

**St Nicholas Church,
Remembrance Sunday Service
12th November 2023**

WELCOME AND NOTICES

CALL TO WORSHIP: JOHN 15:12-13

My commandment is this:
love one another, just as I love you.
The greatest love you can have for your friends
is to give your life for them.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Minister: 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.

All: We arise today with the power of God to guide us,
the might of God to uphold us,
the wisdom of God to teach us,
the eye of God to watch over us,
the ear of God to hear us,
the word of God to give us speech,
the hand of God to protect us,
the way of God to direct us,
the shield of God to shelter us,
and the host of God to defend us.
Be with us, O God, as we offer to you our remembering.
(Adopted from A War Primer: F.B. MacNutt)

OPENING HYMN: HYMN: ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DohxO6ytsaU>

1. All my hope on God is founded
He will still my trust renew
Through all change and chance He'll guide me
Only good and only true
God unknown He alone
Calls my heart to be His own

2. Human pride and earthly glory
Sword and crown betray our trust
Though with care and toil we build them
Tower and temple fall to dust
But God's power hour by hour
Is my temple and my tower

3. Day by day the Almighty Giver
Blesses us with gifts of love
Pleasing Him our souls find pleasure
Leading to our home above
Love doth stand at His hand
Joy doth wait on His command

4. Still from earth to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ His Son
Hear His call one and all
Those who follow shall not fall.

CCLI Song # 761276

OPENING PRAYER

Minister: We pray for our world highlighted by the poppy plant of remembrance

All: We will remember them as we pray.

Minister: Lord, where neighbour is set against neighbour, please bring peace.

All: We will remember them as we pray.

Minister: Where the weak and helpless are beaten by the mighty, please bring justice.

All: We will remember them as we pray.

Minister: Where children are forced to fight, please bring them freedom.

All: We will remember them as we pray.

Minister: Where hatred means war and revenge continues, please bring forgiveness.

All: We will remember them as we pray.

Minister: Where people depend on their own strength and beliefs, rather than depending on you, please bring humility.

All We will remember them as we pray.

Minister: Where some take peace for granted, turn them and us all into peace advocates – with a shared obligation to raise our voices for peace, sustainable development and human rights - regardless of the odds against us. Prince of peace, may all you people in this world enjoy the blessings of making, keeping and building peace, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: GOD IS OUR STRENGTH AND REFUGE (TUNE: DAMBUSTER'S MARCH)

1. God is our strength and refuge
Our present help in trouble
And we therefore will not fear
Though the earth should change
Though mountains shake and tremble
Though swirling floods are raging
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore

2. There is a flowing river
Within God's holy city
God is in the midst of her
She shall not be moved
God's help is swiftly given
Thrones vanish at His presence
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore

3. Come see the works of our Maker

Learn of His deeds all-powerful
Wars will cease across the world
When He shatters the spear
Be still and know your Creator
Uplift Him in the nations
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore

CCLI Song # 2607575, Psalm 46, Richard Thomas Bewes© 1982, Jubilate Group.

BAGPIPES (FLOWERS OF THE FOREST)

SILENCE: 11:00 – 11:02AM

REVEILLE

TRYST: Gordon Macdonald MSP

They went with songs to the battle,
they were young, straight of limb, true of eye,
steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;
They fell with their faces to the foe.
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.

The congregation responds: We will remember them.

LAYING OF WREATH?

PRAYER (JOHN WALLACE)

As wreaths are placed at the memorial, close to the altar,
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 their fellows, seeking
justice and peace.

Loving Father, those who have been to war rarely talk about it; Those who
haven't, struggle to understand it. In this season of remembrance, we try to bridge
the gap. Help us never to forget the horror of war of lives lost, of people changed
of physical injury, and mental health problems of homes lost, and cities destroyed.
Help us to give thanks for courage in adversity, for those who went above and

beyond the call of duty, for acts of self- sacrifice, that others might live. May we resolve to work for peace, to build bridges, for their sake, for our sake, for everyone's sake. Amen

A prayer for Remembrance Sunday from Very Rev Colin Sinclair, former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

POEMS:

BIBLE READING: MATTHEW 5:1-12

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."

REFLECTION

HYMN/OFFERINGS: WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS (VIDEO)

PRAYER (Charles Henrywood, 2009)

Grant peace, O Lord, across our strife-torn world,
Where war divides and greed and dogma drive.
Help us to learn the lessons from the past,
That all are human and all pay the price.

All life is dear and should be treated so;
Joined, not divided, is the way to go.
Protect, dear Lord, all who, on our behalf,
Now take the steps that place them in harm's way.

May they find courage for each task they face
By knowing they are in our thoughts always.
Then, duty done and missions at an end,
Return them safe to family and friends.

Grant rest, O Lord, to those no longer with us;
Who died protecting us and this their land.
Bring healing, Lord, to those who, through their service,
Bear conflict's scars on body or in mind.

With those who mourn support and comfort share.
Give strength to those who for hurt loved-ones care.
And some there be who no memorial have;
Who perished are as though they'd never been.

For our tomorrows their today they gave,
And simply asked that in our hearts they'd live.
We heed their call and pledge ourselves again,
At dusk and dawn - we will remember them!

ALL SAY: We will remember them.

CLOSING HYMN: WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD?

1. Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift or firm remain?

CHORUS

**We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
Fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.**

2. It is safely moored, 'twill the storm withstand,
For 'tis well secured by the Saviour's hand;
And the cables passed from His heart to mine,
Can defy the blast, through strength divine.
3. It will firmly hold in the straits of fear,
When the breakers have told the reef is near;
Though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,

Not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow.

4. It will surely hold in the floods of death,
When the waters cold chill our latest breath;
On the rising tide it can never fail,
While our hopes abide within the veil.

CCLI Song # 47031, Priscilla J. Owens | William James Kirkpatrick, Public Domain

NATIONAL ANTHEM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sHTdkG8H0M>

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.

BENEDICTION

Go into the world in peace;
Be of good courage;
Hold fast that which is good;
Render to no one evil for evil;
Strengthen the faint hearted;
support the weak;
Help the afflicted;
Give honour to all; love and serve the Lord,
Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit,
And may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
The love of God and fellowship of the Holy Spirit.....

THERE WILL BE A RETIRING COLLECTION FOR POPPY SCOTLAND.

VIDEO AFTER THE SERVICE:

BECAUSE HE LIVES I CAN FACE TOMORROW

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wo0IPxg4xQ>