

Order of Service

Conducted by

The Reverend (Wing Commander) Jonathan Beach RAF

OPENING SENTENCE

‘Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint’.

Isaiah 40 v 31

‘Where shall I go from your spirit or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend into heaven you are there; if I make my bed in the grave you are there also. If I spread out my wings towards the morning or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me’.

Psalm 139 v 6-9

INTRODUCTION

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives were taken away as a result of the crash of Liberator KL654 on 23rd August 1945 and whose remains we inter in this burial ground today.

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
we give you thanks for the bravery and sacrifice
of those whom we remember and cherish today.
As we honour them before you,
so heal our wounds, calm our hearts and give us knowledge
of your eternal peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

All say PSALM 121

I lift my eyes to the hills;
where does my help come from?

My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip;
he who watches over you will not slumber;

Indeed, he who watches over Israel
Will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you;
The Lord is your shade at your right hand;

The sun shall not harm you by day,
Nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm;
He will watch over your life.

The Lord will watch over your coming and going
Both now and forevermore.

Glory to the Father and to the Son:
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be for ever.

CLOSING PRAYER

Support us, O Lord,
All the day long of this troublesome life,
Until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
The busy world is hushed,
The fever of life is over,
And our work is done.
Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging,
A holy rest, and peace at the last;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God give to you and to all those you love
His comfort and his peace,
His light and his joy,
In this world and the next.
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit rest upon you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

THE EXHORTATION

Read by Warrant Officer Class II Paul Cross

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.'

All: We will remember them

THE LAST POST

Silence

REVEILLE

'When you go home, tell them of us and say,
"For your tomorrow, we gave our today"'.
Kohima Epitaph

LAYING OF WREATHS AND FLOWERS

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE COLLECT

Almighty God, who has promised that they who wait upon thee shall renew their strength and mount up with wings as eagles, we commend to thy fatherly protection all who serve in the Royal Air Force. Uplift and support us in our high endeavour, that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and a sure defence to our homeland. Help us fulfil our several duties with honour, goodwill and integrity, and grant that we may prove to be worthy successors of those, who by their valour and sacrifice, did nobly serve their day and generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

READINGS

Ecclesiastes 3 v 1-15
Read by Captain Kenneth Taylor RN

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

Whatever is has already been,
and what will be has been before;
and God will call the past to account.

John 15 v 9-13
Read by Wing Commander John Dunne RAF

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

THE PRAYERS

Chaplain: Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be your 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.**

LOWERING OF COFFIN

THE COMMITTAL

At their earlier burials, our loved ones were entrusted to God's mercy.

Jack Blakey
John Trevor Bromfield
William Kenneth Dovey
Edward Donald Mason
William Ross
Raymond Arthur Towell
Arthur Turner
John Selwyn Watts

We now commit their mortal remains to a permanent resting place:

Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust;
In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who will transform our frail bodies
That they may be conformed to his glorious body,
Who died, was buried and rose again for us.
To him be glory for ever.

All: Amen.

THE COMMEMORATION

Let us remember before God,
And commend to his sure keeping:
Those who have died for their country in conflict:
Those whom we knew and whose memory we treasure;
And all who have lived and died in the service of humanity.