

# St Nicholas Church Alcester - Remembrance Sunday

## The National Anthem (First verse only)

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

*Psalm 46 v1*

We meet in the presence of God. We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between 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.

## Hymn - O God Our Help in Ages Past

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| 1. O God our help in ages past,<br>our hope for years to come,<br>our shelter from the stormy blast,<br>and our eternal home.       | 2. Beneath the shadow of thy<br>throne<br>thy saints have dwelt secure;<br>sufficient is thine arm alone,<br>and our defence is sure. |
| 3. Before the hills in order stood,<br>or earth received her frame,<br>from everlasting thou art God,<br>to endless years the same. | 4. A thousand ages in thy sight<br>are like an evening gone;<br>short as the watch that ends the<br>night,<br>before the rising sun.  |
| 5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,<br>bears all our years away;<br>they fly forgotten, as a dream<br>dies at the opening day.    | 6. O God, our help in ages past,<br>our hope for years to come,<br>be Thou our guard while troubles<br>last,<br>and our eternal home. |

## **Act of Remembrance**

### ***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 replies:***

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

**We will remember them.**

## **The Last Post- *Silence will be observed for 2 minutes***

## **The Reveille**

## **Wreath Laying**

### ***Prayer:***

‘Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storms 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.**

## **Bible Reading: Matthew 25 v 1-13 (NRSV)**

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord,

lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'  
Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

## **Address**

### **Prayers:**

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us 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**

As we ask for deliverance from the forces of destruction, so we pray in the words that Jesus gave 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.**

## 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 and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our risen Redeemer. **Amen.**

## Kohima Epitaph

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



## Blessing

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all people, unity, peace and concord, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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