

# **THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

To mark the  
**75th Anniversary**  
of  
**Victory in Europe**

**10th May 2020 at 11 am**  
**All Saints Church, Brixham**

Please be seated by 10.30am

**10.45 am: Arrival of Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant of Devon**

**11.00am: March in of the Colours and Standards**

**11.00am: Address by the Deputy Lieutenant followed by Thanksgiving Service**

**The Presiding Minister is Reverend Stephen Yates**

At this thanksgiving service today we mark the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (Friday the 8th May) with the formal surrender of Germany. The war in the Far East would continue until August 1945 when Japan surrendered.

Over 125 local Brixham people had lost their lives, with many more suffering disablement and bereavement. Over 400,000 people had died nationwide and over 63 million worldwide.

Once VE was declared, the nation held services of thanksgiving throughout the day and evening. At this Sunday service we share the spirit of that rejoicing but also remembrance.

We give thanks for the valour and bravery of the sailors, soldiers, airmen, and civilians who gave their tomorrow for our today.

Today, we mark the 75th Anniversary by praying that the peace they won through victory over cruelty and oppression may be a blessing in our day for Europe and for the whole world.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Participants' responses are in italics

### Minister:

We now remember in silence the sacrifice of those who gave their lives.

A moment of silent reflection is kept.

### Hymn: Abide With Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;  
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grown dim, its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see:  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me!

I need Thy presence every passing hour;  
what but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee:  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Rev. Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

## THE BIDDING

### Minister:

Inspired by the remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, let us pray for the coming of God's reign among us as Jesus himself has taught us all:

### The Lord's Prayer

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.

### A Reading for reconciliation among the nations Micah Chapter 4 V 3-5

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall Judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

### Sermon

Please be seated

Let us give thanks to almighty God for the victory which brought peace to Europe, for the reconciliation of former enemies, and for the task of promoting peace and goodwill among all people.

## The VE Day Speech Of His Majesty King George VI in 1945

*read by Lord Lieutenant of Devon representing Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*

Today we give thanks to almighty God for a great deliverance. Speaking from our Empire's oldest capital city, war-battered but never for one moment daunted or dismayed—speaking from London, I ask you to join with me in that act of thanksgiving.

There is great comfort in the thought that the years of darkness and danger in which the children of our country have grown up are over and, please God, for ever. We shall have failed and the blood of our dearest will have flowed in vain if the victory which they died to win does not lead to a lasting peace, founded on justice and good will.

This is the task to which now honour binds us. In the hour of danger, we humbly committed our cause into the hand of God and he has been our strength and shield. Let us thank him for his mercies and in this hour of victory commit ourselves and our new task to the guidance of that same strong hand.

## THE PRAYERS

### Minister:

Trusting the promises of God, and with faith in his mercy, let us pray to the Lord. Let us give thanks for the selfless and courageous service and sacrifice of those who brought peace to Europe, and for the good example they have given us; let us bless the Lord.

**Reply All:** *Thanks be to God.*

We pray for nations still devastated by war, for their people and their leaders, and for those who suffer the effects or memories of past wars; for veterans, for those who mourn, and for all innocent victims whose lives have been shattered by the cruelty of others; Lord, hear us.

**Reply All:** *Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us give thanks for those who work for peace and liberty throughout the world, for Her Majesty's Armed Forces, and for all who strive to bring an end to injustice and oppression; let us bless the Lord.

**Reply All:** *Thanks be to God.*

We pray for those in our own day who have grown weary or lost hope as a result of violence or terror; for all refugees and displaced people, and for those who seek to address the causes of discord and distrust; Lord, hear us.

**Reply All:** *Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us give thanks for the reconciliation of former enemies, for the flourishing of goodwill between them, and for the many blessings we enjoy as a result of the sacrifices which have made for peace; let us bless the Lord.

**Reply All:** *Thanks be to God.*

We pray for the young people of our own day and for all who will shape the future of our world, that they may be inspired by those who have gone before them to serve as they have been served; Lord, hear us.

**Reply All:** *Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Please be seated for music from All Saints Choir and Brixham Town Band**

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

### Minister:

With heartfelt gratitude to God our Father and seeking the peace of Christ's kingdom, let us pray all together:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end.

Amen.

## Hymn: Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm hath bound 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 Christ, whose voice the waters heard,  
and hushed their raging at Thy word,  
who walked on the foaming deep,  
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

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

O 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:  
thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

William Whiting (1825-78)

## THE ACT OF REDEDICATION (Sections read by different people)

We fought for peace, that the world might never again know such violence and destruction. Will you work for peace and reconciliation in your homes and communities, and promote peace throughout the world?

**Reply All:** *With the help of God, we will.*

We fought for justice, that the scourge of prejudice and oppression might never again take root in our societies. Will you work for a world in which hatred and injustice never have the final word, and where all people can flourish with dignity and hope?

**Reply All:** *With the help of God, we will.*

We struggled so that the whole human family might know good will, security, and freedom. Will you always acknowledge how precious are the gifts which God has entrusted to us, and exercise the freedoms and responsibilities you have with gratitude and humility?

**Reply All:** *With the help of God, we will.*

### Minister:

May Almighty God, who has given us the will to undertake these things, bless us with the strength to perform them.

**Reply All:** *Amen.*

## THE BLESSING

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The Queen, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us sinners, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**The Last Post is sounded  
One Minute silence is kept  
Reveille is sounded**

## THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen.	Thy choicest gifts in store
Long live our noble Queen.	On her be pleased to pour,
God save The Queen.	Long may she reign.
Send her victorious,	May she defend our laws,
happy and glorious,	And ever give us cause,
long to reign over us:	To sing with heart and voice,
God save The Queen.	God save the Queen.

## EXIT OF STANDARDS

**The Service is ended go in peace**

## The Royal British Legion

We are a UK charity providing lifelong support for members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, Reservists, veterans and their families and dependants.

We welcome new Members. You do not have to be a current or former member of the armed forces to support our work.



## The Royal Naval Association

We have over 20,000 members across 300+ branches in the UK and overseas, within a family of current and former Naval Service personnel, relatives and supporters of our country's Royal Navy.

We welcome new members.



## The Brixham Orpheus Male Voice Choir (BOMVC)

In the red blazers today, we welcome new members and rehearse every Thursday evening 7-9pm at the Christian Community Centre, Fore Street in Brixham.

Visit the website [www.brixham-orpheus-choir.co.uk](http://www.brixham-orpheus-choir.co.uk) or contact our Choir Secretary on [dewibrown6@gmail.com](mailto:dewibrown6@gmail.com).



## Brixham Town Band

It's a great time to join Brixham Town Band. We are currently working on our new music pieces for the 2020 quayside season, including pieces from Jungle Book, Abba, Pirates of the Caribbean, Mancini and lots of brass band instrumentals and march classics too.

Develop a new skill or revive an old one; join us at our friendly practice sessions at Brixham College on Mon and Thurs evenings at 1930. Tuition and Instruments provided free of charge. For details, please visit: [www.brixhamtownband.org.uk](http://www.brixhamtownband.org.uk)



## All Saints Church

All Saints' Church will always be synonymous with Henry Francis Lyte the first Vicar and writer of his most famous "Abide with me". The inside of the present church has also seen considerable change.

In 1938 a set of painted panels on the wall above the altar-the reredos were designed and installed. They depict the incident from St. Luke's Gospel in which the words "Abide with me" were derived. The risen Jesus is recognised by two disciples after he has joined them on a walk. The musical angels stand for Rev. Lyte's hymns, and the sower and fisherman represent Higher and Lower Brixham, known as Cowntown and Fishtown, respectively.

In 1977, St Peter's Chapel became a separate area for worship after the closure of the fishermen's church of St Peter, at the top of St Peter's Hill. The Chapel is in regular use today for weekday services and as a place of quiet reflection.

There are memorials on the church walls to parishioners who lost their lives in the two World Wars. These include a member of the early Royal Air Force, and another for fishermen killed when they caught a mine in their nets.

The famous carillon and bells were installed in 1929, so that All Saints' bells now mark the hours in 15 minute intervals, and also ring out each evening

## Many thanks

Our thanks to all the statutory, voluntary and commercial organizations whose selfless contributions make these events possible. We thank in particular the Royal British Legion, the Royal Naval Association, the Women's Institute, Brixham Chamber of Commerce, the Middle Street Traders, and numerous Brixham shops and businesses who give their support freely.

We are hugely grateful to [www.imsmarketing.co.uk](http://www.imsmarketing.co.uk) who donate countless hours in the design and production of our printed and online promotions. Many thanks also to everyone who helps sell the Brixham lottery tickets which supports these events and to the following for their generous financial contributions:



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Please visit [www.brixhamfuture.co.uk](http://www.brixhamfuture.co.uk) for a full list of acknowledgements.

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