

THE VIGIL

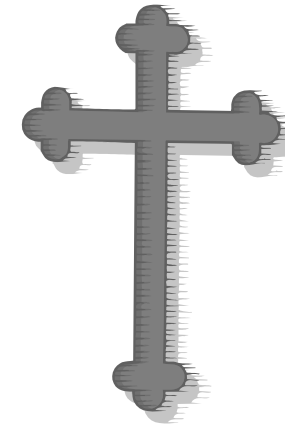
4th August, 2014

This Vigil Service is held as part of an evening which marks the date of the start of World War 1.

A book has been published to commemorate the men whose names appear on St Chad's WW1 memorial tablet and an exhibition of WW1 memorabilia is on display,

Please take a copy of the book with you.

Light refreshments are available throughout the evening.



A Vigil Service is a reflective night service of readings and prayers to which we bring our sorrows, confusion and longings as we pray for the dawning of God's mercy, protection and peace.

CCL number 119976

Welcome & Introduction

The four lit candles represent the four corners of the world: the vigil begins with a short time of silence.

Opening music:

“Lament for Ian Dickinson” by Anthony Robb

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All Who has made heaven and earth.

We gather to remember the sorrows of the past

All We gather to share our hope for a peaceful future.

Hymn

In the midst of daily living
Comes the call to contemplate-
Ponder where our path is leading
Or endure uncertain fate;
Each and every generation
Has to find, afresh, the way
To the gift and source of salvation
How to greet each dawning day

Pride and envy, greed and hatred
Tear asunder love and good,
Leaving us where nothing's sacred
Till we build where evil stood;
Love is stronger than our efforts,
God is greater than our sight,
May we find a holy fortress
In his timeless love and might

So we choose, like every nation,
What may lead to good or ill;
Let us scorn the great temptation
Of despair or standing still;
God can change what may seem written,
As the Saints have shown the Way;
Clouds of doubt make God seem hidden-
Yet he shines in glorious ray!

Ronald Green

Hymn

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in
you.

Chorus:

***Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul.***

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Chorus:

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal
life.

Chorus:

The vigil ends with the Blessing

All: He will guide them to springs of living water:
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

To the One who sits upon the throne
and to the Lamb
be blessing and honour and glory and might,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers
(Concluding with the following two prayers)

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne,
illuminate the darkness of this night with your celestial brightness, and
from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

All: Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray;
and in your mercy defend us from all perils
and dangers of this night;
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

In your tender compassion, O God

All: the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,

All: and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen

'To Women'. A poem by Robert Laurence Binyon

A short time of silence follows the reading of the poem

A Reading from the Old Testament -

Isaiah 55, 6-13

Following the reading two of the candles are extinguished

Psalm 36

Sin whispers to the wicked, in the depths of their heart;
there is no fear of God before their eyes.

All: They flatter themselves in their own eyes
that their abominable sin will not be found out.

The words of their mouth are unrighteous and full of deceit;
they have ceased to act wisely and to do good.

All: They think out mischief upon their beds
and have set themselves in no good way;
nor do they abhor that which is evil.

Let not the foot of pride come against me,
nor the hand of the ungodly thrust me away.

All: Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains,
your justice like the strong deep;
you, Lord, shall save both man and beast.

All: How precious is your loving mercy, O God!
All mortal flesh shall take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.

Prayer

O God, the source of life,
banish our pride and enlighten us with wisdom,

that we may be led by your light,
and come to see your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

A Reading from the New Testament -

James 2, 1-9 & 12

Following this reading the remaining two candles are extinguished

Old Testament Canticle

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

**All: they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest;
as people exult when dividing plunder.**

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders;
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**All: For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood:
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.**

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us:
and the government will be on his shoulders;

**All And he will be named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God:
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace:
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

**All: He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness:
from this time onwards and for evermore.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from Mark's Gospel 13,3-8.

***During this reading a new candle is brought forward, this represents the
Light of Christ, in which we live.***

A short time of silence follows this reading and then the choir will sing,

'Be still for the presence of the Lord,'

New Testament Canticle

Behold a great multitude:
which no one could number.

**All: From every nation,
from all tribes and peoples and tongues:
standing before the throne and the Lamb.**

And the One who sits upon the throne:
will shelter them with his presence.

**All: They shall never again feel hunger or thirst:
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.**

For the Lamb at the heart of the throne:
will be their Shepherd.