Remembrance Sunday



All stand. When the ministers have taken their places the colours are brought to the altar step. All remain standing while the introduction is read.

The 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 lived and 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.

Hymn

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.

The Reading

Matthew 5. 1-12 *please sit*

Here these words from the New Testament:

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
‘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 receive 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 for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.’

Act of Penitence *please sit or kneel*

The minister says

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 confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

After a short silence, all say

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word, and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
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;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The minister stands and says

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.

Intercession *please remain seated or kneeling*

The minister says

Let us 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 ...
and for men and women the world over, that they may have justice and freedom, and live in security and peace ...

Here follows a short silence.

Lord, in your mercy
All: **hear our prayer.**

Students from Venerable Bede School say

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 world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of war:
for the injured and disabled,
for the mentally distressed,
and for those whose faith in God and in man
has been weakened or destroyed…
for the homeless and refugees,
and for those who are hungry,
and for those who have lost their livelihood and security…
for those who mourn their dead,
for 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…

Here follows a short silence

Lord, in your mercy
All: **hear our prayer.**

The minister says

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 your kingdom;
through him who gave himself for us on the

cross,
Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn *please stand*

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 walkedst 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 waters dark and rude,
who bid their angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
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.

The Sermon *please sit*

Ryhope Choir *'The Captive's Hymn'- Margaret*

Dryburgh

Father, in captivity,
We would lift our prayers to Thee,
Keep us ever in Thy love,
Grant that daily we may prove
Those who place their trust in Thee
More than conquerors may be.

Give us patience to endure.
Keep our hearts serene and pure,
Grant us courage, charity,
Greater faith, humility,
Readiness to own Thy will,
Be we free or captives still.

For our country we would pray,
In this hour be Thou her stay,
Pride and sinfulness forgive,
Teach her by Thy laws to live,
By Thy grace may all men see
That true greatness comes from Thee.

For our loved ones we would pray,
Be their guardian night and day,
From all danger keep them free,
Banish all anxiety,
May they trust us to Thy care,
Know that Thou our pains dost share.

May the day of freedom dawn,
Peace and justice be reborn,
Grant that nations loving Thee
O'er the world may brothers be,
Cleansed by suffering, know rebirth,
See Thy kingdom come on earth.

Poems from St Paul's Primary School

They Gave Their Tomorrow

They once were children, just like us,
with hopes and dreams and those they loved.
They left their homes, their friends, their all,
to answer their country's solemn call.

They said goodbye with heavy hearts,
not knowing how long they'd be apart.
They marched away, so young, so brave,
not knowing all that they would give.

Through darkest nights and bitter cold,
they showed a courage strong and bold.
They dreamed of home, of love, of peace,
and prayed that one day war would cease.

Some came home, but some did not,
their sacrifice won't be forgot.
They gave their tomorrow for our today,
a gift no words could ever repay.

They gave up birthdays, hopes and dreams,
for peaceful skies and flowing streams.
They gave their lives so we could be free,
their courage lives in our memory.

So when we wear our poppies red,
we honour those whose blood was shed.
We bow our heads, we softly pray,
and thank them for our world today.

Dear Lord, please help us to understand,
the price of peace throughout our land.

May we show kindness in all we do,
and honour those so brave and true.

They gave their youth, they gave their all,
they answered when they heard the call.
With grateful hearts, together we say,
we will remember them, every day.

A Poppy and a Prayer

Today we wear a poppy red,
for all the brave, for tears once shed.
For those who fought, for those who died,
for those who stood with courage and pride.

A little poppy, soft and small,
reminds us of those who gave their all.
Of families waiting, day and night,
and those who prayed for morning light.

We may be young, but still we know,
that peace is precious, and love must grow.
We may not understand each war,
but know what we are thankful for.

For every soldier, brave and true,
who gave so much for me and you.
For those who never made it home,
whose families were left to grieve alone.

Dear God, we ask for peace today,
please guide our world in every way.
Let guns fall silent, let fighting cease,
let every nation live in peace.

So here in church we stand as one,

remembering all that has been done.
With grateful hearts, we bow and pray,
for those who gave their lives away.

We will remember, we will not forget,

the sacrifice and courage met.
They gave their tomorrow for our today,
and in our hearts they'll always stay.

Poppy Prayer *given by pupils from Ryhope Junior School*

"Look at your poppy or that of someone sitting near you if you don't have one. Poppies are bright and cheerful flowers: give thanks to God for the lives of those who have died in war, remembering all the joy they brought to families and friends, and all the good things they did for their home and their country.

"Then look at the red petals: red reminds us of danger
and harm. Ask God to be close to those who are still
facing danger each day, to give courage to the armed forces, and compassion to all who help others.

"Place your whole hand over the poppy: poppies are also fragile and need to be handled gently. God cares for those who are hurting and those who are sad. Ask God to comfort all who are grieving the loss of someone they love.

"Finally place a finger on the centre of the poppy: ask God to help you play your part in working for

peace in the world."

Hymn *please stand*

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
on England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
among these dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
till we have built Jerusalem
in England's green and pleasant land.

Act of Commitment *please remain standing*

The minister says

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 natlons.

All say together

Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves
to serve you and all mankind,
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.

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.

<u>The Blessing</u>

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, 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. **Amen.**

Hymn

Onward, Christian solders,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ the royal Master
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle,
See, his banners go!

Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.

At the sign of triumph
Satan's legions flee;
On then, Christian soldiers,
On to victory.
Hell's foundations quiver
At the shout of praise;
Brothers, lift your voices,
Loud your anthems raise.

Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod;
We are not divided,
All one body we,

One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.

Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain;
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.

Onward, then, ye people,
Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song;
Glory, laud, and honour
Unto Christ the King;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing.

Remain standing while colours are returned to bearers.

Ryhope Choir *'We'll Meet Again" – during which the procession to the War Memorial assembles at the church gate.*

At the War Memorial

When all are assembled at the War Memorial a hymn in announced.

Hymn

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;

the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

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 who have lived and died

in the service of mankind.

A brief silence

A Reading

Revelation 21. 1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for
the first heaven and the first earth had passed
away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the
holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of
heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned
for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from
the throne saying,
'See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'
And the one who was seated on the throne said,
'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said,
'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and
true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am
the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the
end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from
the spring of the water of life. Those who
conquer will inherit these things, and I will be
their God and they will be my children.

Wreaths will now be laid at the foot of the memorial cross

A minister says

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.
All: **We will remember them.**

The Last Post is sounded.

The Silence

A minister says

In remembrance of those who, during two wars and other conflicts, have made the great sacrifice, make us, O God, better men and women, and give peace in our time. **Amen.**

Reveille is sounded.

A minister says

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.

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

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, 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.
Amen.

Thanks to all who have turned out today to remember those who have given their lives in the service of others.

All are welcome to return to St Paul's Church for refreshments.

'At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'