



NKMC online service – Prisons Week
Sunday 31 October 2021 (Naomi Oates)

All prayers have been written especially for Prisons Week by prisoners and others involved in the Criminal Justice System.

Video before the service (approx. 5 minutes):
<https://www.prisonweek.org/2021-campaign/>

Introduction and call to worship

Opening prayer

Hymn - To God be the glory (StF 93)

Prayer of confession

Hear me Lord, I pray, in this place I have to stay
I need forgiveness from you to me, cause my sorrow only you can see.
I've done wrong, no going back, I've got to stay
Forgive me and know I'm ashamed inside.
I want to go forward, no sins to hide.
To those I've hurt I'm sorry deeply from my soul and heart
To those I've left behind, please, let's make a brand new start. Amen.

Hymn - Empty, broken here I stand (StF 421)

Dear God, I hear your kind words of comfort and reassurance that you want me to prosper and not be harmed. help me not to worry about my life, but to put my trust in you, to be happy and full of hope, love and gratitude. Amen.

Readings

Isaiah 61:1-3

Matthew 4:12-17

Hymn - Come let us sing of a wonderful love (StF 443)

Reflection

Prayers of intercession

Father God, thank you for the work of all Prison Chaplains. During this past year many have gone well beyond what had been expected of them. Sustain and strengthen them, bless their families and may they be encouraged in their service to you. In the name of Jesus our saviour, Amen.

Father God, whose strength is made perfect in our weakness, draw near to those who are living with the consequences of past decisions. Surround them with kindness so they know they are accepted for who they are. Give them eyes to see the assurance of your wonderful forgiveness and show them the next step to a life of freedom in you. We ask this in the wonderful name of your son Jesus who treated people he met with such dignity and acceptance. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Hymn - And can it be (StF 345)

Blessing

Change For Good: works with those who are due to be, or have recently been released from prison into London

<https://www.changeforgood.info/>