



Prayers

The response is **God give peace**

An act of commitment

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men and women 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 the nations.

Lord God our Father, we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind, in the cause of peace, for the relief of 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. Amen.

The Blessing

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

Amen

A service to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe

Heaviness may endure for a night
But joy comes in the morning

God has been our refuge and our strength
A present help in time of trouble.

Dear friends, we have come together on this day to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe in, when the sounds of war fell silent on this continent.

We come together conscious of our need for God's forgiveness for the sin and the desire to dominate others that leads to conflict between people, and war between nations.

And as we remember the many soldiers, sailors, and airmen who gave their lives restraining evil and opposing tyranny, so we also come in thanksgiving for the years of peace that the nations of Europe have enjoyed since the Second World War. We gather joyfully today, as those who gathered on that first Victory day, glad of each other's company, and grateful for the laughter and love that follows times of sadness and loss.

But above all things, let us pray that God's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven, as we join our voices together and say:

**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.**

Hymn

I give you a new commandment:
love one another, love one another;
as I have loved, as I have loved you,
so you are to love one another.
I give you a new commandment:
Love one another, love one another.

If there is this love among you,
then all will know, all will know that you are my disciples,
that you are my disciples, that you are my disciples.

*Peter Aston (b.1938)
John 13.34-35*

Old Testament Reading

Micah 4. 1-4

God's promised time of peace

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 5. 16-21 *The call to be reconciled*

Hymn

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.

Refrain

And I will trust in you alone.
And I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.

Refrain

3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

Refrain

Stuart Townend, based on Psalm 23
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Address

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