



NATIONAL  
MEMORIAL  
ARBORETUM



Remembrance  
Sunday 2022

National Memorial Arboretum

# Words of Welcome

**Mark Ellis, Arboretum Lead**

Welcome to the National Memorial Arboretum. I am delighted that you can be here with us, at the Nation's place to remember, to join us in remembering those who have courageously served their country and sacrificed for the freedoms that we enjoy today.

# Bidding Prayer

**The Venerable Dr Susan Weller, Archdeacon of Lichfield**

We meet in this special place and in the presence of God.  
To commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith  
for reconciliation between the nations,  
that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace.  
We come to pray for all who in bereavement, disability  
and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.  
We come to remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those  
whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present,  
have been given and taken away.

# Confession & Absolution

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;  
its pride, its selfishness, its greed; the evil divisions and hatreds.  
Let us confess our share in what is wrong, and our failure to  
seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

(We observe a short silence)

**(All) Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you,  
and are not worthy to be called your children.  
We turn to you asking that you have mercy on us,  
And teach us to live rightly in love and peace with You  
and with all mankind. Amen.**

Almighty God 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.

**(All) Amen**

# The Act of Remembrance

**Reverend Vic Van Den Bergh**

God of truth and justice,  
we hold before you those whose memory we cherish,  
and those whose names we will never know.  
Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,  
And grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.  
As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future;  
For you are the source of life and hope, now and forever.

**(All) Amen**

# The Exhortation

**Anny Reid OBE, Chair of the National Memorial Arboretum  
and Trustee of the Royal British Legion**

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.

**(All) We will remember them.**

# The Last Post

# Silence

# Reveille

# Kohima Epitaph

**Tony Matthews, Chairman of the RBL  
National Memorial Arboretum Branch**

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

# Floral Tribute

## **Grace Bennett, Volunteer, National Memorial Arboretum**

Evening will come, however determined the late afternoon,  
Limes and oaks in their last green flush, pearled in September mist.  
I have conjured a lily to light these hours, a token of thanks,  
Zones and auras of soft glare framing the brilliant globes.  
A promise made and kept for life – that was your gift –  
Because of which, here is a gift in return, glovewort to some,  
Each shining bonnet guarded by stern lance-like leaves.  
The country loaded its whole self into your slender hands,  
Hands that can rest, now, relieved of a century's weight.

Evening has come. Rain on the black lochs and dark Munros.  
Lily of the Valley, a namesake almost, a favourite flower  
Interlaced with your famous bouquets, the restrained  
Zeal and forceful grace of its lanterns, each inflorescence  
A silent bell disguising a singular voice. A blurred new day  
Breaks uncrowned on remote peaks and public parks, and  
Everything turns on these luminous petals and deep roots,  
This lily that thrives between spire and tree, whose brightness  
Holds and glows beyond the life and border of its bloom.

Poet Laureate Simon Armitage Marks the death of  
Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a new poem

# Bible Reading - Micah 6.6-8

**Simon Bell, His Majesty's Deputy-Lieutenant of Staffordshire**

What can we bring to the Lord? Should we bring burnt offerings? Should we bow before God Most High with offerings of young calves? Should we offer him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins?

No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God

## Hymn - O God, our help in ages past

**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 defense 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 guide while troubles last, and our eternal home!**

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

# Intercessions

**Reverend Vic Van Den Bergh**

We pray for all who have died or suffer as a result of conflict.  
Those whose lives are disfigured by war or terror,  
For service men and women, for civilians, for those held captive,  
each one remembered by and known to God.  
May God give peace:

**(All) God give peace**

We pray for peacemakers and peacekeepers;  
those who seek to keep this world secure and free;  
for all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,  
political, military and religious;  
asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for  
reconciliation and peace. May God give peace:

**(All) God give peace**

Finally, we pray for all members of the Armed Forces who are  
in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who  
pray for their safe return. May God give peace:

**(All) God give peace**

Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with  
confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**(All) 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.**

# Hymn - Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,  
To his feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like me his praise should sing?  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.**

**Praise him for his grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.**

**Father-like, he tends and spares us,  
Well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely as his mercy flows.**

**Angels, help us to adore him;  
You behold him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before him,  
Dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.**

Henry Francis Lyte (1834-1847)



# Act of Commitment

**The Venerable Dr Susan Weller**

As we prepare to leave this place let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

**(All) We will**

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

**(All) We will**

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

**(All) We will**

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by love:

May we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, and live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer.

**(All) Amen**

# The Blessing

**Reverend Vic Van Den Bergh**

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest,  
to the Church, The King, the Commonwealth  
and all people, unity, peace and concord,  
and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting.  
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
be among you all and remain with you always.

**(All) Amen**

Go forth with hope and seek for peace in the service of God

**(All) Amen**

# 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.**

# Wreath Laying

**Musical Interlude performed by The Band of the Prince of Wales**

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## Donate

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[thenma.org.uk](https://thenma.org.uk)

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