

Sunday 14 November 2021

Remembrance Sunday



Sermon © Revd Dr Paul Monk.

Liturgy and prayers of intercession © 2000 The Archbishops' Council.

Bible readings © the publishers of the NRSV translation.

The liturgy assumes the service is Eucharistic and includes an act of Remembrance. The prayers of consecration appear at the end.

The hymns are YouTube links. To hear the hymns please hover the mouse over each link, press Ctrl and then return.

To see service transcripts from previous weeks, please visit the page,
<http://www.medlockhead.co.uk/resources/index.htm>

Introduction and welcome

HYMN 1 Praise my soul the King of Heaven ([click on this link to hear the hymn](#))

The Welcome

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

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

The 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.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

And the second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Jesus says, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand’. So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

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.

The Gloria

This version of the Gloria is sung to the tune of 'Cwm Rhondda'. Click [here](#) for the tune.

All Glory be to God in Heaven,
Songs of joy and peace we bring,
Thankful hearts and voices raising,
To creation's Lord we sing.
Lord we thank you, Lord we praise you,
Glory be to God our King:
Glory be to God our King.

Lamb of God, who on our shoulders,
Bore the load of this world's sin;
Only Son of God the Father,
You have brought us peace within.

**Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Now your glorious reign begin:
Now your glorious reign begin.**

**You O Son of God are Holy,
You we praise with one accord.
None in heav'n or earth is like you,
Only you are Christ the Lord.
With the Father and the Spirit,
Ever worshipped and adored:
Ever worshipped and adored.**

The Collect for Remembrance Sunday

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,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

First reading

A reading from the Prophet Daniel

At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. *Daniel 12:1-3*

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Second reading

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. *Hebrews 10:11-14*

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

HYMN 2 [Make me a channel of your peace](#) (click on this link to hear the hymn)
[Love one another](#) (click on this link to hear the hymn)

Gospel reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

All Glory to you O Lord.

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. *Mark 13:1-8*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, that all who believe in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.' These words are some of the most famous in all the scriptures—so famous, indeed, that we probably know them too well. They slip off the tongue without comment. Talk is cheap.

Love lies at the very centre of all authentic Christianity. The God who created the world, and created us, is a God of love. He is so characterised by love that Scripture says that he *is* love. The nature of love is to be patient; love is kind; love is neither envious nor boastful nor arrogant nor rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. These famous words from Scripture describe the God of Love who resides at the very core of the Christian experiment.

God's creating the world is an expression of this God of love. If the Christian God personifies this love then God wants the very best for us. That's why he made the world so beautiful. That's why he made each of us so beautiful. And that's why he made us capable of love, so we can share the love and we can share Him.

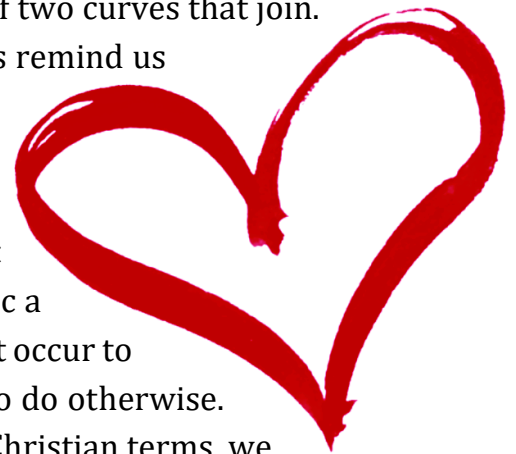
By sharing God we mean not only share knowledge *of* Him—telling the world about God—but enter into a relationship with Him. Genuine love is like that.

A common symbol for love is the heart, made up of two curves that join. They join at the base and at the head. These two joins remind us of how love works.

The join at the base tells us that we join with God and with neighbour at the core of our being. Like the join at the bottom, this love is possibly less visible but it is, nevertheless, fundamental. It needs to be so basic a part of us that it's instinctive. We love because it didn't occur to us to do otherwise. We love because it's impossible to do otherwise. We love because we're filled with the God of love. In Christian terms, we love because God loved us first.

But the join at the head of the heart is more illustrative. One side must approach the other in order to join with it. Without an overlap the join is mere talk but has not yet happened. In the same way, we can only love God or neighbour when we actually meet with God and actually encounter our neighbour. Love is patient. We cannot be patient until we meet with God and meet with a neighbour. Love is kind. We must be kind to real people. Love bears no record of wrongs. Real love therefore getting to know God becoming a part of the lives of those around us. God want this of us. This love is hard and very often sacrificial. It costs. It cannot be done with human power alone and therefore requires more: it requires God who helps us. As it says scripture, 'the fruit of the Spirit is love'. Again, it says, 'the gift of the Spirit is love'.

At the heart of the Christian Gospel is an absolute requirement to love—'love one another as I have loved you' says Jesus. It is therefore impossible to be a Christian without loving. God is love and Christians are required to be the people of God.



Today is Remembrance Sunday. A day when we remember the consequences of war and, if we are wise, recommit to avoiding further conflict and yet more violence. We can commit or we can do something concrete and tangible to make sure that conflict and violence is more difficult. Prevention is better than cure. We make a start by filling ourselves with God. The God of the Christians is love, so we fill ourselves with love and we ask for the strength to make that love real. Let's *be* that love.

The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
the source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of intercession

We pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict and ask that God may give us peace.

We pray for the service men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and loved by 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 us His 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 us His peace

All God give peace.

For civilians—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 us His peace

All God give peace

For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free:

May God give us His 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 us His peace

All God give peace.

God of truth and justice, we hold before you those others who have died: those whose names we will never know and those whose memory we cherish, including those who have died very recently. 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.

May God give us His peace

All God give peace.

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

Merciful Father,

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

The peace

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,
All And also with you.

HYMN 3 O God our help in ages past (please click on this link to hear the hymn)

The liturgy of the Communion Service appears below

The Dismissal

God the Father,
who has given to his Son the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.

All Amen

God the Son,
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.

All Amen

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful servants of Christ the King.

All Amen

HYMN 4 Lord Jesus Christ (click on this link to hear the hymn)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Eucharistic Prayer (prayer E)

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
that we should always sing of your glory,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For you are the hope of the nations,
the builder of the city that is to come.

Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost,
restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised.

In his face your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one in your kingdom
a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore, with all who can give voice in your creation
we glorify your name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**All Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.

Communion is distributed.

Prayer after Communion

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things:
may we who have shared at this table
as strangers and pilgrims here on earth
be welcomed with all your saints
to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Act of Remembrance

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

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.

The bugler sounds 'The last Post'.

(please click on this [link](#))

A two-minute silence

The bugler sounds 'Reveille'.

(please click on this [link](#))

The National Anthem

(please click on this [link](#))

**God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen!**

Let us pray: God, grant to the living grace,
to the departed rest,
to the church, the Queen, the Commonwealth,
and all people peace, unity and concord,
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God the Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and remain with us always.

All Amen.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ.

Amen.