

Westminster Abbey



**SERVICE
TO
COMMEMORATE
THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
END OF THE
SECOND WORLD WAR**

**WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 1985
11.30 A.M.**

This Service combines a number of different notes or themes which are expressed both in words and in symbolic actions.

In our prayers it is impossible specifically to mention all for whom we wish to pray. During periods of silence you are given the opportunity to remember before God your own particular concerns.

Among our *thanksgivings* at this time, the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, we express our gratitude to God for victory granted to us; for the courage and self-sacrifice of our own people and those of other nations through whom that victory was won; and for those who died that we might live.

In our prayers for *reconciliation* and *healing* we remember others as well as ourselves, especially all those who because of the War lost their health and their prospects. We pray that we may strive to promote the freedoms which they fought to preserve.

In our acts of *penitence* and *dedication* we look back with sorrow for our past faults and failures and to the future with renewed determination to play our part in forwarding God's loving purposes of freedom and prosperity for all peoples.

Our words will be illuminated and expressed in symbol and ceremonial.

A *procession* in which representatives of different Churches walk side by side symbolizes reconciliation. The *standards* of the Ex-service Associations, followed by representatives of the community, symbolize loyalty to a common cause and remind us that the wellbeing of all depends upon the dedication of each to the service of God and one another. *Flowers* of many kinds and colours are reminders of the rich diversity and interdependence of the peoples of the world. In the *dance* the young people and their flowers are symbols of life renewed, bringing a vision of hope. *Candles* around the grave of the Unknown Warrior remind us that the supreme sacrifice made by the dead shines as a light and an inspiration to us who follow them. Other candles, carried in the procession of Christian Leaders from other countries, and placed around the Easter Candle, remind us that in our lives we are called to witness to Christ, the Light of the World, who on the Cross and in his Resurrection triumphed over the powers of darkness and offers to the world new life and hope.

The fanfares are played by the Kneller Hall Fanfare Trumpeters, Royal Military School of Music, conducted by Lt. Colonel D. R. Beat, L.V.O. Scots Guards (Senior Director of Music, British Army).

Music before the Service played by the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, conducted by Wing Commander E. Banks, M.B.E., F.L.C.M., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., L.G.S.M., R.A.F., Principal Director of Music, Royal Air Force.

Intermezzo from 'L'arlesienne'	<i>Bizet (1838-1875)</i>
The Shadowy Pines from 'Surrey Suite'	<i>Montague Philips (1885-1969)</i>
Andante Cantabile Op. 11	<i>Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)</i>
Elegy	<i>Thalben-Ball (1896-)</i>

The children in the Procession of Flowers are from the Royal Ballet School (White Lodge).

ORDER OF SERVICE

At 11.06 am The Speaker of the House of Commons is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to his stall in Quire.

At 11.07 am The Prime Minister is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to her stall in Quire.

At 11.08 am The Lord Chancellor is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to his stall in Quire.

At 11.09 am The Lord Mayor of Westminster in Civic State is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to his stall in Quire.

At 11.10 am Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy and The Hon Angus Ogilvy are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

At 11.12 am Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Michael of Kent are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

At 11.14 am His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

At 11.16 am Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

At 11.18 am Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

The members of the Royal Family are conducted to their places in the Lantern.

At 11.20 am Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

At 11.25 am Her Majesty The Queen, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and His Royal Highness The Prince Edward are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

A fanfare is sounded. The Congregation stands.

The Procession of the Archbishop of Canterbury together with the Senior Chaplains of the Services and the Representatives of other Churches of Great Britain and Northern Ireland moves to places in the Sacrarium in the following order:

The Venerable
Frank Johnston,
C.B., Q.H.C.,
Chaplain General, Army

The Reverend
William Taylor, Q.H.C.,
representing The Chaplain
of the Fleet

The Venerable
Glyn Renowden, Q.H.C.,
Chaplain in Chief
Royal Air Force

The Reverend Malcolm Weisman,
Senior Jewish Chaplain to Her Majesty's Forces,
representing the Chief Rabbi

The Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council
The Reverend Dr. Tudur Jones

His Eminence Basil Hume
Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster

The Right Reverend John M.K. Paterson
Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

The Primatial Cross

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable
Robert Runcie, M.C., Archbishop of Canterbury,
Primate of All England and Metropolitan

Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, together with the Procession of the Collegiate Body, move from the West End of the Church to places in the Lantern and Sacrarium.

A fanfare is sounded and 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.

Not on this land alone—
But be God's mercies known
From shore to shore.
Lord, make the nations see
That men should brothers be,
And form one family,
The wide world o'er.

All sit for the Dean to give

THE BIDDING

WE meet to give thanks to God our Father for the ending of a war which brought liberation from tyranny; and in the light of this achievement, purchased at an incalculable cost, we pledge ourselves to create a future worthy of the sacrifices which made this future possible. Though not forgetting those things which are behind, woven as they are into the fabric of a past history, we yet, in their aftermath, look forward in faith and hope to the years ahead, determined, under God and through his grace, to build a better, a more caring and more loving world. Challenges are to be met by courage and insight; failure of nerve by resolution of will; the lie in the soul by truthfulness and integrity.

Such is the spirit of this service: May God's blessing rest upon us as we unite in a common cause and his mercy upon those whom we honour today with pride, gratitude and affection.

THANKSGIVING

All stand to sing the Hymn during which the Standards of the Ex-Service Associations followed by representatives of the community are borne from the West End of the Abbey and placed in the Sacrarium.

The Union Standard

The Royal British Legion National Standard

The Royal Naval Association
National Standard

The Royal Air Force Association
National Standard

The Royal British Legion
Scotland National Standard

The Royal British Legion Women's
Section National Standard

A War Widow

A Victoria Cross Holder

A Royal Naval Rating

A Member of the Land Army

A Member of the Women's
Royal Voluntary Service

An Airman

A Fireman

A Representative of Industry

A Policeman

An Ambulanceman

A Merchant Seaman

A Soldier

PRAISE, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him;
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Praise my soul
John Goss (1800-1880)

Psalm 103
H.F. Lyte (1793-1847)

All remain standing for the Prayers of Thanksgiving led by The Right Reverend John M.K. Paterson, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

LET us give thanks to Almighty God, who created us, and preserves us day by day; who in Christ has triumphed over evil and death, and whose Spirit abides with us to inspire, to guide and to support.

In particular we offer our thanksgiving:

for the ending, forty years ago, of the Second World War in Europe and the Far East.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

for the leadership of those in Government and in the Armed Forces.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For those who, counting their lives not dear unto themselves, made the supreme sacrifice that others might live in freedom.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the self-giving, heroism and courage of those who fought in the armed services; who served the community in civil defence and in the Home Guard, in hospitals and relief agencies; and in factories, on the land, or at sea.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the sober satisfaction, when hostilities ceased, of duty done, a tyranny overthrown, and captives liberated.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For mothers who under strain kept families and homes together, for acts of compassion and caring, relieving the violence of war, which shone through and illuminated days of darkness.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For dedication to a common cause and a sense of comradeship shared by people in all walks of life.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the courage of those who still bear the scars of war; for the continuing fortitude of the bereaved; for the ex-service organizations and their work.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the founding of the United Nations, born out of the travail, the devastation and heartache of war, to keep the peace, to remove the causes of conflict and engender goodwill.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing and honour and glory and might be unto our God for ever and ever.

Amen.

All sit for the Commemoration of those who died in the Second World War. The band plays Ceremonial Prelude by Arthur Bliss.

Candles are lit at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior and are carried by members of the Brotherhood of St. Edward with the Procession of Leaders of Christian Churches through the Nave and Quire to be set around the Easter Candle, the symbol of the Resurrection.

The Reverend Bernard Takao-Toyama
Nippon Sei Ko Kai
The Anglican Church in Japan

The Reverend Dr. R. J. Mooi,
General Secretary
Netherlands Reformed Church

The Very Reverend Superintendent
Werner Krätschell
Federation of the Evangelical Churches
in the German Democratic Republic

The Very Reverend
Superintendent Eggo Hafermann
Evangelical Church in Germany,
Federal Republic of Germany

The Right Reverend B. Dabrowski
Auxiliary Bishop of Warsaw
Catholic Church in Poland

The Right Reverend J. Badré
Bishop of Bayeaux
Catholic Church in France

The Most Reverend Metropolitan Antony
Leningrad and Novgorod,
Russian Orthodox Church

The Most Reverend J. M. Allin,
Presiding Bishop and Primate,
Episcopal Church in the U.S.A.

As the Procession reaches the Sacrament the Christian leaders from the British Isles move to greet their brethren and to escort them to places in the Sacrament.

Almighty and everlasting God, we give thee humble thanks for the memory and good example of those who gave their lives in the service of their countries: we remember them for their courage and devotion, even unto death. Accept their sacrifice, we beseech thee; let it not be in vain that they have died: and in thy mercy send thy peace into the hearts of all men everywhere: through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All remain standing to sing the Hymn

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 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
Supplement to the New Version 1708*

*Psalm 90
I. Watts (1674-1748)*

PENITENCE

All sit for the First Lesson read by General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson G.C.B., National President of the Royal British Legion.

ISAIAH 6: 1-8

IN the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at

the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

All kneel for the Prayers of Penitence, led by His Eminence Basil Hume, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster.

Let us in sincerity and truth seek the forgiveness of God:

for not keeping faith in days of peace with those who died and for not measuring up to the splendour of their sacrifice.

Lord in mercy,

Hear our prayer.

for our inability, at enormous cost, to resolve our conflicts, between or within nations, by peaceful means and without resort to violence or the threat of violence.

Lord in mercy,

Hear our prayer.

So in penitence we ask:

from fostering animosity, from prejudice, complacency, arrogance and self-righteousness.

Good Lord deliver us.

from selfish preoccupation with our own interests and indifference to the needs of others.

Good Lord deliver us.

from a too easy tolerance of an inequitable distribution of the world's resources: and our failure to respect the sacredness of God's creation.

Good Lord deliver us.

Father, forgive what we have been,
sanctify what we are,
order what we shall be:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All sit for the Choir to sing the Anthem.

TURN back, O Man, forswear thy foolish ways,
Old now is Earth, and none may count her days,
Yet thou, her child, whose head is crowned with flame,
Still wilt not hear thine inner God proclaim:
Turn back, O Man, forswear thy foolish ways.

Earth might be fair and all men glad and wise.
Age after age their tragic empires rise,
Built while they dream and in that dreaming weep.
Would man but wake from out his haunted sleep,
Earth might be fair and all men glad and wise.

Earth shall be fair and all her people one;
Nor till that hour shall God's whole will be done.
Now, even now, once more from earth to sky
Peals forth in joy man's old undaunted cry:
Earth shall be fair and all her folk be one.

*Old 124th
Genevan Psalter 1552
arranged by Gustav Holst (1874-1934)*

Clifford Bax (1886-1962)

RECONCILIATION AND HEALING

All sit for the Second Lesson, read by a Nurse.

In the Sermon on the Mount, with its 'impossible possibilities', Jesus teaches forgiveness and reconciliation.

IF you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see

the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.

St Matthew 5: 23-24, 43-45; 6:14-15; 7: 1-5, 12

All kneel for the Prayers of Reconciliation, led by the Reverend Dr. Tudur Jones, Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council.

LET us turn to God opening our hearts to our fellow men so that in enmity to none and charity to all we may:

maintain the process of reconciliation with former enemies and find ways to restore our relationship with those who were our allies in war.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

That we may eschew the divisive evils of racial prejudice and fanaticisms whether political or religious.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

That we may work for peace, the peace that begets justice and the justice which fulfills itself in love and in sacrificial self-giving.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Grant us grace, O Lord, to learn of thy judgments which overtake us when we set brother against brother and nation against nation. Give us wisdom and strength to fashion better instruments for our common life, so that we may dwell in concord under thy providence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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.

Men scorn thy sacred name,
And wolves devour thy fold;
By many deeds of shame
We learn that love grows cold.

Wherever, near or far,
Thick darkness broodeth yet,
Arise, O morning star,
Arise, and never set!

St. Cecilia
L.G. Hayne (1836-83)

L. Hensley (1824-1905)

All sit for:

THE SERMON

by

*The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Robert Runcie, M.C., Archbishop of
Canterbury, Primate of all England and Metropolitan.*

All stand to sing the Hymn.

FOR the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
For a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us, Father, into freedom,
from despair your world release;
That, redeemed from war and hatred,
men may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
Pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas keeping man from man.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, creator-God, have written
your great name on all mankind;
For our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
That by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Mannheim
F. Filitz (1804-76)

Fred Kaan
(b.1929)

HOPE AND DEDICATION

All sit for the Third Lesson, read by His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, K.G., K.T., O.M.

PHILIPPIANS 4: 4-8

REJOICE in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

All remain seated for the Procession of Hope, to the music of the Air from The Water Music by Handel, which culminates in the formation of a Cross of Flowers before the High Altar. During the Procession a Schoolgirl reads:

TRULY, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. *St. John 12: 24*

GOD shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations afar off; and 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; but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

Micah 4: 3, 4

THE wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. *Isaiah 11: 6, 9*

HE has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? *Micah 6: 8*

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. *St. John 13: 34*

When the music ends all stand for the Reverend Alan Luff, Precentor and Sacrist of Westminster Abbey, to begin the Act of Dedication.

THIS world is God's world; his righteous will is our peace; his perfect Kingdom is our true Fatherland. Let us therefore rekindle in ourselves the vision without which the people perish; the undying hope that all God's children shall be one in a world made free and closer to the heart's desire.

The Reverend Malcolm Weisman, Senior Jewish Chaplain to Her Majesty's Forces, representing the Chief Rabbi, continues

We pledge ourselves to further God's perfect Kingdom by our determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war

to make real our faith in the dignity and worth of the human person independent of class, colour, sex or creed,

to establish conditions under which justice and respect for treaty obligations can be maintained,

to promote better standards of life in larger freedoms,

to ensure that armed force shall not be used save in the common interest,

to accept a personal responsibility for the ordering of the common life of mankind.

After a period of silence the Precentor says:

I saw a new Heaven and a new earth, for the former things had passed away.

Let us sum up our prayers and praises by saying together the words that Jesus taught us:

OUR Father, which 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 them that 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 stand to sing the Hymn.

CHRISt is the world's true light,
its captain of salvation,
The daystar clear and bright
of 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
J. Crüger (1598-1662)

G.W. Briggs (1875-1959)

All kneel, for

THE BLESSING

All stand for the Choir to sing

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.

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

from the 'Collegium Regale' Service

All remain standing as the Procession of the Collegiate Body, together with Her Majesty The Queen and the other members of the Royal Family return to the West End of the Church.

The Bells of the Abbey Church are now rung.

Music after the Service:

Procession of the Nobles from 'Mlada'

Rimsky Korsakov (1844-1908)

Alla Marcia from 'Karelia'

Sibelius (1885-1957)

The Winston Churchill March

*N. H. Rutherlyn
arr. Glyn Bragg*

Members of the Congregation are asked to remain in their places until directed to move by the Stewards.