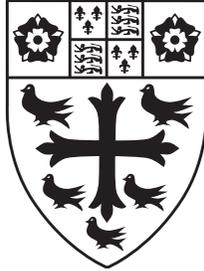


Westminster Abbey



A WREATHLAYING
TO COMMEMORATE
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL
KG OM CH TD



Friday 30th January 2015
6.00 pm

CHURCHILL 2015

Churchill 2015 is a unique international celebration of the life and legacy of Sir Winston Churchill KG OM CH TD, fifty years after his death, sixty years after his final resignation as prime minister, and seventy five years after his ‘finest hour’ leading the fight against fascism in 1940.

Churchill-related activity will take place around the world to commemorate his achievements, to highlight his vibrant existing legacy, to promote a range of educational opportunities, and to bring his life and work to new audiences.

Churchill 2015 follows three main themes: Commemoration, to mark this important anniversary appropriately; Education, to engage and inspire future generations; and Legacy, to highlight, develop and enhance the existing work of Churchill organisations in delivering programmes focusing on leadership, debate, and public speaking.

Churchill 2015 is being led by an alliance of those charities and institutions with an interest in the life or legacy of Sir Winston. For a full list of partners, events and activities, see

www.churchillcentral.com

‘Let us go forward together’ in the spirit of Sir Winston.

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

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, gives

THE WELCOME AND BIDDING

Sir David Cannadine introduces and gives

A REFLECTION

‘M^EN and women in many lands will mourn the passing of Winston Churchill, for they know well that if he had never lived they themselves might not be alive to-day. Few of our great men have been more British, but also few have been more international. And so it is entirely fitting that in every land where a trace of freedom remains, and in many where that cause seems temporarily to have been snuffed out, the name of Churchill evokes the admiration of the noble and silences the gibes of the petty.

‘Such a man had the power to lift up the hearts of other men and other women. That was his supreme gift to us in life, and it may well be his abiding legacy to us in death. “He does not die,” says the poet, “who can bequeath some influence to the land he knows.” If that is so, and surely it is so, then Winston Churchill, acknowledged and acclaimed as a paladin in and architect of the past, has still a hero’s contribution to make to the history of the future.’

*Daily Telegraph editorial
25th January 1965*

The Honourable Celia Sandys reads

from SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL’S PARLIAMENTARY TRIBUTE TO NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN

I^N paying a tribute of respect and of regard to an eminent man who has been taken from us, no one is obliged to alter the opinions which he has formed or expressed upon issues which have become a part of history; but at the Lychgate we may all pass our own conduct and our own judgments under a searching review. It is not given to human beings, happily for

them, for otherwise life would be intolerable, to foresee or to predict to any large extent the unfolding course of events. In one phase men seem to have been right, in another they seem to have been wrong. Then again, a few years later, when the perspective of time has lengthened, all stands in a different setting. There is a new proportion. There is another scale of values. History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days. What is the worth of all this? The only guide to a man is his conscience; the only shield to his memory is the rectitude and sincerity of his actions. It is very imprudent to walk through life without this shield, because we are so often mocked by the failure of our hopes and the upsetting of our calculations; but with this shield, however the fates may play, we march always in the ranks of honour.

*House of Commons
12th November 1940*

The Dean leads

PSALM 46

GOD is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved: and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.

Though the waters thereof rage and swell: and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.

The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God: the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.

God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed: God shall help her, and that right early.

The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved: but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.

O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord: what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.

He maketh wars to cease in all the world: he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire.

Be still then, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern, Team Rector, Benefice of Blenheim, reads

HEBREWS 11: 32–12: 2

AND what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

THE WREATHLAYING

Flowers are laid on the memorial to The Right Honourable Sir Winston Churchill KG OM CH TD by John Winston Churchill, great-great-grandson, Iona Pite, great-great-granddaughter, and Christabel Fraser, great-great-granddaughter, and a wreath is laid by Captain George Trypanis, The Queen's Royal Hussars.

Silence is kept.

The Dean says:

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, whose love is over all thy works in this and every world: into thy hands we commit the souls of those whom thou hast taken into the world of light, beseeching thee to grant unto them the unutterable joys of thine eternal kingdom, and unto us grace to abide in fortitude of spirit and in perfect faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey, Minor Canon and Precentor, leads

THE PRAYERS

LORD, the God of righteousness and truth, grant to our Queen and her government, to Members of Parliament and all in positions of responsibility, the guidance of thy Spirit. May they never lead the nation wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideals but laying aside all private interests and prejudices keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all mankind; so may thy kingdom come and thy name be hallowed. **Amen.**

The Parliamentary Prayer

ALMIGHTY God, stretch forth thy mighty arm to strengthen and protect the Armed Forces of this land: grant that, meeting danger with courage, and all occasions with discipline and loyalty, they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace to the honour and glory of thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O GOD, who wouldst fold both heaven and earth in a single peace: let the design of thy great love lighten upon the waste of our wraths and sorrows: and give peace to thy Church, peace among nations, peace in our dwellings, and peace in our hearts: through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Very Reverend Eric Milner-White (1884–1963)

All say:

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

All these our prayers and praises let us offer to God our Father, in the prayer our Saviour Christ hath 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.

The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

GOD grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The Queen, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us sinners, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

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