

Service for Week 10th –

16th Nov 2025

Remembrance Sunday 9th Nov

Armistice Day 11th Nov

By Chaplain Andy

Our Opening Prayer.

Let us remember before God, and

commend to his sure keeping: those who have died in war and conflict. We pray Lord for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror. We pray for members of our families and those whom we knew, whose memory we treasure; and all those who have lived and died in the service of all.

They shall not grow 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.

Response

We will remember them

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven.....

Amen

Bible Reading Matt 5:1-12

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach 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 be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Holy words, Holy wisdom,

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

At 11am on the 11th November 1918 the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare.

Since that time every year this week we particularly remember those who gave their lives for our freedom and liberty in war. We remember the millions of young service men and women who died in the First World War in 1914-18. We also remember the thousands of service men and women, who died in the Second World War during 1939-45 - both here and

overseas including especially our own relatives and people known to us.

This is also a time to remember the many thousands of men and women of all nations have lost their lives in war and conflict since then in countries around the world including Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and at the present time in Ukraine and Gaza. Tragically war is still a regular feature of our news, and it is a terrible fact that in our world today so many people are still experiencing the agonizing loss of a loved one. We know that throughout history the lust for power and control leads to war and conflict which seems to be a never-ending part of our human nature. And it is in these times we rely, we depend, on our servicemen and women to defend and if necessary to die for the sake of our freedom and the freedom of others.

What can we say as followers of Christ about war and death – when we hear the accounts of Jesus in the Gospels, we know that Jesus was caught up in a chain of events which led to his death. He suffered, and died because of the sinful and unloving actions of men and women. He died and rose again to demonstrate that God forgives our wrongdoing and he gave us hope in life by showing us how death is not the end.

The poppy that people wear this week represents the first flower to grow again in the fields again after the

devastation and destruction of war. As well as being a memorial for the dead - it also represents hope and new life.

On Sunday and on Armistice Day this week in November we remember with gratitude and respect all those who have died. But just as poppies have come to symbolize new life- Jesus points us towards a new life beyond this one, which is our comfort and gives us hope.

Poem -by Charlotte Mew

Let us remember Spring will come again

To the scorched, blackened woods, where all the wounded trees

Wait, with their old wise patience for the heavenly rain, Sure of the sky: sure of the sea to send its healing breeze, Sure of the sun. And even as to these

Surely the Spring, when God shall please

Will come again like a divine surprise

To those who sit to-day with their great Dead, hands in their hands, eyes in their eyes,

At one with Love, at one with Grief: blind to the scattered things and changing skies.

Closing Prayer

Loving God I pray for those known to me that have died through war and conflict and thank and praise you that they are now safe in your love. **Amen**