

**The Parishes of Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford
and Peper Harow**

Service of Remembrance



**Sunday 8th November 2020
Honouring men & women who, in the service
of our country, paid the highest price**

**10.15 am via Zoom
The clergy will lay a wreath at the war
memorials in Elstead, Thursley, and
Shackleford on behalf of the congregations.**

This year is unlike any other in our collective memory.

We are unable to gather in our church buildings and are discouraged from gathering around the war memorials to honour the memories who have fought in wars past and present.

We have so many other people to remember this year:

Those who are working tirelessly in hospitals and care homes caring for those who are suffering the affects of COVID 19.

Those in education who are trying to keep calm and carry on with the education of young people.

Those in shops and supermarkets, wearing masks and keeping the shelves stocked so we can eat.

Those who work in public transport and the postal service

Delivery drivers who bring goods to our homes

Those who work for charities, like Foodbanks, reaching out and supporting families in crisis.

The list goes on and on.

So this year, this Remembrance Sunday, we do honour the memory of the brave men and women who have serviced our country in the past but we also remember those who are servicing our country in the present.

Government Guidance for Remembrance Day at War Memorials

- take reasonable steps to minimise wider public viewing. The public can only attend the event with their own household or those in their support bubble, or individually with one other person from outside their household
- observe social distancing at all times
- there should be 2 metres between attendees

There are no road closures in place in our parishes.

Please join the Act of National Remembrance by observing the minutes silence on your doorstep or by tuning in to the broadcast from the Cenotaph.

Members of the clergy will be laying wreaths on behalf of all our parishes at the war memorials.

Please join the Act of National Remembrance by observing the minutes silence on your doorstep or by tuning in to the broadcast from the Cenotaph



Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

MARY BYRNE (1880-1931)
ELEANOR HULL (1860-1935)

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.

Thy choicest gifts in store.
On her be pleased to pour,
Long may she reign!
May she defend our Laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen!

The Dismissal

Minister: 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 may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

The Gathering

All please join in the responses in bold.

Minister:

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. (*Psalm 46*)

This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning. (*Lamentations*)

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? (*Micah*)

We meet in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Lord be with you **And also with you**

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

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

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

HYMN

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.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world; its pride, its selfishness, its greed, its evil divisions and hatreds. Let us confess our share in what is wrong, and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word
and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly
with you, our God. Amen.**

Responding in Hope and Commitment

POEM from the Book of ECCLESIASTES

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to die and a time to be born; a time to uproot and a time to plant;
a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to pull down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to tear and a time to mend; a time to hate and a time to love;
a time for war and a time for peace.

COMMITMENT

Minister: We stand for the Act of Commitment
Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace? **We will.**

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war? **We will.**

Will you work for a just future for all humanity? **We will.**

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us, which have not yet been cast out by love. May we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, and live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer. **Amen.**

HYMN

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armor, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Minister: 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 peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bid'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee,
for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Universal Lord,
who suffered death by nails and sword,
from all assault of deadly foe
sustain thy soldiers where they go;
and evermore hold in thy hand
all those in peril on the land.

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,
Who fills with strength the human race,
Inspire us all to know the right;
Guide all who dare the eagle's flight;
And underneath thy wings of care
Guard all from peril in the air.

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,
Praise from the air, the land and sea.



MARY BYRNE (1880-1931)
ELEANOR HULL (1860-1935)

Almighty God who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Listening for the Word from God

FIRST READING from the Book of the Prophet Micah 4:1-5

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised up above the hills.
Peoples shall stream to it,
and many nations shall come and say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between many peoples,
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;
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 all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,
and no one shall make them afraid;
for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.
For all the peoples walk,
each in the name of its god,
but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God
for ever and ever.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING from John's Gospel 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

SERMON

HYMN

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt true faith in you.

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek.....

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving to all men that we receive;
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek.....

Remembering

Let us remember before God and commend to his sure keeping those who have died in the service of their country; those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure; and especially today those from our parishes who gave their lives in two world wars:

EXHORTATION:

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.

We will remember them.

POEM: In Flanders Fields,

Written by Lieut. Colonel John McCrae, Canadian Expeditionary Force

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders' Fields.

Lord we remember those gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence;
may that peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among all the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.
Gracious God, as we hold these memories before you: bring us peace and courage to build a new world, where peace replaces war, where love triumphs over hate, where healing comes to hurt and where your children everywhere may live in harmony.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We say together Our 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,
or ever and ever. Amen.**

Please stand

Praying Together

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the leaders of the nations, especially Elizabeth our Queen, that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.
We pray for the work of the United Nations as they try to resolve conflict, and political power play.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We pray for all members of the armed forces who are in danger today; Lord protect them, give them discipline and discernment, courage and compassion, that they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace;
We also pray for all members of the emergency services who do not fear to come to our aid when terror roams our streets.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We pray for the wounded and the captive, the grieving and the homeless, that in all their trials they may know your love and support.
And we pray for the work of the British Legion and SAFA in their care for the bereaved and injured.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We remember the families and friends of those who have put themselves into harms way. We remember the lonely and bereaved, and we ask for your healing touch to be upon them all. We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm, that you will turn their hearts towards kindness and friendship.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**

We pray for the people of around the world who live under the threat of violence and conflict. May there be a just peace, and an end to suffering and oppression; may those who are refugees be enabled to return safely to their homeland.
May God give peace, **God give peace.**