

# Westminster Abbey



## A Service to Commemorate the Life of Florence Nightingale



Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015  
6.30 pm



*of the Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service  
being held in Westminster Abbey  
1965–2015*

## THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE COMMEMORATION SERVICE

The Florence Nightingale Foundation is a living memorial to Florence Nightingale. In its activities, it

- advances the study of nursing and promotes excellence in nursing practice
- raises funds to provide scholarships for nurses and midwives to study at home and abroad, to promote innovation in practice, and to extend knowledge and skill to meet changing needs
- promotes the special contribution of nursing to society and to the health of people
- encourages international understanding and learning between nurses and midwives

The service is held annually. 2015 marks fifty years since the service was first held at Westminster Abbey.

During the ceremony, processions take place that are of significance.

The Adjutant and Chelsea Pensioners process. Their participation is in memory of, and in gratitude to, Florence Nightingale for her care of the troops—their predecessors—during the Crimean campaign.

The Honorary 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 Honorary Officers of the Foundation are Patron Sir Robert Francis QC; President The Baroness Emerton DBE DL; Vice-Presidents The Right Honourable The Lord Remnant CVO, Bryan Wilson, and Theo Noel Smith; Honorary Vice-Presidents Mary Spinks CBE, and Geoffrey Walker OBE; Chairman Bryan Sanderson CBE; Vice-Chairman Richard Beazley; and Honorary Treasurer Dr Colin Reeves CBE.

**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 Sergeant Alexandra Middleton, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, is escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Armed Forces.

**The LAMP** was given by Sir Dan Mason OBE in memory of his mother, Kathleen Dampier-Bennett, and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel. This year the Lamp will be carried by Florence Nightingale Scholar Sam Foster. The Lamp will be escorted by student nurses and midwives from Bangor University, Cardiff University, Swansea University, and the University of South Wales.

On arrival before the altar, the Lamp will be handed to Florence Nightingale Scholar Natalie Yates-Bolton. She will pass the Lamp to Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Sithembile Chinaire. This represents the transmission of knowledge from one nurse to another and highlights the diversity of care given by nurses for the benefit of humanity.

The Address will be given by Professor Michael Wheeler.

The first lesson will be read by Charlotte McArdle, Chief Nursing Officer for Northern Ireland. The second lesson will be read by Sir Robert Francis QC, Patron, The Florence Nightingale Foundation.

*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 phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are switched off.*

*The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.*

*The service is sung by the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.*

*The organ is played by Daniel Cook, Sub-Organist.*

*Please join in singing the hymns, and in saying the words printed in **bold type**.*

*Music before the service:*

*The Sub-Organist plays:*

*Sonata IV in B Flat Op 65*

*Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47)*

*The Adjutant and Chelsea Pensioners move from the west end of the church to their places in the Lantern. All remain seated.*

*The Honorary Officers of The Florence Nightingale Foundation move to their places in Quire. All remain seated.*

*The Lord Mayor of Westminster is received and conducted to her place in Quire. All stand, and then sit.*

*Hymns covered by Christian Copyright Licensing (Europe) Ltd are reproduced under CCL no 1040271.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

*All stand. The Choir sings*

### THE INTROIT

**P**REVENT us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*William Byrd (c 1540–1623)*

*Collect for Holy Communion*

*All sing*

### THE HYMN

*during which the Collegiate Procession  
moves to places in Quire and the Sacrarium*



**G**UIDE me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong Deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.

*Cwm Rhondda 368 NEH  
John Hughes (1873–1932)*

*William Williams (1717–91)  
translated by Peter Williams (1727–96) and others*

*All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, gives*

### THE BIDDING

**W**ELCOME to Westminster Abbey, which has seen so many occasions of joy and sorrow and remembrance. We come into the presence of almighty God to offer our worship, praise, and thanksgiving. In particular, we thank God for Florence Nightingale: for her enterprise and heroism, and for the example she has left us.

We pray that her ideals of compassion, quality of care, and training may continue to inspire and sustain nurses everywhere. 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. Charlotte McArdle, Chief Nursing Officer for Northern Ireland, reads from the Great Lectern*

### PROVERBS 8: 1–11

**D**OES not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: 'To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. O simple ones, learn prudence; acquire intelligence, you who lack it. Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right; for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an

abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. They are all straight to one who understands and right to those who find knowledge. Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All remain seated. The Choir sings:*

**O**TASTE and see how gracious the Lord is: blest is the man that trusteth in him.

*Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

*Psalm 34: 8*

*Sir Robert Francis QC, Patron, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, reads from the Nave Pulpit*

#### ST LUKE 7: 1–10

**A**FTER Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, ‘He is worthy of having you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us.’ And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, ‘Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, “Go”, and he goes, and to another, “Come”, and he comes, and to my slave, “Do this”, and the slave does it.’

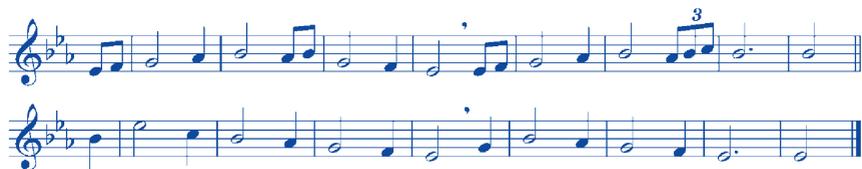
When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, ‘I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.’ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand to sing*

## THE HYMN



**T**HE King of love my Shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction, grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never;  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

*St Columba 457i NEH*  
*traditional Irish melody*

*Psalm 23*  
*versified by Henry Baker (1821–77)*

*All remain standing for*

## THE PROCESSION OF THE ROLL OF HONOUR

*The British Commonwealth Nurses' Roll of Honour is borne in silence from the Chapel of St George through the Nave to the Sacarium.*

*The Reverend Christopher Stoltz, Minor Canon and Sacrist, says:*

**L**ET 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.

*The bearer of the Roll, Sergeant Alexandra Middleton, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, is escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Armed Forces.*

*The Roll of Honour is received by the Dean and is placed near the High Altar.*

*The Dean says:*

**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 sing*

#### THE HYMN



**I**VOW to thee, my country, all earthly things above,  
entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:  
the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,  
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;  
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,  
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,  
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;  
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;  
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;  
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,  
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

*Thaxted 295 AMNS  
Gustav Holst (1874–1934)*

*Cecil Spring-Rice (1859–1918)*

THE ADDRESS  
by  
Professor Michael Wheeler

*All sit for*

THE PROCESSION OF THE LAMP

*The Lamp is carried by Sam Foster, and escorted by student nurses and midwives from Bangor University, Cardiff University, Swansea University, and the University of South Wales.*

*On arrival in the Sacrarium, the Lamp is passed to Natalie Yates-Bolton, who passes it to Sithembile Chinaire to represent the transmission of knowledge. It 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*

**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

**I**F I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become a sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. Love rejoiceth with the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall be done away; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face. Now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I have been known. But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

*Richard Rodney Bennett (1936–2012)*

*from 1 Corinthians 13*

*All kneel or remain seated for*

## THE INTERCESSIONS

*The Sacrist says:*

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

**W**E give thanks for the life and work of Florence Nightingale, and for the lives of those she inspired to serve others in showing care and compassion. We pray for the continued work of The Florence Nightingale Foundation and for the significant contribution to clinical care made by its scholars.

*Professor Elizabeth Robb, Chief Executive, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, continues:*

**W**E give thanks for all those who provide leadership in the care of the frail, elderly or terminally ill; for all who experience pain and for those who live with a disability.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Professor Viv Bennett, Director of Nursing, Public Health England and Department of Health, says:*

**W**E pray for all who promote health and wellbeing in policy and practice; for nurses who care for the sick, both in hospital and at home; for nurses in training and for those who teach them; and for all engaged in research.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Colonel David Bates ARRC QHN L/QARANC, Director Army Nursing Services and Matron-in-Chief (Army), says:*

**W**E pray for all those who promote healthcare within the Armed Forces, remembering especially those currently serving in theatres of conflict, and for those responsible for training and formation; and for those who exercise stewardship, make policy, and allocate resources.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Venerable Andrew Tremlett, Canon in Residence, says:*

**W**E pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for those who are terminally ill, elderly or frail; for all who continue to live with the scars of war, with disability and pain, and for the many who care for them:

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Sacrist concludes:*

**R**EMEMBER 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 joys of your salvation.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

*All stand to sing*

THE HYMN

*during which a collection is taken for The Florence Nightingale Foundation*



**M**INE eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:  
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
he hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:

his truth is marching on.

Glory, glory, Hallelujah!

His truth is marching on.

He hath sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;

he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgement seat:

O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant my feet!

Our God is marching on.

Glory, glory, Hallelujah!

Our God is marching on.

I have seen him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps:  
they have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I have read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:  
his day is marching on.  
Glory, glory, Hallelujah!  
His day is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:  
as he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,  
while God is marching on.  
Glory, glory, Hallelujah!  
While God is marching on.

*Battle-Hymn of the Republic 242 H&P*  
*traditional American melody*  
*collected and edited by William Steffe (1830–90)*

*Julia Ward Howe (1819–1910)*

*All remain standing. The Dean pronounces*

#### THE BLESSING

**T**HE God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen, and settle you in the faith; 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 as the Procession moves to the west end of the church.*

*Music after the service:*

*Entrée from Sonata VII Op 89*

*Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)*

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

*The bells of the Abbey church are rung.*

The Florence Nightingale Foundation wishes to thank Bangor University, Cardiff University, Swansea University, and the University of South Wales for their support on this occasion.



Donations, legacies, or sponsorship make a great difference to the achievement of the Foundation's aims and objectives.

To fund the Foundation's work requires the support of well-wishers both new and present. If you feel able to assist in the valuable work of the Foundation, you may like to visit our website [www.florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk](http://www.florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk) or telephone us on (020) 7730 3030 or fax us on (020) 7730 6262

---

Printed by  
Barnard & Westwood Ltd  
23 Pakenham Street, London WC1X 0LB  
By Appointment to HM The Queen, Printers and Bookbinders  
& HRH The Prince of Wales, Printers  
Printers to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster

---