



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

Choral Evensong



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

For the 100th Anniversary of the
Royal British Legion in Kent

26th June 2022

5.30 pm

Nave

Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service



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The Royal British Legion in Kent

In 1921 the British Legion was formed, amalgamating four charities that had been set up to look after and serve the needs of those returning from the First World War who were injured and needed support. In 1922, the County of Kent received their Certificate of Registration acknowledging them as a County of the British Legion. Move forward one hundred years and the County now celebrates its own centenary.

The Royal British Legion in Kent has 68 Branches across the County in villages, towns and cities with over 7,000 members. Over the past 100 years, Kent has been proud of its Royal British Legion volunteer members who have worked, and continue to work tirelessly throughout the year to support not only the veterans, both young and old, who have served their Monarch and country through the two World Wars and conflicts since, but their families and carers.

The motto of the Royal British Legion is "Service not Self" and here in Kent our members put themselves first to help, not only those beneficiaries who have served but also those who serve our Country today. Whether it is attending a funeral in Medway as a Standard Bearer to ensure that the Veteran is acknowledged for the service they have given their country or holding a Coffee and Camaraderie group in Dover for example, our members are always on hand to give support where needed. We visit schools and youth groups to talk about our work and the history of the Legion. Across the county many of our Branches have formed affiliations with these schools and groups and continue throughout the year to work with them so that the message of Remembrance that the Legion stands for continues to grow in our communities and not be forgotten. It is the duty of the Royal British Legion, not just in this County, but across all Counties, to ensure that our legacy of remembering those who serve and have served continues with our younger generations.

During the recent pandemic our members stepped up and supported the beneficiaries with phone calls, delivering food parcels, prescription runs, offering a safe taxi service to those who still needed to get to medical appointments. During the first lockdown the Royal British Legion made over 55,000 phone calls nationally to beneficiaries and members. Here in Kent over 5,000 of those 55,000 phone calls came from our Branch volunteers. The important support and work that our Branches provide continued throughout.

The Royal British Legion are grateful for the hard work and dedication of our Branches and Branch members here in Kent and we look forward to the next 100 years and continuing that work through 'Service not Self'.

Richard Cast
County Chairman
Royal British Legion, Kent

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as the clergy procession enters the Nave

Remain standing to sing

Hymn

During the hymn the Standards are received in turn



Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

²O Saviour, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid the rage didst sleep;
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

³O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
who bad'st its angry tumult cease,
and gavest light and life and peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

⁴O Trinity of love and power,
our brethren shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
and ever let there rise to Thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Words: William Whiting (1825-78)

Tune: MELITA

AM 623

*Remain standing as a welcome is offered, then as the Cantor and choir sing the **Preces***

O Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Music: Philip Radcliffe (1905-86)

Sit

Introduction *Richard Cast, Royal British Legion County Chairman*

Psalm 60

O God, thou hast cast us out, and scattered us abroad :
thou hast also been displeased; O turn thee unto us again.

Thou hast moved the land, and divided it :
heal the sores thereof, for it shaketh.

Thou hast shewed thy people heavy things :
thou hast given us a drink of deadly wine.

Thou hast given a token for such as fear thee :
that they may triumph because of the truth.

Therefore were thy beloved delivered :
help me with thy right hand, and hear me.

God hath spoken in his holiness, I will rejoice, and divide Sichem :
and mete out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is mine, and Manasses is mine :
Ephraim also is the strength of my head; Judah is my law-giver;

Moab is my wash-pot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe :
Philistia, be thou glad of me.

Who will lead me into the strong city :
who will bring me into Edom?

Hast not thou cast us out, O God :
wilt not thou, O God, go out with our hosts?

O be thou our help in trouble :
for vain is the help of man.

Through God will we do great acts :
for it is he that shall tread down our enemies.

Stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 1.1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, 'My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'

Stand as the choir sings

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) in B flat

Sit

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 6.10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Stand as the choir sings

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;
Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) in B flat

Sit or kneel for

Prayers

Remember, O Lord, all those who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of resurrection to eternal life, especially the Officers, Men and Women of our Sea, Land and Air Forces, to whom it was given to lay down their lives for the cause of freedom and justice. In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished, give them rest, O Lord, the lover of all humanity. Grant this for thine only Son, Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: so mightily spread abroad your spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one creator; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O Lord, who never failest to help and govern them who thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love: Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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**

Sit as the choir sings

The Anthem My soul, there is a country

My soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skilful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger
Sweet Peace sits crowned with smiles
And One, born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious friend
And, O my soul, awake!
Did in pure love descend
To die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flow'r of Peace,
The Rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges,
For none can thee secure
But One who never changes,
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

Words: Henry Vaughan (1622-95)

Music: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

Stand to sing

Hymn *During which the Standards are returned
The Standard Bearers remain in position*



I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

²And there's another country I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

Words: Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice (1859-1918)

Tune: THAXTED

AM 579

Remain standing for the

Act of Remembrance

The Act of Remembrance is introduced and standards are dipped

The bell of HMS Canterbury is struck six times and the Last Post is sounded

All remain standing for the Two Minute Silence

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.

We will remember them.

The Reveille is sounded

When you go home, tell them of us, and say
For your tomorrow we gave our today.

(Words taken from the Kohima Epitaph)

The Blessing

The National Anthem

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save The Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save The Queen!

*The Standards are raised and the standard bearers march out followed
by the procession.*

Organ Voluntary Pomp and Circumstance Military March no. 1 in D
– *Edward Elgar (1857-1934), arranged Edwin Lemare (1865-1934)*