CHRIST CHURCH THORNTON

Holy Communion
8 November 2026 at 10.45 am
Remembrance Sunday Service

Introduction

We have come together to worship almighty God; to offer him praise and thanksgiving for our nation's deliverance in times of war; to recall those who through death, injury or bereavement, suffered to bring peace and freedom to our world; to seek his forgiveness for our failure to achieve reconciliation between the nations, and to ask for strength to overcome injustice wherever it is found.

Worship in Song

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 is 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

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.

Confession

Jesus said, 'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.' As we realise our failure to live up to Christ's standards and to obey his commands, let us seek God's forgiveness, as we say together:

Almighty and merciful God, Lord of people and nations, we confess with shame the sins, both private and public, by which we have broken your law and grieved your Spirit. We acknowledge the reproach that war has brought upon the name of Christ. We confess our lack of love for you and for mankind. For the sake of your Son, who died for us, save us from our sins. Take from us all hatred and bitterness, whether in thought, word or action. Teach us to forgive, as we are forgiven, so that we may grow more like him and live our lives according to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bible

O God our Father, we thank you for all your goodness to us as a nation, and for the many occasions when you have guided and protected us. We thank you for your Word, the Bible, which down the years has moulded the laws and thinking of our country. Above all, we thank and praise you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Saviour. Today, especially, we give thanks for those who died in the cause of freedom and justice, so that your truth might continue to be known, and your laws obeyed within our nation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Readings

Micah 4.1-5 *(page 778)*
Luke 22.14-23 *(page 901)*

Act of Remembrance

Let us remember with gratitude those who, in the cause of peace and the service of their fellow men died for their country in time of war:

A wreath is brought forward and names are read out

The Last Post

Two Minute Silence

Reveille

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.

We will remember them.

The National Anthem

A prayer for those who suffer

Father, we remember how your Son, during the time of his ministry on earth, had great compassion for those who suffered. We bring to you those who still suffer as the result of war. Hear our prayer, Father, for those who live with the pain and scars of bodily injury; for those whose minds are shattered by the horrors which they witnessed or endured; for those who have been bereaved; for those who do not believe in you or trust their fellow men. Grant to them peace of mind and heart, and relief from all their suffering, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A prayer for the King and those in authority

Lord God, whose faithfulness knows no end, we pray for our king and for all those under him who guide and govern the affairs of our nation. Grant that they may honour you, so that they may be set free from the fear of man. Help them in every situation to know and do the thing that is right. Overrule all their deliberations for the good of our people and the glory of your name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A prayer for the nations

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.**

The Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is darkness, light; where there is despair, hope; and where there is sadness, joy. Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and in dying that we are born again to eternal life. Amen.

Worship in Song

God is our strength and refuge,
Our present help in trouble;
And we therefore will not fear,
Though the earth should change.
Though mountains shake and tremble,
Though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore.

There is a flowing river,
Within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her
She shall not be moved.
God's help is swiftly given,
Thrones vanish at his presence
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore.

Come, see the works of our maker,
Learn of his deeds all-powerful;
Wars will cease across the world
When he shatters the spear.
Be still and know your creator,
Uplift him in the nations
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Almighty Saviour, those who have died in faith have eternal joy in your presence. For us who remain, be with us in our sadness and turn our eyes to you. By your death once for all upon the cross, raise us to new life, give us victory over death and confidence to look forward to your coming. So let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

The Peace

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil. As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.

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

Worship in Song

Through every trial, through every fear
Through every tear we can't conceal
God we look to you
Through every storm, through every pain
Through every grief we can't explain
God we look to you

You became a Man of Sorrows
that we might know joy
You have treasured every tear drop
And said that you'd restore
You will not forget your people
You'll make all things new
Until you do we choose to trust in you

You are our hope, you are our strength
You are the anchor in the depths
God we look to you
You will return, you will sustain
You will bring joy we can't contain
Come Lord Jesus come

Bridge
You will make all things new,
Until you do we choose to trust in you

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, accept the gifts that we bring, and with them our lives, to be used in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with**.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.
He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood

which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.
We receive communion

Worship in Song

The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still still waters
His goodness restores my soul

And I will trust in you alone
And I will trust in you alone
For your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home

He guides my ways in righteousness
And he anoints my head with oil
And my cup it overflows with joy
I feast on his pure delights

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For you are with me and your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

Worship in Song

O Lord my rock and my redeemer
Greatest treasure of my longing soul
My God like you there is no other
True delight is found in you alone
Your grace a well too deep to fathom
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach
Your truth a fount of perfect wisdom
My highest good and my unending need

O Lord my rock and my redeemer
Strong defender of my weary heart
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver
And my shield against his hateful darts
My song when enemies surround me
My hope when tides of sorrow rise
My joy when trials are abounding
Your faithfulness my refuge in the night

O Lord my rock and my redeemer
Gracious Saviour of my ruined life
My guilt and cross laid on your shoulders
In my place you suffered bled and died
You rose the grave and death are conquered
You broke my bonds of sin and shame
O Lord my rock and my redeemer
May all my days bring glory to your name

Prayer after Communion

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Worship in Song

Though the nations rage kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains
That my God is the Ancient of Days

None above him none before him
All of time in his hands
For his throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power all the glory I will trust in his name
For my God is the Ancient of days

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
O his love is sure and he knows my name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings
I will watch and wait for the Saviour king
Then my joy complete standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

Blessing

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 fainthearted; 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. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.