

# All Souls' Service

# A commemoration of those who have died

2 November 2021

We continue to observe **social distancing rules** in our church.

Please use the **hand sanitiser** stations when you arrive, before and after communion, and when you leave. Do wear a **face mask** when you are moving around in church. You may remove your mask whilst sitting in your pew.

Please take this service sheet home with you. Sadly, there will be no gathering afterwards.

**Personal photographs** you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, are not to be published on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

## **HYMN**

We stand to sing the hymn.

- Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
   Whose trust, ever child-like, no care could destroy,
   Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
   Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray, Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace, Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Jan Struther (1901–1953) © Oxford University Press; HymnQuest ID: 57422

#### **COLLECT FOR ALL SOULS**

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, grant us, with all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

# **BIBLE READING(S)**

At the end of each reading the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### REFLECTION

#### HYMN

We stand to sing the hymn.

- Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down, Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu, thou art all compassion, Pure unbounded love thou art; Visit us with thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Finish then thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be; Let us see thy great salvation, Perfectly restored in thee. Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place,

Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788) HymnQuest ID: 57654

## **PRAYERS**

We sit and kneel for the prayers, during which the names of those to be remembered are read aloud. After the names have been read:

In the rising of the sun and its going down:

We remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and the chill of winter:

We remember them.

In the blue sky and in the warmth of summer:

We remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends:

We remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart:

We remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share:

We remember them.

So long as we live:

We remember them.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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 LIGHTING OF CANDLES

On the altar there is a candle to represent each name which we have heard read out this evening. These candles will now be lit one by one for those you remember with thanksgiving and love this day.

You will all have special thoughts and memories about your loved ones. There may be unspoken words you might wish to share with them silently in your heart.

- Words of appreciation for love given and received.
- Words of sorrow or regret for things said or actions used in haste.
- Words of thankfulness for joy and happiness and for laughter shared together.

When all the candles are lit, the lights in the church will be extinguished and as we sit in the darkness you are invited to spend some time in quiet reflection. As you look at the candles remember Jesus is the light of the world, no darkness can overcome this light.

#### **RFADING**

Do not hurry as you walk with grief; It does not help the journey. Walk slowly, pausing often;

Do not be disturbed by memories that come unbidden. Swiftly forgive unspoken words.
Unfinished conversations will be resolved.

Be gentle with the one who walks with grief. If it is you, be gentle with yourself. Swiftly forgive.

Walk slowly, pausing often.
Take time.
Be gentle as you walk with grief.
All will be well.

## **HYMN**

We stand to sing the hymn.

- Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring. Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praise should sing? Praise him! Praise him! Praise the everlasting King!
- Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Praise him! Praise him! Widely as his mercy flows.
- Angels, help us to adore him; ye behold him face to face; sun and moon, bow down before him; dwellers all in time and space.
  Praise him! Praise him!
  Praise with us the God of grace.

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847) HymnQuest ID: 60130

## **CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING**

Support us, O Lord, all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over and our work is done.

Then, Lord, in you mercy, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

May God give you wisdom.
May God grant you mercy.
May God give you fullness of life
and guide you all your life long
through each day, through the darkness
into his everlasting light.

And the blessing of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit be with you today and always. **Amen.** 

# Gone From My Sight - Henry van Dyke

I am standing upon the seashore.

A ship, at my side, spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."

Gone where?

Gone from my sight. That is all.

She is just as large in mast, hull and spar as she was when she left my side. And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port. Her diminished size is in me -- not in her.

And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone," there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!" And that is dying...

#### A Life That Matters - Anon

How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought, but what you built; not what you got, but what you gave.

What will matter is not your success, but your significance.

What will matter is not what you learned, but what you taught.

What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered or encouraged others to emulate your example.

What will matter is not your competence, but your character.

What will matter is not how many people you knew,

but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone.

What will matter is not your memories,

but the memories that live in those who loved you.

What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.

It's not a matter of circumstance, but of choice.

Choose to live a life that matters.

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