

# Westminster Abbey



A Service to commemorate  
the life of Florence Nightingale



Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

5pm

## THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Today, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 is 201 years since Florence Nightingale's birth. The Florence Nightingale Foundation commemorates Florence but also celebrates and pays tribute to all nurses and midwives everywhere. In the last year they have gone above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have watched as they selflessly put their lives on hold to provide care, support and comfort to others. This pandemic has changed how healthcare is delivered, and nurses and midwives are at the forefront of this transformation. Thanks to their commitment many lives have been, and will continue to be saved.

Nurses and midwives have been very visible during this pandemic but we must not forget those hidden, those we don't often see; community nurses supporting people in their own homes, social care nurses, mental health nurses, midwives welcoming a new life into the world, all supporting the frontline. Nurses and midwives from across the world have played their part in the pandemic effort including the international nurses who have chosen to work in the UK. Their experience and expertise is appreciated by everyone. We owe them all a debt of gratitude and lest we forget nurses and midwives who have given the ultimate sacrifice to support this crisis.

Just as Florence Nightingale led her team of nurses during the Crimean war, nurses and midwives have shown exceptional leadership during this unprecedented time. They follow in her footsteps, and the Foundation shines a light on them all, always.

*Professor Greta Westwood CBE RN  
Chief Executive Officer  
Florence Nightingale Foundation*

## PROCESSIONS DURING THE SERVICE

The Officers who process represent the Florence Nightingale Foundation. They embody the traditional link between nurses and voluntary lay people who work together in a charitable context to develop and advance the practice of nursing and midwifery for the benefit of all those who need healthcare. Their endeavours pay constant tribute to the inspiration and example of Florence Nightingale and her great achievements.

The Officers of the Foundation are:

Dame Yvonne Moores, Chair of The Florence Nightingale Foundation, Baroness Mary Watkins RN RMN, President of The Florence Nightingale Foundation, Avey Bhatia, Vice-President of The Florence Nightingale Foundation, Sir Robert Francis QC, Patron of the Florence Nightingale Foundation, Greta Westwood CBE RN, Chief Executive of The Florence Nightingale Foundation.

The Nurses' Roll of Honour was compiled by the British Commonwealth Nurses' War Memorial Fund and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel in the North Ambulatory of Westminster Abbey, which can be visited at any time on request to the Vergers. The Bearer of the Roll, who this year will be Captain Lisa Taylor QHN, Head of the Royal Naval Nursing Service, Chief Nursing Officer, Navy, is escorted by Colonel Alison Farmer ARRC QHN, Chief Nursing Officer, Army, and Group Captain Fionnuala Bradley QHN, Chief Nursing Officer, RAF, Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Armed Forces.

Florence Nightingale became known as 'The Lady with the Lamp' during her work in the Crimea, where she conducted her night rounds caring for wounded soldiers while holding a lantern. The Lamp has become an international symbol of nursing. The Lamp used in this service was given by Sir Dan Mason OBE in memory of his mother, Kathleen Dampier-Bennett, and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel here in Westminster Abbey. This year the Lamp will be carried by Ruheana Begum, Florence Nightingale Scholar and Matron, Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation. The Lamp party will be escorted by Jacqueline Marshall, Florence Nightingale Scholar and Associate Director of Nursing, Whipps Cross Hospital, Barts Health NHS Trust, Angela Velinor, Florence Nightingale Scholar and Deputy Head of Midwifery, Better Births Workforce Clinical Lead, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

*The church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.*

*Members of the congregation are kindly requested to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.*

*The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, Dean of Westminster.*

*The service is sung by the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by Peter Holder, Sub-Organist.*

*The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist.*

*The Household Division Brass Quintet is led by Colour Sergeant Andrew Mercer, Band of the Welsh Guards.*

*Before the service, the band plays*

*Sonata from Die Bankelsangerlieder anonymous*

*Canon in D Johann Pachelbel (1653–1706)*

*Air from Water Music Suite in F HWV 348 George Frideric Handel  
(1685–1759)*

*Courant Dolorosa and Canzon Bergamasque Samuel Scheidt (1587–1654)  
from Battle Suite arranged by Philip Jones*

*The Shepherd's Song French traditional  
arranged by Nick Johnson*

*Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist, plays*

*Prelude and Fugue in B flat Op 16 Clara Schumann (1819–96)*

*Andante sostenuto Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)  
from Symphonie Gothique Op 70*

*The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Deputy High Steward, Councillor Jonathan Glanz, is received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. All stand as he is conducted to his seat, and then sit.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*All remain seated. The choir sings*

## THE INTROIT

**B**EATI quorum via integra est,  
qui ambulant in lege Domini.

*Blessed are they whose way is pure,  
who walk in the law of the Lord.*

*Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)*

*Psalm 119: 1*

*All stand as the procession moves to places in Quire and the Sacrarium. The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, Dean of Westminster, says*

**W**ELCOME to Westminster Abbey, holy ground on which so many have gathered, on so many different occasions. Here, in the confidence of faith, we look back on our joys and sorrows and forward to the hope into which God calls us.

Coming to this place in a time of pandemic we bring memories of suffering and loss, we remember the courage and resilience that has been needed and found. We acknowledge the challenge of long months of isolation and the love that refuses to be imprisoned. We look around us in gratitude for the effort so many have made to bring us to a place of greater safety and yet grieve for those in communities still devastated by illness and grief. We pray in the midst of a pandemic, acknowledging both an effort made, and an effort ahead. We do that as we honour the memory of Florence Nightingale in whom compassion and care had the power to deliver not just healing, but change.

*Professor Greta Westwood CBE RN, Chief Executive of The Florence Nightingale Foundation gives words of reflection.*

*The Dean says*

On this holy ground, we give thanks for all those who shine as lights in places of darkness and despair and we pray that God will renew our strength and send us from this filled with the grace to serve others.

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

*Isaiah 58: 8*

*All sit. Helena Bonham Carter CBE, reads from the Great Lectern*

ISAIAH 61: 1–4

**T**HE spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

**T**HE Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

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.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint  
and my cup overflows.

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

Brother James's Air

*arranged by James O'Donnell (b 1961)*

*The Right Honourable Boris Johnson MP, Prime Minister, reads from the Great Lectern*

MATTHEW 25: 31–40

JESUS said ‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”’

Thanks be to God.

*All stand for*

THE PROCESSION OF THE ROLL OF HONOUR

*The British Commonwealth Nurses’ Roll of Honour is borne in silence to the Sacarium.*

*The Bearer of the Roll, Captain Lisa Taylor QHN, Head of the Royal Naval Nursing Service, Chief Nursing Officer, Navy, is escorted by Colonel Alison Farmer ARRC QHN, Chief Nursing Officer, Army, and Group Captain Fionnuala Bradley QHN, Chief Nursing Officer, RAF, Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces.*

*The Roll of Honour is placed near the High Altar.*

*The Dean says*

Let us remember those nurses and midwives who answered God's call and gave their lives in the Second World War while caring for the sick and wounded, whose names are recorded in the Nurses' Roll of Honour, and those who have given their lives in subsequent conflicts.

Let us pray.

**G**OD our Father, we praise your holy name for all who lived and died in the service of others and are now at rest in Christ. Their example has encouraged us, their witness has inspired us, and the memory of them makes us glad today. For them all we thank you, we honour and we worship you, as they do now by your grace and in your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit. A soloist sings*

**W**HEN I am laid in earth,  
may my wrongs create no trouble in thy breast;  
Remember me, but ah! forget my fate.

*from Dido and Aeneas  
Henry Purcell (c 1659–95)*

*Nahum Tate (1652–1715)*

## THE ADDRESS

*by*

The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Sarah Mullally DBE  
Bishop of London

*All stand for*

## THE PROCESSION OF THE LAMP

*The Lamp is borne by Ruheana Begum, Florence Nightingale Scholar and Matron, Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation.*

*The Lamp Party is escorted by:*

*Jacqueline Marshall, Florence Nightingale Scholar and Associate Director of Nursing, Whipps Cross Hospital, Barts Health NHS Trust, and*

*Angela Velinor, Florence Nightingale Scholar and Deputy Head of Midwifery, Better Births Workforce Clinical Lead, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.*

*The Lamp is placed on the High Altar. The band plays*

*Air from Suite no 3 in D BWV 1068*

*Johann Sebastian Bach  
arranged by Arthur Frackenpohl*

*The Dean says*

Let us dedicate ourselves afresh to the service of those who need our care today.

*All say together*

**MAY this lamp signify our sacred calling  
to serve the sick and injured,  
which was heard and answered by Florence Nightingale,  
passed on from generation to generation,  
and received with gladness and humility by us today.**

*The Dean says*

Jesus said, 'No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'

*Matthew 5: 15,16*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, the Father of lights, from you comes every good and perfect gift: we thank you for Florence Nightingale and for her vision, courage, and compassion, of which this Lamp is the undying symbol. Kindle our hearts, we pray, by the fire of your Holy Spirit, so that we may shine for you in the darkness of human suffering and sorrow; through him who is the light of the world, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*All sit. The choir sings*

### THE ANTHEM

**M**OTHER of God, here I stand now praying,  
Before this icon of your radiant brightness,  
Not praying to be saved from a battlefield,  
Not giving thanks, nor seeking forgiveness  
For the sins of my soul, nor for all the souls.  
Numb, joyless and desolate on earth,  
But for her alone, whom I wholly give you.

*from The Veil of the Temple  
John Tavener (1944–2013)*

*Mikhail Lermontov (1814–41)*

*The Reverend Mark Birch, Minor Canon and Precentor, leads*

## THE INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray.

*All kneel or remain seated.*

**H**EAVENLY Father, as we give thanks for the life, work, and inspiration of Florence Nightingale, hear our prayers for the work of The Florence Nightingale Foundation; for those who lead it, for its scholars, and for all who are committed to excellence in clinical and health care.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Ruth May, Chief Nursing Officer for England, says*

**W**E pray for all who are called to the nursing and midwifery professions; for those who serve in hospitals, care homes, hospices, prisons, the community, and the military. We give thanks for their gifts of compassion and professionalism, and for the comfort and reassurance they bring to the sick and to the dying. We pray for their safety, resilience, and well-being, and for all that sustains them in their work.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Eileen Sills DBE RN, former Chief Nurse of Guys and St Thomas' Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, says*

**W**E pray for those responsible for public health, for healthcare provision and policy, especially in a time of pandemic. We give thanks for nurses engaged in training and research, and all who offer leadership within the profession; that new challenges may be met, and standards of care sustained and improved.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Colonel Sharon Findlay, Defence Nursing Advisor and Trustee, Florence Nightingale Foundation, says*

**W**E pray for nurses working in the most challenging places; for those who have been at the frontline of the pandemic, and those within the Armed Forces, serving in places of need and conflict. We pray especially for those whose mental or physical health has suffered, and for all who have faced additional risk, stress, and trauma.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Reverend Anthony Ball, Canon in Residence, says*

**W**E pray for those whom nurses and midwives serve: for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; For the terminally ill, elderly, and frail; for refugees and those who bear the scars of war; for all who live with chronic disability and pain; and for all who continue to suffer most in the pandemic.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Precentor concludes*

**R**EMEMBER in your kingdom, O Lord, all those who have faithfully served you here on earth and are now at rest; remembering especially for those who have died in the service of others in the past year. Give comfort to those who mourn, and grant us, with all the faithful departed, the joy of your salvation.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

As we look for the coming of God's Kingdom, let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

**O**UR 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, forever and ever. Amen.

*The choir sings*

**G**OD bless our Church, our Queen, our Realm, and this, our Fellowship: give us peace in Christ, and in blessing to use these gifts so fit us for thy service. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Nightingale Grace

*Jonathan Watts (b 2001)*

*All stand. The Dean pronounces*

### THE BLESSING

**G**O forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The choir sings*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

**G**OD save our gracious Queen.  
Long live our noble Queen.

God save The Queen.

Send her victorious,  
happy and glorious,  
long to reign over us:

God save The Queen.

*All remain standing as the procession moves to the west end of the Abbey Church.*

*Music after the service*

*The organist plays*

Prelude and Fugue in C BWV 545

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

*The band plays*

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *from* Cantata 147

*Johann Sebastian Bach  
arranged by Joe Parente*

**Members of the congregation are requested to remain in their places  
until invited to move by the Honorary Steward**

*Please remember to maintain social distancing when leaving the church*

The Florence Nightingale Foundation wishes to thank  
Freddie's Flowers, Brora, Emma Bridgewater, Madeleine Floyd Designs,  
Floris London, Nursem, Lifesearch, Kindred,  
and our strategic partner Nuffield Health  
for their support on this occasion.



*Freddie's  
Flowers*



**Emma Bridgewater**



**FLORIS**  
LONDON

BRITISH FAMILY PERFUMERS SINCE 1730

***nursem***



**Kindred**