



# **ALL SOULS MEMORIAL SERVICE**



**Sunday 1st of November 4pm 2020**

**A time to remember loved ones**



## Welcome and Introduction

In the name of Christ,  
who died and was raised by the glory of the Father,  
we welcome you:

grace, mercy and peace be with you all:

**All**      **and also with you.**

We gather to remember those whom we love but see no longer, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our praises to the Father.

God of all life, present and eternal  
we come to you in our need,  
we come in our brokenness  
we come with gratitude  
some of us come with loose ends  
we have not been able to tie up.  
We may not know why you have led us here,  
but we know you have promised never to turn us away.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**All**      **A light no darkness can quench.**

## FIRST READING - Psalm 23

Reader    For the gift of his holy word

**All**      **Thanks be to God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls:  
you uphold us in life and sustain us in death:  
to you be glory and praise for ever!

For the darkness of this age is passing away  
as Christ the bright and morning star  
brings to his saints the light of life.  
As you give light to those in darkness  
who walk in the shadow of death,  
so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants,  
that death may be for them the gate to life  
and to unending fellowship with you;  
where with your saints you live and reign  
one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## **SECOND READING - John 6: 37-40**

Reader For the gift of his holy word  
**All Thanks be to God.**

## **SHORT REFLECTION**

Light a light for those you want to remember;  
Light a light for hope;  
Light a light as a prayer beyond words;  
Light a candle for those we have had to let go  
Take your time, we have time enough tonight.

But first let us pray

God of all life,  
here and beyond,  
life beyond death;  
God of many names  
reaching out through beliefs and traditions  
and, sometimes, despite these things;

God reaching out  
let your spirit move among us.  
Lift our burdens;  
let our hearts be lightened.  
May your suffering people find peace  
and may those who mourn know they are blessed in you.  
**Amen.**

*You are invited to switch on your candle for a particular person or situation which is on your heart tonight.*

### ***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION***

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Heavenly Father, knowing that you love us,  
we come to you with our needs and concerns.  
We bring to your love,  
our desire for a deeper trust and hope in you  
and a clearer understanding of your will for us.

**All Lord, you are our hope and our strength.**

We bring to your love our journeys here on earth  
that your Holy Spirit may lead us into holiness and truth,  
until, with our loved ones, we come to share  
in your eternal banquet in heaven.

**Lord, you are our hope and our strength.**

We bring to your love all who mourn.  
Give them a sure confidence in your loving care,  
that casting all their sorrows on you,  
they may know the consolation of your love.

**Lord, you are our hope and our strength.**

We bring to your love  
all those who we remember tonight,  
the poor, the lost, the victims of war and aggression,  
those who are hungry and thirsty,  
those who live in fear and oppression,  
and we remember by name family and friends  
who are with you in the peace and joy  
of your eternal kingdom.

*(Here a list of those to be remembered by name will be read.)*

**Lord, you are our hope and our strength.**

We bring ourselves to your love.  
Help us in the midst of everything  
we cannot understand,  
to know and cherish your great love for us,  
your great gift of forgiveness,  
and the joy of new life here and in eternity.

**Lord, you are our hope and our strength.**

**We put our trust in you.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us  
let us pray in faith and trust.

**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.**

## CLOSING PRAYERS AND RESPONSE

Watch now, dear Lord,  
with those who wake or watch or weep tonight.  
Give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ,  
rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones,  
soothe your suffering ones, pity your afflicted ones,  
shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake.

**Amen.** *(A prayer of St Augustine)*

We ask for the love of God  
**and the messages of angels**

The laughter of Jesus  
**and the stories of the saints**

The power of the spirit  
**and the strong hands of friends**

To bless us on our journey  
**and lead us safely home.**  
**Amen.**

## BLESSING

May Christ the good shepherd  
enfold you with love,  
fill you with peace,  
and lead you in hope,  
to the end of your days;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**