with Kinver Kids! and discover more about what it means to follow Jesus;
* For the return of J Team and Sunday School;
* Those who are continuing to care for the elderly and vulnerable in care homes and for the continued commitment of all those working in the NHS;
* The continuing roll out of the COVID-19 vaccination programme and the protection which those vaccines afford.

PLEASE PRAY:

* For the vaccine roll out around the world and especially in poorer countries where supplies of the vaccine are not sufficient to meet demand; and in particular for the success of the CO Vax scheme;
* For the work of relief agencies as they support many of the world’s poorest people through the effects of the pandemic;
* For personal decision-making following the lifting of restrictions: that people would act thoughtfully and responsibly to help control the spread of the virus;
* For those who are suffering from cancer and chronic long-term conditions, that they will have timely access to the care and treatment they need;
* For those facing very real financial difficulties as a result of the pandemic, especially those who face losing their jobs and livelihoods as the furlough scheme has ended;
* For those responsible for making the big decisions affecting our lives, our health and the economy and for wise and godly interventions from all Christians in public life;
* For children and teachers. Pray that ways will be found to avoid huge numbers of children needing to self-isolate, ensuring minimal disruption to education;
* For those mentioned week by week in our book of prayer; especially Janet, family and friends of Liz Meredith, Sam’s mum, Jan’s mum, Darren, Donna, Logan and family;
* For the ministers in our circuit and their families: especially for Rev. Alan, Rev. Peter and Rev. Andrew and their families;
* For wisdom and sensitivity as we consider how to move forward, as a church.
* Enthusiam for and engagement in the Colossians Bible Study, and what it teaches us about confidence in Christ;
* For all those affected by the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan: that those left behind will be granted safe passage to the UK and those who have arrived here will be welcomed and supported by local communities;
* For the success of COP26 in agreeing an effective worldwide strategy to deal with the challenges of climate change.

**Points for Prayer (2)**

**Philippians 4:4-9**

New International Version

Final Exhortations

**4**Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! **5**Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. **6**Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7**And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**8**Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. **9**Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

* Pray that through God’s grace, we will be able to rejoice and give thanks every day
* Pray that God will help us to show his gentleness to those we meet.
* Pray that, as we grow in faith and rely more and more on God’s promises, that we will turn to our heavenly father no matter what.
* Pray that we might focus on the wonderful blessings that come through knowing Jesus Christ, that our faith won’t be undermined by the many and complex difficulties we have to face in the world.
* Give thanks for each other, as we encourage each other in this way.
* Thank God for those we know who inspire and encourage us to remember Paul’s words.
* Pray that we might be filled with God’s amazing peace in the days and weeks ahead.