

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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November 8th, 2020 11 am

Service of Remembrance and Commitment to Peace

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Dr. Burke. Grace and Peace to you all.

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

Oblivious to the ending of her own days, she planted tulip bulbs under dark skies in dying October: calmly plotting the resurrection.

E. B. White

THE GATHERING

*Please rise in body or in spirit for sections marked with an asterisk.

*Processional: *Home Fires/The Longest Day/ Old Soldiers Never Die/ Highway of Heroes*

Piper: Lewis Morgan

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The measure of a people's heart is this: Do we remember the sacrifices of the past?

People: Do we work for peace in the present? Do we speak of hope for the future?

Leader: Today we stop and remember:

People: The legacy of the past: the courage of many; the price of peace; the freedom.

Leader: Today we stop and remember that peace still takes courage. Let us pray:

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Leader: On this day of remembering, O God, we ask forgiveness for

those qualities in us that make war possible.

People: We acknowledge that there are times when we have not sought justice;

Leader: times when we do not seek the ways of peace;

People: times when we believe our way, to be the only way.

Leader: times when we harden our spirits to the suffering of others.

ALL: Forgive us, O God.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: There is nothing – absolutely nothing - that can separate us from God's love! In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are forgiven, our every broken-ness made whole.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: And now we pray in the way of the Prince of Peace, who taught his friends to pray together, saying:

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.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Reading of names of those who made the supreme sacrifice & Ringing of the Bell: William Elderkin

Placing of the Wreath of Remembrance: John van Abbema

Reading: John McCrae's *In Flanders Fields/ Au Champ d'Honneur*: Sharon Noel

Act of Remembrance - Rev. Dr. Kelly

Leader: 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.

***Silent Remembrance**

(as you are able, we will stand for the time of silence. Bill will ring the bell to begin the 2 minutes of silence. He will ring it again, to end the silence.)

Lament: *Flowers of the Forest* **piper:** Lewis Morgan

Reading: Bill Elderkin: *Women At Munition Making* by Mary Gabrielle Collins

MUSIC: *God! As With Silent Hearts*

T H E W O R D O F G O D

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 78: 1-7

SERMON: *That Which We Bury: Audacious Acts and Flagrant Hope*

MUSIC: *O God, Our Help In Ages Past*

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER LITANY FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

God of Love, save us from weak resignation to violence.

Teach us that restraint is the highest expression of power;

That thoughtfulness and tenderness are marks of the strong.

Help us to love our enemies, not by recounting their wrongs,

But by remembering our own brokenness, and by recalling our kinship to one another.

May we never for a moment forget that they are fed by the same

food,

Hurt by the same weapons,

And have children for whom they have the same high hopes.

Grant us the ability to find joy and strength not in the strident call to arms,

But to join all creation in striving for justice and truth.

May we honour those who have lived through wars, and who yet bear scars
in their bodies and spirits.

And grant them peace.

Remind us again, O God, of your call upon our lives.

Light us each day with hope, that we may walk in your truth and be love in
your name.

O God, hear our prayer. Amen.

[Adapted from a prayer prepared by a Christian, a Jew, and a Muslim, for the
World Council of Churches]

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: Go Now In Peace Besig/Price**

Go now in peace, never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others, so all the world can see,

God will be there, watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

A-a-men. A-a-men. A-a-a-men.

***Postlude by Piper: Lewis Morgan**