Service of Remembrance



St Edburg's Church, Bicester
Sunday, 8th November 2026
at 11.45am

PROCESSION INTO CHURCH

- Crucifer(s), Choir, Churchwardens, Clergy
- The Mayor* with Cadet
- Deputy Mayor*
- 1 RLC Regimental Sergeant Major*
- 1 RLC Commanding Officer*
- Bicester Garrison Sergeant Major*
- Bicester Garrison Commander*
- Flag and Standard-bearers
- Lord Lieutenant*

PROCESSION OUT OF CHURCH

- Flag and Standard-bearers
- Lord Lieutenant*
- Crucifer(s), Churchwardens, Clergy
- The Mayor* with Cadet
- Deputy Mayor*
- 1 RLC Commanding Officer*
- 1 RLC Regimental Sergeant Major*
- Bicester Garrison Commander*
- Bicester Garrison Sergeant Major*

** Accompanied by escorts when present*

Greeting *(stand)*

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

The Mayor's Cadet presents the Mace
Standards will be presented during the first hymn

Hymn – All people that on earth do dwell

1. All people that on earth do dwell,
   sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
   him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
   come ye before him and rejoice.

2. The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
   without our aid he did us make;
   we are his folk he doth us feed
   and for his sheep he doth us take.

3. O enter then His gates with praise,
   approach with joy his courts unto;
   praise, laud, and bless his name always,
   for it is seemly so to do.

4. For why? the Lord our God is good:
   his mercy is for ever sure;
   his truth at all times firmly stood,
   and shall from age to age endure.

5. To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
   the God whom heav'n and earth adore,
   from us and from the angel-host
   be praise and glory evermore.

William Kethe (d.1594)

We are come together on this day in the presence of God to seek his blessing on our town;
to offer our thanksgiving for all that has been achieved in the past;
to pray for all who bear responsibility in our community today, especially in local government;
to seek strength from God for more faithful service in years to come.

All **We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden to ask for his forgiveness and peace.**

Prayers of Penitence - Fr. Craig A. Davies

Lord God our Father, maker of all:
we praise you for your great work creating the world.
Give us the skill to build a society where all may thrive,
and forgive us when we use your gifts poorly.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God
Prince of Peace as we thank you for your life among us,
forgive us when we fail to live together as one family.
Help us to dwell together in love and peace,
seeking one another's welfare,
bearing one another's burdens,
and sharing one another's joys.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**



Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,
fulfiller of humanity:
give us strength to face the future,
and wisdom to learn from the past as
we remember those who have given their lives
in the service of justice and peace.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon
and deliver you from all your sins and strengthen
you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Reading: Isaiah 55.6-end - Cllr Dr Paul Wheatley Bicester Town Mayor

Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

Hymn – All my hope on God is founded

1. All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

2. Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

3. God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore, from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

4. Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

Reading: Romans 14.7-12 - Lt Col CD North RLC Garrison Commander

7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the
Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the
Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he
might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
10 Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or
you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all
stand before the judgement seat of God. 11 For it is written,
'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.'
12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

Hymn – Dear Lord and Father of mankind

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
   forgive our foolish ways!
   Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
   in purer lives thy service find,
   in deeper rev'rence, praise,
   in deeper rev'rence, praise.

2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,
   beside the Syrian sea,
   the gracious calling of the Lord,
   let us, like them, without a word.
   rise up and follow thee,
   rise up and follow thee.

3. O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
   O calm of hills above,
   where Jesus knelt to share with thee
   the silence of eternity,
   interpreted by love!
   Interpreted by love!

4. Drop thy still dews of quietness,
   till all our strivings cease;
   take from our souls the strain and stress,
   and let our ordered lives confess
   the beauty of thy peace,
   the beauty of thy peace.

5. Breathe through the heats of our desire
   thy coolness and thy balm;
   let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
   speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
   O still, small voice of calm!
   O still, small voice of calm!

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Reading: Matthew 5.1-12 – Mrs Marjorie Glasgow BEM, Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire

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.

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

Sermon – The Reverend Peter Wright

The Prayers – The Reverend Andrew Foran

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;

for those who love them in death as in life,
offering the distress of our grief
and the sadness of our loss;

for those who came back;
those whose lives still bear the scars of war;
those who lost sight or limbs or reason;
those who lost faith in God
and hope for humanity.

May God give peace.

All **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;
For civilian women, children and men
whose lives are disfigured by war or terror,
whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed,
who have become refugees.

May God give peace.

All **God give peace.**

For the United Nations Organization and other international organizations which serve peace and understanding, that they may be strong in helping settle differences fairly, with respect for the rights of people, and without recourse to violence.

For those who negotiate peace, that they may learn to trust each other and that the agreements they achieve may be respected.

For the powerful nations that they may be aware of the value and responsibility of each nation in the family of nations and that they may turn from the paths that could lead to war.

May God give peace.

All **God give peace**

Most holy God and Father,
hear our prayers for all who strive for peace
and all who fight for justice.
Help us, who today remember the cost of war,
to work for a better tomorrow;
and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict,
bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence;
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**



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.

Standards will be collected during the next hymn

Hymn – Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
   o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
   guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
   for we have no help but thee;
   yet possessing every blessing,
   if our God our Father be.

2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
   all our weakness thou dost know;
   thou didst tread this earth before us,
   thou didst feel its keenest woe;
   lone and dreary, faint and weary,
   through the desert thou didst go.

3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston (1791-1867)

Our Commitment

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

All **We will.**

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

All **We will.**

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

All **We will.**

Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all your peoples 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.

All **Amen.**

Royal British Legion dip standards

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**.**

Thy choicest gifts in store
on him be pleased to pour,
long may he reign:
may he defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice
God save the King!

The Kohima Epitaph

Royal British Legion

When you go home
Tell them of us and say
For your tomorrow
We gave our today



The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth,
and all people, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
come down upon us and remain with us always.

All **Amen**

Please note there will be a retiring collection for the Royal British Legion



Copyright acknowledgment (where not already indicated above):
Confession and Absolution © Jubilate Hymns
Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000
Rubric: The minister may say © The Archbishops' Council 2002
CCLI license 277595
Front cover image: Farrinni on Unsplash
Back cover image: Henry Be on Unsplash