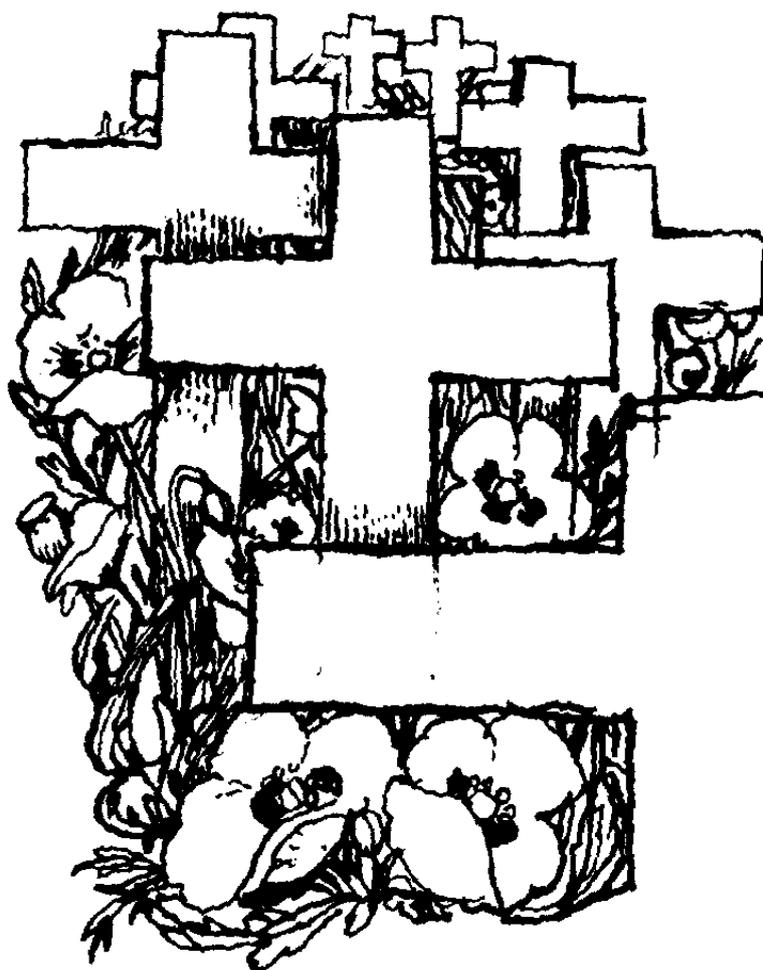


Remembrance Service and Act of Remembrance 2020



Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. **Amen**

If you have a candle at home with you, please light it now in unison with other worshippers

We stand before the throne of God with countless crowds from every nation and race, tribe and language.

**All Blessing and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn

1
O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home;

2
Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

3
Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

4
A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

5
Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

6
O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Introduction

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble.

Today we commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between the nations, that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace.

We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,
either by death or life:

hear our prayers and thanksgivings
for all whom we remember this day;
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;
and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

An Act of Penitence

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil divisions and hatreds.

Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for his children.

After a short silence, all say

**All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought and word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

All **Amen**

Reading Thessalonians 4.13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

All This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Prayers

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict,
and ask that God may give us peace:

For the service men and women who have died in the violence of
war, each one remembered by and known to God;; may God give
peace **God Give peace**

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of
our grief and the sadness of our loss;
may God give peace **God Give peace**

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day,
remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;
may God give peace **God Give peace**

For those place in the world where there is war and conflict
may God give peace **God Give peace**

For civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by
war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of
humanity;
may God give peace **God Give peace**

For peacemakers and peacekeepers, who seek to keep this world
secure and free;
may God give peace **God Give peace**

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,
political, military and religious;
asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve
in the search for reconciliation and peace;
may God give peace **God Give peace**

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose
memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know.
Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and
grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm. As we
honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the
source of life and hope, now and for ever. Amen.

As our Saviour taught us so we pray

**All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

The Act of Commitment

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow
men and women: that we may help, encourage, and comfort others,
and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the
peace and welfare of the world.

**All Lord God our Father
We pledge ourselves to serve you and all mankind,
in the cause of peace, for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your wisdom; give us courage; give us hope;
and keep us faithful now and always. Amen**

**Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;
Where there is hatred,
Let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;
And all for thy mercy's sake.**

**O divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled
as to console;
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

Reflection by Malcolm Guite

Remembrance Sunday

November pierces with its bleak remembrance
Of all the bitterness and waste of war;
Our silence tries but fails to make a semblance
Of that lost peace they thought worth fighting for,
Our silence seethes instead with wraiths and whispers
And all the restless rumour of new wars,
For shells are falling all around our vespers,
No moment is unscarred, there is no pause.
In every instant bloodied innocence
Falls to the weary earth, and whilst we stand
Quiescence ends again in acquiescence,
And Abel's blood still cries from every land.
One silence only might redeem that blood;
Only the silence of a dying God.

If you have some reflective music to play, you may like to play it as you reflect on this poem

The Act of Remembrance

Let us remember before God, and commend to his safe keeping, those who have died for their country in war; and all who have lived and died in the service of the peoples of the world

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.

All We will remember them.

We keep two minutes silence.

Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Final Blessing

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all people, unity, peace and concord, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.