



# Bomber Command Act of Remembrance

Saturday 31 October 2020, 1100

Bomber Command Memorial, Green Park, London



**Royal Air Force  
Benevolent Fund**

*Officiant: Rev (Sqn Ldr) Chrissie Lacey, Station Chaplain, RAF High Wycombe*

## **Bidding**

As we give thanks for God's great works, we remember those who served in Bomber Command and subsequent formations who have lived and died in his service, and in the service of others; we pray for all who suffer through war, and are in need; we ask for his help and blessing that we may do his will, and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King.

## **Reading**

*From Psalm 103.*

*Read by Warrant Officer Bill Gould*

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those who fear him. For he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But, the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him.

## **Act of Remembrance**

We remember before God all who served in Bomber Command, on the ground and in the air, and all those effected, especially all those who died, during the bombing campaign to cripple the intentions of those who intended to harm.

We remember those who have served in the Bomber role subsequently in theatres of war both far and wide, and who did not return.

We remember those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure.

❁ THE LAST POST ❁

❁ ONE MINUTE'S SILENCE ❁

❁ REVEILLE ❁

*Trumpeter of the Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment*

*(The Trumpeter plays by permission of the Air Force Board of the Defence Council)*

## The Exhortation

*Then Shall the Chief of the Air Staff say;*

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.

✿ WREATHS TO BE LAID AT THE MEMORIAL ✿

## Collect

O God, our heavenly Father, we give you thanks for all who served in the Royal Air Force, particularly those in Bomber and Fighter Command. We recognise the joint efforts of the crews and individuals who with courage and valour fought for and defended freedom. Grant them the light of your eternal presence, where there is no conflict or strife, but harmony, peace and rest everlasting. And for the now and future Royal Air Force, those who are, and will, stand on the shoulders of the giants before them, Lord, bless them with discernment, compassion and conviction, to serve loyally and grow in courage; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

*All:*

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.

*Then shall the Chaplain say:*

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the wonder and joy of flight, that we can 'mount up with wings like eagles'. Give us grace to use your gift wisely and skilfully, and guide and guard the Royal Air Force that it may continue to play its part in safeguarding all that we hold dear. Guide and bless our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, our Homeland and our Commonwealth. Grant us peace, and give us courage and the spirit of self-sacrifice that we, too, may serve our day and generation.

Amen.

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good: render to no man evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honour all men;  
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 upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

*The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund is the RAF's leading welfare charity, providing financial, practical and emotional support to all members of the RAF family. We are proud and privileged to be the official guardian of the Bomber Command Memorial, which stands as a fitting tribute to the 55,573 Bomber Command crew who lost their lives in the Second World War. It is our honour to preserve the memorial for future generations so that the noble sacrifice of those who lost their lives in Bomber Command will always be remembered.*



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