St Mary's Church, Walkley



The Church on the Road:
Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God

Remembrance Sunday

8th November 2026

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

Officiant: Kath, Reader at St Mary's
Reflection: Kath, Reader at St Mary's
Team Warden: David

The Opening Hymn

We stand and we sing our opening hymn. Children aged 8 and under are welcome to join our Diddy Disciples taking place in the hall. Please gather at the back of church. If you are aged 4 or under, please bring an adult with you. For this week only you'll be out for the whole service.

St Anne

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne,
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
will bear us all away;
we fade and vanish, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Issac Watts, 1674-1748

CCLI licence number 290314

The Preparation

Minister Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

All **And also with you.**

The minister introduces the service.

Minister We worship God,
who is good and just and true.
He created and sustains the world;
and loves us, though we have failed him.

We remember
all who have given their lives in the struggle for justice and peace,
all who suffer in war and conflict,
and all who live in terror.

We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith
for reconciliation between the nations,
that all people may live together in freedom, justice and peace.

All **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Minister Let us confess to God
the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil divisions and hatreds.
Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for his children.

We keep a time of silence.

Minister Lord God our Father, maker of all:
we praise you for your great work creating the world.
Give us the skill to build a society where all may thrive,
and forgive us when we use your gifts poorly.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God,
Prince of Peace:
as we thank you for your life among us,
forgive us when we fail to live together as one family.
Help us to dwell together in love and peace,
seeking one another's welfare,
bearing one another's burdens,
and sharing one another's joys.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Minister Holy Spirit,
Lord of grace,
fulfiller of humanity:
give us strength to face the future,
and wisdom to learn from the past
as we remember those who have given their lives
in the service of justice and peace.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister The almighty and merciful Lord
grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Collect

Minister God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Word of God

The First Reading: Psalm 139. 1 - 18

A reading from the Psalms.

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You mark out my journeys and my resting place
and are acquainted with all my ways.
For there is not a word on my tongue,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so high that I cannot attain it.
Where can I go then from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.
If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me
and the light around me turn to night,'
Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.
For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;
already in your book were all my members written,
As day by day they were fashioned
when as yet there was none of them.
How deep are your counsels to me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!
If I count them, they are more in number than the sand,
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading: Ephesians 6. 10 - 17

A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

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.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The Hymn

We stand and turn to face the war memorials as we sing:

Melita

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.

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

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
upon the waters dark and rude,
who bid their angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confession, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
our comrade’s shield in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them whereso'er they go,
and ever let there rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

William Whiting, 1825-1878

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The Act of Remembrance

Minister We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow
those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present,
have been given and taken away.

Individuals may be remembered.

Minister 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.**

The Last Post is sounded.

We keep silence.

Wreaths are laid.

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

Minister Ever-living God
we remember those whom you have gathered
from the storm of war into the peace of your presence;
may that same peace
calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the nations,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Hymn

We remain standing and turn to face the front of church as we sing:

Blaenwern

By a monument of marble,
or a simple wooden cross,
here we gather to remember
sacrifice and tragic loss.
Blood-red poppy petals flutter,
each a symbol for a life,
drifting in a crimson curtain,
shadow of our constant strife.

Solemn silence now surrounds us
as we stand in memory.
Why must factions stir up conflict?
This eternal mystery
troubles hearts and stirs the conscience,
urges us to think again;
face the curse of confrontation,
yet reduce this searing pain.

For the sound of war still thunders
through our planet, on this day.
Every hour new victims suffer,
even as we meet to pray.
God, we need your help and guidance
in our constant search for peace.
Move us on to new solutions
as we pray that wars may cease.

Marjorie Dobson, b.1940
Words: © Marjorie Dobson
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The Prayers of Intercession

We sit or kneel.

Intercessor May God give peace,
All **God give peace.**

Intercessor O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those whose memory we cherish,
and those whose names we will never know.
Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,
and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.
As we honour the past,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Minister Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

We stand.

The Act of Commitment

Minister 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.

All **Lord God our Father,**
we pledge ourselves
to serve you and all of humanity,
in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and 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 Closing Hymn

We remain standing and we sing:

Monks Gate

All who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster,
let them in constancy
follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
shall make them once relent
their first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset them round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound -
their strength the more is.
No foes shall stay their might,
though they with giants fight:
they will make good their right
to be true pilgrims.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
us with thy Spirit,
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away!
I'll fear not what they say,
I'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936
Music arranged: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
CCLI licence number 290314

The Blessing

Minister Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honour everyone;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.

All **Amen.**

We remain standing and we sing.

God save our gracious King!
Long live our noble King!
God save the King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King.

Coffee and tea are served after the service, all are welcome.

If you would like to provide feedback on this service please speak a member of the Worship Group, Kath, Catherine, Janet or David. You can also email us worship@stmaryswalkley.co.uk

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

SCAN ME