Westminster Abbey

A Service to commemorate
the life of Florence Nightingale

Wednesday 11th May 2022
6.30 pm
The Florence Nightingale Foundation is a living memorial to Florence Nightingale. We develop nursing and midwifery leaders of the future to improve patient care and health outcomes. Our selection process is rigorous, ensuring those offered a scholarship are the very best. We celebrate and thank Her Royal Highness The Princess Alexandra, in her 65th year as Royal Patron.

57th Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service 11th May 2022

On the eve of the 202nd anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s birth (12th May 1820), we celebrate her life’s work. Every year across the world midwives celebrate 5th May as International Midwives Day and nurses the 12th May as International Nurses’ Day.

Today, we give thanks to nurses and midwives who in the last two years have courageously and selflessly provided care. Through commitment, tenacity and determination, many lives have been saved. Now we wait patiently as they slowly recover from the last two years. Just as Florence Nightingale led her team of nurses during the Crimean war, they have shown exceptional leadership during this unprecedented time. Nurses and midwives from across the globe have been a part of this world effort, we owe them our wholehearted gratitude.

“Fallen in the cause of saving lives, a glory that shines upon our tears”. Today a Roll of Honour will be dedicated to the nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers who have died during the pandemic. They surely gave their today for our tomorrow.

Annually at this service we will remember them together with the Commonwealth nurses and midwives who gave their lives during Second World War. The Rolls of Honour will be kept in the Florence Nightingale and Nurses’ Chapel, Westminster Abbey.

As we pause, reflect and rededicate ourselves to the professions today lets us remember our Ukrainian nursing and midwifery colleagues, those in Ukraine, the UK and across the world. Our thoughts are with them all at this difficult time.

2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the Falklands War, military nurses cared for those who fought and ultimately gave their lives. We thank them for their courage.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation will shine a forever light on you all, always.

Professor Greta Westwood CBE PhD RN
Chief Executive Officer
Florence Nightingale Foundation
Nightingale Frontline Appeal

‘How little can be done under the spirit of fear.’
Florence Nightingale

In April 2020, Nightingale Frontline was launched to provide an online peer support service for nurses and midwives as they battled the unprecedented demands of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To-date, we have supported over 3,000 participants from across health, social care, and the voluntary sector. This unique service remains in high demand as nurses and midwives continue to manage the direct and indirect effects of the pandemic.

We are aiming to facilitate almost 400 sessions this year. Sessions are available from 8am to 8pm from Monday to Saturday every week of the year. It costs £500 to run each group session of 6 nurses and midwives.

With your support we can help more nurses and midwives to continue to maintain courage and lead beyond the pandemic.

Donation bowls will be situated by the Great West Door at the end of today’s service, for those who wish to make a cash donation.

Alternatively, please text FRONTLINE to 70470. Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you’ll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don’t wish to hear more from us, please text FRONTLINENOINFO instead.

All donations received this evening will be used to support Nightingale Frontline sessions this year.

If you are a healthcare professional who would like to know more about Nightingale Frontline, please visit

https://florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk/academy/leadership-development/nightingale-frontline/
PROCESSIONS BEFORE THE SERVICE

Nuffield Health Procession

Natalie-Jane McDonald, Chair; Ben Davies, Head of Clinical Quality & Professional Practice; Chief Quality & Operating Officer Caroline Smith, and Harriet Lennon, Learning and Development Specialist – Nursing (Clinical Apprenticeships).

Florence Nightingale Foundation Officers Procession

The Officers embody the traditional link between nurses, midwives 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 work pays constant tribute to the inspiration and example of Florence Nightingale and her great achievements.

The Officers are Sir Robert Francis QC, Patron, Baroness Watkins of Tavistock, President; Dame Yvonne Moores, Chair; Andrew Andrews MBE, Vice-Chair; Charlotte Vitty, Treasurer.

Professor Greta Westwood CBE is the Chief Executive Officer.
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 MBE, Dean of Westminster.

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

The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist

Before the service Charles Maxtone-Smith, Organ Scholar, plays

Prelude and Fugue in E flat BWV 552
Psalm Prelude Set 1 no 2
‘But the meek-spirited shall possess the earth’
Adante sostenuto from Symphonie gothique
In manus tuas
Fuga sopra il Magnificat BWV 733

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Herbert Howells (1892–1983)
Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)
Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968)
Johann Sebastian Bach

The Honorary Officers of The Florence Nightingale Foundation move to their places in Quire and the Lantern.

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Andrew Smith, and The Lady Mayoress Salma Shah, are received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. All stand as they are conducted to their seats, and then sit.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy, is received at the West Gate by the Dean and Chapter. Presentations are made. All stand, and then sit as directed by the stewards.

Hymns covered by Christian Copyright Licensing (International) Ltd are reproduced under CCL no 1040271.
ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand for the procession of the choir. The choir sings the Introit

O NATA lux de lumine Jesu Redemptor saeculi, Dignare clemens supplicum Laudes precesque sumere.

QUIE carne quondam contegi Dignatus es pro perditis, Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis.

O Light born of light, Jesus Redeemer of the world, deign in mercy to hear the prayers and praises of those who kneel before you.

You who once deigned to take flesh for the sake of those who were lost, make us members of your blessed body.

Thomas Tallis (c 1505–85) anonymous, 10th century

All sing the Hymn, during which the procession of clergy, together with Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy, moves to places in Quire, the Lantern, and the Sacrament.

ALL people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with fear, his praise forth tell, come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed, without our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good: his mercy is for ever sure; his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heaven and earth adore, from men and from the Angel-host be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

Old Hundredth 334 NEH attributed to William Kethe (d 1594)
Genevan Psalter 1551 after Psalm 100
All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster, gives the Bidding

WELCOMEme to Westminster Abbey, the house of God, a place of remembrance, a community of hope. Today, before God, we gather to offer our praise and thanksgiving, and to recall the life and witness of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. Celebrating the work of the Florence Nightingale Foundation and in the good company of working nursing professionals we acknowledge the legacy of commitment, compassion, and excellence we inherit.

We pray that Florence Nightingale’s determination to improve the quality of care, and secure better training may shape the gift we leave to those who follow us. We praise God for all those nurses who, like her, have carried the lamp of healing into the dark places of our world.

Let us prepare to hear and receive God’s holy word and to bring before God the needs of our world. Let us remember with pride the vocation we have each received, and prepare to dedicate ourselves anew to the service of all in need.

All sit. Professor Greta Westwood CBE RN, Chief Executive Officer of the Florence Nightingale Foundation, gives words of reflection.

The Right Honourable Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care reads

LOVE is patient and kind. Love envies no one, is never boastful, never conceited, never rude; love is never selfish, never quick to take offence. Love keeps no score of wrongs, takes no pleasure in the sins of others, but delights in the truth. There is nothing that love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, its hope, its endurance. Love will never come to an end.

1 Corinthians 13: 4–8a

The choir sings the Motet

LIGHT of the world, we know thy praise
The angels and archangels raise
And all the host of heav’n.

More worthily than our faint hymns,
Whose jarring sound that glory dims,
Which God to thee has giv’n.

But thou didst not disdain to take
Our low estate, or e’en to make
The tomb thy resting place.

So thou might bring into our night
The dawn of thine eternal light
To shine upon our face.

Nor death, nor hell, nor sin is Lord,
But thou, O Son of God. Thy word
Is now our sovereign law.

Therefore we thank thee, and we pray
Thy light may shine unto the perfect day
On us for evermore.

Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
Edward Capel-Cure (1860–1949)
EARLY on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20: 1–3, 6b–7, 10–18

Thanks be to God.
ETERNAL Father, strong to save,
whose arm doth bind 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 Saviour, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
who bad’st its angry tumult cease,
and gavest light and life and 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 whereso’er they go:
and ever let there rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea

Melita 354 NEH
John Dykes (1823–76)

All remain standing for the Procession of the Rolls of Honour

The Reverend Robert Latham, Sacrist, 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 remember also those nurses
and midwives who have given their lives in faithful service during the Covid
pandemic who are recorded in the Covid Roll of Honour.
The British Commonwealth Nurses’ Roll of Honour and Covid Roll of Honour are borne in silence from the Grave of the Unknown Warrior through the Nave to the Sacramium.

The Commonwealth Nurses Roll of Honour was compiled by the British Commonwealth Nurses’ War Memorial Fund to remember the nurses who lost their lives in the Second World War. It is kept in the Florence Nightingale and Nurses’ Chapel, Westminster Abbey.

The Bearer of the Roll, this year is Corporal Emily Carr, Princess Mary’s Royal Air Force Nursing Service, and will be escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces. They are Captain Neale Piper, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Naval Nursing Service, Head of Naval Nursing Service; Colonel Alison Farmer, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Army Nursing Corps, Chief Nursing Officer (Army); and Group Captain Diane Lamb, Princess Mary’s Royal Air Force Nursing Service, Defence Professor of Nursing (RAF).

The COVID-19 Pandemic Roll of Honour remembers the nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers who lost their lives during the pandemic. It is processed by the UK Chief Nursing Officers (CNO), Ruth May CNO England, Sue Tranka CNO Wales, and Maria McLlgorm CNO Northern Ireland. It will be kept in the Florence Nightingale and Nurses’ Chapel, Westminster Abbey.

The Rolls of Honour are received by the Dean and are placed near the High Altar.

The Dean says

Let us pray.

GOD 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

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

Henry Purcell (1650–1685) from Dido and Aeneas
LOVE Divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
ever more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!
All sit. The Right Reverend and the Right Honourable the Lord Sentamu of Lindisfarne and Masooli gives the Address

All remain seated for the Procession of the Lamp, during which the band plays Londonderry Air.

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 whilst 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, a supporter (Trustee) and is kept in the Florence Nightingale and Nurses’ Chapel.

This year the Lamp will be carried by Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Colette Datt, Associate Director of Nursing Children & Young People, North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust. She will be supported by Joshua Hammond, Clinical Frailty Practitioner, Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust and Leonie Brown, Head of Nursing, Epsom & St Helier NHS Foundation Trust, both Florence Nightingale Foundation alumni. The Lamp party will be escorted by student nurses and midwives from the Kings College London.

On arrival before the High Altar, the Lamp will be handed to Joshua Hammond who will pass the Lamp to Leonie Brown. This represents the transmission of knowledge from one to another.

The lamp is then offered to the Dean, who places it on the High Altar.

All stand. The Sacrist 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, ‘Like the lamp, you must shed light among your fellows, so that, when they see the good you do, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.’

St Matthew 5: 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

MOTHER 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)

The Sacrist leads the Intercessions

Let us pray to God our Father, whose Son came that we might have life.

All kneel or remain seated

HEAVENLY Father, we give you thanks for the life and legacy of Florence Nightingale. We pray for the work of the Florence Nightingale Foundation, for the patrons and staff, and all the support the foundation provides to nurses and midwives across the UK. We ask your blessing upon all who carry forward the pioneering work and spirit of Florence Nightingale.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Sue Tranka, Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, says

WE give thanks for the vocation to nursing, midwifery and the caring professions. For those committed to high standards in care and training, development and fellowship, compassion and mercy. We pray for all in training and all discerning a call to serve.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.
Baroness Watkins of Tavistock, Visiting Professor in the Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Palliative Care, King’s College London, says

We give thanks for all who have worked tirelessly to serve this nation through pandemic, in hospitals, hospices, care homes, and in the community. For their commitment to serve the needs of the most vulnerable in the most challenging of circumstances. We pray for their resilience, safety and refreshment.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Irina Belun-Vieira, Head of Cancer Care Nursing at King’s College Hospital, says

We give thanks for those providing healthcare to and within our armed forces, and to civilians in places of conflict. For those risking their own lives to preserve life in places of challenge and danger. We pray for all nursing personnel on active service, and all who provide vital frontline support.

Lord, hear us,
Lord graciously hear us

The Reverend David Stanton, Sub Dean and Canon in Residence, says

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for those who are terminally ill, elderly, or frail; for all refugees and those who bear the scars of war; for all who live with chronic disability and pain, and those who support them and accompany them in their trials.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

The Sacrist concludes

Remember in your kingdom, O Lord, all those who have faithfully served you here on earth and are now at rest; grant us, with them, and with all the faithful departed, the joy of your salvation.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

The choir sing the Nightingale Grace

God 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.

Jonathan Watts (b 2001)
The Sacrist concludes

Rejoicing in God’s new creation, let us pray 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, forever and ever. Amen.

All stand to sing the Hymn

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mother’s arms hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessèd peace to cheer us; and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven, the One eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore. Amen.

Nun danket 413 NEH

Nun danket alle Gott Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)
in Johann Crüger’s Praxis pietatis melica 1647
translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–78)
All remain standing. The Dean pronounces the Blessing

Go 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.

All remain standing for the National Anthem

God 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 Assistant Organist plays

Prelude in G BWV 541 Johann Sebastian Bach

The band plays

All through the night Traditional
A Gaelic Blessing John Rutter (b 1945)
Isle of Beauty Lemuel McPherson Christian (1913–2001)
David of the White Rock attributed to David Owen (1712–1741)
Oft in the Stilly Night Sir John Stevenson (1761–1833)
arranged by Sandy Smith

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

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung
With grateful thanks to Freddie’s Flowers for the posy presented to Her Royal Highness The Princess Alexandra and the floral arrangement in front of St George’s Chapel.

Freddie’s Flowers

The Florence Nightingale Foundation wishes to thank all guests for attending this afternoon’s special service. With sincere thanks also to our new strategic partner and this evening’s sponsor, Nuffield Health.

For further information about this important partnership please visit our website: www.florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk