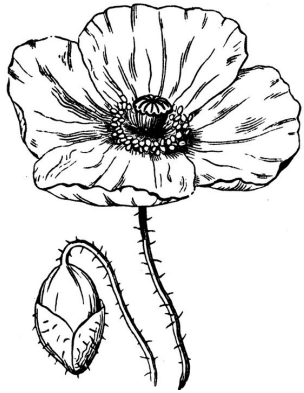
St Mary's Church, Chilton Foliat



Service of Remembrance

- At the Lychgate

Introduction

We are here to worship Almighty God, whose purposes are good; whose power sustains the world he has made; who loves us, though we have failed in his service; who gave Jesus Christ for the life of the world; who by his Holy Spirit leads us in his way. As we give thanks for his great works, we remember those who have died in his service and in the service of others; we pray for all who suffer through war and are in need; we ask for his help and blessing that we may do his will, and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King.

Prayer

Almighty God, we call to mind and commend to thy loving care all thy servants of every nation and every age who, in their turn, fought the good fight of faith, striving against falsehood and cruelty, not counting the cost; and who, by thy grace, have preserved the precious heritage of freedom which is thy will. **Amen.**

Act of Remembrance:

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 those who have lived and died in the service of mankind.

The names are read from the Memorial Roll.
Wreaths are laid.

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.

The Kohima Epitaph

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

The Last Post - The Silence - Reveille

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 thy love; and bring us all, with them, to thy eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Procession moves into the church

Please SIT

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 repentance 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.

Hymn: *Please STAND*

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 guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Act of Penitence: *Please SIT or KNEEL*

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed; its evil divisions and hatreds.
Let us kneel and confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for his children.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved thee with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In thy 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 thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Please STAND*

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.

Reading: Matthew 5:1-12 *Please SIT*

Address:

The Prayers: *Please SIT or KNEEL*

We give thanks for the example of courage and fortitude given by those men and women who have endured war and terrorism on our behalf so that oppression and tyranny shall not prevail.
We acknowledge our debt
to those who have fought and died through conflict;

and those men, women and children who have suffered and died as prisoners of war.
Lord, in thy mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of war; for the injured and the disabled; for the mentally distressed, and for those whose faith in God and in humankind has been weakened or destroyed; for the homeless and refugees; for those who are hungry, and for all who have lost their livelihood and security; for those who mourn their dead, those who have lost husband or wife, children or parents, and especially for those who have no hope in Christ to sustain them in their grief.
Lord, in thy mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for serving members of our nation's armed forces today, on land, sea, under the sea or in the air; who seek to defend and advance the cause of right whatever the cost, even that of their own lives.
Lord, in thy mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the peace of the world; for statesmen and rulers that they may have wisdom to know and courage to do what is right;
for all who work to improve international relationships that they may find the true way to reconcile people of different race, colour and creed;
for men and women the world over that they may have justice and freedom and live in security and peace.
Lord, in thy mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace;
turn our hearts and the hearts of all people to thyself,
that by the power of thy Spirit the peace which is founded on righteousness may be established throughout the whole world.
Lord, in thy mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, infinite in wisdom, love and power; have compassion on those for whom we pray, and help us to use all suffering in the cause of thy kingdom; through him who gave himself for us on the cross, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.

Hymn: *Please STAND*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

Refrain: **Oh, Master grant that I may never seek**
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

[Refrain]

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Act of Commitment: *Please remain STANDING*

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.

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

Hymn: *(A retiring collection will be taken for the Royal British Legion)*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the king of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy strength and salvation:
all ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee:
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from his people again:
gladly, for ay we adore him.

Almighty God, stretch forth thy mighty arm to strengthen and protect the armed forces: grant that meeting danger with courage and all occasions with discipline and loyalty, they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace; to the honour of thy holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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!

The Blessing *Please remain STANDING*

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, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you and those you love
today, tomorrow and always. **Amen**