

Sunday Worship at Home, 8th November, Remembrance Sunday

(Based on the Remembrance Service)

Opening Prayers:

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; and who by his Holy Spirit, leads us in the way.

As we give thanks for his great works, we remember those who have 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 his help and blessing that we may do his will and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King

A Prayer of Confession:

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world, its pride, its selfishness, its greed, its evil divisions and hatreds. And let us confess our share in what is wrong and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for all his children

In a dark and disfigured world, we have not held out the light of life: **Lord, have mercy.**
In a hungry and despairing world, we have failed to share our bread: **Christ, have mercy.**
In a cold and loveless world we have kept the love of God to ourselves: **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Collect for Remembrance Sunday

Almighty God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the Prince of Peace; 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 and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

Bible Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

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**

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**

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**

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**

For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free; **May 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**

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.**

This epitaph is written on the gates of the war memorial at Kohima:

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

So let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

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**

We join all our prayers together by saying **the Lord's Prayer**

Conclusion

May God give to you and to all those you love his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit remain with you always. **Amen.**

Reverend Eddie