The Wokingham Civic and Ecumenical Service of Remembrance Sunday the 13th of November 2022

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



Please be aware that this service is being Livestreamed to allow other people to be part of this special occasion in the life of the community. A collection will be taken during the service to support the vital work of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. If you are a UK taxpayer, please can you fill in one of the envelopes provided so we can claim back the Gift Aid- your £10 in an envelope immediately becomes worth £12.50 to us if you do, at no cost to yourself. Thank you. The organ pieces as we gather are Elegie by Hubert Parry, written in 1918, and Nimrod from Enigma Variations, by Edward Elgar, arr. Harvey Grace.

Poem: In Memoriam by Edward Thomas

The flowers left thick at nightfall in the wood This Eastertide calls into mind the men Now far from home, who, with their sweethearts, should Have gathered them and will do never again.

Choir Anthem: God be in my head

by John Rutter (born 1945) God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking. God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in mine heart and in my thinking. God be at my end and in my departing.

The Gathering and Introduction

Hymn: All my hope on God is founded

(during which flags and standards are received in the chancel) All my hope on God is founded; He doth still my trust renew. Me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true. God unknown, He alone calls my heart to be his own. Human pride and earthly glory, sword and crown betray his trust; what with care and toil he buildeth, tower and temple fall to dust but God's power, hour by hour is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth, deep his wisdom, passing thought: splendour, light and life attend him, beauty springeth out of naught. Evermore from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'Almighty giver bounteous gifts on us bestow; His desire our soul delighteth, pleasure leads us where we go. Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son. Christ doth call one and all ye who follow shall not fall.

> Words: Robert Bridges, 1844-1930 Music: Herbert Howells, 1892-1983

The Opening Prayer

Eternal God, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of justice, and no strength known but the strength of love: guide and inspire all who seek your kingdom, that peoples and nations may find their security in the love which casts out fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

The Reading: Matthew 13.44-52

read by Sir John Redwood, MP for Wokingham

The Address

by the Rev'd Canon Richard Lamey, Rector of St Paul's, Wokingham and Area Dean of Sonning



Charles Rideout (1889-1915) who lived at 41 Easthampstead Road, worked at 19 Peach Street, and was killed at the Battle of Loos. His body was never found.

Hymn: O God our help in ages past

(during which members of 3rd Wokingham (Mayor's Own) Scout Group take the collection for the Poppy Appeal)

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

Under 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 guide while troubles last, and our eternal home.

> Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Music: William Croft (1678-1727)

The Prayers

led by the Rev'd Catherine Bowstead, Minister of Wokingham Methodist Church, Superintendent Minister of Berkshire and Surrey Borders Circuit and Convenor of Churches Together Wokingham

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

Hymn: I vow to thee my country

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 & all her paths are peace. *Words: Cecil Spring Rice* (1859-1918) *Music: Gustav Holst* (1874-1934)

Remembering The Exhortation

read by Cadet Evie Rodger (Wokingham Air Cadets) 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.

Silence is kept for two minutes as we remember. The Silence is introduced by the Last Post and ended by Reveille.



The end of the Silence is marked with the Kohima epitaph, read by Lance Corporal Penney (Wokingham Army Cadets): When you go home, tell them of us and say: for your tomorrow we gave our today.

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 Choir Anthem: Eternal Rest

by James Whitbourn (born 1963) Eternal rest grant unto us, O Lord. May light perpetual shine on us. Amen.

Our Response and Commitment

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and all humanity: Before God, we pledge ourselves to work to establish justice and peace, to feed the hungry and heal the broken, to welcome the refugee and the stranger, to console the bereaved and to bring hope to those in want. Inspired by our remembering, we commit ourselves to work for peace, in our homes, in our community, and throughout the whole world. Amen.

May Almighty God, who has given us the will to undertake these things, give us also the strength to perform them: for his name's sake. **Amen.**

Hymn: He who would valiant be

(during which the standards are returned) He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster, Let him in constancy follow the Master. There's no discouragement shall make him once relent His first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round with dismal stories Do but themselves confound - his strength the more is. No foes shall stay his might; though he with giants fight, He will make good his right to be a pilgrim. Since, Lord, Thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit, We know we at the end, shall life inherit. Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say, I'll labour night and day to be a pilgrim.

> Words: John Bunyan (1628-1688) Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The 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.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Grant, Lord, that we my live in your fear, die in your favour, rest in your peace, rise in your power, and reign in your glory: and the blessing...

The writer of Lamentations said: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is his faithfulness.

The Organ Voluntary

Solemn Prelude: In Memoriam, from 'For the Fallen' by Edward Elgar, arr. Harvey Grace

Please remain seated until the Uniformed Organisations and all those on parade have largely left the Church so that they can re-form to return to the Town Hall. You are welcome to use the South Door once there is room to do so. Thank you.

Thank you also to the Rev'd Becky Medlicott of All Saints' Church, Wokingham who has helped the younger members of the Uniformed Groups to think about Remembrance during the service in the Parish Rooms.



