St Michael & St George, Aldershot

*The Cathedral Church of the Bishop of the Forces*

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**12th November 2023**

OPENING HYMN

Eternal Father, strong to save,

whose arm hath bound the restless wave,

who bid'st the mighty ocean deep

its own appointed limits keep;

O hear us when we cry to thee,

for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain,

the mission field, our troops terrain,

by mountain pass or valley low,

wherever, Lord, thy soldiers go;

protect them by thy guardian hand

from every peril on the land.

O watchful Father who dost keep

eternal vigil while we sleep,

guide those who navigate on high,

who through grave unknown perils fly;

receive our oft-repeated prayer

for those in peril in the air.

And when at length their course is run,

their work for God and country done;

by power of your breath restore,

Lord, those who died in peace and war.

O comfort loved ones left behind,

and grant eternal life on high.

Dear God of love, in thanks we pray,

for bloodshed's end on Armistice Day;

that hate and war will ever cease

and we will live in love and peace.

We pledge ourselves, and hope we can

bring peace on earth, good will to man.

OFFERTORY HYMN

O valiant hearts who to your glory came   
through dust of conflict and through battle flame;   
tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,   
your memory hallowed in the land you loved.  
  
Proudly you gathered, rank on rank, to war   
as who had heard God's message from afar;   
all you had hoped for, all you had, you gave,   
to save mankind - yourselves you scorned to save.  
  
Splendid you passed, the great surrender made;   
into the light that nevermore shall fade;   
deep your contentment in that blest abode,   
who wait the last clear trumpet-call of God.  
  
Long years ago, as earth lay dark and still,   
rose a loud cry upon a lonely hill,   
while in the frailty of our human clay,   
Christ, our Redeemer, passed the self-same way.  
  
Still stands his Cross from that dread hour to this,   
like some bright star above the dark abyss;   
still, through the veil, the Victor's pitying eyes   
look down to bless our lesser Calvaries.  
  
These were his servants, in his steps they trod,   
following through death the martyred Son of God:   
Victor, he rose; victorious too shall rise

they who have drunk his cup of sacrifice.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our dead,   
whose cross has bought them and whose staff has led,   
in glorious hope their proud and sorrowing land   
commits her children to thy gracious hand.

COMMUNION HYMN

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 question, 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 pride 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.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

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.

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.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Sing with all the saints in glory,

sing the resurrection song!   
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,

to the former days belong.   
All around the clouds are breaking,

soon the storms of time shall cease;   
In God's likeness we, awaking,

know the everlasting peace.   
  
O what glory, far exceeding

all that eye has yet perceived!   
Holiest hearts for ages pleading,

never that full joy conceived.   
God has promised, Christ prepares it,

there on high our welcome waits.   
Ev’ry humble spirit shares it;

Christ has passed the eternal gates.

Life eternal! heaven rejoices;

Jesus lives, who once was dead.   
Join we now the deathless voices;

child of God, lift up your head!   
Patriarchs from the distant ages,

saints all longing for their heaven,   
prophets, psalmists, seers, and sages,

all await the glory given.

Life eternal! O what wonders

crowd on faith; what joy unknown,   
when, amidst earth's closing thunders,

saints shall stand before the throne!   
O to enter that bright portal,

see that glowing firmament;   
know, with you, O God immortal,

"Jesus Christ whom you have sent."