



The Royal British Legion  
**FLANDERS FIELD OF POPPIES**

**DEDICATION**  
Order of Service

Ramparts close to Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial  
Friday 8 November 2019 at 1100



The Service is conducted by The Reverend Stephen Murray  
Chaplain to The Royal British Legion Ypres Branch  
Chaplain of St John's Anglican Church, Ghent

With grateful thanks to the Buglers of the Last Post Association

This Service was organised by

The Royal British Legion Ypres Branch  
Grote Markt 13  
8900 IEPER

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## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

“The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “When the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain.” Isaiah 11:1-9

Just over one hundred years ago, the guns fell silent. The fighting neared its end. The great darkness was over. A new era could begin. A new light shone out. And a new hope for humanity dawned. Thanks to their sacrifice.

We meet together in the presence of God to bless and dedicate these Poppies, to honour those who fought and served in times of war at all times, and in all places, to remember with thanksgiving those soldiers, British, Belgian, Commonwealth and their allies, who perished in Flanders Fields during the Great War. May these poppies serve as a constant reminder of the futility of war, and as inspiration in our commitment to the task of building a society in which all people may live in peace. **Amen.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace:

For the service men and women who have died in war, each one remembered by and known to God;

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss;

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;

For civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity;

For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace.

Let us recall before God those who have given their lives in the cause of freedom and in the service of others, especially those known to us.

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. **Amen.**

#### **BIBLE READING** (Matthew 5: 3-10)

Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Jezus zei: 'Gelukkig wie nederig van hart zijn, want voor hen is het koninkrijk van de hemel. Gelukkig de treurenden, want zij zullen getroost worden. Gelukkig de zachtmoedigen, want zij zullen het land bezitten. Gelukkig wie hongeren en dorsten naar gerechtigheid, want zij zullen verzadigd worden. Gelukkig de barmhartigen, want zij zullen barmhartigheid ondervinden. Gelukkig wie zuiver van hart zijn, want zij zullen God zien. Gelukkig de vredestichters, want zij zullen kinderen van God genoemd worden. Gelukkig wie vanwege de gerechtigheid vervolgd worden, want voor hen is het koninkrijk van de hemel.'

## POEM: IN FLANDERS FIELDS

by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies  
grow  
In Flanders fields.

*In Vlaamse velden klappen rozen open  
Tussen witte kruisjes, rij op rij, Die onze  
plaats hier merken, wijl in 't zwerk, De  
leeuweriken fluitend werken,  
onverhoord, Verstomd door het  
gebulder op de grond.*

*Wij zijn de doden. Zo-even leefden wij.  
Wij dronken dauw. De zon zagen wij  
zakken. Wij kusten en werden gekust.  
Nu rusten wij, In Vlaamse velden.*

*Toe: trekt gij ons krakeel aan met de  
vijand. Aan u passeren wij, met zwakke  
hand, de fakkel. Houd hem hoog. Weest  
gij de helden. Laat de doden, Die wij zijn  
niet stikken of wij vinden slaap noch  
Vrede - ook al klappen zoveel rozen  
open, In Vlaamse velden.*

## THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Let us remember before God and commend to his sure keeping:  
those who have died for their country in war; those whose graves  
are known and those whose graves are known only to God, and  
whose memories we treasure; and all who have lived and died in  
the service of humanity.

### The Exhortation

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 Last Post**

## **The Silence**

## **Reveille**

## **The Kohima Epitaph**

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

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: Hear our prayer and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

In whatever language we are most comfortable, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name, Thy  
kingdom come, Thy will be done  
in earth as it is in heaven. Give us  
this day our daily bread; And  
forgive us our trespasses, As we  
forgive them that trespass  
against us; And lead us not into  
temptation, But deliver us from  
evil, For thine is the kingdom, the  
power, and the glory, Forever  
and ever. Amen**

**Onze Vader, die in de hemel zijt,  
Uw naam worde geheiligd, Uw  
rijk kome, Uw wil geschiede op  
aarde zoals in de hemel. Geef ons  
heden ons dagelijks brood en  
vergeef ons onze schulden, zoals  
ook wij vergeven aan onze  
schuldenaren, en breng ons niet  
in beproeving, maar verlos ons  
van het kwade. Want van U is het  
koninkrijk, en de kracht en de  
heerlijkheid tot in eeuwigheid.  
Amen.**

## **PLANTING OF THE POPPIES**

Those who wish can now plant their poppies.

## **THE BLESSING OF THE POPPIES**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we bless and dedicate these poppies, that they may be a sign to all of service and compassion commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ, which are also the hallmarks of His kingdom. May be to all a symbol of the selfless sacrifice made by countless men and women here in the fields of Flanders and elsewhere a century ago. May their struggle for peace inspire us anew to take up their cause of justice, freedom and peace. We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE ACT OF COMMITMENT**

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

**All We will.**

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

**All We will.**

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

**All We will.**

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by your love: May we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, And live lives of justice, courage and mercy; now and forever. **Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING**

The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good, that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen**