



Act of Remembrance

Remembrance Sunday

8 November 2020

at 10.50 am

Emmanuel Church

Gathering Together

We have come together this morning, for this Act of Remembrance, both physically and online, in the presence of Almighty God. We come in gratitude: for all who have died in war so that we might live; for all who have endured pain that we might know joy; and for all who suffered internment that we might know freedom. We commit ourselves to work, in penitence and faith, for reconciliation between 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, both past and present, have been given and taken away.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have not always loved You with our whole heart or listened to Your call. In Your mercy: forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with You. AMEN.

A Special Prayer For Remembrance Sunday

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in Your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to His just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

We Pray Together As A Community

Let us pray together as a community 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 us His peace

May God give us His 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 us His peace

May God give us His peace.

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family and friends and all who pray for their safe return:

May God give us His peace

May God give us His 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 us His peace

May God give us His peace.

For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free; and 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 us His peace

May God give us His 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. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name; Your kingdom come, Your will be done; on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation: but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and for ever. AMEN.

Remembering

Today, many people around the world will observe two minutes silence. Have you ever wondered what goes through other people's minds for those two minutes? For older people, there may be memories of wartime; for younger people, questions about why we continue this practice. However, it is, for all of us, an opportunity to pray quietly for: those who were bereaved through war; those who still suffer because of war; the present areas of trouble in the world; and for peace. Younger people might like to think about the sadness of war, boys and girls who have been made orphans by war and by thanking God for the peace we have today.

Let us remember before God the men and women of all nations who have died as a result of war; those whom we have known and whose memory we treasure; those we never knew; and those who died unknown. We will remember all who have lived in hope but died in vain; the tortured; the innocent; the starving; the exiled; the imprisoned; the oppressed; and the disappeared. Eternal God, holy and true, holy and compassionate: we remember before You those who have made profound sacrifices so that we may live in peace and freedom; those who gave their lives in overcoming evil; those who give their lives in maintaining peace; those who mourn the loved ones they have lost; and those who bear the scars that never heal.

*They shall grow not old, as we who 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.

The Last Post

Followed by TWO MINUTES SILENCE

The Reveille

The Kohima Epitaph

*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.

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 that 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.

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Part of The Billericay & Little Burstead Team Ministry