

Remembrance Sunday

9th November 2025



Civic Remembrance Service

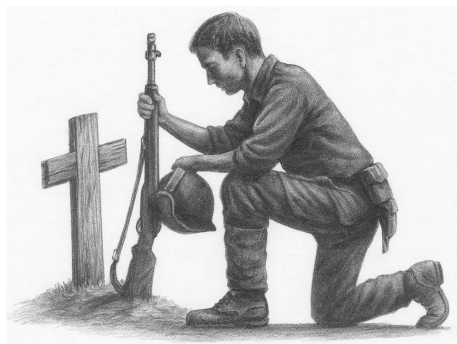
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Led by Revd. Mike Barton

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.

Grace, mercy and peace be with you all.
and also with you.



THE OPENING HYMN

As the hymn is sung, the Standards are carried to the altar steps and received by the Vicar and a wreath is laid at the High Altar

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 guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

I. Watts (1674 - 1748)

POEM - FOR THE FALLEN

Read by The Mayor of Longridge , Councillor Lee Jameson

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

*They shall not grow old, as we who 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 shall remember them.*

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night.

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Laurence Binyon

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, 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.

HYMN

accompanied by Longridge Band

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-1791)

At the end of the hymn all kneel or sit.

THE INTERCESSIONS

Led by Dr. Carol Spencer

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL God, from
whose love in Christ we cannot be
parted, either by death or life. Hear
our prayers and gratitude for all we
remember this day; fulfil in them the
purpose of your love; and bring us all,
with them, to your eternal joy; through
Christ our Lord.

Amen

ALMIGHTY GOD, we ask, that we, who
honour the memory of those who have
died in the service of their country, may
be so inspired by the spirit of their love
and fortitude that, forgetting all selfish
and unworthy motives, we may live
only to thy glory and to the service of
mankind through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

GOD OF WISDOM AND TRUTH, we
pray for the leaders of the nations,
for wisdom and courage in those who
stand firm against terrorism;
for patience and persistence in all
who work to secure freedom, justice
and peace on earth.

Amen

GOD OF MERCY, we pray for peoples and nations bleeding still from the unhealed wounds of their history. Deliver them from violence and vengeance; nurture in them the ancient wisdom of respect and mutual understanding

Amen.

GOD OF TIME AND ETERNITY, you travel with us through deep waters yet never abandon us in the storm. We live still in darkened days yet never without your healing light. Renew our confidence, rekindle our hope, deepen our faith, guide us in truth and give us peace in our day.

Amen.

MERCIFUL FATHER OF ALL, in darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, in death and in life, help us to trust your love, to serve your purpose and to praise your name for ever.

Amen.

CHRIST, HAVE MERCY on those who cry; Christ have mercy on us when we turn away from the cries of others. Give us the strength of compassion, that we may never shield our eyes and hearts from pain, but seek to heal and bless. Bless us with courage and arm us with hope, that we may lessen the suffering of our world. Hear this our common prayer and those of our hearts which we offer now, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

TOGETHER LET US PRAY that God's will may be done in our lives and in his world, using the words that Jesus taught us.

**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.**

THE REMEMBRANCE

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.

THE EXHORTATION TO THE FALLEN

*All stand. veteran of The Loyal
Regiment (NL) Lawrence Ingham
says:*

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 is sounded

Silence is kept for two minutes.

The Reveille is sounded.

THE KOHIMA EPITAPH

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

All sit for the

FIRST READING -

Philippians 4 : 4 - 9

*Read by The Deputy Mayor of
Longridge, Councillor Robert Walker*

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.



THE CHOIR SING:

The Supreme Sacrifice

Words by Sir John S. Arkwright

Music by The Rev. C. Harris D.D.

THE SECOND READING -

James 3 : 13 - 18

*Read by Royal Marine Veteran
Tom Charnley*

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE SERMON

By Fr. Tony Dutton

LONGRIDGE BAND PLAYS

'RAF Flypast March'

in 2025 we commemorated the 85th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the RAF's finest hour. The Longridge Band is proud of its connections with the RAF. Brian Law, the band's Bb Bass player, served in the RAF for 40 years and served as Squadron Warrant Officer with 51 Squadron, serving in Sierra Leone, Bosnia and the Middle East. Brian was a major influence on the Peacock boys, sons of Musical Director Mark and Alison (baritone), who are now proudly serving in the RAF as aircraft technicians. Both Josh and Harry grew up playing for the Longridge Band and played at the Remembrance Parades with the band before they left to join the RAF.



You may wish to reflect on this poem and tribute to all who fought in the Battle of Britain. by Terence Foster

Through swirling clouds

Through swirling clouds and changing light
Our valiant few showed their might,
By skill and wit they flew with force
Dodging guns on a twisting course.

'Per ardua ad astra' they flew,
Young in years yet proving true
Each pledge they held in heart and soul
When winning was the hardest goal.

To echoes of rich Merlin sounds
Quick battle moves showed no bounds
As dogfights shaped wild scenes in skies
The stronger nerves would take the prize.

'Lest we forget', as they knew,
Tragic times would urge 'The Few'
To tell of roles in gruelling fights
When man and plane became our knights.

History books must always show
The endless debt that we still owe
To those with wings whose stature grew.
For saving the many. Salute 'The Few'.

THE HYMN

During the singing of this hymn the standards are returned to their bearers.

O Jesus, I have promised

To serve thee to the end;
Be thou for ever near me,
My Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.

O let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmers of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

O let me see thy foot-marks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in heaven receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.

John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)

Remain standing for

ACT OF COMMITMENT

Led by Rev. Mike Barton

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the
service of God and our fellow people,
that we may be peacemakers in our
homes, in our community, in our country
and in our world

**Lord God, we pledge ourselves to serve
you and all mankind in the cause of
peace and for the relief of want and
suffering. Give us wisdom; give us
courage; give us hope; and keep us
always faithful.**

Amen.

*At the High Altar, the Vicar delivers the
wreath to a veteran to be placed at the War
Memorial in the South Aisle.*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

**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.**

All remain standing for

THE BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage,
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no man evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted;
honour everyone; love and serve the
Lord; rejoicing in the power of the Holy
Spirit. And the blessing of God
Almighty, the Father, the Son and Holy
Spirit, be among you, and remain with
you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

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 floods 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!

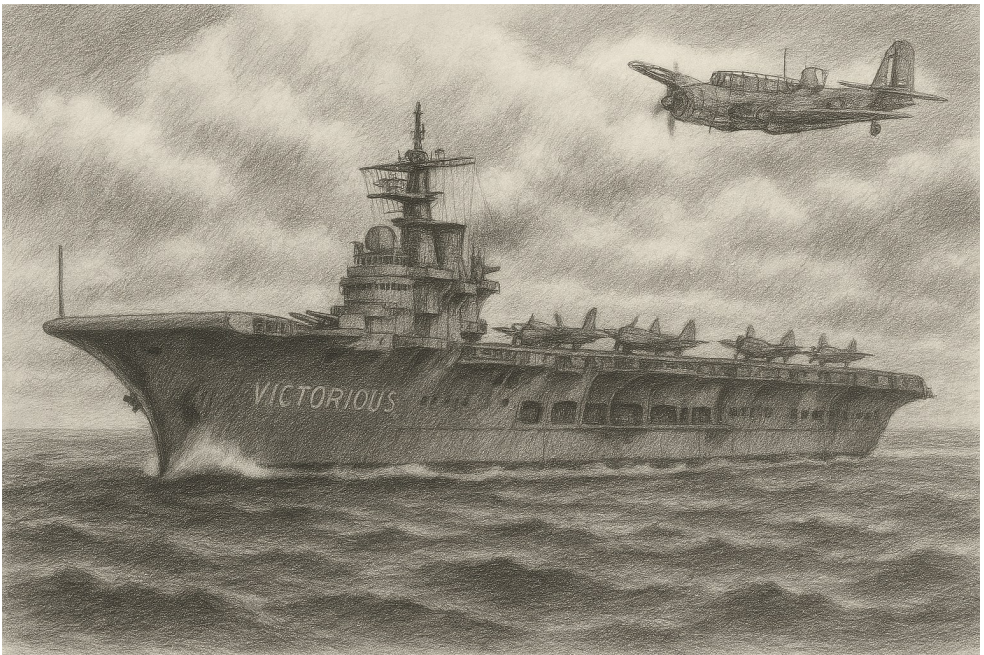
Richard Bews (1934-2019)

Based on Psalm 46

Organ voluntary : Nimrod
from Enigma variations by Elgar



Collection plates are available at the back of church if you
wish to donate to the **Poppy Appeal**



We will remember them