‘They shall grow not old’

A Liturgy for Remembrance Sunday
12 November 2023
10:00

Preacher
The Revd Nicola Frail. CF.
Chaplain – Defence Medical Services, Whittington

Lichfield Cathedral is called to live and proclaim the transforming love of God. Through the fullness of its life in the Spirit, it seeks to be a sign of the friendship and freedom that God in Jesus Christ has given the whole world to enjoy.
WELCOME TO LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL

Christians have worshipped here since the seventh century, and we are delighted that you have come to share in this tradition. Welcome to your Cathedral! Whether you are here for the first or for the thousandth time, you are equally welcome to share in the worship of Almighty God on this most important of occasions.

Safety
Please always follow any directions given in how we need to move around the Cathedral. In the unlikely event of an emergency, please remain quiet and respond calmly and promptly to the directions of the Vergers.

Music
The organ is played by the Assistant Director of Music, Martyn Rawles. The Cathedral Choir is conducted by the Director of Music, Ben Lamb

Posture
The order of service indicates whether to sit or stand, however please feel free to adopt the posture that you feel most comfortable with.

Offerings
Your gifts are vital in sustaining our mission and worship. A collection will be taken by the Stewards during the offertory hymn. Please do Gift Aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer by completing the required details on the envelopes provided. There are electronic giving points where you can tap a debit or credit card; if you need assistance with these devices please do ask a steward or verger. For those worshipping at home, you can text SPIRES to 70191 to give £10, or visit www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate.

Lavatories
These can be found in the Old Stables. Please ask a steward for directions.

Please join in with whatever is printed in bold type. Large-print versions of this booklet are available: please ask a steward.

You are encouraged to use the ten minutes prior to worship for personal preparation.
Before the service, the Interim Dean greets the Deputy Lieutenant Mr James Leavesley and Mrs Leavesley. **All stand** as the Deputy Lieutenant is escorted to his place in the Nave by the Interim Dean and the Head Steward.

Please be seated again until the opening hymn is sung.

**The Gathering**

The choir and ministers enter the Nave Sanctuary by way of the North Aisle. They are followed by British Legion and other standard bearers.

**Introit Hymn 530  Nun Danket**

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mother’s arms hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessèd peace to cheer us; and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkhart 1586-1649

tr Catherine Winkworth 1827-1878

Remain standing
THE GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Peace to you from God who is our Father. Peace from Jesus Christ who is our peace. Peace from the Holy Spirit who gives us life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

The Interim Dean offers words of welcome before continuing

Dear friends,
we gather on this day of Remembrance
to worship Almighty God,
who is merciful and righteous;
whose power created and sustains the world;
who loves us, and gave us Jesus Christ
to teach us the way of truth and life.

As we give thanks for God’s great and mighty works, we remember all who have given their lives in the age-old struggle for justice and peace; we pray for all who suffer in war and conflict, for all who live in terror and those who seek refuge and a new way of life.

We ask God’s help and blessing that we may do his will, and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King.
Rite of Penitence

The Interim Dean continues

But first, in order to prepare ourselves to hear the word of God and to seek his loving kindness, let us call to mind and confess our sins: the sins and shortcomings of the world; human pride, selfishness and greed; our evil divisions and hatreds. We confess our share in all that has gone amiss, and our failure to seek to establish that peace which is the Lord’s will.

A moment of silence is kept.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Absolution

The Interim Dean says

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A moment of silence is kept.
THE COLLECT

Let us pray.
Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING  Micah 4.1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.
In days to come the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say:
‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; 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; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken. For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

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

A short period of silence is kept.

ADDRESS  The Revd Nicola Frail. CF.
**ANTHEM**  Greater Love hath no man — *John Ireland (1914-1992)*

Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.  
Greater love hath no man than this,  
that a man lay down his life for his friends.  
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,  
that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.  
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified,  
ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.  
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;  
that ye should show forth the praises of him  
who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,  
that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice,  
holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Words: St John 15, I Peter 2, I Corinthians 6; Romans 12

*Remain seated as organ music is played as the Interim Dean escorts the Deputy Lieutenant Mr James Leavesley and a representative of Defence Medical Services, Whittington, to lay wreaths in St Michael’s Chapel.*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**  
*led by The Revd Canon Andrew Stead, Canon Precentor*

In peace and in trust, let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for His Majesty the King,  
for his Government and Parliament,  
and for the leaders of all the nations,  
that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**.

We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of the nation,  
that they may have discipline and discernment, courage and compassion.  
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**.
We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm, that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the wounded and the captive, the grieving, the homeless and the refugee, that in all their trials they may know your love and support. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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.

**Stand**

*During the singing of the hymn a collection is taken to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Please give as generously as you are able and, if you are a UK taxpayer, use the GiftAid envelopes provided.*
HYMN 537  St Anne

1. 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 everlasting 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.

The organist improvises as the British Legion standard is returned and other flags and banners are collected.

6. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748
Psalm 90

AN ACT OF COMMITMENT

The Interim Dean says

As we prepare to make memorial of all the fallen in conflict,
let us pledge ourselves anew
to the service of God and neighbour:
that we may help, encourage and comfort others,
and support those working for the relief of the needy
and for the peace and well-being of all the nations.
Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humanity
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. Amen.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Interim Dean says

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth
and all humanity, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Remain standing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

1. 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.

2. 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.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Pomp and Circumstance March No.5
Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934) arr. Farrington
Remain standing as the organist plays the voluntary and the Standards are borne from the Cathedral.

The Deputy Mr James Leavesley and Mrs Leavesley are escorted by the Interim Dean to the West Doors, together with the Civic representatives.

Members of the Royal British Legion and other service organisations on parade follow the Civic representatives as directed by the Stewards.

Civic guests and others attending the City’s Remembrance Ceremony leave the Cathedral as directed by the Stewards, and move promptly to the Memorial Garden.

The choir, and other ministers leave via the Crossing and North Quire Aisle.

The Cathedral Act of Remembrance will begin at 10:55. Those staying for that observance should move quietly into the Crossing.

Photography, Video and Live Streaming
Occasionally the Cathedral Photographers take photographs (without flash) during services, for use on the Cathedral website or on social media. They make every effort to do so as discreetly and quietly as possible. If you or any of your party prefer not to be in any photograph, please speak to the photographer directly. Our worship this morning will be lived streamed via the Cathedral website to Youtube. If you would prefer not to appear on screen please talk to one of our stewards or vergers who will be pleased to advise you where you can sit. Please do not take your own photographs or video/audio recordings during the course of the service.

You are welcome to attend our other Cathedral Remembrance Sunday Services today:

10:55 ACT OF REMEMBRANCE & OBSERVANCE OF THE NATIONAL SILENCE

15:30 SOLEMN REQUIEM EUCHARIST FOR THE FALLEN
NEXT SUNDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2023

08:00 Holy Communion (traditional language)

10:30 Choral Eucharist

15:30 Choral Evensong

If you would like to be kept informed of services and events at Lichfield Cathedral please do get in touch with us. Our general ‘phone number is 01543 306100.

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Twitter @LichfieldCath

www.lichfield-cathedral.org

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