



**ST GEORGE'S
ROYAL AIR FORCE CHAPEL OF REMEMBRANCE
BIGGIN HILL**

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
Sunday 13th November 2022 at 10.30am**

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"



Officiating Chaplain:

Mr David Jefferys BSc,MD, DSc, FRCP,FFPM, FRAPS, FRSM, LLM

Organist: Mr David Thorne BA, FRCO

Bugler: Mr Nigel Garrard

Mr David Jefferys

Mr David Jefferys is a Licensed Lay Minister in the Diocese of Rochester and officiates at St Mary's Shortlands. He and his wife lead services in this Chapel. He is a senior Pharmaceutical Physician and is a Bromley Councillor for the Bromley Common and Keston Ward. He chairs the Bromley Health and Wellbeing Board and the Bromley Health Scrutiny Committee and holds other positions as Trustee and School Governor.

Poppies and Flowers

The wooded cross outside has a cascade of handmade poppies. The Craft Club and volunteers displayed all the poppies inside and out. Barbara Hodges arranged the flowers.

**The collection will be shared between the
Royal British Legion and the Chapel**

Collectors will be at the exits.
Please have your donation ready and leave promptly afterwards, for
the laying of wreaths ceremony outside

**Services are held every Sunday at 9.30 am and everyone is
welcome. You do not need an RAF connection to attend.**

Friends of St George's Chapel - www.rafchapelbigginhill.com

Biggin Hill Memorial Museum - <https://bhmm.org.uk>

***Please stand for the procession of the Minister and Veterans.
Remain standing for 2427(Biggin Hill) Sqn ATC banner presentation.***

We yearn for peace but still fight wars
and fail to learn God's ways;
the past is blamed to find a cause
for warring present days.
Come Spirit blessed to make us new,
break habits, hate and fears –
to see the Christ in other's view
and feel His pain and tears.

In Bible's page the nations fight
and claim that God is theirs.
Forgive us Lord, restore our sight
that we might live our prayers.
The past is drenched by blood and loss
through wars and violent ways;
may Jesus on his holy cross
redeem our human days.

This simple hope for all the earth,
once won on history's stage:
love's tortured death, stripp'd of His worth,
spills out to every age.
The fallen – broken, lifeless dust –
by Christ are healed and raised
beyond our power; the Father's trust
by Church and world be praised!

Lord, grant us strength to fight for peace
and speak love's trust today;
with wills resolved we'll never cease
to watch and love and pray:
that all may live in freedom blessed
and care for those in need,
in peace may the departed rest,
from time and death be freed.

Chaplain: We are gathered together to worship Almighty God and to remember with gratitude and affection those who sacrificed their lives while serving in the Armed Forces in the two World Wars, and in all subsequent conflicts. We look back in sorrow for all those who suffered injury and loss; we recall those who are suffering in conflicts in our world today, and we look forward to that day when the kingdoms of this world will be ordered by God's peaceable reign.

In our prayers today, we re-affirm our commitment and dedication to the gospel of justice, peace and reconciliation, and we look to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who by his death has destroyed death and having won the victory, now reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Please sit or kneel.

Chaplain: Let us pray. Almighty God, whose power the heavens, the earth and the sea proclaim, whose love towards us is wondrously revealed in Jesus Christ, and whose Spirit produces everything that is good; we acknowledge your infinite majesty, and with heart and voice we glorify your name.

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

Short silence

All: Most merciful God, 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 us what we have been, amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may act with justice, love with mercy, and walk with humility before you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Chaplain: 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.

Chaplain: 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.

Please sit

1st Reading Ecclesiastes, Ch 3, vv 1-8, 15
Cadet Corporal Adam Bani, 2427 (Biggin Hill) Squadron ATC

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

Whatever is, has already been,
and what will be, has been before;
and God will call the past to account.

Please stand

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord, in your suffering world, this is our prayer.
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset your kingdom increase.

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
word for the craftsmen, trade for their skills.
Land of the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause, of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray,
melt our cold heart, let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
cities for sanctu'ry, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned, our future our dreams.
Lord end our madness, carelessness, greed,
make us content with the things that we need.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray,
melt our cold heart, let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame
until your justice burns brightly again.
Until the nations learn of your ways,
seek your salvation and bring you their praise.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray,
melt our cold heart, let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Please sit

**2nd Reading John Ch 15 vv 9-17
read by Councillor Sophie Dunbar**

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name, the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

SERMON

Mr David Jefferys

Please stand for the Act of Remembrance.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Mr Peter Lemon

Let us remember before God and commend to His sure keeping those who have given their lives for freedom and justice in two World Wars, in many times of conflict through the years and in times still recent, in locations throughout the world, particularly those whom we have known and whose memory we treasure.

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.

All: We will remember them.

LAST POST

2 minutes silence

REVEILLE

Please sit or kneel.

ACT OF COMMITMENT

Chaplain: Let us commit ourselves anew to the service of God and our neighbour; that we may help, encourage, and comfort others and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of nations.

All: Lord God our Father, we commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between nations, that all people may live together, in freedom, justice and peace. We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror. We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow, those whose lives in world wars and conflicts, past and present, have been given and taken away. Amen.

Paul Grant: Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace; for the service men and women, who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God,

All: sing the response: O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer, When I call, answer me. O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss,

All: sing the response: O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer, When I call, answer me. O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return,

All: sing the response.

For women, children, and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind the anger and hatreds of humanity, especially at his time in Ukraine.

All: sing the response.

For peacemakers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free,

All: sing the response.

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,

All: sing the response.

For all who have lost someone dear to them, in a time gone by or in recent months,

All: sing the response

Chaplain: Let us pray for God's continued blessing upon this Chapel of St George. Eternal God, we recall the devotion of those who, over the years, have come from many lands to make a pilgrimage to this place. We rejoice that this is a living Church and give thanks for all those who have served you faithfully here.

We pray for your blessing to rest upon the people who continue to gather here week by week in worship and Holy Sacrament. Peace be to this Chapel and all who worship here. Peace be to those who come and go through its doors. Peace be to those who love this place and the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. May God give peace. **All: Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Please stand

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy Cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Banner Bearer approaches the altar.

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND ROYAL SALUTE

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.

THE BLESSING

God the Father has brought hope to a divided world in raising Christ from the dead. Now may he strengthen you to walk in his ways and to witness to the love that banishes all fear and overcomes all hostility: And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you and all those you love, living and departed, now and forever more. Amen

Banner bearer departs followed by the Minister.

**Collectors will be at the exits, for your donations,
which will be divided between
the Royal British Legion and the Chapel**

***Please gather outside quickly and spread out
so that all can participate and see the laying of
wreaths near the Gate Guardians.***

Armistice Day 11.11.1918

A Soldier

Cold and wet in pain and scared, most surely I will die,
never to see my wife again, or hear my child's first cry.

Today the war is over, the enemy surrendered now.

Armistice they call it, a victory ..but how?

So many men were slaughtered, such a bestial sacrifice,
for freedom for our Country; now I've lost the final dice.

For mortal wounds I carry, from which my life-blood flows.

And death is bearing down, where the Flanders poppy grows.

Not old enough to have a vote, yet my light becomes more dim.

And who will say in years to come, "*Yes I do remember him.*"



11.11.2005. Her 87th Birthday

A Soldier's Daughter

Who was this man called my father, who the day I was born cruelly died.

All I have is his picture, stained with the tears mother cried.

Stories were told me so often, of his love and his hopes and his dreams.

Robbed of his future and life, by those with merciless schemes.

If only he knew that I lived, fulfilled from the day of my birth,
then a wonderful life with my husband, soon children bringing much mirth.

Each building a better tomorrow, their talents improving this world,
working for social equality, for mankind that this be unfurled.

All this spawned from a soldier, dead before life could begin.

My Poppy I wear with such pride, "*Yes, I do remember him!*"

Cecilia Skudder, Cecilia's Christian Poems

<https://ceciliaskuddercjs.simplesite.com>