Remembrance Sunday
8th November 2026

St Edburgha's Church Yardley



Their bodies are buried in peace,
But their name lives on generation after generation.

Ecclesiasticus 44 v. 14

Hymn - 537

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

Under 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.

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,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

Invitation to worship
We have come together to worship Almighty God;
to offer him praise and thanksgiving for our nation's
deliverance in time of war; to recall to our minds those who through death, injury or bereavement, suffered to bring peace and freedom to our world; to seek his forgiveness for our failure to achieve reconciliation between the nations, and to ask for strength
to overcome evil and injustice wherever it is found.

Confession:
Almighty and merciful God, Lord of all people and
nations, we confess with shame the sins, both private and public,
by which we have broken your law and grieved your Spirit.
We acknowledge the reproach that war has brought
upon the name of Christ.
We confess our lack of love for you and for others.
For the sake of your Son, who died for us, save us from our sins.
Take from us all hatred and bitterness, whether in thought,
word or action.
Teach us to forgive, as we are forgiven, so that we may
grow more like him and live our lives according to your will.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Minister
Almighty God, who has promised to forgive all who repent of
their sins and believe in his Son, Jesus Christ; grant us pardon
for our sins, peace in our hearts, strength in his service,
and everlasting life.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

First Reading:
1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

13 But 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. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose
again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have
died. 15For 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. 16For 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.
17Then 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. 18Therefore encourage one another with these
words.

The Collect

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.**

Hymns during procession of Poppies
507 & 355

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3. Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

I vow to thee, my country
All earthly things above
Entire and whole and perfect
The service of my love
The love that asks no questions
The love that stands the test
That lays upon the altar
The dearest and the best
The love that never falters
The love that pays the price
The love that makes undaunted
The final sacrifice.
And there's another country
I've heard of long ago
Most dear to them that love her

Most great to them that know
We may not count her armies
We may not see her King
Her fortress is a faithful heart
Her pride is suffering
And soul by soul and silently
Her shining bounds increase
And her ways are ways of gentleness
And all her paths are peace.

Gospel Reading:
Matthew 25.1-13

1‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took
their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were
foolish, and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they
took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their
lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy
and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” 7Then all those bridesmaids
got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, “Give
us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” 9But 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.” 10And 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.
11Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to
us.” 12But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” 13Keep
awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Sermon

Act of Remembrance

Remember Ypres, Gallipoli, the Somme, Mons and Verdun. Remember the Western Desert, El Alamein, the Normandy beaches. Remember Coventry, Dresden, Hiroshima and the Burma Road. Remember Korea, the Falkland Islands, Northern Ireland, the Balkans, East Timor, Afghanistan and the Gulf.
Remember the courage, the comradeship, the ingenuity, the spirit of working together for a common cause, the planning together for a better world that would come with peace.

Remember the call to arms, the patriotic songs, the partings which were such sweet sorrow. The sound of the drum, the skirl of the pipe, the prayer that God would be on our side.

Remember the carnage; the colossal horror of war. Remember the widows of sixty years and more, the old men and women who never knew their fathers. Remember the love that was lost, the wisdom wasted, the minds that are still pained by memories. Remember the families bereft by recent wars and conflict.

Remember this day the children who will die while nation fights nation.
Remember the One who asked us to remember them.
Father, remember us; and forgive us our sins against you and our fellow man.

Let us remember before God 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 mankind. 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.
We will remember them.

The Last Post

The Silence

Reveille

In Flanders Fields
In Flanders fields, the poppies grow
between the crosses, row on row,
that mark our places; and in the sky
the larks, still bravely singing, fly
scarce heard amongst the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
loved and were loved, and now we lie
in Flanders fields.

Take up your quarrel with the foe;
to you from failing hands we throw
the torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
we shall not sleep, though poppies grow
in Flanders fields. *Dr John McCrae, 1914/1915*

National Anthem

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

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 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



Offertory hymn - 413

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

2. O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
and hushed their raging at thy word,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm, amid the storm didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

3. O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the waters dark and rude,
who bid their angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

4. O Trinity of love and power,
our brethren shield in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them whereso'er they go,
Thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

The Creed

Do you believe and Trust in God the Father
who made the world?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his son Jesus Christ
who redeemed mankind?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit
Who gives life to the people of God?
We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen

Prayers of intercessions

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

For the service men and women who have died in the
violence of war, for each one is remembered by God
God of love
Grant us your peace

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the
distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss
God of love
Grant us your 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
God of love
Grant us your peace

For civilian women, children and men whose lives are
disfigured by war or terror, confessing the anger
and hatred common to us all
God of love
Grant us your peace

For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep
this world secure and free
God of love
Grant us your 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 of reconciliation and peace
God of love
Grant us your peace

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

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

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

Go in the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God

Hymn - 353

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountain green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.



Marching Men

Under the level winter sky
I saw a thousand Christs go by.
They sang an idle song and free
As they went up to calvary.

Careless of eye and coarse of lip,
They marched in holiest fellowship.
That heaven might heal the world, they gave
Their earth-born dreams to deck the grave.

With souls unpurged and steadfast breath
They supped the sacrament of death.
And for each one, far off, apart,
Seven swords have rent a woman's heart.

Marjorie Pickthall





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