Selwyn College Chapel, Cambridge





A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday 14 November 2021 6:00pm

About this service

Today, we gather as a community of all faiths and none to reflect on the human cost of conflict and to honour the fallen. You are invited to join in when indicated.

This is an opportunity to remember those who died fighting in the First and Second World Wars, and all those who have suffered because of those wars. It is also an opportunity to remember those who have died in war and as a result of conflicts before and since.

As well as a being a service of remembrance, this is also a time to reflect on the ways in which war and violence continue to tear apart lives, communities, and countries. It is also a service of hope; hope that a future without violence, hatred, fear, and misunderstanding can be possible.

The service will consist of anthems sung by the choir, accompanied by a series of readings. In addition, the names of those listed on the college's war memorials will be read out, and we will hear a reflection on what it is to remember.

The chapel community prays regularly for those whose names are added on the prayer board at the back of chapel. You are welcome to add the names of anyone for whom you would like us to pray in this way. Please stand as the choir and ministers enter the Chapel.

OPENING SENTENCE

Minister They shall beat their swords into ploughshares

and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah 2: 4

Please sit.

CHOIR THERE IS AN OLD BELIEF

words: John Gibson Lockhart (1795-1854)

music: C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918)

There is an old belief

That on some solemn shore

Beyond the sphere of grief

Dear friends shall meet once more,

Beyond the sphere of

Time and Sin, and Fate's control,

Serene in changeless prime of body and of soul.

That creed I fain would keep,

That hope I'll ne'er forgo.

Eternal be the sleep, if not to waken so.

READING ANTHEM FOR DOOMED YOUTH

Wilfred Owen

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?

— Only the monstrous anger of the guns.

Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle

Can patter out their hasty orisons.

No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells;

Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,—

The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;

And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

What candles may be held to speed them all? Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes Shall shine the holy glimmers of goodbyes.

The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall; Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds, And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.

From The Poems of Wilfred Owen, edited by Jon Stallworthy (W. W. Norton and Company, Inc., 1986)

CHOIR ENOSH

Louis Lewandowski (1821-1824) Words: Psalm 103: 15-17 (tr. Coverdale Psalter)

טו אֲנוֹשׁ, כֶּחָצִיר יָמָיו; כְּצִיץ הַשָּׂדֶה, כֵּן יָצִיץ.

טז כִּי רוּחַ עַבְרָה-בּוֹ וְאֵינֶנּוּ; וְלֹא-יַכִּירֶנּוּ עוֹד מְקוֹמוֹ.

יז וְחֶסֶד יְהנָה, מֵעוֹלָם וְעַד-עוֹלָם-- עַל-יְרֵאָיו; וְצִדְקָתוֹ, לִבְנִי בָנִים.

The days of man are but as grass:
for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.
For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone:
and the place thereof shall know it no more.
But the merciful goodness of the Lord endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear him: and his righteousness upon children's children.

READING OSEH SHALOM (from the Kaddish)

(Read in Hebrew by a member of the Jewish community in Selwyn)

He who maketh peace in his high places, may he make peace for us and for all Israel and for all mankind, and let us say, Amen.

CHOIR PSALM 121

chant by Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help. My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep. Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand; So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth for evermore. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

READING from Surah An-Nisa (The Women) 4:135

(Read in Arabic first and then English members of the Muslim community in Selwyn)

You who believe, uphold justice and bear witness to God, even if it is against yourselves, your parents, or your close relatives. Whether the person is rich or poor, God can best take care of both. Refrain from following your own desire, so that you can act justly- if you distort or neglect justice, God is fully aware of what you do.'

CHOIR LORD, THOU HAST BEEN OUR REFUGE

words: Psalm 90 (tr. 1662 Book of Common Prayer) and Isaac Watts (1674-1748) music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever the earth and the world were made, Thou art God from everlasting and world without end. Thou turnest man to destruction; again Thou sayest: Come again, ye children of men. For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday; seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

O God our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come. Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

As soon as thou scatterest them, they are even as asleep, and fade away suddenly like the grass. In the morning it is green and groweth up, but in the evening it is cut down and withered. For we consume away in thy displeasure, and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation. For when thou art angry, all our days are gone, we bring our years to an end, as a tale that is told.

The days of our age are threescore years and ten: and though men be so strong that they come to fourscore years, yet is their strength then but labour and sorrow. So passeth it away, and we are gone. Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last. Be gracious unto thy servants. O satisfy us with thy mercy, and that soon. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever the earth and the world were made, Thou art God from everlasting and world without end. And the glorious Majesty of the Lord be upon us. Prosper Thou, O prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper Thou our handy work.

READING MATTHEW 26: 6-13

(Read in English by a member of the Christian community in Selwyn)

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, "Why this waste? For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor." But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

Please stand.

HYMN O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Tune: St Anne

- O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.
- 2 Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is thine arm alone, And our defence is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame, From everlasting thou art God, To endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in Thy sight
 Are like an evening gone;
 Short as the watch that ends the night,
 Before the rising sun.
- 5 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.

READING HOLY SONNETS: DEATH BE NOT PROUD

John Donne (172-1631)

Death, be not proud, though some have called thee Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so; For those whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow Die not, poor Death, nor yet canst thou kill me. From rest and sleep, which but thy pictures be, Much pleasure; then from thee much more must flow, And soonest our best men with thee do go, Rest of their bones, and soul's delivery. Thou art slave to fate, chance, kings, and desperate men, And dost with poison, war, and sickness dwell, And poppy or charms can make us sleep as well And better than thy stroke; why swell'st thou then? One short sleep past, we wake eternally And death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die.

CHOIR SO THEY GAVE THEIR BODIES

words: from Pericles' Funeral Oration (Athens 431 BC) adapted by Alfred Zimmerman (1879-1957) music: Peter Aston (1938-2013)

So they gave their bodies to the commonwealth, and received praise that will never die, and a home in the minds of men.

Their story lives on without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives.

So they gave...

REFLECTION ON REMEMBRANCE

Brandon Fletcher-James,

Ordinand on Attchment from Westcott House

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Please stand.

Silence is kept as the candles by the chapel war memorials are lit.

Minister Mindful of our ever fragile world, in hope

we light these candles as a symbol of God's peace.

All remain standing as the names of members of Selwyn who died in war are read.

Silence is kept.

The choir sings:

FOR THE FALLEN

words: Lawrence Binyon (1896-1943) music: Douglas Guest (1916-1996)

They shall not grow 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.

Minister: Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord:

All: And let light perpetual shine upon them.

INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Let us pray.

We sit or kneel to pray.

Leader:

God of forgiveness, bring healing and reconciliation to this broken world. Help us to not forget the horrors of war, the massacres committed in the name of war, and the people whose lives are disfigured and destroyed because of war. Forgive us for the ways in which we act out of hatred and fear, and for our willingness to allow injustice to go

unchallenged.

All Amen.

Leader: 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.

All Amen.

Leader: God of the nations, as we look to that day when you will

gather people from north and south, east and west, into the unity of your peaceable Kingdom, guide us with your just and gentle wisdom, that all you people may spend their days

in security, freedom, and peace.

All Amen.

Please stand.

THE DISMISSAL

Minister Go in peace to love your neighbour.

Go in power to work for reconciliation.

Go in hope to proclaim peace to the nations.

All Amen.

VOLUNTARY Elegy – George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

Please leave the Chapel quietly at the end of the service.

Refreshments will be served after the service in the Old SCR.

Supper for those who have booked will be served in the Harrison Room at 7:30pm.

There will be a retiring collection for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Registered Charity No 219279).