

As our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, so we pray:

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

ACT OF REDEDICATION

In memory of the sacrifice of those whom we honour today, and in obedience to God's call to share in his work of reconciliation, let us now re-dedicate ourselves.

We pledge ourselves to be peacemakers in our homes, in our communities, in our country, and throughout the world.

Lord, guide us by your Spirit. Give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us faithful, now and always. Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

**God save our gracious Queen,
long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us;
God save the Queen!**

BLESSING

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and to all people, unity, peace and concord, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and so may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & RECONCILIATION FOR

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

IN THE SOUTH COTSWOLDS TEAM OF CHURCHES

INTRODUCTION

We meet in the presence of God, whose purposes are good; whose power sustains the universe he has made; who loves us, though we fail in his service; who gave Jesus Christ for the life of the world, and who by his Spirit leads us in his way.

We remember before God with gratitude and sorrow those who, in world wars and other conflicts past and present, risked and lost their lives in the struggle for freedom, order and justice.

We pray for those who are still suffering the consequences of war and terror, and for those who even now are risking their lives, on our behalf ...

And we commit ourselves to work for reconciliation, that the diverse peoples of the world may live together in greater harmony.

HYMN

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; all who have lived and died in the service of humankind.

The list of those to be remembered by name may then be read.

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 beginning of the silence may be signalled.

We keep two minutes' silence.

The end of the silence may be signalled.

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

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.**

Wreath(s) may be laid, here or at some other point in the service.

HYMN

THANKSGIVING & PENITENCE

Creator God, for the wonder of creation, for the gifts of human life and the blessings of human fellowship:

We give you thanks and praise.

For the blessings of community life and for those who have used your gifts to strengthen and enrich our common life:

We give you thanks and praise.

For our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and the blessings of democracy, freedom and justice which we enjoy in this nation:

We give you thanks and praise.

For those who defend our freedoms and, on our behalf, risk their lives in the struggle against terrorism, anarchy and oppression

We give you thanks and praise.

We confess humanity's lust for power and possession, our lack of respect for those who differ from us, our blindness to need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, which so often disfigure and corrupt our world.

Lord, accept our repentance, forgive us our deliberate sins and our unwitting sins of negligence and ignorance, and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your will. Amen.

BIBLICAL READING(S)

ADDRESS

HYMN

INTERCESSION

Lord, we pray:

For the peoples of the world and for those called to lead them through the national, ethnic and religious tensions of our time. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For our world of diverse cultures and beliefs, that we may learn to live together in mutual respect, appreciating the different contribution each can make to our common life. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all who bear the responsibility of leadership – political, military and religious – that they may have wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation, freedom and peace. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the United Nations, that it may be more effective in preventing conflict between nations and ethnic cleansing within them, and in providing aid in emergencies. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For members of our armed forces and aid workers risking their lives in many parts of the world in the cause of peace, order and freedom, and for those injured or bereaved through their service. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all those whose lives are damaged by war, terrorism or bigotry. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks, Lord, for all that makes our common life secure; for the peace and freedom we enjoy; and for the opportunity that is ours of building a better world order for the generations to come. We remember with pride and gratitude those who gave their lives to make this possible; and we pray that the memory of their sacrifice may inspire in us the resolve to seek your Kingdom and to do your will in the world of our day, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.