

Worship for 8th November 2020
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God;" Psalm 46

A PRAYER OF CONFESSION *God of peace, Forgive us when we have taken part in conversations or actions in which turn people against each other; for fueling anger and harbouring retaliation; Inspire us never to give up on the hope that your life offers us, and give us the courage to see past war and desolation and live for the day when there will be peace on all levels. AMEN*



DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND,

Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise,
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word

Rise up and follow Thee,
Rise up and follow Thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity,
Interpreted by love, Interpreted by love.

With that deep hush subduing all
Our words and works that drown
The tender whisper of Thy call,
As noiseless let Thy blessing fall
As fell Thy manna down, As fell Thy manna down.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace, The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm, O still small voice of calm!

We pray - 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.**

ROMANS 8 vs 28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

A reflection - We used to play hunt the thimble, often it was on the end of my Dads' nose and so simple to find, other times we had to search and search till we discovered the hiding place.

No one wants to glorify war, violence, changed lives, death. Although we can forgive, rarely can we forget when something awful happens to us or another. The words from Romans could be misunderstood to mean "everything bad that happens can be seen as good". Many struggle with this, and if I had quoted this reading to parents I had a conversation who had lost their child certainly they would have no bearing at all.

But surely for us as Christians, **our instinct in life should be to 'find' the good.** Looking at the atrocities of war and wonder how can there be any good here at all, and it often take a lot of searching,

and time, to find just 'one piece of good' in that horrible state of affairs. Often it's one story of kindness, a photo of loving concern, an act of courage to save another which are the 'saving grace'. They still don't take away the painful story, but they add something more to it. On this day we honour those who have fought, been injured, and lost their lives in acts of war.

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.

*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.
Chorus.... O Master grant...

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.

Let us pray 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 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 peace** for all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;

May God give 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 peace** for peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

May God give peace

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 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, now and for ever. Amen.

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### **ACT OF REMEMBRANCE**

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 TWO-MINUTE SILENCE**

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

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LET'S SING - O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home;

Beneath 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 our years 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.

Our joint commitment

We commit to responsible living faithful service.
We will strive for all that makes for peace
We will seek to heal the wounds of war
We will you work for a just future for all humanity

We will live lives of justice, courage and mercy.

We offer the fears and hopes of your people,
through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer. Amen