



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

RECOMMENDED ORDERS OF SERVICE

1. Laying-up of an old Standard
2. Dedication of a new Standard
3. Combined Service for laying-up of an old Standard and dedication of a new Standard
4. Dedication of a new Branch
5. Commitment
6. Dedication
7. Remembrance Sunday
8. Remembrance Sunday (new)

1. Laying-up of an old Standard

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

During the singing of the hymn - The Standard Bearer with the Standard at the Carry, accompanied by two escorts, will move forward to within six paces of the chancel steps.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Buglers sound: the Last Post (Standards dip)

THE EXHORTATION

The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:

"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."

Response: "We will remember them."

THE SILENCE

Buglers sound: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

The President or Chairman of the Branch will step forward, take the Standard and hand it to the officiating clergy saying:

"I commit this Sacred Standard of TheBranch of The Royal British Legion to you as vicar of the Parish of for safe keeping in this Holy Church forevermore."

The clergy will say:

"I accept the charge."

Then shall the officiating clergy say:

"May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace."

To which all will respond: "And rise in Glory."

HYMN

Notes:

- The Union Flag should not be carried at this service.
- Authority for Laying-up Standards: Permission for the installation of memorial tablets or plaques, and the hanging or laying-up of Legion Standards, Regimental Colours and Battle Honours, their subsequent transfer or removal - comes under Church Faculty Law. This means that prior approval is necessary from the relevant Church authorities. This approval should be sought through the local clergy. Note that Standards and Flags may, with approval, be laid-up in most Protestant Churches, but it is understood that this would be unusual in Roman Catholic Churches which follow a different tradition in such matters.
- The advice of the Legion's National Chaplain is that when a Legion Standard is laid-up in a Church, its predecessor, if any, should have been removed in advance of the ceremony. This avoids Churches being overfilled with Standards, yet maintains continuity; and since permission has already been given for the original Standard, the authority for the laying-up of its successor should be much simpler to obtain.

2. Dedication of a new Standard

HYMN

During the singing of the hymn the Standards will process into the Church and take up position. The Colour Party with the New Standard furled and at the slope will move forward towards the chancel steps.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Buglers sound the Last Post (Standards dip)

THE EXHORTATION

The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:

"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."

Response: "We will remember them."

THE SILENCE

Buglers sound: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

Then shall the furled Standard be delivered to the officiating clergy.

Then shall the officiating clergy say:

"BRETHREN, we are met together in the presence (and House) of God to take part in the hallowing and dedication of the Standard of the Branch of The Royal British Legion established in this place; and to witness thereby to the noble ideals and great purposes, inspired by Almighty God, which animate the members of the Legion - such purposes being the succour of those of our brethren who are still serving in our military forces and those who have served and who have fallen out by the way of life, the care of the widows, orphans and other dependants of those who served, the fostering of brotherly love and comradeship amongst all its members, the remembrance of the ideals for which we served, and of our fellow citizens who have laid down their lives for us: and also the preservation of true loyalty and devotion to our Queen and country at all times, and in all places. To this end I call upon the members of the Legion and the whole congregation here present, to offer humble

prayer to Almighty God, that He will bless this Standard now to be dedicated to His Glory, and that He will inspire the members of the Legion to carry out with a single heart and devoted purpose the high aims for which they are joined in fellowship.”

“GRANT, O merciful God, that with malice towards none, with charity to all, with firmness in the right as Thou givest us to see the right, we may strive to finish the task which Thou has appointed us, to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for the widow and the orphan; to do all that may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Clergy: “Our help is in the Name of the Lord.”

People: “Who hath made heaven and earth.”

Clergy: “The Lord be with you.”

People: “And with thy spirit.”

The Standard Bearer, with the furled Standard at the Slope will come forward alone and the Standard being brought to the Order kneel on the right knee: the escorts will remain at the chancel steps.

PRAYERS

“Our Father, which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil, For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, Forever and ever. Amen.”

“O Lord God of our fathers, Who didst lead his people through countless sufferings, keep us, we beseech Thee, ever mindful of Thy mercy; pour Thy blessing upon the peoples over whom Thy servant Elizabeth, our Sovereign Lady the Queen, is ruler; unite us in the bond of brotherhood and in the service of our country; that the offering of our life's work may be acceptable to Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

“GRANT, we pray Thee, O Almighty God, that all we who here do honour to the memory of our brethren's loyal sacrifice, may be filled with the spirit of their love and courage, and, forgetting all selfish and unworthy aims, may live together to the Glory

of Thy Name, and in the service of our fellow men; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.”

THE DEDICATION OF THE STANDARD

Then shall the officiating clergy unfurl the Standard, lay his hands upon it and say:

“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do dedicate and set apart this Standard that it may be a sign of our duty towards our Queen and country in the sight of God and a symbol of the service The Royal British Legion is called upon to render.”

The Standard Bearer will then stand and the unfurled Standard will be taken by the officiating clergy and placed on the altar, drums or table, where it will remain until the conclusion of the service.

“We yield Thee hearty thanks most merciful Father, that Thou has put it into the hearts of these Thy Servants to join together in the fellowship of The Royal British Legion in this place and to desire to carry out its aims and purposes; Let Thy Fatherly hand ever be over them, let Thy Holy Spirit ever be with them, and so guide their meetings that they may set forth Thy Glory, and help forward all the great works to which they have given themselves so that by their witness and their labours the spirit of love and comradeship among those who have served may be advanced in this place, and loyalty and devotion to Queen and country may be established here on a sure foundation, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.”

HYMN

THE ADDRESS

HYMN

During the hymn the clergy will take the Standard and return it to the Standard Bearer who will return to join his escorts at the chancel steps.

BLESSING

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (Standards Dip)

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!

(Standards return to the Carry)

The Standard will precede the members of the Legion in procession following the clergy from the place of the service. The congregation will remain in position until the clergy and Legion members have passed.

Notes:

- The Union Flag should not be carried at this service.
- "To dedicate" means "to set apart for some special use" thus a Legion Standard is "dedicated" so that it symbolises the principles and objects of the Legion.
- The Standard to be dedicated will remain furled until it is unfurled by the officiating clergy just before it is dedicated. While furled it will not be dipped but held at the Order during the National Anthem, Exhortation and Silence.

3. Combined Service for Laying-up of an old Standard and Dedication of a new Standard

HYMN

During the singing of the hymn, the Standard Bearer with the old Standard at the Carr", accompanied by two escorts, will move forward to within six paces of the chancel steps. He will be followed by the Branch Chairman carrying the new Standard, furled, at the Slope, accompanied by escorts.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (Standards Dip)

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.

(Standards return to the Carry)

At the conclusion of the National Anthem the Standard Bearer with the old Standard will move forward alone to the chancel steps, the new Standard remaining in position.

The President or Chairman of the Branch will step forward, take the Standard and hand it to the officiating clergy saying:

"I commit this Sacred Standard of The..... Branch of The Royal British Legion to you as vicar of the Parish of for safe keeping in this Holy Church for evermore."

The clergy will say: "I accept the charge."

He will then take the Standard and lay it upon the altar to the left.

When the Standard has been placed upon the altar the Standard Bearer will about turn and march forward six paces. His escorts will turn inwards and the Standard Bearer of the new Standard will hand the new Standard to the Standard Bearer who

will about turn. The Branch Chairman and his two escorts will withdraw to their seats.

HYMN

At the conclusion of this hymn, the officiating clergy, having proceeded to the chancel steps, shall say:

“BRETHREN, we are met together in the presence (and House) of God to take part in the hallowing and dedication of the Standard of the Branch of The Royal British Legion established in this place; and to witness thereby to the noble ideals and great purposes, inspired by Almighty God, which animate the members of the Legion - such purposes being the succour of those of our brethren who are still serving in our military forces and those who have served and who have fallen out by the way of life, the care of the widows, orphans and other dependants of those who served, the fostering of brotherly love and comradeship amongst all its members, the remembrance of the ideals for which we served, and of our fellow citizens who have laid down their lives for us: and also the preservation of true loyalty and devotion to our Queen and country at all times, and in all places. To this end I call upon the members of the Legion and the whole congregation here present, to offer humble prayer to Almighty God, that He will bless this Standard now to be dedicated to His Glory, and that He will inspire the members of the Legion to carry out with a single heart and devoted purpose the high aims for which they are joined in fellowship.”

Clergy: “Our help is in the Name of the Lord.”

People: “Who hath made heaven and earth.”

Clergy: “The Lord be with you.”

People: “And with thy spirit.”

The Standard Bearer, with the Standard at the Slope, will come forward alone and the Standard being brought to the Order kneel on the right knee: The escorts will remain at the chancel steps.

PRAYERS

“OUR Father, which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, Forever and ever. Amen.”

“O Lord God of our fathers, Who didst lead his people through countless sufferings, keep us, we beseech Thee, ever mindful of Thy mercy; pour Thy blessing upon the peoples over whom Thy servant Queen Elizabeth, our Sovereign Lady the Queen, is ruler; unite us in the bond of brotherhood and in the service of our country; that the offering of our life's work may be acceptable to Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

“GRANT, we pray Thee, O Almighty God. That all we who here do honour to the memory of our brethren's loyal sacrifice, may be filled with the spirit of their love and courage, and, forgetting all selfish and unworthy aims, may live together to the Glory of Thy Name, and in the service of our fellow-men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

THE DEDICATION OF THE STANDARD

Then shall the officiating clergy unfurl the Standard, lay his hands upon it and say:

“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do dedicate and set apart this Standard that it may be a sign of our duty towards our Queen and Country in the sight of God and a symbol of the service The Royal British Legion is called upon to render.”

The Standard Bearer will then stand and the unfurled Standard will be taken by the officiating clergy and placed on the altar, drums or table, where it will remain until the conclusion of the service.

“We yield Thee hearty thanks most merciful Father, that Thou has put it into the hearts of these Thy Servants to join together in the fellowship of The Royal British Legion in this place and to desire to carry out its aims and purposes; Let Thy Fatherly hand ever be over them, let Thy Holy Spirit ever be with them, and so guide their meetings that they may set forth Thy Glory, and help forward all the great works to which they have given themselves so that by their witness and their labours the spirit of love and comradeship among those who have served may be advanced in this place, and loyalty and devotion to Queen and country may be established here on a sure foundation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

HYMN

During the singing of this hymn a collection may be taken. The Standard Bearer and escorts will return to their seats.

THE ADDRESS

HYMN

During the singing of this hymn the Standard Bearer will return to the chancel steps. The officiating clergy will take the new Standard and return it to the Standard Bearer, who will remain with the escorts at the chancel steps.

Buglers sound: the Last Post (Standards dip)

THE EXHORTATION

The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:

"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."

Response: "We will remember them."

THE SILENCE

Buglers sound: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

Then shall the officiating clergy say:

"May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace."

To which all will respond:

"And rise in Glory."

HYMN

THE BLESSING

The Standard will precede the members of the Legion in procession following the clergy from the place of the service. The congregation will remain in position until the clergy and Legion members have passed.

4. Dedication of a new Branch

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

During the singing of the hymn Standards may be received at the altar.

Then shall the officiating clergy say:

“Brethren, we are met together in the presence and House of God to take part in the hallowing and dedication of the Branch of The Royal British Legion and to witness thereby to the noble ideals and great purposes, inspired by Almighty God, which animate the members of the Legion – such purposes being the succour of those of our brethren who are still serving in our military forces and those who have served and who have fallen out by the way of life, the care of the widows, orphans and other dependants of those who served, the fostering of brotherly love and comradeship amongst all its members, the remembrance of the ideals for which we served, and of our fellow citizens who have laid down their lives for us: and also the preservation of true loyalty and devotion to our Queen and country at all times, and in all places.”

THE FIRST LESSON:

Wisdom of Solomon (Apocrypha) 3. 1-9

1. But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them.
2. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery.
3. And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace.
4. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality.
5. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself.
6. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering.
7. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble.
8. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign forever.
9. They have put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is to his saints, and he hath care for his elect.

PSALM OR HYMN

Then shall all stand for: THE ACT OF THANKSGIVING

Clergy:

"Let us give thanks to God that, all down the ages He has called men and women to serve Him here on earth, and has given them strength to respond to His calling. Let us thank Him for the Prophets and Heroes of the Old Testament, and for the Apostles, Martyrs and Saints of the Christian Church."

All: "Thanks be to God."

Clergy:

"Let us thank God for those who brought the Christian faith to Britain and for all who have gone forth from these islands to other parts of the world, in the name and for the sake of Christ."

All: "Thanks be to God."

Clergy

"Let us thank God for all His servants, known to us or unknown, who have fought the good fight and finished their course with faith; especially for those who have laid down their lives for a free and just world."

All: "Thanks be to God."

Clergy:

"Let us thank God. He has called us in our turn to serve Him in our time and generation; and that He gives us for an encouragement the example of the past, with the promise of His help for the future."

All: "Thanks be to God."

Clergy:

"Wherefore seeing we also are encompassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.!

Then shall all kneel and join together in saying:

AN ACT OF REPENTANCE

"O GOD our Father who has called us to Thy service, we confess that we have not always listened to Thy call; that we have often heard it and not obeyed. Forgive us,

we beseech Thee, all our neglect of our duty, to Thee and to our neighbours; and help us to follow where Thou wilt lead us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

The clergy shall then declare God's Promise of forgiveness:

“May the almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Then shall all say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

“Our Father, which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil, For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, Forever and ever. Amen.”

SECOND LESSON:

St Matthew 6: 24-34

24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin.

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

HYMN OR PSALM

THE ADDRESS

Then shall members of the Branch stand

ACT OF DEDICATION

Clergy:

“Let us dedicate ourselves to the service of God and our ex-Service comrades in this our own day and generation, saying together:”

Members:

“O God, the Father of us all, we Thy servants desire this day to offer ourselves unto Thee for Thy service and the service of our fellows;

Thou knowest, O Lord, our unworthiness for our task;

Take possession, we beseech Thee, of our hearts and minds, our bodies and our wills, and use us for Thyself, Let us never be unwilling to spend ourselves and be spent in Thy service; And grant us the knowledge of Thine abiding presence with us, to help us serve Thee all the days of our life; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

HYMN (During the singing the Standards will be returned)

Eternal Father strong to save

Whose arm has bound the restless wave.

Who bidd'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 mighty Saviour, strong in power

Our soldiers shield in dangers hour

From fear and failure, fire and foe,

Protect them wheresoe'er they go.

And guard them when they guard the right

And give them victory in the fight.

Eternal Spirit, to they care,

We trust our men who brave the air,

Be thou their guard in daring heights

Be thou their guide in distant flights;

O hear our cry and answer prayer

For those in danger in the air.

O Trinity of might and love
Relieve and succour from above.
This world for which the Saviour died,
And grant that through the Crucified,
This world may ride to nobler things
Till Christ be crowned the King of Kings.

All remain standing for the ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Bugler sounds: the Last Post (Standards dip)

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."

Response: "We will remember them."

THE SILENCE

Bugler sounds: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

THE BLESSING

"Go forth into the world in peace; Be of good courage; Hold fast that which is good;
Render to no man evil for evil; Strengthen the fainthearted; Support the weak; Help
the afflicted; Honour all men; Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the
Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. Amen."

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (Standards Dip)

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

(Standards return to the Carry)

The Standards will precede the members of the Branch in procession following the clergy from the place of service. The congregation is requested to remain in position until the clergy and Legion members have passed.

5. Commitment

HYMN

"O Valiant Hearts"

It may be split, singing three verses at the beginning, and the fourth verse at the end.

PRAYER

"Let us commemorate and commend to the loving mercy of our Heavenly Father, the Shepherd of Souls, the Giver of Life Everlasting, those who have died in the service of our country and its cause."

NAMES

The names of those to be commemorated by name may be read.

Buglers sound: the Last Post (Standards dip)

THE EXHORTATION

The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:

"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."

Response: "We will remember them."

THE SILENCE

Buglers sound: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

Note: Where a lone piper plays "The Lament" Standards will remain at the dip throughout and return to the carry on first note of Reveille.

THE PLACING OF THE WREATH(S)

(If there are a large number of wreaths to be laid, Standards should be brought to the "Order" before the wreaths are laid)

COMMITMENT

"We pledge ourselves anew to our work in support of the wartime generations and to all those in other conflicts since. We promise to do everything possible to help where

there is a need, and to ensure that that they may enjoy the years that lie ahead in comfort and dignity and contentment.”

Response: “We will not break faith with you.”

PRAYER

“Remember, O Lord, all those who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of resurrection to Eternal Life, especially the Officers, Men and Women of our Sea, Land and Air Forces, to whom it was given to lay down their lives for the cause of Freedom and Justice. In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished, give them rest, O Lord, the Lover of Men. Grant this for Thine only Son, Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.”

HYMN

Last verse "O Valiant Hearts"

6. Dedication

HYMN

"O Valiant Hearts"

It may be split, singing three verses at the beginning, and the fourth verse at the end.

PRAYER

"Let us commemorate and commend to the loving mercy of our Heavenly Father, the Shepherd of Souls, the Giver of Life Everlasting, those who have died in the service of our country and its cause."

Buglers sound: the Last Post (Standards dip)

THE EXHORTATION

The officiating clergy or a senior member of the Legion shall recite:

"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."

Response: "We will remember them."

THE SILENCE

Buglers sound: Reveille (Standards return to the Carry)

Note: Where a lone piper plays The Lament Standards will remain at the dip throughout and return to the carry on first note of Reveille.

THE PLACING OF THE WREATH(S)

(If there are a large number of wreaths to be laid, Standards should be brought to the "Order" before the wreaths are laid)

DEDICATION

The Dedication may be either:

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

(Kohima Epitaph)

or

“The Legion of the Living salutes the Legion of the Dead.”

Response: “We will not break faith with you.”

PRAYER

“Remember, O Lord, all those who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of resurrection to Eternal Life, especially the Officers, Men and Women of our Sea, Land and Air Forces, to whom it was given to lay down their lives for the cause of Freedom and Justice. In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished, give them rest, O Lord, the Lover of Men. Grant this for Thine only Son, Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.”

HYMN

Last verse "O Valiant Hearts."

7. Remembrance Sunday

GATHERING

All gather in silence. The presiding minister reads one or more of the following sentences:

“God is our refuge and strength;
a very present help in trouble.”

Psalm 46.1

“I lift up my eyes to the hills -
from whence will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.”

Psalm 721.1-2

“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

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

Micah 6.8

The presiding minister continues:

“We meet in the presence of God. 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.”

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

“We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.”

REMEMBERING

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.”

All affirm:

“We will remember them.”

The beginning of the two-minute silence may be signalled

SILENCE

The completion of the silence may be signalled

The following prayer is said:

“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.”

The following hymn, or another that similarly expresses hope in God and trust for the future, may be sung:

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 our years 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 guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD FROM GOD

The reader says:

“Hear these words from the New Testament.”

Either one or more of the following are read:

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not
let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid.”

John 14:27

“The wisdom from above is first pure,
then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield,
full of mercy and good fruits,
with a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.
And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those
who make peace.”

James 3:77-78

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.”

7 John 7:5

or the following is read:

“When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught 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 receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

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

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Matthew 5:1-12

PRAYING TOGETHER

Prayer is led:

Remembrance Sunday Prayer

“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.”

Response: “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”

Response: “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.”

Response: “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.”

Response: “God give peace.”

“For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;
May God give peace.”

Response: “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.”

Response: “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.

All join together in the 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 for ever and ever.
Amen

RESPONDING IN HOPE AND COMMITMENT

Representative and other members of the public come forward to lay wreaths, light candles or offer other symbols of remembrance and hope, such as single flowers or crosses.

The Kohima Epitaph is said:

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

A hymn may be sung

The act of commitment is made:

“Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.”

“Will you strive for all that makes for peace?”

Response: “We will.”

“Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?”

Response: “We will.”

“Will you work for a just future for all humanity?”

Response: “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 and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer.
Amen”

The National Anthem(s) are sung

The following blessing is used:

God grant to the living grace,
to the departed rest,
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth
[or to the Church, the State] and all people,
unity, peace and concord,

and to us and all God's servants,
life everlasting.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all
and remain with you always.

Amen

8. Remembrance Sunday (new)

GATHERING

All gather in silence. The presiding minister reads one or more of the following sentences:

“God is our refuge and strength;
a very present help in trouble.”

Psalm 46.1

“I lift up my eyes to the hills -
from whence will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.”

Psalm 721.1-2

“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

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

Micah 6.8

The presiding minister continues:

“We meet in the presence of God. 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.”

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

those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.”

REMEMBERING

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.”

All affirm:

“We will remember them.”

The beginning of the two-minute silence may be signalled

SILENCE

The completion of the silence may be signalled

The following prayer is said:

“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.”

The following hymn, or another that similarly expresses hope in God and trust for the future, may be sung:

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 our years 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 guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD FROM GOD

The reader says:

“Hear these words from the New Testament.”

Either one or more of the following are read:

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not
let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid.”

John 14:27

“The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of
mercy and good fruits, with a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.”

James 3:77-78

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.”

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against us.

And lead us not into temptation
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For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory
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Amen

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