

**Old Hills Open Intercessions for Fourth Sunday of Easter 4 Year A
3rd May 2020**

Lord, you are our Shepherd and we pray that you will protect us from all danger, especially in this time of Lockdown, by keeping watch over us, guide us towards green pastures where we can be nourished by your word and lead us to pure still waters where we can be refreshed by your love.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd and we pray for our church leaders that they too may care for and lead us by following the example of love and service you demonstrated in your earthly ministry. We especially pray today for all of our clergy who through the Internet and Social Media are keeping us in touch and sharing words of encouragement.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd and we pray for the world that was given to us as an inheritance, on the understanding that we would care for it as shepherds care for their flocks. Teach us to look after our beautiful planet and care for it wisely, whilst sharing its gifts more fairly and working together with all of its inhabitants to ease its sufferings.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd and we pray for our families and friends who need to hear the voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd; who knows every one of them by name; who offers rest to the weary and salvation and life eternal to all who accept him into their lives.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd who seeks out the lost and the sick. We pray for those we know who are lost in illness and ask you to reassure them with the knowledge that you are watching over them in their suffering and that many are praying for their recovery. We especially pray for anyone known by us that has a health or care need today. For those suffering with COVID19 or another condition. Those awaiting access to NHS care or awaiting test results. We pray also for our NHS workers, those working in care homes (including Severn Heights in Callow End) and other front line workers that are helping to care or keep us.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd so we pray for those who have died and for those who ache with sorrow in their loss of a loved one. We especially pray for the funeral directors in the Greater Malvern area - for Hollands, Jacksons, Malcolm Presland, FW Spilsbury's , AV Bands, Co-operative Funeralcare , EJ Gumery and Bedwardine Funeral Services - their staff and arrangers on the front line of dealing with the deceased and the relatives at this difficult time. Keep them safe, Lord, we pray.

May those we now name before you find rest in the Spirit's embrace as you welcome them into the great sheepfold, safe in your keeping for ever:

(name anyone known to you here)

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd, and we offer our prayers now for all people and their situations. For lives that are going through upheaval or distress caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and in circumstances which only you can change.

Merciful father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**