



# Civic Service *for* Remembrance Sunday

The Collegiate Church  
of Saint Peter  
Wolverhampton

*Sunday 9th  
November 2025*



## MAYOR OF WOLVERHAMPTON

There will be a collection during today's service to raise funds for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and the Mayor of Wolverhampton's Charities.

This year, the Mayor, Councillor Craig Collingswood, is raising money for:



*Please give what you can to support these local good causes.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Once the congregation is seated, the Clergy Procession will enter. Please stand, if you are able, to sing the hymn during which the Standards are brought in.

### Hymn

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
Come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
Without our aid he did us make;  
We are his folk, he doth us feed,  
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
Approach with joy his courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;  
His mercy is for ever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom heaven and earth adore,  
From men and from the angel-host  
Be praise and glory evermore.

**Amen.**

*Tune: Old Hundredth (NEH 334)*

*Words: William Kethe (d.1594)*

### The Introduction

***The Very Reverend Adrian Dorber,***  
*Dean Emeritus of Lichfield*

God is our refuge and strength;  
a very present help in trouble.

***Psalms 46.1***

I lift up my eyes to the hills –  
from whence will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
Who made heaven and earth.

***Psalms 121.1-2***

This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:  
the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning.

***Lamentations 3.21-23***

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.

We ask for God's help and blessing,  
that we may do his will and work together  
for those things that make for peace.

We bring our prayers to God in the words that Christ  
himself, the prince of peace, taught us:

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.**

Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life:  
hear our prayers and thanksgivings  
for all whom we remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

***Please sit***

## **Prayers of Confession**

*Deacon Linda Gilson,*

*Mayor's Chaplain and Methodist Minister  
for the City Centre*

Lord God, you made us to be one family,  
yet we have divided humanity.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, you came amongst us in Jesus  
to reconcile all people,  
yet we have brought disharmony amongst races.  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord God, you rejoice in our differences,  
yet we make them a cause of enmity.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## **Absolution**

*The Very Reverend Adrian Dorber*

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to your truth,  
strengthen us to do your will  
and give us the joy of your kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Anthem**

*The Choirs of St Peter's Collegiate Church*

*Tune: Mauersberger (1889–1971)*

*Words: From the Book of Lamentations*

*Wie liegt die Stadt so wüst, die voll Volks war.  
Alle ihre Tore stehen öde. Wie liegen die Steine des  
Heiligtums vorn auf allen Gassen zerstreut.  
Er hat ein Feuer aus der Höhe in meine Gebeine  
gesandt und es lassen walten. Ist das die Stadt, von  
der man sagt, sie sei die allerschönste, der sich das  
ganze Land freuet?  
Sie hätte nicht gedacht, daß es ihr zuletzt so gehen  
würde; sie ist ja zu greulich heruntergestoßen und hat  
dazu niemand, der sie tröstet.  
Darum ist unser Herz betrübt und unsere Augen sind  
finster geworden: Warum willst du unser so gar  
vergessen und uns lebenslang so gar verlassen!  
Bringe uns, Herr, wieder zu dir, daß wir wieder  
heimkommen!  
Erneue unsere Tage wie vor alters.  
Herr, siehe an mein Elend!*



How lonely sits the city that was full of people! All her gates are desolate. How the stones of her sanctuary lie

Scattered at the head of every street.

He sent fire from on high; into my bones he made it descend. Is this the city which was called the most beautiful, that in which the whole land rejoices?

She had not thought that this would be her final end; therefore her fall is terrible, and she has no one to comfort her.

This is why our heart has become sick, These things have caused our eyes to grow dim. Why do you forget us for ever, why do you so long forsake us? Bring us, O Lord, back to you, that we come home again!

Renew our days as of old.

O Lord, behold my affliction!

## **Bible Reading**

*Isaiah 61. vv1 - 4*

***Councillor Craig Collingswood,***

*Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who mourn in Zion, to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations, they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Please stand, if you are able.***

*During this hymn a collection will be taken, which will be shared between the Mayor's Charities and the Royal British Legion.*

## Hymn

Judge eternal, throned in splendour,  
Lord of lords and King of kings,  
With thy living fire of judgement  
Purge this realm of bitter things:  
Solace all its wide dominion  
With the healing of thy wings.

Still the weary folk are pining  
For the hour that brings release:  
And the city's crowded clangour  
Cries aloud for sin to cease;  
And the homesteads and the woodlands  
Plead in silence for their peace.

Crown, O God, thine own endeavour;  
Cleave our darkness with thy sword;  
Feed the faithless and the hungry  
With the richness of thy word:  
Cleanse the body of this nation  
Through the glory of the Lord.

*Tune: Rhuddlan (NEH 490)*

*Words: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918)*

***Please sit***

## Bible Reading

*St Matthew 5. vv 1 - 11*

***Councillor Stephen Simkins,***

*Leader of the City of Wolverhampton Council*

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said: "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 be shown 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 because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Sermon**

*The Very Reverend Adrian Dorber,  
Dean Emeritus of Lichfield*

## **Prayers for Peace**

*Representatives of Interfaith Wolverhampton lead our  
prayers for peace, each offering a prayer from their  
own faith tradition*

## **Anthem**

*The Choirs of St Peter's Collegiate Church*

Holy is the True Light, and passing wonderful, lending  
radiance to them that endured in the heat of the  
conflict, from Christ they inherit a home of unfading  
splendour, wherein they rejoice with gladness  
evermore. Alleluia!

*Tune: W H Harris (1883–1973)*

***Please stand, if you are able***

## **An Act of Commitment**

*Catholic Deacon Mick McKearney*

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 the 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.**



## Hymn

*During this hymn the Standards are collected*

For the healing of the nations,  
God, we pray with one accord;  
For a just and equal sharing  
Of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action  
Help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,  
From despair your world release;  
That, redeemed from war and hatred,  
All may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
Fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,  
Let it from the earth be banned;  
Pride of status, race or schooling,  
Dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
May we hallow life's brief span.

You, creator God, have written  
Your great name on humankind;  
For our growing in your likeness  
Bring the life of Christ to mind,  
That by our response and service  
Earth its destiny may find.

*Words: Fred Kahn (1929-2009)*

*Tune: Westminster Abbey (NEH 205)*

## The Blessing

*The Very Reverend Adrian Dorber*

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honour everyone;  
love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Recession**

***Please remain standing*** as the organist plays.

*The Standards are paraded out of church, followed by the Clergy and Civic Processions.*

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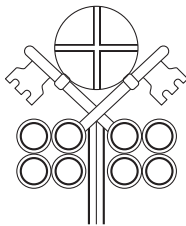




*Please recycle this order of service  
if you do not wish to keep it.*



**MAYOR OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON**



**The Collegiate Church  
of St. Peter, Wolverhampton**



**CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL**