

**Call to Prayer: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
**Prayer @ 7pm**

The season of Remembrance invites us, at one and the same time, to look back and to look forward. As we look back, we recall those who have gone before us and, on a broader scale, the human tragedies that have scarred our world. The tragedy of human conflict continues to scar the lives of so many at this time and so our act of remembrance has an immediate resonance in present times. As we look forward, we affirm the living hope that is founded in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In affirming this hope, we resolve to live our lives shaped by that hope and so our resolve has an immediate resonance in present times. Remembrance of the past and hope for the future shape our lives in the present.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we hear of what it is to live as those who pray 'thy Kingdom come' and who anticipate the coming of the Kingdom. Jesus said: 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven.' (5: 43-45 a)) In these challenging times, we are invited to embrace the teaching of Jesus anew and to live in the present as those whose lives are shaped by 'the life of the world to come'. We pray:

Living God,  
We come before you  
To look back and to remember.  
In our remembrance,  
We give thanks for the lives of those who have gone before us  
And who have shaped the world in the light of your Kingdom.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

Living God,  
We come before you  
To look forward and to affirm  
The hope founded in the resurrection our Lord Jesus Christ.  
May we journey hopefully in these times

And live lives shaped in the light of your Kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

Living God,  
We come before you  
To remember those whose lives have been scarred  
By past conflicts.  
Grant to us grace to live as peacemakers  
And strength to break down the barriers of division.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

Living God,  
We come before you  
As we journey forward  
And face the challenges of our times.  
Grant to us that we may live  
As those whose lives are shaped by the life of the world to come.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.

Signed by:

Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of Scotland

Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Roman Catholic Church

Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus, on behalf of the College of Bishops, Scottish Episcopal Church

Rev. John Fulton, Moderator, United Free Church of Scotland

Rev. Lindsey Sanderson, United Reformed Church (Scotland)

Rev. Martin Hodson, General Director, Baptist Union of Scotland

Rev. Mark Slaney, District Chair, Methodist Church (Scotland)

Rev. May-Kane Logan, Chair, Congregational Federation in Scotland

Lt. Col. Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army

Adwoa Bittle, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Rev. Claire Fender, District Superintendent, British Isles North District, Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Chris Gbenle, Provincial Pastor, Province of Scotland, Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bishop Francis Alao, Church of God (Scotland)/Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS)

Rev Fred Drummond, Director, Evangelical Alliance (Scotland)