

An Order of Service for Remembrance Sunday

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THE SERVICE

GATHERING



All gather in silence

The presiding minister reads one or more of the following sentences:

God is our refuge and strength;
a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 46.1

I lift up my eyes to the hills –
from whence will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121.1-2

This I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning.

Lamentations 3.21-23

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew
their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary
they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40.31

What does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6.8

The presiding 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.



REMEMBERING

An older person says:

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

A younger person may reply:

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
we will remember them.

All affirm:

We will remember them.

**The beginning of the two-minute silence
may be signalled**

Silence

**The completion of the silence
may be signalled**

The following prayer is said:

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.

The following hymn, or another that similarly expresses hope in God and trust for the future, may be sung:

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

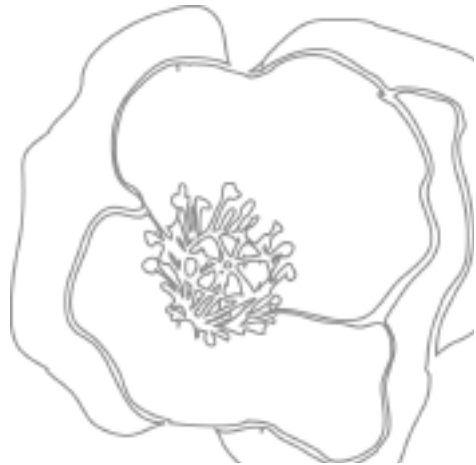
Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

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 our years 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.



LISTENING FOR THE WORD FROM GOD

The reader says:

Hear these words from the New Testament

Either one or more of the following are read:

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

John 14:27

The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of



righteousness is sown in peace for those
who make peace.

James 3:17-18

This is the message we have heard from
him and proclaim to you, that God is light
and in him there is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:5

or *the following is read:*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up
the mountain, and after he sat down his
disciples came to him. Then he began to
speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will
be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit
the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:1-12



PRAYING TOGETHER

Prayer is led:

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

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

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

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

God give peace

for peace-makers and peace-keepers, who
seek to keep this world secure and free;

May God give peace

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

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.



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

RESPONDING IN HOPE AND COMMITMENT

Representative and other members of the public come forward to lay wreaths, light candles or offer other symbols of remembrance and hope, such as single flowers or crosses.

The Kohima Epitaph is said:

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

A hymn may be sung

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

The National Anthem(s) are sung

The following blessing is used:

God grant to the living grace,
to the departed rest,
to the Church, the Queen, the
Commonwealth
[or to the Church, the State]
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



TAIZE CHANTS

Da pacem, Domine

Christ of compassion (In te confido)

Dona nobis pacem

Dona nobis pacem, Domine

In God alone

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom

O Lord, hear my prayer

OTHER MUSIC

The RSCM has published a list of suitable choral anthems and organ music in *Sunday by Sunday* 25 (June 2003); see also *Sunday by Sunday* 33 (June, 2005). Details available from the RSCM website: www.rscm.com/sundaybysunday.

FURTHER RESOURCES

Copies of the Remembrance Service in this form may be ordered from CTBI publications as below.

Beyond Our Tears – resources for times of remembrance

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Church of Scotland: *Book of Common Order*
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