

Westminster Abbey



A Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving on Remembrance Sunday

12th November 2017

10.30 am

The church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.



Photography, filming, and sound recording are not allowed in the Abbey at any time. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

Large-print orders of service are available from the vergers.

The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

The service is sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey, conducted by James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers. The organ is played by Peter Holder, Sub-Organist, and before the service by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist.

The Councillors of the City of Westminster enter the Great West Door in procession and take their places in the Nave.

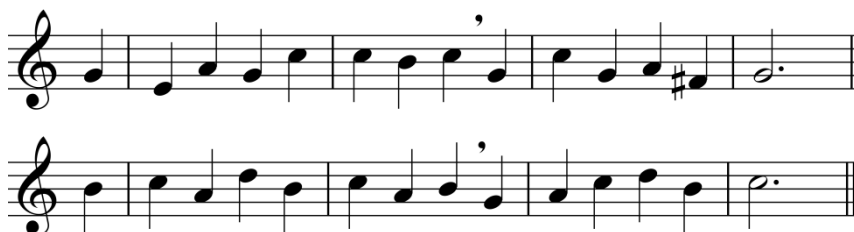
The Lord Mayor of Westminster, who attends the service in civic state, is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and is conducted to his stall in Quire. All stand, and then sit.

Order of Service

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

during which the procession moves to places in Quire and the Sacrarium



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.

St Anne 417 NEH
probably by William Croft (1678–1727)
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1708–27

Man frail, and God eternal
Isaac Watts (1674–1748)
after Psalm 90: 1–5

The Dean gives

THE BIDDING

WE have come to remember before God those who have died for their country in the two world wars and the many conflicts of the years that have followed. Some we knew and loved: we treasure their memory still. Others are unknown to us: to their remembrance too, we give our time this morning. With thanksgiving we recall service offered and sacrifices made. We come with proper penitence for the destruction that war brings to individuals, families, and nations. We pray for all those, both civilian and military, who have died or continue to suffer the effects of combat. We thank God for the hard-won freedom from strife that we enjoy in this land. We pray God for a time when such sacrifice may never again be required. But we humbly ask that men and women might always be found who count their lives worthy above all because they serve the greater cause of justice and concord. Trusting in God's grace, we dedicate ourselves anew this day to creating a world in which healing, peace, and virtue flourish.

All sit. The choir sings

PSALM 46

GOD is our hope and strength : a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved : and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.
Though the waters thereof rage and swell : and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God : the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed : God shall help her, and that right early.
The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved : but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge.
O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord : what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.
He maketh wars to cease in all the world : he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire.
Be still then, and know that I am God : I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us : the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

after Martin Luther (1483–1546)

All remain seated. The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Ian Adams, reads

THE FIRST LESSON

I AM about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former shall not be remembered
or come into mind.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt nor destroy
on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Isaiah 65: 17, 19–22, 24–25

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



THY kingdom come, O God,
thy rule, O Christ, begin;
break with thine iron rod
the tyrannies of sin.

Where is thy reign of peace
and purity and love?
When shall all hatred cease,
as in the realms above?

When comes the promised time
that war shall be no more,
and lust, oppression, crime,
shall flee thy face before?

We pray thee Lord, arise,
and come in thy great might;
revive our longing eyes,
which languish for thy sight.

O'er lands both near and far
thick darkness broodeth yet:
arise, O Morning Star,
arise, and never set.

St Cecilia 499 NEH
Leighton Hayne (1836–83)

Lewis Hensley (1824–1905)

All sit. The Reverend Anthony Ball, Canon Steward, reads

THE SECOND LESSON

WHAT then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8: 31–35, 37–end

All remain seated. The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

MANY waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.

Love is strong as death.

‘Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends.’

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Greater Love Hath No Man
John Ireland (1879–1962)

*Song of Solomon 8: 7a, 6b; St John 15: 13a; 1 St Peter 2: 24;
1 Corinthians 6: 11b; 1 St Peter 2: 9; Romans 12: 1*

All kneel or remain seated. The Reverend Christopher Stoltz, Minor Canon and Precentor, leads

THE INTERCESSIONS

At the end of each petition there is said:

Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

during which the procession moves to places near the Grave of the Unknown Warrior



JUDGE eternal, throned in splendour,
Lord of lords and King of kings,
with thy living fire of judgement
 purge this realm of bitter things:
solace all its wide dominion
 with the healing of thy wings.

Still the weary folk are pining
 for the hour that brings release:
and the city's crowded clangour
 cries aloud for sin to cease;
and the homesteads and the woodlands
 plead in silence for their peace.

Saviour, by thy mighty Passion
 once thou turnedst loss to gain,
wresting in thy risen glory
 vict'ry from thy cross and pain;
now in us be dead and risen,
 in us triumph, live, and reign.

Crown, O God, thine own endeavour;
 cleave our darkness with thy sword;
feed the faithless and the hungry
 with the richness of thy word:
cleanse the body of this nation
 through the glory of the Lord.

Rhuddlan 490 NEH

*Henry Holland (1847–1918)
verse 3 by Jack Winslow (1882–1974)*

ORDER OF PROCESSION

The Beadle

The Choir

The Organist and Master of the Choristers

The Cross of Westminster and Lights

The Minor Canons

The Canons' Verger

The Canons of Westminster

The Dean's Verger

The Dean of Westminster

The Queen's Almsmen

The Head Master and the Under Master of Westminster School

The Master of The Queen's Scholars and the School Chaplain

The Queen's Scholars

Macebearer

The Lord Mayor of Westminster

The Chief Executive, City of Westminster

Official representatives of:

The Merchant Air Service

The Merchant Navy

The Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police

Official representatives of:

The Royal Air Force

The Army

The Royal Navy

All remain standing. The Dean says:

O LORD our God, whose name only is excellent and thy praise above heaven and earth: we remember in thy presence those who laid down their lives in war. May they find fulfilment in thy eternal kingdom; and grant that we may dedicate our lives to the causes of justice and freedom for which they died: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The choir sings

THE KONTAKION OF THE DEPARTED

GIVE rest, O Christ, to thy servants with thy saints: where sorrow and pain are no more; neither sighing, but life everlasting. Thou only art immortal, the Creator and maker of man: and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return: for so thou didst ordain, when thou createdst me, saying, Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. All we go down to the dust; and weeping o'er the grave, we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Give rest, O Christ, to thy servants with thy saints: where sorrow and pain are no more; neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Kiev melody

translated by William Birkbeck (1869–1916)

At 11.00 am there is kept

THE TWO MINUTES' SILENCE

The choir sings

FOR THE FALLEN

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.

Douglas Guest (1916–96)
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1963–81

Laurence Binyon (1869–1943)

All remain standing for

THE LAST POST

REVEILLE

All sit. The choir sings:

THE ANTHEM

Αλληλούια! Alleluia!

WHO shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Αλληλούια! Alleluia!

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come;

Αλληλούια! Alleluia!

nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Αλληλούια! Alleluia!

The Peace That Surpasseth Understanding
John Tavener (1944–2013)

Romans 8: 35–39

All stand. The Dean says:

Let us acknowledge before God our failure to live as true disciples of the Prince of Peace, as we offer ourselves anew to his service.

All say:

LORD, make us instruments of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, may we sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
for thy holy name's sake.
Amen.

All remain standing. The Dean introduces

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As we look for the coming of the kingdom in its fullness, Lord teach us to 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.

All sing

THE HYMN



CHRISt is the world's true Light,
its Captain of salvation,
the Daystar shining bright
to every man and nation;
new life, new hope awakes,
where'er men own his sway:
freedom her bondage breaks,
and night is turned to day.

In Christ all races meet,
their ancient feuds forgetting,
the whole round world complete,
from sunrise to its setting:
when Christ is throned as Lord,
men shall forsake their fear,
to ploughshare beat the sword,
to pruning-hook the spear.

One Lord, in one great name
unite us all who own thee;
cast out our pride and shame
that hinder to enthrone thee;
the world has waited long,
has travailed long in pain;
to heal its ancient wrong,
come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

Nun danket 494ii NEH
in Johann Crüger's Praxis pietatis melica c 1647

The Light of the World
George Briggs (1875–1959)

The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

GOD grant to the living grace,
to the departed rest,
to the Church, The Queen, the Commonwealth, and all mankind
peace and concord,
and to us sinners,
life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

All sing

THE 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.

All remain standing. The processions leave the church.

A retiring collection will be taken for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Music after the service:

Fugue in E flat BWV 552ii

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Details of all Abbey Services are available at the Abbey website:
www.westminster-abbey.org

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