**Daily Prayer and Encouragement for Saturday 2nd January 2021 –** Sarah Pix

Psalm 32: 6-8

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you

while you may be found;

surely the rising of the mighty waters

will not reach them.

You are my hiding-place;

you will protect me from trouble

and surround me with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Happy New Year! With the celebrations of 1st January now behind us, we are embarking on 2021. I wonder how you are feeling? Just as Christmas was unusual, so is the start of this year. Around this time, we often make plans and dream dreams for the year ahead. We have expectations about what we will do, how it will be. But right now, we are still in the midst of turbulent times, and it is difficult to make any plans at all. Perhaps you can identify with the words of this Psalm – maybe you can feel the rising of mighty waters around you.

The good news is that God is faithful and unchanging. He will be your hiding place. Not in the sense of going into hiding from the world, but rather, that in the midst of difficulty He will sing over you, reminding you that there will be a day of deliverance, and that you have ultimate security in His hands. He hides your soul in the cleft of the rock that is Jesus. There is also a promise here that the Lord will guide and teach His ways. You are not set adrift. You have the counsel of the Lord God Almighty as you set out into the year.

This is a song that I used to sing as a child. Perhaps you know it!

<https://youtu.be/KkMzaQlToOk>

*Father, thank you for the wonderful truth that I am your child and your loving eye is on me. What great hope and comfort this brings at the start of a new year! Help me to trust you in the face of all that is unknown, knowing your promises and your goodness. Amen*

