

Armistice Day

A Service of Remembrance

Armistice Day, held on 11th November every year, commemorates the signing of the armistice between the Allies and Germany at 11:00am on 11th November 1918 - the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Although hostilities continued in some areas, the armistice essentially brought an end to four years of fighting in the First World War.

It is tradition to pause for a two minutes silence at 11:00am on this day to remember those who gave their lives in the two world wars, and all service personnel killed or injured since 1945.

Just before 11:00am the Two Minutes Silence is introduced with these words,

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 played and it is followed by the observance of TWO MINUTES SILENCE.

At the end of the silence “Reveille” is played, followed by these words,

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

Representative of organizations and other members of the public come forward to lay wreaths, or offer other symbols of remembrance and hope, such as single flowers or crosses.

After this, the following passage from the Scriptures is read.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 2:2-4)

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

A minister invites people to pray,

Let us pray.

(Silence is kept)

Almighty 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.

All: Amen.

Almighty God,
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, 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 your Son our Lord.

All: Amen.

Almighty God,
stretch forth your mighty arm
to strengthen and protect the forces of the Crown:
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 your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

As children of the same heavenly Father,
we have the confidence to say together,

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.**

The National Anthem is sung,

**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.**

A minister gives the Blessing,

The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

God grant to the living grace;
to the departed rest;
to the Church,
the King, the Commonwealth,
and all the human race, peace and concord,
and to us sinners, eternal life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

The service ends here.

