



**Welcome to St Margaret's Church, Ifield
Sunday 12th November 2023
Remembrance Sunday**



The Service begins at the War Memorial



ACT OF REMEMBRANCE



Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure 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 others.

The Exhortation

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

SILENCE

THE REVEILLE

Kohima Epitaph

When you go home, tell them of us and say:
For your tomorrows, we gave our today!

THE LAYING OF THE WREATHS

Those wishing to lay wreaths are invited to do so now

After the laying of the wreaths the following words are said

Almighty and Eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: Hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation make their way to the Church in silence.

In the Church: 'Nimrod' *from Variations on an original theme, "Enigma"*
Edward Elgar 1857-1934

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 his help and blessing that we may do his will, and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King.

Hymn

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.

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 troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts 1674-1748, Music: William Croft 1678-1727

ACT 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 all his children.

Most merciful God, 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May almighty God 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. Amen.

We sit

THE FIRST AND SECOND READINGS

First Reading

Wisdom 6.12-16

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

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 question, 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.

Words: Cecil Spring-Rice 1859-1918 Music: Gustav Holst 1874-1934

We sit

Third Reading

John 15:9-17

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind 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.

O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep
And calm, amid its rage, didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

**O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And 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.**

**O Trinity of love and power,
Our brethren shield in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoever they go,
And ever let there rise to thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.**

Words: William Whiting 1825-1878, Music: John Bacchus Dykes 1823-1876

SERMON

Hymn

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide,
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day,
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away,
Change and decay in all around I see,
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every passing hour,
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless,
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy Cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies,
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee:
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

Words: Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847, Music: William Henry Monk 1823-1889

INTERCESSIONS

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

The response to the bidding 'May God give peace' is
'God give peace'

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

We stand

ACT OF COMMITMENT

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow human beings: that we may help, encourage and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

**Lord God our Father, we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind, in the cause of peace, for the relief of wanting and suffering, and for the praise of your name. Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us faithful now and always.
Amen.**

Hymn

**I know that my Redeemer lives,
And on that final day of days
His voice shall bid me rise again:
Unending joy, unceasing praise.**

**This hope I cherish in my heart:
To stand on earth, my flesh restored,
And, not a stranger but a friend,
Behold my Saviour and my Lord.**

Words and Music: John Hatton 1710-1793

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!**

Words: Anon Music: 'Thesaurus Musicus' c1743

THE BLESSING

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, and to 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.

Recessional

Variations in 'The Last Post'

Stephen C Horsman b. 1961

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The Poppy



I am not a badge of honour,
I am not a racist smear,
I am not a fashion statement,
To be worn but once a year,
I am not glorification
Of conflict or of war.



I am not a paper ornament
A token,
I am more.



I am a loving memory,
Of a father or a son,
A permanent reminder
Of each and every one.



I'm paper or enamel
I'm old or shining new,
I'm a way of saying thank you,
To every one of you.

I am a simple poppy
A Reminder to you all,
That courage faith and honour,
Will stand where heroes fall.

LEST WE
FORGET

