

Lord, you are our Shepherd and we pray that you will protect us from all danger 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. An example of this was the Parish Weekend away – thank you for being there with us.

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 our Bishops, and for Alan and Bill here at St Andrews, for Tracey and all those who lead the Junior Church and for Viv and all the pastoral visitors who minister to those at home. Let your love and care flow through them and us.

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. We remember those countries that daily face violence and unrest particularly Syria, Palestine and Israel and ask for your guidance on those who seek peaceful resolutions. We also remember countries where poverty makes people undertake extremely dangerous journeys to find work. We pray for more opportunities closer to home so that migrants do not put their lives at risk crossing seas.

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 us by name; who offers rest to the weary and salvation to sinners and life eternal to all who accept him into their lives. We pray for all the new councillors elected this week, particularly those elected here in Hertford. Thank you for those who give their life to public service and guide their decisions to meet the needs of their locality. We think about the upcoming elections here and in France and pray that who ever is elected will be fair and equitable, more inclusive, less divisive and will consider the needs of those with the quietest voice as well as those who shout loudly.

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..... *(add names of those requesting prayer)*

We also pray for all those who are caring for someone who needs support – whether practically or emotionally. Give them strength and patience in their role and let them know that they matter too.

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. 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

(add names of the recently departed or on Anniversary list)

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our Shepherd, and we thank you for this time we have shared in prayer and thanksgiving. In the week ahead we ask you to guide us safely as we travel and to share in our daily lives.

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