Welcome to A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

As we come towards the end of the year, we remember those who have gone ahead of us, through death, into God's arms, and commend them to God.



St Mary's, Hampton Poyle
8th November 2026
5pm

Welcome

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Song:

Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.
Come bow before Him now
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground,
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light,
Be still for the glory of the Lord,
is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him,
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

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Poem: "Funeral Blues," W.H. Auden

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
Put crêpe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

Reflection

Song

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
At the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace.
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,
At the end of the day.

The Lighting of Candles and Reading of Names



As we read each name, please come forward and light a candle for those you are remembering.
When the days are dark, a small light penetrates the gloom and shines with the hope of new life.

Hymn

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.
And I will trust…..

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff Are the comfort
I need to know.
And I will trust….

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Reading: John 15.12-17

‘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.

Reflection

The Lighting of Candles for those who Died in War

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**

We remember each year those young men of our village and others who died in war, and as we read their names aloud we light a candle for each of them.
When all the candles are lit we stay seated and sing:

Hymn

Be still and know that I am God x3
I am the Lord that healeth thee x3
In thee O Lord I put my trust x3

The 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.

The Last Post, Silence, and Reveille

The Kohima Epitaph:

'When You Go Home, Tell Them Of Us And Say, For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today.'

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.

Reading: Romans 8.38-39

St Paul writes words of deep hope for all people in all times:
No, despite all these things…. I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor demons, neither our fears for today nor worries about tomorrow – not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.

Prayers for the world and our concerns, ending with:

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 and mercy;
through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer.

Amen

Hymn: O God our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Beneath 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.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while troubles last, and our eternal home!

Isaac Watts (1674 –1748)

Blessing

May God be a bright flame before you,
a guiding star to lighten your darkness.
May God smooth the way for you
and when it is hard to see, lead you with outstretched arm.
May God shield you and surround you,
hold your sorrows, wipe your tears,
and when you are ready, lift your faces
and walk with you into the light of a new day:
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The peace of the risen Christ be with you
And also with you.

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