

St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead
A Service and Act of Remembrance,
8th November 2020,
at 10.30 am, online



The Greeting

The president says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Words of welcome

We meet in the presence of God.
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.

Hymn

The organist plays a verse and we then say the words together

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change
and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his
trust;
what with care and toil he
buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Prayer of Preparation

All Almighty God,
**to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers 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

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, 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, our God. Amen.**

The president says

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

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words
'Let us pray' .*

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

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.

1 Thess. 4. 13-18

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

Matt. 15.1-13

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Act of Remembrance

You may wish to stand at home

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

An older person says

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

A younger person may reply

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
we will remember them.

All affirm

We will remember them.

The beginning of the two-minute silence is signalled.

Silence is kept.

The completion of the silence is signalled.

The following prayer is said

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. **Amen.**

Responding in Hope and Commitment

A wreath is laid on the altar

The Kohima Epitaph is said

When you go home tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow we gave our today.

The Act of Commitment is made

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

We will.

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

We will.

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

We will.

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by love: may we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, and live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer. **Amen.**

The National Anthem is sung by the ministers.

The Peace

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

I do not give as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled,

And do not let them be afraid.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Praying Together

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 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

The organist plays a verse and we then say the words together

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

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

Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

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

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

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

The 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. **Amen.**

Stay home in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **in the name of Christ. Amen**

The organ will play and some pictures / words will be on screen as the ministers take the wreath to the war grave. Please remain respectfully muted until the organ stops playing. You may wish to stay and join a breakout room for chat.