



Putnoe Heights and St Mark's Church

World War 1 - A Commemoration Liturgy

Opening Verses of Scripture. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'Look, here God lives among human beings. He will make His home among them and they will be His people and He will be their God, Emanuel. He will wipe away the tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness or pain. The world of the past has gone.
Rev 21 v 1-4

Leader: The

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you,
worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Hymn

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.

Prayers of Penitence

Eternal 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 our Lord. **Amen.**



A responsorial prayer of commemoration

- Remember, Lord, those whose stories were unspoken and untold.
- All Jesus, remember them when you come into your kingdom.**
- Remember, Lord, those minds darkened and disturbed by memories of war.
- All Jesus, remember them when you come into your kingdom**
- Remember, Lord, those who suffered in silence, and whose bodies were disfigured by injury and pain.
- All Jesus, remember them when you come into your kingdom.**

Father of all, remember your holy promise, and look with love on all your people, living and departed. On this day we especially ask that you would hold for ever all who suffered during the First World War, those who returned scarred by warfare, those who waited anxiously at home, and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned; those who mourned, and those communities that were diminished and suffered loss. Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion, those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades, and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for a more peaceful world. And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord; grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when people of every language, race, and nation will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom. This we ask in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Litany

God the Father, **have mercy upon us.**

God the Son, **have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit, **have mercy upon us.**

Holy and blessed Trinity, **have mercy upon us.**

From all fear and prejudice, bitterness, and all hardness of heart, **good Lord, deliver us.**

From all spite, revenge, and destructive anger, **good Lord, deliver us.**

From the desire to dominate others, to impose our will, and from all feelings of superiority, **good Lord, deliver us.**

Open our hearts towards our neighbour, and help us to work together for the common good.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Strengthen us to stand for all that is just and true and right.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Grant that we may come to understand our enemies,

Lord, hear us and help us.

Bring release to those with abiding memories of hurt and injury

Lord, hear us and help us.

Lord grant us the grace to receive forgiveness, and to forgive as we are forgiven.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Comfort all those who mourn, the troubled, and all who call upon you in their distress.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Guide the leaders of the nations and those who work for peace, and make us all subject to Christ's just and gentle rule.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, our maker and our strength, from whose love in Christ we can never be parted either by death or life: Look in mercy on those for whom we pray this day, and grant us your pardon, protection and peace, that we may be saved in body and soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offertory

Hymn

- 1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home;
- 2 Under the shadow of thy throne, thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defence is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in thy sight, are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream, dies at the opening day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home!

Bible Readings (Please follow in Partnership News)

Hymn

- 1 Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.
- 2 Of his deliverance I will boast, till all that are distressed
from my example comfort take, and charm their griefs to rest.
- 3 O magnify the Lord with me, with me exalt his name;
when in distress to him I called, he to my rescue came.
- 4 The hosts of God encamp around the dwellings of the just;
deliverance he affords to all who on his succour trust.
- 5 O make but trial of his love: experience will decide
how blest are they, and only they, who in his truth confide.
- 6 Fear him, ye saints, and you will then have nothing else to fear;
make you his service your delight, your wants shall be his care.

Sermon Mr Chris Izzard



Hymn

What shall I do my God to love, my Saviour, and the world's, to praise?
Whose tenderest compassions move, to me and all the fallen race,
Whose mercy is divinely free, for all the fallen race, and me!

I long to know, and to make known, the heights and depths of love divine,
The kindness thou to me hast shown, whose every sin was counted thine:
My God for me resigned his breath; he died to save my soul from death.

How shall I thank thee for the grace, on me and all mankind bestowed?
O that my every breath were praise! O that my heart were filled with God!
My heart would then with love o'erflow, and all my life thy glory show.

Intercessions

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

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Blessing

