

# Ash Parish Council

## Order of Service for Remembrance Sunday 2021

**Minister:** God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. (*Psalm 46.1*)

We meet in the presence of God to commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between the nations, that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace.

We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

Let us pray for all who we will be remembering 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.**

### **HYMN - Eternal Father**

**Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard  
And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
Who walked'st on the foaming deep,  
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!**

**Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood  
Upon the chaos dark and rude,  
And bid its angry tumult cease,  
And give, for wild confusion, peace;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Trinity of love and power!  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea**

## **READING**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.' *Matthew 5.1-12*

## **ACT OF REMEMBRANCE**

Let us remember before God,  
and commend to his safe keeping,  
those who have died for their country in war;  
in the service of the peoples of the world:  
in particular those from this community.

**Minister:** 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 beginning of the two-minute is signalled. Silence is kept.  
The completion of the silence is signalled.*

*The laying of wreaths by organisations present, followed by members of the public.*

*The Kohima Epitaph is said:*

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

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 people and establish harmony among the nations,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **WORDS OF REFLECTION**

## HYMN – I vow to thee my country

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above  
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love  
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test  
That lays upon the altar, the dearest and the best  
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price  
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago  
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know  
We may not count her armies, we may not see her king  
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering  
And soul by soul, and silently her shining bounds increase  
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace

## AN ACT OF PENITENCE

Minister: Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world and our part in them:

For pride, selfishness and greed: Lord have mercy. **All: Lord have mercy**

For evil divisions and hatreds. Lord have mercy. **All: Lord have mercy**

For our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.  
**All: Lord have mercy**

Minister: May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRAYERS

*The response to 'Lord in your mercy' is 'Hear our prayer'*

### All say the Lord's Prayer:

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 – Jerusalem**

And did those feet in ancient time  
Walk upon England's mountain green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
On England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the countenance divine  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from mental fight,  
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,  
Till we have built Jerusalem  
In England's green and pleasant land.

## **ACT OF COMMITMENT**

**Minister:** Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God  
and our fellow men and women:  
that we may help, encourage and comfort others,  
and support those working for the relief of the needy  
and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

**All:** Lord God our Father,  
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind,  
in the cause of peace, for the relief of want and suffering,  
and for the praise of your name.  
Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom;  
give us courage; give us hope;  
and keep us faithful now and always. Amen.

## **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!

## **THE BLESSING**

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest,  
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all people,  
unity, peace and concord, and to us and all God's servants,  
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

**TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE SERVED AT THE ASH CENTRE. ALL WELCOME**