



## Worship@Home

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Call to worship

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly,  
to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God  
(Micah 6 v 6)

### Hymn: StF132 O God our help in ages past

Sing/Read/pray the words or listen to it here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVbSxxAiMuU>

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 life shall last,  
and our eternal home.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

### Let us pray together

Creator God, you walk with us in our world, and have done so in times of conflict as well as in times of peaceful cooperation. We thank you for the inspiration that Jesus shares with us, as he reached out to individuals to bring peace in their lives. Today we pray especially for those whose gave their lives in the service of others in the conflicts of our age. We pray for them, for their families and friends, for all who mourn their loss. We pray for our world today and as we remember all those caught up in the conflicts of our present age, may we continue to work for peace, justice and hope in today's world. We bring our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, the prince of peace. Amen.

**Old Testament Lesson:** Micah 4 v 1 - 4

**Gospel Reading:** John 15 v 9 - 17

### Time to Reflect

Today is an important day in the nations calendar. It is a time when we remember the story of those who served their country in the conflicts of the last Century and this, remembering especially those who did not come back home to their families and friends and whose names are recorded on War memorials across the nation and around the world. Today we reflect on the way that war has led to, and continues to lead to, deep uncertainty for individuals, families, communities and nations. We see that in the stories of the conflicts of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> world wars, brought to mind perhaps in the story of the Late Queen Elizabeth, who for many years led the national service of remembrance at the Cenotaph in London. The effects of conflict resonate through the ages and the impact of conflict has moulded and shaped the way that community is formed. At the end of conflict and following the deep sacrifices of many, including those who gave their lives for others, there is a renewed hope as communities reestablish and people explore ways of living which seek to grasp a greater peace. The prophet Micah sought the same vision when he looked forward to a time when 'they will beat their swords in to ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks', when a time would be established where, 'nation will not take up sword against nation, neither will they train for war any more'. Of course this vision remains but it is often hidden. To find the peace that Jesus talks of is to find in our lives the way that peace can flow. By what we say and by how we act, we can make a difference to the way that our world is.

Small steps indeed, but small steps grow into something significant. Jesus said that the greatest gift that could be offered was to lay down your life for your friends. We are not usually called to do so, but today we remember those who did, and remember Jesus too who through his teaching, work and example give us a new vision of peace. As we follow the one who gave his life not just for his friends but for the whole world, may we work for that peace, justice and hope which one day may be established on the earth.

Take a time to sit quietly

### **A time of prayer**

We pray for our world, in all of its diversity. We pray that we may listen to each other, seek what is good and just and walk together so as to find peace, hope and blessing in our world today.

We pray for our faith, for our journey with God and with members of our church family. We give thanks for the way that God has called us, and continues to call us, as disciples of Jesus.

We pray for those who are ill, for those whose loves are challenged by illness. We remember all those who mourn, and on this remembrance Sunday we pray for all who remember loved ones who were, and continue to be, caught up in the conflicts of our world.

We remember those who have died, giving thanks for times shared together. May we, together with all the Communion of Saints be blessed as we are held in God love.

We bring our prayers in Jesus name. Amen

**On this Remembrance Sunday we share in the silence – now or at 11.00 am**

They shall grow not 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 Lord's Prayer**  
*Our Father .....*

**Hymn: StF712 Put peace into each others hands**  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VI\\_sd5A-h8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VI_sd5A-h8)

Put peace into each other's hands  
and like a treasure hold it,  
protect it like a candle-flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hands  
like bread we break for sharing;  
look people warmly in the eye:  
our life is meant for caring.

As at Communion, shape your hands  
into a waiting cradle;  
the gift of Christ receive, revere,  
united round the table.

Put Christ into each other's hands,  
he is love's deepest measure;  
in love make peace, give peace a chance,  
and share it like a treasure.

*Fred Kaan (1929-2009)*

### **A prayer of blessing from the Baptist Peace Fellowship**

Send us out to be beacons of peace  
in a dark world of conflict.  
Make us instruments of peace  
for whoever we meet  
and wherever we go,  
In the name of the Prince of Peace,  
Our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

May God bless us, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Original Materials by Rev Philip Wagstaff, Superintendent Minister of the Hastings Bexhill and Rye Circuit

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