Welcome to our service of Remembrance

at St Mary's, Shirehampton

Sunday 8th November 2026

GREETING

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

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 3:21-23*

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary
they shall walk and not faint. *Isaiah 40:31*

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.

Poem by Cecil Spring-Rice; Music by Gustav Holst
CCLI Licence number: 5935

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.
Let us come to him in sorrow for our sins,
seeking healing and salvation.

CONFESSION

Friends, let us confess to God
the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil divisions and hatreds.

Silence

Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for his children.

Silence

Lord have Mercy
Lord have Mercy

Christ have Mercy
Christ have Mercy

Lord have Mercy
Lord have Mercy

ABSOLUTION

The Almighty and Merciful Lord grant you Pardon
and forgiveness of all your sins,
time for amendment of life
and the Grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

THE COLLECT

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

GOSPEL READING - John 15: 12 - 14 *(read by congregant)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says,

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION

INTERCESSIONS – PRAYER *(read by congregant)*

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict,
and ask that God may give us peace:
for the service men and women
who have died in the violence of war,
each one remembered by and known to God;
may God give peace.
God give peace.

For those who love them in death as in life,
offering the distress of our grief
and the sadness of our loss;
may God give peace.
God give peace.

For all members of the armed forces
who are in danger this day,
remembering family, friends
and all who pray for their safe return;
may God give peace.
God give peace.

For civilian women, children and men
whose lives are disfigured by war or terror,
calling to mind in penitence
the anger and hatreds of humanity;
may God give peace.
God give peace.

For peacemakers and peacekeepers,
who seek to keep this world secure and free;
may God give peace.
God give peace.

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,
political, military and religious;
asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve
in the search for reconciliation and peace;
may God give peace.
God give peace.

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those whose memory we cherish,
and those whose names we will never know.
Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,
and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.

As we honour the past,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(led by congregant)*

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.

PAX DOMINI

Peace is a presence
Not an absence of noise;
Not the void,
the treaty'd end to battle
cessation of hostilities
Peace fought for
won
kept,
Proves but soulless illusion without peace as gift'
"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you…"
And the giver.

Kenneth Carveley

THE ACT OF REMEMBERING

Let us remember before God,
and commend to his safe keeping,
those who have died for their country in war;
those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure;
and all who have lived and died
in the service of the peoples of the world.

THE READING OF NAMES *(read by congregants)*

After the reading, a Wreath is laid at the altar

An older person says

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

A younger person may reply

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
we will remember them.
We will remember them.

The Kohima Epitaph is said

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

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
that 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, mercy and peace;
through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer.
Amen

HYMN

1 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.

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

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

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

Fred Kaan (b.1929)
CCL Licence Number 5935

BLESSING

Grace and mercy,
righteousness and truth have come to us from God.
Jesus has declared it, and the Spirit has made it known.
The light shines, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

Lead me from Death to life,
from falsehood to truth.
Lead me from despair to hope,
from fear to trust.
Lead me from hate to love,
from war to peace.
Let peace fill our hearts,
our world,
our universe.

Mercy and truth
righteousness and peace are met in Christ.

The Blessing….

HYMN

God save our gracious King!
Long live our noble King!
God save the King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

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At the end of today's service, Clergy will lead the uniformed groups.
Please allow them to exit the church together before following out.
We will then process to the War Memorial, following the RBL, Service personnel and uniformed groups.
Our service will then continue and the two-minute silence will be observed and wreaths will be laid.