National Service Commemorating

MEMORIAL DAY

Sunday, May 27, 2018
11:15 AM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL
ABOUT THE OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY

Although the exact origins of Memorial Day are disputed, the first observance of Memorial Day is thought to have taken place in April 1865, when a group of former slaves gathered at a Charleston, South Carolina, horse track turned Confederate prison where more than 250 Union soldiers had died. The bodies of soldiers buried in a mass grave were reinterred in individual graves on the site. On May 1, 1865, some 10,000 black Charleston residents, white missionaries, teachers, schoolchildren, and Union troops marched around the Planters’ Race Course, singing and carrying armfuls of roses.

In 1868, Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic — an organization of former soldiers and sailors — issued what was called General Order Number 11, designating May 30th as a memorial day. He declared it to be “for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land.” The first national celebration of Memorial Day (originally Decoration Day) took place May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery. The national observance of Memorial Day still takes place there today, with the placing of a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the decoration of each grave with a small American flag.

On May 11, 1950, Congress issued a joint resolution requesting that the president proclaim a Prayer for Peace on each Memorial Day. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a federal holiday to be held on the last Monday of every May. On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember the fallen, and honor all who have served our country, as we unite in prayer for permanent peace in the world.
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MEMORIAL DAY

CARILLON PRELUDE

God of our fathers
O beautiful for spacious skies
Sonatina, from BWV 106
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
For those in peril on the sea
Mine eyes have seen the glory

National Hymn; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b. 1957)
Materna; arr. Milford Myhre (b. 1931)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); arr. Arie Abbenes (b. 1944)
Nicaea; arr. E. Nassor
Melita; arr. Sally Slade Warner (1932-2009)
Battle Hymn; arr. Leen’t Hart (1920-1992)

ORGAN PRELUDE

Soliloquy
Nimrod from Enigma Variations, Op. 36

David Conte (b. 1955)
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

INTROIT

Abide with me

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
I need Thy presence ev’ry passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter’s pow’r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. Amen.

(Henry Lyte, 1793-1847)

The people stand as able.

ENTRANCE HYMN • 362

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Nicaea
OPENING ACCLAMATION

OFFICIANT Let the peoples praise you, O God;
PEOPLE let all the peoples praise you.

OFFICIANT Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
PEOPLE for you rule the world with justice.

OFFICIANT With fairness you rule the peoples,
PEOPLE and guide all the nations upon earth.

OFFICIANT Let the people praise you, O God;
PEOPLE let all the peoples praise you.

A MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION

Since war is the world’s most terrible scourge, we should do all in our power to prevent its recurrence. It was the hope of mankind that with the cessation of hostilities of World War II the way would be open to founding a permanent peace. Instead, that war has left the world in a state of continued unrest. Accordingly, we feel the need of turning in humble supplication to Almighty God for help and guidance.

In recognition of this need, the Congress has fittingly provided, in a joint resolution which I approved on May 11, 1950, that Memorial Day, which has long been set aside for paying tribute to those who lost their lives in war, shall henceforth be dedicated also as a day for Nation-wide prayer for permanent peace. The Congress has also requested that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe Memorial Day in that manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY S. TRUMAN, President of the United States of America, pursuant to the aforementioned resolution, do hereby proclaim Memorial Day, Tuesday, May 30, 1950, and each succeeding Memorial Day, as a day of prayer for permanent peace. And I designate the hour beginning at eleven o’clock in the morning of that day, Eastern Daylight Saving Time, as a period in which all our people may unite in prayer, each in accordance with his own religious faith, for divine aid in bringing enduring peace to a troubled world.

Harry S. Truman
President of the United States
NATIONAL ANTHEM

Sung by all.

The Star-Spangled Banner

John Stafford Smith (1750-1836)

O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

(Francis Scott Key, 1779-1843)

COLLECT FOR THANKSGIVING FOR HEROIC SERVICE

OFFICIANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE And also with you.

OFFICIANT Let us pray.

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share in the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

PEOPLE Amen.

The people are seated.

READING Wisdom 3:1-5, 9

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.
CANTICLE

*Benedictus es, Domine*  
Ned Rorem (b. 1923)

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers:  
praised and exulted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty:  
praised and exulted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness:  
praised and exulted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths,  
and dwellest between the Cherubim:  
praised and exulted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom:  
praised and exulted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven:  
praised and exulted above all for ever.

*(Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34)*

READING  
*John 15:9-13*

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends."

*The people stand as able.*
HYMN

My song is love unknown

Love Unknown

1. My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,
   love to the loveless shown that they might stow,
   love - ly be.  O who am I that Christ would know.

2. He came from his blest throne salvation to be -
   but men made strange, and none the longed for grief like thine.
   But O my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend.

3. Here might I stay and sing, no story so di -
   ne - ver was love, dear King, ne - ver was
   This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.
The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON

The Reverend Teresa F. Terry

ANTHEM

Edward C. Bairstow (1874-1946)

I sat down under his shadow with great delight,
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

(Song of Solomon 2:3, 4)

The people stand as able.

PRAYERS FOR THE NATION

Almighty God, giver of all good things: we thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime.

And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name.

Amen.

The people are seated.
OFFERTORY

An offering is received to support the Cathedral’s ministry of sharing God’s love with the world.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Greater love hath no man

John Ireland (1879-1962)

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own Self bare our sins in his own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of Him Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

(Song of Solomon 8: 7, 6; St. John 15:13; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Corinthians 6:2; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 12:1)

The people stand as able.

PRAYER FOR THE ARMED FORCES

LEADER

Let us pray.

Lord God of hosts, whose power and authority is from everlasting to everlasting: keep under your protecting care the armed forces of the United States of America and all who serve therein. Grant that they may be a sure defense and a safeguard for the people of the United States, providing security for all who come and go in peaceful and lawful pursuits. Support them wherever duty takes them, on land or sea or in the air, and grant that they may fulfill their high calling as defenders of justice and freedom. In times of peace, keep them from evil; in times of danger, grant them fortitude; and in times of conflict, give them the gift of your presence. May our men and women in the armed forces stand firm as they guard our goodly heritage, that the gifts of freedom and liberty, justice, and peace, may be transmitted from one generation to the next.

PEOPLE

Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF THE FALLEN

Silence is observed as the Bourdon bell tolls twenty-one times, the highest military honor to those who died defending our freedom and democracy.

TAPS
PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY

LEADER Let us pray.

O God, we ask your strength, that we might dedicate ourselves to perfecting your kingdom of peace and justice among nations. Let us give thanks for the many blessings of freedom which we possess, purchased at the cost of many lives and sacrifices. Fill us with courage to fulfill our tasks and in no way break faith with the fallen. We commend these fallen to your mercy and ask that you give them eternal rest. This we ask and pray in your Name.

PEOPLE Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

LEADER O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered, draw near to all who mourn the loss of those near and dear to them. In the midst of their deep sorrow grant them the comfort of your presence. Give them faith to feel the calm assurance of your mercy and to know the blessing of your peace that passes all understanding. In your most holy Name we pray.

PEOPLE Amen.

The people are seated.

ANTHEM

And I saw a new heaven Edgar Bainton (1880-1956)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: For the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared, as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away. (Revelation 21:1-4)

The people stand as able.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

LEADER O Great Spirit of our Ancestors, we raise the pipe to you, to your messengers the four winds, and to Mother Earth who provides for your children. Give us the wisdom to teach our children to love, to respect, to be kind to each other so that they may grow with peace in mind. Let us learn to share all the good things that you provide for us on this Earth. (from the Native American tradition)

PEOPLE Amen.

LEADER Come, let us go to the mountain of the Lord, that we may walk the paths of the Most High. And we shall beat our swords into ploughshares and our spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. And none shall be afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken. (from the Jewish tradition)

PEOPLE Amen.
Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who has created us and made us into tribes and nations that we may know each other, not that we may despise each other. If the enemy incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace, and trust in God, for the Lord is one that hears and knows all things. And the servants of God Most Gracious are those who walk on the Earth in humility, and when we address them, we say, “Peace.” *(from the Islamic tradition)*

_Amen._

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *(from the Christian tradition)*

_Amen._

**HYMN • 579**

_Almighty Father, strong to save_  
*Melita*

**CLOSING PRAYER**

*Officiant*  
Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.  

*(Prayer attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226)*

**BLESSING**

_The bishop blesses the people, and the people respond; Amen._

**DISMISSAL**

*Officiant*  
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; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord.

*People*  
Thanks be to God.

**HYMN • 719**

_O beautiful for spacious skies_  
*Materna*

_The people remain in their seats until the service participants have departed in procession._

**POSTLUDE**

_Processional_  
Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)
Thank you for worshipping at the Washington National Cathedral today! We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral by using our new mobile giving program. Simply text the dollar amount you wish to give to (202) 856-9005. You’ll be taken to a secure website to enter your credit card information, which is kept safe and secure. Thank you in advance for your generosity and please know that your presence with us today has been a blessing.

FLOWERS The flowers throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. The High Altar: to the glory of God and in loving memory of Beatrice E. Wilson Baker; St. Mary’s Chapel Altar: in memory of and thanksgiving for Anne Peake; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory of Stephen Moore Lott, Margaret Elizabeth McKechnie Lott, and Patricia Hall Lott; Children’s Chapel Altar: in loving memory of Ruth and Caroline Clahane; War Memorial Chapel Altar: to the Glory of God and in loving memory of William Donald Rolar and Elsie Jeannette Rolar; Dulin Bay: in memory of J. Clifford Folger; Folger Bay: in memory of J. Clifford Folger; Bethlehem Chapel Altar: in memory of Edith Sprenger and Norman Sprenger, Willard Ching, and Charles Bell; in thanksgiving for the anniversary of Betsy and Barlow Burke.