2026 11 08 WORSHIP AT HOME
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Dear friends,
The format today will be a little different and there are no set places for subjects as usual but there will be prayers interspersed throughout. A time of remembrance and of striving for peace in the honour of those who gave their all. Every blessing to you all: Margaret.

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Sovereign God,
We praise you today for the freedom we enjoy as a nation and as individuals – freedom of speech and expression which we must use wisely – freedom from war and oppression – freedom secured at such enormous human cost.
We thank you for those who made such freedom possible – the countless thousands who sacrificed life and limb in two World Wars and in subsequent conflicts, leaving homes and loved ones, often to return no more.
We thank you for all who have fought against tyranny, hatred and evil, prepared to sacrifice everything rather than allow such forces to hold sway – and we salute their courage shown in the face of danger, their dedication to duty and their determination to battle on against all odds.
We thank you for the peace we have today – a peace which we need to treasure constantly, nurture carefully and safeguard always, recognising the price at which it was won.
We thank you for those today who fight for international freedom and justice – members of UN peacekeeping forces in places of continuing tension, striving to maintain democracy, to keep rival factions apart, to protect innocent civilians – and to pave the way for a lasting end to hostilities.
Sovereign God,
We praise you and thank you for the freedom we enjoy, and we pray that the day may come when there will be no more war – when the nations of the world will live in harmony – and when you will rule over all.
Until that time, help us to learn the lessons of the past, to remember its sacrifices, and to work as far as we are able for peace. Amen.
Nick Fawcett

The words to 'I Vow To Thee My Country' written by Sir Cecil Spring Rice, a British diplomat who died in 1918. It is sung to 'Thaxted' composed by Gustav Holst in 1921

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
the love that asks no questions, the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;

her fortress is a faithful heart, her prise is suffering;
and soul by soul, and silently, her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace

Lord, we remember the waste of life and wit and learning,
We remember the love that was never shared.
We remember the torture of body and mind.
We remember those who died without understanding or valour.
We remember those who have no grave to mark their sacrifice.
Still stands your Eternal Sacrifice.
Lord God of hosts, be with them yet.
Ray Simpson

Waste of Muscle, waste of Brain,
Waste of Patience, waste of Pain,
Waste of Manhood, waste of Health,
Waste of Beauty, waste of Wealth,
Waste of Blood and waste of Tears,
Waste of Youth's most precious years,
Waste of ways the Saints have trod,
Waste of Glory – Waste of God –
War!
G. A. Studdert Kennedy

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE
We remember all who have given their lives in the service of humankind,
All who have given their lives for freedom, justice and the hope of peace.

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

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love.
Where there is injury, let us bring forgiveness.
Where there is doubt, let us offer faith.
Where there is darkness, let us bring light.
Where there is despair, let us offer hope.
And where there is sadness, let us bring joy.

For it in giving that we receive – it is in forgiving that we are forgiven
and it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.
The Prayer of St. Francis

Lord of all, hear our prayers for the victims of war and for peace in the world.

We pray for those across the world who bear the scars of conflict – the injured, maimed and mentally distressed – those who, through the horrors of war, have lost their limbs, their reason, or their loved ones.

We pray for those left homeless or as refugees – those who have lost livelihoods and security – and those who still live in daily fear for their lives.

We pray for youngsters who have been orphaned – for parents who have lost their children – all who have lost their partners – for the countless families for whom life will never be the same again.

We pray for those in the armed forces, charged with keeping peace in countries across the world – their work often involving months away from family and friends and often danger to themselves.

We pray for world leaders and rulers, politicians and diplomats – all those whose decisions and negotiations affect the lives of so many and in whose had peace ultimately lies.

Lord of all, give wisdom to all who work for peace, so that a more secure future may be ensured for all.
Give courage to those who strive for justice, so that the causes of conflict may be overcome.
Give strength to those who seek to break down barriers so that divisions over race, colour, creed and culture may be ended.
Grant that, wherever war or the threat of war continues to haunt lives, a way of reconciliation may be found, and harmony established between people and nations.
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers for we ask them in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.
Nick Fawcett

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive 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.

Remind us, Lord, lest we forget,
of the debt we owe-
the life made possible through the death of others.
Help us to cherish and nurture the things they died for –
liberty – justice – peace
so that their sacrifice will not have been in vain. Amen.
Nick Fawcett

And may the blessing of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – remain with us, with those whom we love and all for whom we pray, this Remembrance Day and forever more. Amen