



**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP TO COMMEMORATE  
THE CENTENARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF  
WORLD WAR 1**

**The War Memorial and  
St James' Church, Buxworth  
Sunday August 3rd, 2014**

***Welcome to St James' Church*** for this special commemoration of a time when our village community began to change dramatically. As young men went out to fight for what was expected to be only a few months, others managed at home without them. The losses and traumas of the years of war undoubtedly left their mark. Perspectives do change when violence hits home. Perhaps values of simplicity, forgiveness and family life come even more to the fore.

*This morning we come with our thoughts of how it might have been 100 years ago. We come with the same needs of hope, courage and peace, for the places in our world where war and the everyday hurts of relationships go on today; we acknowledge our need of patience, forgiveness, generosity and openness to others if war is to be averted again; we bring our thankfulness for a safe and comfortable life in our village community; and we look to Jesus Christ, who knew suffering and pain, faced rejection and hatred, and speaks of hope, light and loving new beginnings.*

*It was written in the Buxton Advertiser on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1914- 'We are ready for war.' On this occasion we recall those who waited, some in fear, others flushed with excitement at the thoughts of an impending battle, as they heard the news of the declaration of war.*

*We shall be using some of the resource material prepared by representatives of Westminster Abbey who have created the commemorative event to be televised on August 4th. So we share in some small ways with those who meet at one of our foremost national symbols of Christian faith*

*The visual symbols of light and dark will be a focal point, as we remember the lamps going out over Europe, but the hope of brightness to come*

## AT THE CENOTAPH

### WELCOME AND PRAYER

### THE FALLEN

*The names of those who died during WWI will be read*

### ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

*The traditional exhortation will be spoken, with the response:*

***‘We will remember them’***

*A single wreath of rosemary and white flowers, as symbols of remembrance and peace, will be laid. and a prayer will be said.*

### SHORT BIBLE READING – ‘God’s covenant of Peace’

**Ezekiel 36, verses 24-28**

**A PLEDGE OF PEACE** *please join in saying together:*

**Lord God, Father of all,  
we pledge ourselves  
to serve you and this neighbourhood,  
to bring relief to all who are in need,  
and comfort to the sad, lonely, and distressed;  
Keep us ever mindful of the struggles  
and achievements of former generations,  
and of this place where we make our home,  
now, and in the days to come. Amen.**

### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

*Please make your way into church directly for the continuation of the service*

## IN CHURCH

### INTRODUCTION

### HYMN

Praise to the Lord,  
The almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him,  
for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
Brothers and sisters, draw near,  
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,  
who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
Surely His goodness  
and mercy here daily attend thee:  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do,  
Who with His love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord,  
who when tempests their warfare are waging,  
Who, when the elements  
madly around thee are raging,  
Biddeth them cease,  
Turneth their fury to peace,  
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

Praise to the Lord,  
who, when darkness of sin is abounding,  
Who, when the godless  
do triumph, all virtue confounding,  
Sheddeth His light,  
Chaseth the horrors of night,  
Saints with His mercy surrounding.

Praise to the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen  
Sound from His people again:  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

## **BIDDING PRAYER**

### **CONFESSION**

*After a word of introduction we join together, saying:*

**Most merciful God,  
gathered in the light of your Christ  
we confess our share in the world's pride,  
its greed and its despair, its violence and its darkness.  
Free us from the tyranny of sin,  
fill us with your peace,  
and lead us from death to life, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Words of reassurance of forgiveness are spoken*

### **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.**

## HISTORICAL REFLECTION ON AN ASPECT OF LOCAL LIFE

### POEM            *'1914'* by Wilfred Owen

War broke: and now the Winter of the world  
With perishing great darkness closes in.  
The foul tornado, centred at Berlin,  
Is over all the width of Europe whirled,  
Rending the sails of progress. Rent or furled  
Are all Art's ensigns. Verse wails. Now begin  
Famines of thought and feeling. Love's wine's thin.  
The grain of human Autumn rots, down-hurled.

For after Spring had bloomed in early Greece,  
And Summer blazed her glory out with Rome,  
An Autumn softly fell, a harvest home,  
A slow grand age, and rich with all increase.  
But now, for us, wild Winter, and the need  
Of sowings for new Spring, and blood for seed.

### HYMN

*written by Ernest Marsland, Chinley and sung at the service to mark the unveiling of the Roll of Honour on Stubbins Lane, 1917. Sung here to the tune 'Diademata'*

Up to thy heavenly throne, we lift our hearts to thee.  
Eternal Father, guard our land, the land of liberty.  
For us our forebears blest, they died to set us free  
And now again our sons have gone- God send them victory.

Again we hear the call- "I gave my life to thee"  
O whisper to each dying one- "Remember Calvary"  
O God, our sailors guard, out on the mighty deep  
And fill each heart with peace as they their silent watches keep.

Each broken heart and home, infinite Saviour, heal!  
And to the maimed, the halt, the blind, thy boundless love reveal.  
Then when on yonder shore, from care and sorrow free  
We'll lift our joyful hearts and sing through all Eternity.

**BIBLE READING** *Joel chapter 2, verses 1-4, 12-13*

**ADDRESS**

**PICTURES AND MUSIC FOR REFLECTION**

*The lights are dimmed as we think of the darker side of humanity in war*

**HYMN**

God is love: let heaven adore Him;  
God is love: let earth rejoice;  
Let creation sing before Him  
and exalt him with one voice.  
He who laid the earth's foundation,  
He who spread the heavens above,  
He who breathes through all creation,  
He is love, eternal love.

God is love: and he enfoldeth  
all the world in one embrace  
With unfailing grasp he holdeth  
every child of every race.  
and when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
all the sorrow all the aching,  
wrings with pain the heart of God.

God is love: and though with blindness  
sin afflicts the souls of men,  
God's eternal loving-kindness  
holds and guides them even then.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
o'er us final triumph gain;  
God is love so love forever  
o'er the universe must reign.

**POEM**      **'Oh! You who sleep in Flanders Fields'**  
*written in 1918 by Moina Michael*

Oh! You who sleep in Flanders Fields,  
Sleep sweet-to rise anew!  
We caught the torch yo threw  
And holding high, we keep the Faith  
With all who died.

We cherish too the poppy red  
That grows on fields where valour led;  
It seems to signal to the skies  
That blood of heroes never dies  
But lends a lustre to the red  
Of the flower that blooms above the dead  
In Flanders Fields.

**BIBLE READING**      *Letter to the Romans chapter 8, verses 31 to the end*

**MUSIC** *'Silent Noon'* – composed by Ernest Farrar, based on a poem by D.G. Rossetti. Sung by Stephen Varcoe. The song reflects a picture of a peaceful English landscape. Ernest Farrar Studied music at the Royal College of Music but was enlisted into the Grenadier Guards in 1915 and was later killed on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1918 at the Battle of Epeny, Ronssoy, France.

## **Silent Noon**

Your hands lie open in the long fresh grass-  
The finger-points look through like rosy blooms.  
Your eyes smile peace. The pasture gleams and glooms  
'neath billowing clouds that scatter and amass.  
All round our nezt, far as the eye can pass  
Are golden kingcup fields with silver edge  
Where the cow-parsley skirts the hawthorn hedge.  
'Tis visible silence, still as the hour glass.

Deep in the sunsearched growths the dragonfly  
Hangs like a blue thread loosened from the sky-  
So this winged hour is dropt to u from above.  
Oh! Clasp we to our hearts, for deathless dower,  
This close-companioned inarticulate hour  
When twofold silence was the song of love.

## **PRAYERS**

### **CONTEMPORARY REFLECTION**

#### **HYMN**

**LORD, FOR THE YEARS** Your love has kept and guided,  
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,  
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:  
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,  
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,  
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:  
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,  
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:  
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,  
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world where men disown and doubt You,  
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,  
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without You:  
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us –  
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,  
Past put behind us, for the future take us:  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

***The lights are dimmed whilst words from John's gospel are read.***

*A candle is left in recognition of those who died in each World War and in other conflicts and in remembrance of those individuals at Home who showed their own courage and love to continue in everyday life. The light is a sign of hope for each future day.*

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***You are invited to stay for refreshments***

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