

Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Wimbledon

A Thanksgiving Service  
for the Dedication  
of the Warrior Chapel

9<sup>th</sup> January 2021

A THANKS OFFERING TO ALMIGHTY GOD  
AND A TRIBUTE TO THE MEN OF WIMBLEDON WHO  
DIED THAT ENGLAND MIGHT LIVE  
(1921)

**Welcome and Introduction**

*by Revd Nils Bersweden (Associate Vicar)*

**Hymn**

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
and the precious corner-stone,  
who, the two walls underlying,  
bound in each, binds both in one,  
holy Sion's help for ever,  
and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,  
dearly loved by God on high,  
in exultant jubilation  
pours perpetual melody;  
God the one, in threefold glory,  
singing everlastingly.

To this temple, where we call thee,  
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;  
with thy wonted loving-kindness,  
hear thy people as they pray;  
and thy fullest benediction  
shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants  
gifts of grace by prayer to gain;  
here to have and hold for ever,  
those good things their prayers obtain,  
and hereafter, in thy glory,  
with thy blessed ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,  
laud and honour to the Son,  
laud and honour to the Spirit,  
ever three and ever one,  
one in love, and one in splendour,  
while unending ages run. Amen.

*The officiating priest standing before the Altar shall say*

*Let us pray*

Blessed be Thy name O Lord,  
that it hath pleased Thee to put into the hearts of Thy servants  
to adorn this Church for Thy honour and worship,  
and for the ministry of Thy Holy Word and Sacraments.  
Accept the work of our hands,  
and grant that all who now or hereafter  
shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work,  
may ever shew forth their thankfulness to Thee for the same,  
to the glory of Thy blessed Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## A Reading from 1 Kings 8.22-23, 41-43

*to be read by Teresa Stileman (it was in the memory of her relative Gerald Cornock-Taylor that the Warrior Chapel was dedicated in 1921)*

<sup>22</sup>Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. <sup>23</sup>He said, 'O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart.

<sup>41</sup>When a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name – <sup>42</sup>for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm – when a foreigner comes and prays towards this house, <sup>43</sup>then hear in heaven your dwelling-place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.'

### Psalm 122 (*said*)

I was glad when they said unto me :  
We will go into the house of the Lord.  
Our feet shall stand in thy gates : O Jerusalem.  
Jerusalem is built as a city : that is at unity in itself.  
For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord :  
to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.  
For there is the seat of judgement :  
even the seat of the house of David.  
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem : they shall prosper that love thee.  
Peace be within thy walls : and plenteousness within thy palaces.  
For my brethren and companions' sakes : I will wish thee prosperity.  
Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God :  
I will seek to do thee good.

## A Reading from Wisdom 4.10-11,13-15

*to be read by Mary Ann Turnbull who has compiled the accompanying 'History of the Warrior Chapel'*

There were some who pleased God and were loved by him, and while living among sinners were taken up. They were caught up so that evil might not change their understanding or guile deceive their souls. Being perfected in a short time, they fulfilled long years; for their souls were pleasing to the Lord, therefore he took them quickly from the midst of wickedness. Yet the peoples saw and did not understand, or take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are with his elect, and that he watches over his holy ones.

### Hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him;  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

*The hymn being ended, the officiating priest shall say:*

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Enter, O Lord, this House, we beseech Thee, and within the hearts of Thy faithful people establish for Thyself an everlasting habitation. **Amen.**

Today, in the faith of Jesus Christ and in memory of the men of Wimbledon who died that England might live, we give thanks for the Centenary of the dedication of this Warrior Chapel to the Glory of God, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

Let pray

O God, Who hallowest the places that Thou hast chosen to set Thy Name there, to pour down Thy grace upon this sanctuary of remembrance, that it, being built to Thy glory, may continue to be sanctified by Thine abiding presence through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Remember, O Lord, all those, the brave and the true, who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of Resurrection to Eternal Life. In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far banished, give them rest O Lord, Thou Lover of souls. **Amen.**

*The Choir shall sing the Contakion.*

*Then shall follow the thanksgiving for the dedication of the Altar and Screens, by  
the Bishop, saying :*

In the Faith of Jesus Christ  
we give thanks for the dedication of this Altar,  
and in memory of His servants Llewellyn Wood Longstaff  
and Gerald Oldroyd Cornock Taylor,  
for the dedication of this Screen  
to the Glory of God, in the Name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

O Almighty God, Builder and Maker of the City  
that hath foundations; preserve the souls of all  
Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear,  
and continue to accept these offerings made to beautify  
this House to the glory of Thy Holy Name ;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Hymn**

Let saints on earth in concert sing  
with those whose work is done;  
for all the servants of our King  
in heaven and earth are one.

One family, we dwell in him,  
one Church, above, beneath;  
though now divided by the stream,  
the narrow stream of death.

One army of the living God,  
to his command we bow:  
part of the host have crossed the flood,  
and part are crossing now.

E'en now to their eternal home  
there pass some spirits blest;  
while others to the margin come,  
waiting their call to rest.

Jesus, be thou our constant guide;  
then, when the word is given,  
bid Jordan's narrow stream divide,  
and bring us safe to heaven.

**Excerpts from The Address given by  
the Bishop of Southwark 8<sup>th</sup> January 1921**

**Hymn** 'For all the saints, who from their labours rest.'

For all the saints who from their labours rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest. Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness, still their one true light. Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold. Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine:  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,  
and hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;  
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest:  
sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest. Alleluia!

But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;  
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:  
the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

### **Te Deum Laudamus**

We praise thee, O God :  
we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee : the Father everlasting.  
To thee all Angels cry aloud :  
the heavens and all the powers therein.  
To thee Cherubin and Seraphin : continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy : Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty : of thy glory.  
The glorious company of the Apostles : praise thee.  
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets : praise thee.  
The noble army of Martyrs : praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world :  
doth acknowledge thee;  
The Father : of an infinite Majesty;  
Thine honourable, true : and only Son;  
Also the Holy Ghost : the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory : O Christ  
Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man :  
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death :  
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God : in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come : to be our Judge.  
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants :  
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints : in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people : and bless thine heritage.  
Govern them : and lift them up for ever.  
Day by day : we magnify thee;  
And we worship thy Name : ever world without end.  
Vouchsafe, O Lord : to keep us this day without sin.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us : have mercy upon us.  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us : as our trust is in thee.  
O Lord, in thee have I trusted : let me never be confounded.

### **The Benediction**

God grant to the living grace,  
to the departed rest,  
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all people,  
unity, peace and concord,  
and to us and all God's servants,  
life everlasting;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**Voluntary**