

Remembrance Day Service

Welcome The Mayor
Councillor Steve Harvey

Assisted by Rev Richard Coombs
and other community contributors

14 November 2021

11.00 am

Service

Welcome: The Mayor, Councillor Steve Harvey

Introduction: Rev Richard Coombs

Followed by hymn

O God Our Help In Ages Past, Cheltenham Silver Band

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 in 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.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come:
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Act of Remembrance, Rev Richard Coombs

Let us remember before God
those who have died for their country in war;
those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure;
and all who have lived and died in the service of mankind.

**The Exhortation, Roy Roberts, Chairman, Cheltenham Branch,
Royal British Legion**

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.

(All repeat)

We will remember them

**The Last Post sounded by Alastair Stock, principal cornet,
Cheltenham Silver Band**

Two minute silence

The Reveille

**The Kohima Epitaph, Roy Roberts, Chairman, Cheltenham Branch,
Royal British Legion**

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

Prayer for the Peace of the World, Rev Richard Coombs

Almighty God,
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed;
Kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all the true love of peace,
and guide with your pure and peaceful wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the world;
that, in tranquillity, your kingdom may go forward,
till the earth be filled with the knowledge of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Rev Richard Coombs

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 and known to God;
for the homeless and refugees,
for those who are hungry and despairing
and all who have lost their livelihood and security
for all who mourn their dead,

(Here follows a short silence)

Lord in thy mercy

(All respond) "Hear our prayer"

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, infinite in power, wisdom and love, have compassion on those for whom we pray. Help us to respond to all suffering, to further the work of your Kingdom here on earth, through Him who gave himself for us on the cross. Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. Amen

(All say together)

**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**

Jesus of the Scars, Rev Richard Coombs

If we have never sought, we seek Thee now;
Thine eyes burn through the dark, our only stars;
We must have sight of thorn-pricks on Thy brow,
We must have Thee, O Jesus of the Scars.
The heavens frighten us; they are too calm;
In all the universe we have no place.
Our wounds are hurting us; where is the balm?
Lord Jesus, by Thy Scars, we claim Thy grace.

If, when the doors are shut, Thou drawest near,
Only reveal those hands, that side of Thine;
We know to-day what wounds are, have no fear,
Show us Thy Scars, we know the countersign.

The other gods were strong; but Thou wast weak;
They rode, but Thou didst stumble to a throne;
But to our wounds only God's wounds can speak,
And not a god has wounds, but Thou alone.

Edward Shillito (1872-1948)

Community contributors

Sue Naydorf

We remember today those who gave their lives in support of safety and freedom for our country and in the cause of liberty for all people.

Generations have put themselves in harm's way for the greater good of us all, and we honour their sacrifice. Each of them had hopes for their future and loved ones who prayed for their return. We think of them today and remember them:

El Malei Rachamim - our God, full of mercy - comfort and support all those who remember their loved ones, whose sacrifice we mark today. For those whose lives were changed forever we pray that their loss may be easier to bear knowing that so many people around the world are thinking of them especially on this day.

Zichronam livracha - May their memory be a blessing for us all.

Commitment, Cadet Jude, Arle Road

We pledge ourselves anew to our work in support of the wartime generation 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 they may enjoy the years that lie ahead in comfort and dignity and contentment.

Asleep, Amelie Coates and Sebastian Miles, The High School Leckhampton

Under his helmet, up against his pack,
After so many days of work and waking,
Sleep took him by the brow and laid him back.

There, in the happy no-time of his sleeping,
Death took him by the heart. There heaved a quaking
Of the aborted life within him leaping,
Then chest and sleepy arms once more fell slack.

And soon the slow, stray blood came creeping
From the intruding lead, like ants on track.

Whether his deeper sleep lie shaded by the shaking
Of great wings, and the thoughts that hung the stars,
High-pillowed on calm pillows of God's making,
Above these clouds, these rains, these sleets of lead,
And these winds' scimitars,
-Or whether yet his thin and sodden head
Confuses more and more with the low mould,
His hair being one with the grey grass
Of finished fields, and wire-scraggs rusty-old,
Who knows? Who hopes? Who troubles? Let it pass!
He sleeps. He sleeps less tremulous, less cold,
Than we who wake, and waking say Alas!

Wilfred Owen

Humanistic Kaddish, Stuart Elton

Wonderful is peace in the world. Let us create a peaceful world and let us establish its kingdom now and in the future. May peace come to bless our lives. May we always continue to honor peace in the world even though no praise can equal the importance of its reality. May peace and life prevail for us and for all humanity. Let us work to create peace here on earth for all people. And let us say, Shalom.

Rabbi Sherwin T. Wine

Abide With Me, Cheltenham Silver Band

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see,
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness:
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee:
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Blessing, Rev Richard Coombs

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted;
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 the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

National Anthem, Cheltenham Silver Band

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.

Thy choicest gifts in store,
On her be pleased to pour;
Long may she reign: May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause, To sing with heart and voice
God Save the Queen.

Laying Of Wreaths

(Civic party to remain in position until all wreaths have been laid)

Civic Party Retires**March Past****SAFETY NOTICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC**

When observing the March Past in front of the Municipal Offices please keep to the pavements. Thank you

Cheltenham Remembers.

Website: www.cheltenhamremembers.org.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ww1cheltenham
Twitter: www.twitter.com/WW1Cheltenham
Email: communications@cheltenham.gov.uk