

Psalm and Readings Tuesday 20th January 2026

Psalm 132

- 1 O Lord, remember in David's favour
all the hardships he endured;
- 2 How he swore to the Lord
and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
- 3 'I will not enter my house
or get into my bed;
- 4 I will not give sleep to my eyes
or slumber to my eyelids,
- 5 until I find a place for the Lord,
a dwelling-place for the Mighty One of Jacob.'
- 6 We heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.
- 7 'Let us go to his dwelling-place;
let us worship at his footstool.'
- 8 Rise up, O Lord, and go to your resting-place,
you and the ark of your might.
- 9 Let your priests be clothed with
righteousness,
and let your faithful shout for joy.
- 10 For your servant David's sake do not turn
away the face of your anointed one.
- 11 The Lord swore to David a sure oath
from which he will not turn back:
'One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.
- 12 If your sons keep my covenant
and my decrees that I shall teach them,
their sons also, for evermore,
shall sit on your throne.'
- 13 For the Lord has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his habitation:
- 14 'This is my resting-place for ever;
here I will reside, for I have desired it.
- 15 I will abundantly bless its provisions;
I will satisfy its poor with bread.
- 16 Its priests I will clothe with salvation,
and its faithful will shout for joy.
- 17 There I will cause a horn to sprout up for
David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.
- 18 His enemies I will clothe with disgrace,
but on him, his crown will gleam.'

Genesis 7:11-end

In the six-hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons, entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the Lord shut him in.

The flood continued for forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings; everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred and fifty days.

Matthew 24:15-28

'So when you see the desolating sacrilege standing in the holy place, as was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; someone on the housetop must not go down to take what is in the house; someone in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a sabbath. For at that time there will be great suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, "Look! Here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!"—do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce great signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Take note, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, "Look! He is in the wilderness", do not go out. If they say, "Look! He is in the inner rooms", do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches
of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.