

## What is trauma care? And how does it help persecuted Christians?



Netsebraq\* prays with a believer carrying trauma

Around the world, many Christians suffer deeply when they become Christians. Inevitably, these experiences bring with them wounds and scars that endure for a long time after the initial act of violence.

Netsebraq\* is a trauma caregiver ministering in the Horn of Africa, a part of the world where Christians can face fierce opposition for their faith. *“I grew up in a Christian family. We were involved with persecuted believers, and they would come to our house and stay sometimes for a short time, sometimes for years.”*

Persecution is not limited to the physical injuries some believers bear. *“When the Christians [we treat] converted, they face very brutal isolation – total community isolation. They face an identity crisis. They used to belong to a family, a community. They find themselves alone, and they will always have this longing to belong to some kind of fellowship,”* Netsebraq says.

Netsebraq explains the process she and her colleagues undertake. *“First, we want them to understand that their situation, and that what they are feeling is OK,”* she begins. *“Many times, you will find them blaming themselves for how they feel. We will lead them to understand what they are feeling is because of the situation that happened to them, not because they are bad people,. We show them that, through all these things, God is with them. Whatever desperate situation they are in, God is always in that desperate situation and there is always hope to move forward. There is always hope. And that really gives them courage; not only for them, even for us.”*

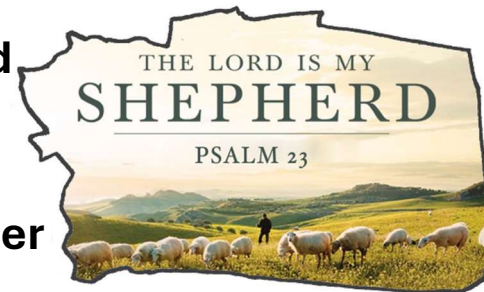
For all the work Netsebraq and her colleagues so, she sees that it is futile without the power of God working through your prayers.

### Please pray

- Praise God for Netsebraq’s devotion to God and to the traumatised Christians she serves. Thank God for His faithfulness over the eight years of her ministry in helping her work to be fruitful
- That the Lord would uplift and bless Christians across the Horn of Africa enduring persecution for His name
- For these believers to find steady fellowship and know ‘the peace of God, which transcends understanding’. (Philippians 4:7)

\*Names changed for security reasons. For more information go to <https://www.opendoorsuk.org>

# Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet 26 April Fourth Sunday of Easter



### Psalm 23: The Divine Shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;**

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the  
beginning, is now and for evermore, Amen**

### The Collect for this Sunday

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**



### Readings for this Sunday

Acts 2.42-47

1 Peter 2.19-25

John 10.1-10



### The Prayer after Communion

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



### Please pray for...

Brian Osborne, Tina Bradley, Jane Nichols, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Imogen Matthews, Pat Reid, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Judy Watson, Kevin Whitfield, King Charles III, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We remember Clifford Hitchens, Penelope Rose Baldry, and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we pray for those who mourn their loss.

### Anniversaries...

Wedding Anniversaries: Rowena and Tom Sutton (1 year)

Baptism Anniversaries: William Blades, Isabel Sherwin (1 year)

Funeral anniversaries: Barbara Durno (1 year); Nellie Machin (2 years)

### From today's Psalm

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; and refreshes my soul.*

#### Reflection:

When we allow ourselves to be led by the Good Shepherd, our restless hearts grow calmer, and our weary souls are renewed. Trusting his care, we discover that he is already guiding us toward the peace we seek.

#### So, we ask ourselves:

- ✠ Where in my life right now do I most need the Lord's guidance and rest?
- ✠ When have I experienced God refreshing my spirit during a difficult or stressful time?
- ✠ How can I make space this week to follow the Shepherd more attentively?

### Safeguarding & Contact Information

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and for entries to the news sheet (by Tuesday please) . [ringstoneoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ringstoneoffice@gmail.com)

## Services for the next week in the Ringstone and Corby Glen combined Groups

<b>Sunday 26th April</b>	10.15am	Café Church	Swayfield Village Hall
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>Kirkby Underwood</b>
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Corby Glen
	11.00am	Hymns & Prayers	Irnham
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	6.00pm	Holy Communion	Bitchfield
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Morton</b>
<b>29th April</b>	10.00am	Midweek Communion	Corby Glen
<b>Sunday 3rd May</b>	9.00am	Holy Communion	Swayfield
	10.00am	Morning Worship	Corby Glen
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Morton</b>
	11.00am	Morning Prayers	Irnham

### Did you know?.....

If you find it difficult (or forget) to bring things to leave in the drop off bin at the back of Morton church, you can go to the Foodbank website, and purchase items which will then be available in the foodbank. **Go to <https://bournefoodbank.org.uk/how-to-help>**

**These are a few of the things that are running low. Can you help?**

Shampoo  
Deodorant (M)  
Pasta Sauce  
Tinned Meat  
UHT Milk  
Washing Powder



EDENHAM RETREAT HOUSE

**S 3 A ?**

**SPIRITUALITY OF THE THIRD AGE?**  
**A RETREAT DAY WITH BISHOP HALL SPEERS**

10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 10am to 4pm  
£16 per person (BYO lunch)  
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