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An Order of Service for Remembrance Sunday

**ST. MICHAEL & ALL
ANGELS CHURCH
PELSALL
WALSALL DEANERY
LICHFIELD DIOCESE**



1. It does NOT include: introduction, notes for organizers, President's comments nor additional resources. Please note that the appearance of this "text only" version differs from the original publication.

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

ISBN 0 85169 286 9 £7.95 128pp (P)

Published by CTBI, available from bookshops and:

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Church of England Liturgical Commission: *Common Worship: Times and Seasons & Common Worship: Festivals*

ISBN 1 00 000 581 X £15 (published by Church House Publishing)
available from bookshops

Church of Scotland: *Book of Common Order*
ISBN 0 715206 84 2 £20 (published by St Andrew Press) available from bookshops.