

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY, PULBOROUGH



4pm Sunday 2nd November, 2025

**SERVICE OF
COMMEMORATION AND
REFLECTION**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you,
and also with you.

HYMN: NEH 436

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

- 1 **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!**
- 2 **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!**
- 3 **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!**

**4 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!**

God has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of his glory
in the face of Christ.
But we have this treasure in earthen vessels
to show that the transcendent power belongs to God
and not to us.

As we acknowledge our human frailty,
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission,
and confess them before God our Father.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Collect

Everlasting God, our maker and redeemer,
grant us, with all the faithful departed,
the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious
resurrection, that, in the last day,
when you gather up all things in Christ,
we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Wisdom 3. 1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and no torment will ever touch them.

In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died,
and their departure was thought to be a disaster
and their going from us to be their destruction,
but they are at peace.

For though in the sight of others they were punished,
their hope is full of immortality.

Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good,
because God tested them and found them worthy of himself;
like gold in the furnace he tried them,
and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them.

In the time of their visitation they will shine forth
and will run like sparks through the stubble.

They will govern nations and rule over peoples,
and the Lord will reign over them forever.
Those who trust in him will understand truth,
and the faithful will abide with him in love,
because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones,
and he watches over his elect.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: NEH 459

Francis Rous (1579-1659), William Whittingham (1524-1579),
Scottish Psalter (1650)

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want:
 he makes me down to lie
 in pastures green; he leadeth me
 the quiet waters by.**
- 2 My soul he doth restore again,
 and me to walk doth make
 within the paths of righteousness,
 e'en for his own name's sake.**
- 3 Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
 yet will I fear none ill;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod
 and staff me comfort still.**
- 4 My table thou hast furnishèd
 in presence of my foes;
 my head thou dost with oil anoint,
 and my cup overflows.**

**5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.**

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 1. 3-9

A reading from the First letter of St Peter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, or you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

The Gospel Reading: John 5. 19-25

Alleluia, alleluia.

‘It is the will of him who sent me,’ says the Lord,
‘that I should lose none of all that he has given me,
but raise them up on the last day.’ **Alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomsoever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgement to the Son, so that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. Anyone who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to the Lord, who has conquered death.
Jesus, bread from heaven,
you satisfy the hungry with good things:
grant us a share with all the faithful departed
in the banquet of your kingdom.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, the light of the world,
you gave the man born blind the gift of sight:
open the eye of faith
and bring us from darkness
to your eternal light and glory.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, Son of the living God,
you summoned your friend Lazarus from death to life:
raise us at the last to full and eternal life with you.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, crucified Saviour,
in your dying you entrusted each to the other,
Mary your mother and John your beloved disciple:
sustain and comfort all who mourn.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, our way and truth and life,
you drew your disciple Thomas from doubt to faith:
reveal the resurrection faith to the doubting and the lost.
Hear us, risen Lord,
our resurrection and our life.

May God in his infinite love and mercy
bring the whole Church,
living and departed in the Lord Jesus,
to a joyful resurrection
and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

The Commemoration of the Departed

You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power.

**For you have created all things,
and by your will they have their being.**

You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain,
and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and nation.

**You have made them to be a kingdom and priests
serving our God, and they will reign with you on earth.**

*Departed loved ones are now remembered in prayer.
Members of the congregation are now invited to come forward
and light candles to remember their loved ones*

This is the will of him that sent me,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me,
and I will raise them up at the last day.

Lord God, creator of all,
you have made us creatures of this earth,
but have also promised us a share in life eternal.
According to your promises,
may all who have died in the peace of Christ
come with your saints to the joys of your
kingdom,
where there will be neither sorrow nor pain,
but life everlasting.
Alleluia. Amen.



Grant to us, Lord God,
to trust you not for ourselves alone,
but for those also whom we love
and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death;
that, as we believe your power to have raised our Lord Jesus Christ
from the dead,
so may we trust your love
to give eternal life to all who believe in him;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

With saints and martyrs through the ages,
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;
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.**

HYMN: NEH 252
John Ellerton (1826–1893)

- 1 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
 The darkness falls at thy behest;
 To thee our morning hymns ascended,
 Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.
- 2 We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,
 While earth rolls onward into light,
 Through all the world her watch is keeping,
 And rests not now by day or night.
- 3 As o'er each continent and island
 The dawn leads on another day,
 The voice of prayer is never silent,
 Nor dies the strain of praise away.
- 4 The sun that bids us rest is waking
 Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
 And hour by hour fresh lips are making
 Thy wondrous doings heard on high.
- 5 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
 Like earth's proud empires, pass away;
 Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
 Till all thy creatures own thy sway.

The Blessing



Merciful Father,
On this day, we are called to remember those who have died,
particularly those who have died in the past year,
and pray for their joyful reunion with you, their loving creator.
As your son taught us to call the stranger
neighbour, our fallen are many

Names we will never know,
voices we have never heard,
in lands we may never visit,
yet brothers and sisters all.
and so we pray.

For victims of war, caught in the crossfires of
conflicts we could not quell,
for soldiers and civilians,
adults and children, we pray
Grant eternal rest, O Lord. Amen