

Service of Remembrance



St Edburg's Church, Bicester
Sunday, 9th November 2025
at 11.45am

PROCESSION INTO CHURCH

- Crucifer(s), Choir, Churchwardens, Clergy
- The Mayor* with Cadet
- Deputy Mayor*
- 1 RLC Regimental Sergeant Major*
- 1 RLC Commanding Officer*
- Bicester Garrison Sergeant Major*
- Bicester Garrison Commander*
- Flag and Standard-bearers
- Deputy Lieutenant*

PROCESSION OUT OF CHURCH

- Flag and Standard-bearers
- Deputy Lieutenant*
- Crucifer(s), Churchwardens, Clergy
- The Mayor* with Cadet
- Deputy Mayor*
- 1 RLC Commanding Officer*
- 1 RLC Regimental Sergeant Major*
- Bicester Garrison Commander*
- Bicester Garrison Sergeant Major*

** Accompanied by escorts when present*

Greeting (*stand*) – The Revd. Sarah Mortimer

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

The Mayor's Cadet presents the Mace

Standards will be presented during the first hymn

Hymn – O God, our help in ages past

1. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.
2. Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
will bear us all away;
we fade and vanish, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

We are come together on this day in the presence of God to
seek his blessing on our town;
to offer our thanksgiving for all that has been achieved in the
past;
to pray for all who bear responsibility in our community
today, especially in local government;
to seek strength from God for more faithful service in years
to come.

All **We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.**

Prayers of Penitence - Fr. Craig A. Davies

Lord God our Father, maker of all:
we praise you for your great work creating the world.
Give us the skill to build a society where all may thrive,
and forgive us when we use your gifts poorly.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God
Prince of Peace as we thank you for your life among us,
forgive us when we fail to live together as one family.
Help us to dwell together in love and peace,
seeking one another's welfare,
bearing one another's burdens,
and sharing one another's joys.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,
fulfiller of humanity:
give us strength to face the future,
and wisdom to learn from the past as
we remember those who have given their lives
in the service of justice and peace.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and
deliver you from all your sins and strengthen you in all
goodness, and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

Capt Fin Copland RLC

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reading: Romans 8.31-25, 37-39

Cllr Alisa Russell, Bicester Town Mayor

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Hymn – Be thou my vision

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.
3. Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Power of my power.
4. Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art!
5. High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Irish 8th Century, trans. Mary Byrne (1880-1931)
and Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)*



Reading: John 15.9-17

Mrs Miranda Markham, Deputy Lieutenant

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Hymn – The Lord's my Shepherd

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green.
He leadeth me the quiet waters by.
2. My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.
3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill.
For thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.
4. My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes,
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me.
And in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Psalm 23 from The Scottish Psalter (1650)

Sermon – The Revd. Peter Wright

The Prayers – The Revd. Kevin Capelin-Jones

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;

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

for those who came back;
those whose lives still bear the scars of war;
those who lost sight or limbs or reason;
those who lost faith in God
and hope for humanity.

May God give peace.

All **God give peace.**

For all members of the armed forces
who are in danger this day,
remembering family, friends
and all who pray for their safe return;
For civilian women, children and men
whose lives are disfigured by war or terror,
whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed,
who have become refugees.

May God give peace.

All **God give peace.**

For the United Nations Organization and other international organizations which serve peace and understanding, that they may be strong in helping settle differences fairly, with respect for the rights of people, and without recourse to violence.

For those who negotiate peace, that they may learn to trust each other and that the agreements they achieve may be respected.

For the powerful nations that they may be aware of the value and responsibility of each nation in the family of nations and that they may turn from the paths that could lead to war.

May God give peace.

All **God give peace**

Most holy God and Father,
hear our prayers for all who strive for peace
and all who fight for justice.
Help us, who today remember the cost of war,
to work for a better tomorrow;
and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict,
bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence;
through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Standards will be collected during the next hymn

Hymn – Praise, my soul, the King of heaven!

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven!
To his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!
2. 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.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness!
3. 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.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows!

4. Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

Our Commitment

RAFAC 2507 (Bicester) Sqn ATC Cadet

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.**

Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all your peoples
in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
give us wisdom;
give us courage;
give us hope;
and keep us faithful
now and always.

All **Amen.**

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!

The Kohima Epitaph

The Royal British Legion

When you go home
Tell them of us and say
For your tomorrow
We gave our today

The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth,
and all people, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
come down upon us and remain with us always.

All **Amen**

***Please note there will be a retiring collection
for the Royal British Legion***



Copyright acknowledgment (where not already indicated above):
Confession and Absolution © Jubilate Hymns

Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000

Rubric: The minister may say © The Archbishops' Council 2002

CCLI license 277595

Front cover image: Farrinni on Unsplash

Back cover image: Henry Be on Unsplash