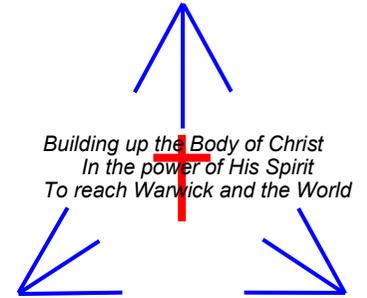




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St Paul's Church, Warwick



*Building up the Body of Christ
In the power of His Spirit
To reach Warwick and the World*

**St Paul's Church
(by the racecourse)
Warwick**

**A Service of Thanksgiving and
Remembrance**



**Sunday October 30, 2021
4.45pm**

Opening Prayer:

After his resurrection Jesus appeared to his scared and grieving friends, stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you". (*John 20:19*)

God of all comfort,
be with us as we gather to remember all those who have died,
whether recent or long ago.
In this time, we ask that you give us peace as we reflect together.
And grant us hope for tomorrow.
Thank you that you promised to comfort us in all our troubles.
May we be assured of that comfort now.

Amen.

We say sorry

As Jesus stood among his grieving friends, he stands with us now.
In his presence we can become aware of the pain in the world,
where we have been hurt and where we may have hurt others.
In our grief, we may have many feelings, and be aware of many failings.
In the stillness let us bring all this before God.

We keep a short time of silence

The Bible tells us that there is nothing that cannot be forgiven and healed, and that there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God.

We pause for another moment of silence

Reading

Reflection

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.
(*Numbers 6:24-26*)

Amen.

[Some words from Common Worship: Pastoral Services CHP](#)
[Based on an order of service produced by lossandhope.org](#)

No collection is being taken during the service, but for those who would like to give there is a collection plate on the table by the door as you leave the church.



Closing Song

The Concluding Prayers

The Bible says that one day
“There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things will have passed away.” (Rev 21:4)

And Jesus said
“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?” (John 14:2)

Lord God, we thank you for all the people we have remembered to day,
for all that they were to us, for all that they taught us and for all that we treasure. May we follow their example and be with them, witnesses to your lifegiving love.

As we believe in your power to have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, help us to trust also for those whom we have loved and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death;

Thank you for your promise of eternal life.
According to your promises, may we share with them in the joys of your kingdom, where there will be neither sorrow nor pain, but everlasting life.

Amen

We give thanks: *[based on Psalm 136]*

We Invite you to count across your fingers, silently naming on each finger a person who has died or a situation related to them for which you are thankful.

We light a large candle of thanksgiving before sharing in the following:

Blessing and thanks to God
Who created our world
And shapes our lives.
God’s love lasts forever.

Thanks be to God
Who gives us friends and families
To laugh and cry with us
And show us love each day.
God’s love lasts for ever.

Thanks be to God
For people who care and help,
Who work for healing
And show us kindness.
God’s love lasts forever.

Thanks be to God
For faithful love and joyful living,
For good memories
And hope for tomorrow.
God’s love lasts forever.

Amen

We remember

'May our tears speak'

God of all, the world has changed so much.
There is so much that we have lost, and so many that we grieve.
May our tears speak where our words cannot.

God of community, the distances have grown between us.
There are spaces that have we missed and others that we have created.
May our tears speak where our words cannot.

God of the church, we have missed the times to be together and to hear each other's stories and the story of our faith.
May our tears speak where our words cannot.

God of peace, we weep for those whose passing we have not been able to mark, and for those whose grief we cannot ease.
May our tears speak where our words cannot.

Poem [by Dorothy Woods]

Some there are who can never be present
Though closer than breath.
Some there are who can never be lost
Though a million miles separate forever.

We invite you to come forward and drop a stone into a bowl as a sign of their sadness and then light a candle in thanksgiving for the person(s) we are remembering.

As we do this we listen to "There's a time for tears".

The Prayer of Commendation [*We invite you to clasp your own hands together*]

Almighty God,
As you bring us face to face with our mortality,
we thank you for making each one of us in your own image
and for giving us gifts in body, mind and spirit.
We thank you now as we remember and honour
All those who have died this year.
We trust them to your mercy,
and pray that you will show us the path of life,
and the fullness of joy in your presence.

Amen.

The names of those we are remembering are read out

The Lord's prayer

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 forever.

Amen.