



# VJ Day 80th Anniversary Civic Service & Beacon Lighting

7.30pm, 15th August 2025

Bolton Parish Church

Vicar: Rev Hannah Lane  
Director of Music: Mr Philip O'Connor



**Bolton**  
Council

## PRELUDE

THALBEN-BALL - ELEGY

### THE GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

Heaviness may endure for a night:

**All But joy comes in the morning.**

God has been our refuge and our strength:

**All A present help in time of trouble.**

Dear friends, we have come together on this day to commemorate the anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

We come together conscious of our need for God's forgiveness for the sin and the desire to dominate others that leads to conflict between people, and war between nations.

And as we remember the many soldiers, sailors, and airmen who gave their lives restraining evil and opposing tyranny, so we also come in thanksgiving for those who continue to strive for peace on this continent. We gather joyfully today, as those who gathered on that first VJ Day, glad of each other's company, and grateful for the laughter and love that follows times of sadness and loss

But above all things, let us pray that God's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven, as we join our voices together and say:

**All 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

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed;  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.  
Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING Zechariah 8.3-8, Lord Lieutenant

Thus says the Lord: I will return to Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts shall be called the holy mountain. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Even though it seems impossible to the remnant of this people in these days, should it also seem impossible to me, says the Lord of hosts? Thus says the Lord of hosts: I will save my people from the east country and from the west country; and I will bring them to live in Jerusalem. They shall be my people and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,  
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour whose almighty word  
the winds and waves submissive heard,  
who walkesdst on the foaming deep,  
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood  
upon the chaos dark and rude,  
who bad'st its angry tumult cease,  
and gavest light and life and peace:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,  
our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
protect them whereso'er they go:  
and ever let there rise to thee  
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING 2 Corinthians 5.16–21, Mayor of Bolton

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORY Cf Psalms 84, 89

Your salvation is near to those who fear you,

**All that glory may dwell in our land.**

Mercy and truth have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**All that glory may dwell in our land.**

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;  
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

**All Your salvation is near to those who fear you,  
that glory may dwell in our land.**

### ADDRESS

REV HANNAH LANE, VICAR OF BOLTON & BOROUGH DEAN

## ANTHEM

### PETER NARDONE – I GIVE TO YOU A NEW COMMANDMENT

I give to you a new commandment,  
a new commandment I give to you,  
that you love one another, love one another as I have loved you.

*Ubi caritas est vera, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

Where charity is true, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us into one.

Let us rejoice and be glad in him. Let us fear and love the living God.  
And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

Amen

## WREATH LAYING

### EXHORTATION

THE LAST POST PERFORMED BY THE LANCASHIRE ARTILLERY BUGLER

2-MINUTE SILENCE IS OBSERVED

REVEILLE PERFORMED BY THE LANCASHIRE ARTILLERY BUGLER

THE KOHIMA EPITAPH

## PRAYERS

O Lord our God, as we remember, teach us the ways of peace.  
As we treasure memories, teach us to hope.  
As we give thanks for the sacrifices of the past,  
help us to make your future in this world,  
until your kingdom come.

**All Amen.**

### Collect for Peace

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:  
kindle in the hearts of all people the true love of peace,  
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom  
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth;  
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,  
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**



### Prayer for the armed forces

O Lord God of Hosts, stretch forth, we pray, your almighty arm to strengthen and protect our service men and women.

Support them in times of conflict, and in their rest and training keep them safe from all evil; endue them with courage and loyalty, and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All    Amen.**

### A prayer for the Sovereign

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and all who are in authority under him, that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All    Amen.**

### AN ACT OF COMMITMENT

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men and women: that we may help, encourage and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

**All    Lord God our Father,  
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind,  
in the cause of peace,  
for the relief of want and suffering,  
and for the praise of your name.  
Guide us by your Spirit;  
give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope;  
and keep us faithful now and always. Amen.**

## HYMN

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,	Open now the crystal fountain
pilgrim through this barren land;	whence the healing stream doth flow;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;	let the fiery cloudy pillar
hold me with thy powerful hand:	lead me all my journey through:
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,	strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
feed me now and evermore,	be thou still my strength and shield,
feed me now and evermore.	be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
songs and praises, songs and praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

## THE BLESSING *please remain standing*

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all people, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## 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.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

EDWARD ELGAR – NIMROD



# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

*Refreshments will be available in the North Aisle*

## HOOVER BOLTON BRASS BAND

### It's a Long Way to Tipperary

It's a long way to Tipperary;  
it's a long way to go  
It's a long way to Tipperary,  
to the sweetest girl I know  
Farewell Piccadilly,  
so long Leicester Square  
It's a long, long way to Tipperary  
but my heart lies there

### Hello Hello Who's Your Lady Friend

Hello hello who's your lady friend?  
Who's the little girlie by your side?  
I've seen you with a girl or two  
Oh, Oh, Oh I am surprised at you  
Hello hello stop your little games  
Don't you think your ways  
you ought to mend  
It isn't the girl I saw you with at Brighton  
Who, who, who's your lady friend?

### Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty

Take me back to dear old Blighty  
Put me on the train for London town  
Take me over there, drop me anywhere  
Liverpool, Leeds or Birmingham  
well I don't care  
I should love to see my best girl  
Cuddling up again we soon should be  
Whoa! Tiddley iddley ighty  
Hurry me home to Blighty  
Blighty is the place for me

### Roll Out the Barrel

Roll out the barrel,  
we'll have a barrel of fun  
Roll out the barrel,  
we've got the blues on the run  
Zing boom tarrarel  
ring out a song of good cheer  
Now's the time to roll the barrel  
for the gang's all here

### Pack Up Your Troubles

Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag  
And smile, smile, smile  
While you've a Lucifer to light your fag  
Smile boys that's the style  
What's the use of worrying  
It never was worthwhile  
So, pack up your troubles in your old kit  
bag and smile, smile, smile

### The Siegfried Line

We're gonna hang out the washing on the  
Siegfried Line  
Have you any dirty washing mother dear?  
We're gonna hang out the washing on the  
Siegfried Line  
'Cause the washing day is here  
Whether the weather may be wet or fine  
We'll just rub along without a care  
We're gonna hang out the washing on the  
Siegfried Line  
If that Siegfried Line's still there

## BEACON LIGHTING 9.30PM

*Please proceed to the car park via the South West doors to view the  
lighting of the beacon on top of the church tower.*

## 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, and all her paths are peace.

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## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR TODAY'S SERVICE AND COMMEMORATIONS.

*If you are able to support the work of our church with a donation we would be most grateful.*

You can use this QR code with apps such as Apple Pay or Google Pay, or with your debit card. If you pay tax and have not filled in a gift aid form please ask for one. Gift aid increases the value of your donation by 25% at no cost to you.



For cash, there is a Collection Plate at the back of church. Please put your offering on the plate as you arrive or leave.

For Standing Orders or on-line donations our Bank Sort Code is 16-00-06 and the account number is 11816952. We also have a contactless giving terminal.

[www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Peter-Bolton-Le-Moors](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Peter-Bolton-Le-Moors)

Social media: @boltonparishchurch

Phone: 01204 522226 Email: [admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk)

● Part of the 1253 Market Charter

# 1253 HISTORIC MARKET & CAR BOOT






**Bolton Parish Church**  
Silverwell St  
Bolton BL1 2PS

**£15 PER PITCH**

**25 AUGUST**  
9am-4pm

**£15 per pitch, contact 07836363635 to book your place!**

## The choir of Bolton Parish Church



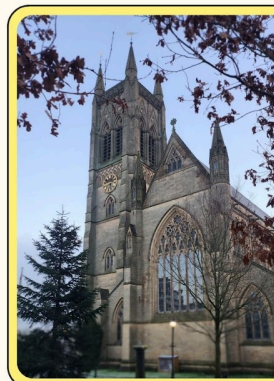
is recruiting singers of all voice types with no audition required!

**7pm rehearsals on Thursdays**

**11am Sunday Morning Eucharist**

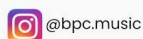
**4pm Choral Evensong on the 4th Sunday of the Month**

Highlights include Advent and 9 Lessons Carol services, performances of Stainer's Crucifixion, and other festival services throughout the church year.



If you would like to be a part of the choir and our outstanding choral tradition here at BPC, please email our director of music, Philip O'Connor, at [music@boltonparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:music@boltonparishchurch.co.uk)

Bolton Parish Church, BL1 1PS



@bpc.music



Music at Bolton Parish Church



<https://boltonparishchurch.co.uk>




# Prep • Pack • Pray

**A back-to-school fun day!**

**Bolton Parish Church**

**FREE ENTRY**

**Games, Crafts, Refreshments**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2025**  
**Drop in between 10am and 3pm**  
**Fun for all the family!**

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

**Places Project**



**heritage open days**

## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS AT BOLTON PARISH CHURCH




**TOWER & WINDOW TOURS**

**10-3pm**  
**September 13th & 20th, 2025**

[www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Peter-Bolton-Le-Moors](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Peter-Bolton-Le-Moors)

Find out more: [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)



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