

Look ahead

#Live and Learn

“Look back to move forward”

On this last day of the year we realise that much as gone by but yet there is much ahead. In our scripture this week Paul teaches us that in order to move onto the new – all that Christ has for us – we need to look back.

The past is sometimes where we get stuck and struggle to move forward but Paul shows us that we must only look back to learn from it and then to leave it behind and move forward. Our Christian journey is about progression and not perfection. Learning is how we progress – when we are able to recognise the things in ourselves that need to change, the things we need to let go of and the freedom that come from this as we strive toward the goal of eternal life in Christ.

***“Forget what happened in the past, and do not dwell on events from long ago” - Isaiah 43:18***

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REFLECTION

1. What is the one thing that you would like to overcome from your past?
2. Do you find it hard work trying to live up to being a perfect Christian?
3. What is the one thing or area that you feel you have progressed in this year in your Christian journey?
4. Take time to reflect on one thing in your life or character that you are going to work at developing in the new year?
5. Spend time in Philippians 3:12-16 in the coming week and let the Lord speak into your life through it
6. Use the prayer of the week to help you focus on this

## Prayers

- For church members who are unwell and/or who can no longer attend.
- For the Lunch Club and all who attend
- For Sarah, Sarah and their families
- For opportunities to share the gospel in our community, home & work lives
- For Amy, Ben and their families
- For Merkel’s friends Angela with eye complications and Sonia with cancer
- For the rising amount of children facing difficulties with mental health
- For Karen and family as they care for her nan due to terminal illness
- For open doors/opportunities to serve/help our community
- For the governmental challenges and Brexit negotiations at this time
- For our community during the Christmas season
- Celebrate the great work the emergency services carry out
- Celebrate the progress made in fighting against gun/knife crime in our city
- Celebrate the positive influence that CGL are having in our community
- Celebrate the year in the life of the church - all who have served , all who have attended and the relationships that have been formed from these

## Today’s Service

- Bible Reading

### Philippians 3:12-16

- **Songs**
  - ❖ Come, now is the time to worship
  - ❖ Meekness and majesty
  - ❖ He is exalted
  - ❖ Lord, reign in me
  - ❖ Rejoice, Rejoice

## Notices

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

- Next Lunch club will be on **15<sup>th</sup> January 2018**
- Please continue to support our emergency food parcel cupboard by bringing in some things off the list in the foyer when you can
- Thursday morning prayer meeting **9.30am – 10.30am** (once a month)
- Wednesday bible study will recommence on **10 January 2018**
- **Next Deacons Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018**
- **Next Church Meeting – 28 January 2018**
- Would you like to be a part of a prayer triplet? Please take time to prayerfully consider how this could be beneficial to you and to others in the church. We will be reflecting on this at the next church meeting in January
- Dan Yarnell will be leading the service on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

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- **Flower Rota - 7 January – Mary**
  - **Prayer - 7 January – Dan Yarnell**
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CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER  
BAPTIST CHURCH



God is at work in us  
His purpose to perform  
Building a kingdom  
Of power not of words  
Where things impossible  
By faith shall be made possible  
Let's give the glory  
To Him now.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Christ is in you  
The hope of glory  
In our hearts  
He lives! He lives!  
His breath is in you  
Arise a mighty army  
We arise

Though we are weak, His grace  
Is everything we need  
We're made of clay  
But this treasure is within  
He turns our weaknesses  
Into His opportunities  
So that the glory  
Goes to Him

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Christ is in you  
The hope of glory  
In our hearts  
He lives! He lives!  
His breath is in you  
Arise a mighty army  
We arise

verse x2

## Prayer for the Week

Father God

Lord, You make all things new. Each and every day we have the hope of a new beginning, a day to start fresh, a day to walk free in You.

Lord, as we reach the end of one year and enter into another, I pray that you would help me to look back, to learn from it and to move forward in Your grace.

Thank you for each breathe that you fill my lungs with, thank you for each heartbeat that keeps me alive – help me in this day and new year to come – to follow You with all that I am.

In Jesus' Name

**Amen**

## Notes

## Final Song

### Rejoice, Rejoice

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Christ is in you  
The hope of glory  
In our hearts  
He lives! He lives!  
His breath is in you  
Arise a mighty army  
We arise

Now is the time for us  
To march upon the land  
Into our hands  
He will give the ground we claim  
He rides in majesty  
To lead us into victory  
The world shall see  
That Christ is Lord

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Christ is in you  
The hope of glory  
In our hearts  
He lives! He lives!  
His breath is in you  
Arise a mighty army  
We arise

**“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”**

- 1 John 1:8-9