

Intercessions on Sunday 12 April 2026

by Andrew Goodman

First reading: Acts 2. 14a, 22-32

Gospel: John 20. 19-end

Collect: Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father. Amen

Lord, as last Sunday we marked the culmination of Jesus' life, of God in our midst, help us to express his resurrected life within us in our church life. Your church community, in one sense, is separated from the world because of our belief in the reality that we are accepted by you, Lord. In another sense, we should engage with the world and ask for help to witness to this reality because it belongs to the whole world.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

The book of Proverbs includes the saying:

"When a land rebels it has many rulers; but with an intelligent ruler there is lasting order."¹

Lord, we despair at the aggression exhibited by leaders of some countries and factions, and the destruction and harm that comes from their decisions and actions.

Give wisdom to those who seek to build bridges and bring peace in the mess and complexity of so many areas of conflict at present around the world.

¹ Proverbs 28.2 (NRSVA)

As Hungary goes to the polls today, Lord, we bring to you the concern of many Hungarians about government corruption, loss of democracy and electoral interference. May justice and fairness prevail.

We thank you, Lord, for everyone who serves in public office in the UK. Give them wisdom in all decisions that they are called upon to make.

We thank you for the opportunity across the UK to vote in devolved government, local government and mayoral elections in May.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

Lord, we bring before you the work of projects in Bolivia that we support through our Mission Giving.

We thank you for Latin Link who work to strengthen churches in Bolivia, encouraging believers and preparing leaders.

We thank you for Julie Noble who supports prisoners' children and families through the Angel Tree Centre in Oruro. Help her and volunteers as they run Restoring Hope discipleship and restorative justice programmes, and Julie as she serves on the PRADOS drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre board.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

World Health Day last Tuesday [7 April] coincided with the founding of the World Health Organisation in 1948. We thank you, Lord, for their work to provide access to healthcare and medicine to those living in circumstances where they are unable to live a healthy life.

We thank you, too, Lord, for your healing work and restoration of hope and dignity which is continued by Tearfund and International Health Partners who we support through our

Mission Giving, especially these days through their partners in the Middle East.

We thank you, Lord, that we can pray for ourselves or someone we are caring for who is suffering with ill-health: physically, mentally and emotionally. We commit to you those known to us who are unwell:

Restore to them the healing and joy of your salvation.

We commit to you those known to us who have died recently:

Lord, we thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to comfort us and give us peace. Bring comfort and reassurance to those who mourn that you are with them in their pain and sorrow.

We remember the anniversaries of:

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

"...may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort [our] hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word."²

In the words of today's Collect, Lord:

"...open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father."

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

² 2 Thessalonians 2.16 (NRSVA)