

**A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!
Thank you for joining us this morning.**

Morning Service on Remembrance Sunday

10:30am, Sunday 14th November 2021

Let's help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Scan this QR code with your NHS COVID-19 App to check-in.



St Peter's Church, Colchester
The Vicarage, Balkeke Close, CO1 1NZ



WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

The Lord reigns for ever;
he has established his throne for judgment.
He will judge the world in righteousness;
he will govern the peoples with justice.

Psalm 9 v 7-8

Praise the Lord, all you nations;
extol him, all you peoples.
For great is his love towards us
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.

Psalm 117

We have come together to worship Almighty God;
to offer him praise and thanksgiving
for our nation's deliverance in time of war;
to recall to our minds those who through death,
or injury or bereavement,
suffered to bring peace and freedom to our world;
to seek his forgiveness for our failure to achieve
reconciliation between the nations,
and to ask for strength to overcome evil
and injustice wherever it is found.

“O GOD, BEYOND ALL PRAISING”

O God beyond all praising,
we worship you today,
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift you send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honour and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

[SPK leave for their groups]

The flower of earthly splendour
in time must surely die,
its fragile bloom surrender
to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature
th'eternal seed is sown -
though small in mortal stature,
to heaven's garden grown:
for Christ the man from heaven
from death has set us free,
and we through him are given
the final victory!

Then hear, O gracious Saviour,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favour
may serve you as our king;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty
and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty
our sacrifice of praise.

Michael Perry, © Mrs B Perry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus said:
"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled
and do not be afraid."

Jesus also said:
"Love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute you."

As we realise our failure
to live up to Christ's standards
and to obey his commands,
let us come in penitence to seek God's forgiveness,
as we say together:

**Almighty and merciful God,
Lord of men and nations,
we confess with shame the sins,
both private and public,
by which we have broken your law
and grieved your Spirit.
We acknowledge the reproach
that war has brought upon the name of Christ.
We confess our lack of love for you
and for our fellow men.
For the sake of your Son, who died for us,
save us from our sins.**

**Take from us all hatred and bitterness,
whether in thought, word or action.
Teach us to forgive, as we are forgiven,
so that we may grow more like him
and live our lives according to your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God,
who has promised to forgive all
who repent of their sins
and believe in his Son, Jesus Christ;
grant us pardon for our sins,
peace in our hearts,
strength in his service,
and everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Daniel 12.1-3

read by Ryan Clarke

"At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

"GOD IS OUR STRENGTH AND REFUGE"

God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble,
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling waters are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river,
within God's holy city,
God is in the midst of her –
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence –
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful;
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
uplift him in the nations –
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Richard Bewes, © 1982, Jubilate Group

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Mark 13.1-8

read by Anne Kavanagh

And as Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" ² And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

³ And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ And when you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYERS

led by Peter Holden

to finish with the Lord's Prayer...

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE NOTICES

*please see the Update
for further information*

"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.

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.

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 life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

THE COLLECT FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Almighty Father,
whose will it is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Verses from Psalm 103 are read.

Let us remember with gratitude those who,
in the cause of peace and in the service of humanity,
died for their country in time of 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.

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 two-minute silence is kept.

*At the conclusion of the two-minute silence,
the Kohima Epitaph is read:*

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

*At the conclusion of the Act of Remembrance,
a wreath of poppies is laid
by members of 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

We offer now to Almighty God
our thanksgiving for the many blessings
with which he has enriched our lives.

For the Queen and her family, and all who under her
bear the responsibility of government:

Thanks be to God.

For those who serve in the Armed Forces of the
Crown on sea, land, and air:

Thanks be to God.

For doctors, nurses, chaplains, and all who minister
to those in need or distress:

Thanks be to God.

For the unity of our people within the
Commonwealth:

Thanks be to God.

For the sacrifices made, especially in two world wars,
whereby our peace has been preserved:

Thanks be to God.

For the Royal British Legion
and all who help those in need:

Thanks be to God. Amen.

"LORD, FOR THE YEARS"

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world, where men disown
and doubt you,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without you:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us -
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1976, Oxford University Press

THE SERMON

preacher: Mark Wallace

"O LORD, WE LOOK UPON THE PAST"

O Lord, we look upon the past,
rememb'ring those who went before;
who heard the call and bore for us
the brutal, bloody face of war.
We think of them and think of you,
who came to earth as one of us,
to share our pain and bear our wounds,
and make the final sacrifice.

O Lord, we look around today
and see a world in conflict still.
We pray for those who strive for peace,
who stand for truth or lives rebuild.
We weep with those whose hearts are scarred,
whose way is hard, whose hope is weak;
to refugees whose homes are lost,
God of all comfort, comfort speak.

[SPK return from their groups]

O Lord, we look ahead in hope
to see the dawning of the day
when swords are beaten into ploughs
and every tear is wiped away;
when wounds are healed and fear dispelled
and all who trust in you arise;
when Christ, the Prince of Peace, has come
and glory, glory fills the skies.

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THE ACT OF RECOMMITMENT

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God
and our fellow men and women:
that we may help, encourage, and comfort others,
and support those working
for the relief of the needy
and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

**Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves
to serve you and all mankind,
in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
give us wisdom;
give us courage;
give us hope;
and keep us faithful
now and always. Amen.**

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 give us ever cause,
to sing with heart and voice:
God save the Queen.

THE CONCLUSION

God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth,
and all humankind, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
come down upon us and remain with us always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please be seated.

*Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.
Do please stay for a while.*

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