

**Intercessions for Easter 4 – 25th April 2021**

Holy God, your Son remained with his disciples for 40 days after his resurrection, teaching them to love all people as friends and neighbours.

We too are his disciples and we offer our prayers on behalf of the church, the world in which we live and all those with whom we share it.

Loving God, the letter of John reminds us that "If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?" Help us as a church community to try to aspire to love with actions and truth and not merely with words or speech.

Lord, in your Mercy:  
**Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we pray for all world leaders that, using Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd as the ultimate model of leadership, they would lead and care for their own flocks in such a way that peace might abound, righteousness flourish and injustice be eradicated.

Lord, in your Mercy:  
**Hear our Prayer**

Father God, help us to reach out to strangers in our midst. As we remember the way the early Church lived in one heart and mind and shared everything they had may we too in this Team Ministry be always mindful of the needs of others less fortunate and always welcome the newcomer joyfully into our midst.

Lord, in your Mercy:  
**Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we pray for those who do not know your peace and for those who are struggling with their lives. We ask for your healing on those who are sick, your strength for those who are tired and your love for those who live with despair and fear

*(we name those who have requested prayer)*

Lord, in your Mercy:  
**Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for those who now walk in the valley of the shadow of death. We know from the Psalm that you are with them and have gone before them to prepare them a table overflowing with all good things. Guide those who are left behind in the paths of righteousness and uphold them in their sorrow with the assurance of your goodness and love.

*(we name those who have recently departed and who we have loved and lost)*

Lord, in your Mercy:  
**Hear our Prayer**

Everlasting God, we ask that you would bless us here in the West Hereford Team Ministry with vision for the future and reverence for the past. Guide us each day as we minister to one another and to the world. Help us each day to bear witness to your name and to do your bidding, always mindful of your amazing love for us.

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