

PARISH CHURCH OF

St Mary's

SAFFRON WALDEN

A Service for Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 13th November 2022

After the service: on your way out of the church, you are invited to give to the Royal British Legion. If you are a taxpayer do put your gift into the envelopes provided and add your details, in order for the tax on your gift to be claimed back. This will add significantly to the value of your gift. Thank you

The Choir sing: For the fallen

Guest

INTRODUCTION

We are here to worship Almighty God, whose purposes are good, whose power sustains the world he has made; who loves us, though we have failed in his service; who gave Jesus Christ for the life of the world; who by his Holy Spirit leads us in his way.

As we give thanks for his great works, we remember those who have lived and died in his service and in the service of others; we pray for all who suffer through war and are in need; we ask for God's help and blessing that we may do right and build everlasting peace.

HYMN

(during which the Standards are presented)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation. All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth: hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee, surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee: ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in us adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him. Let the 'Amen' sound from his people again, gladly for ay we adore him.

Joachim Neander (1650-1680) trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

The minister continues: 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.

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

LISTENING FOR THE WORD FROM GOD

We listen to a reading from the Bible

First Reading

Micah 4: 1-5

Read by Commanding Officer 33 Engr Regt (EOD&S), Lt Col R M Rees

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall

come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob: that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

This is the word of the Lord. *All* **Thanks be to God**

HYMN

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper rev'rence praise, in deeper rev'rence praise.
In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee, rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with
thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

Interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress,

and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace, the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind and fire, O still small voice of calm! O still small voice of calm!

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Second Reading

Matthew: 5: 43-48

Read by Les Dobson, President, British Legion

You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in

heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

Sermon

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 All 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

All 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 All 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 All 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

All God give peace

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those shoes 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**

All join together in the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever.

Amen

HYMN

(during which the Standards will be returned. The clergy and Standards process to the War Memorial at the West door)

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

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

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

3 A thousand ages in thy sight

are like an evening gone; short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, will bear us all away; we fade and vanish, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
O God, our help in ages past our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) alt

REMEMBERING

We turn to face the War Memorial, at the West door.

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 affirm: We will remember them.

The Last Post is sounded.

Silence

Reveille

RESPONDING IN HOPE AND COM-MITMENT

A candle is lit by a young member of the congregation. This represents Christ's conquest over death; a light which overcomes the darkness; and gives us hope that death is not the end, nor a final separation.

The Kohima Epitaph is said: When you go home tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow we gave our today. The choir sings

Greater love hath no man Ireland

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

All We will

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

All We will

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?
All **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 heart of all people, and live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer. **Amen**

HYMN

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son, endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won; angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son, endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

Thine be the glory

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life!
Life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conqu'rors through thy deathless love.
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Thine be the glory

'À toi la gloire' by Edmond Louis Budry (1854- 1932) trans.Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)

The following blessing is used:

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the King, 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, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you all and remain with you always.

Amen.

The National Anthem

God save our gracious King, long live our noble Klng, God save the King. Send him victorious, happy and glorious, long to reign over us: God save the Klng.

Thy choicest gifts in store on him be pleased to pour, long may he reign. May he defend our laws, and ever give us cause to sing with heart and voice, God save the King.

The Parade is dismissed. The service is ended.

Organ Voluntary

Spitfire Prelude

Walton, arr Morell

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

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