



NATIONAL SERVICE COMMEMORATING

MEMORIAL DAY



SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2019

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 30 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.

National Service Commemorating MEMORIAL DAY



The people's responses are in bold.

CARILLON PRELUDE

God of our fathers

My Shepherd will supply my need

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide

Almighty Father, strong to save

O beautiful for spacious skies

National Hymn; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b. 1957)

Resignation; arr. E. M. Nassor

Eventide; arr. Leen 't Hart (1920-1992)

Melita; arr. Sally Slade Warner (1932-2009)

Materna; arr. Milford Myhre (b. 1931)

ORGAN PRELUDE

Finlandia, Op. 26

Nimrod from *Enigma Variations*, Op. 36 No. 9

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

INTROIT

Amazing grace!

New Britain; arr. Michael McCarthy (b. 1966)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed! The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come. 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

(*John Newton, 1725-1807*)

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION • 718

God of our fathers

National Hymn

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 peoples 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 suppliance 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
May 22, 1950

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Star-Spangled Banner

Sung by all.

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

Prayer of Saint Francis

Rene Clausen (b. 1953)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring love.

Where there is injury, help me to pardon.

Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.

Where there is despair, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, let me bring light.

Where there is sorrow, let me bring joy.

O Lord, master divine, grant that I 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, and in pardoning that we are pardoned.

For in dying we are born to eternal life.

(Attributed to Saint Francis, 1182-1226)

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 at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN

My song is love unknown

Love Unknown

1. My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me, love
2. He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but
3. Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di - vine: ne -
to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be. O
men made strange, and none the longed - for Christ would know. But
ver was love, dear King, ne - ver was grief like thine. This
who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
O my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend.
is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could glad - ly spend.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON

The Right Reverend Carl Walter Wright

ANTHEM

There is a Balm in Gilead

Negro spiritual; arr. William Dawson (1899-1990)

There is a Balm in Gilead,
to make the wounded whole,
There is a Balm in Gilead,
to heal the sinsick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,
And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels,
if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
And say "He died for all."

(Negro spiritual)

The people stand as able.

PRAYERS FOR THE NATION

Leader 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.

People **Heal us.**

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

People **Forgive us.**

Leader 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.

People **Inspire us.**

Leader 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.

People **Enlighten us.**

Leader 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.

People **Renew us.**

Leader 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.

People **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

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem;
they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls,
and plenteousness within thy palaces.

(Psalm 122:6-7)

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

We shall walk through the valley in peace

arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

We shall walk through the valley in peace. We shall walk through the valley in peace.
For Jesus Himself will be our leader. We shall walk through the valley in peace.

We will meet our loved ones there. We will meet our loved ones there.
For Jesus Himself will be our leader. We shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there. There will be no trials there.
For Jesus Himself will be our leader. We shall walk through the valley in peace.

(Negro spiritual)

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.

Leader 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)*

People Amen.

Leader 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)*

People 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)

People Amen.

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 AT THE CLOSING • 719

O beautiful for spacious skies

Materna

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

POSTLUDE

Marche Heroïque

A. Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

The Right Reverend Carl Walter Wright
Bishop Suffragan for Armed Forces and Federal Ministries, The Episcopal Church

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith
Dean

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope
Provost

The Reverend Canon Dana Colley Corsello
Canon Vicar

The Reverend Dr. Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon for Worship

The Reverend Dr. Andrew K. Barnett
Associate for Worship and Music

CLERGY IN PROCESSION

The Reverend Dr. Beth Humphrey

The Reverend Richard G. P. Kukowski

The Reverend Sarah E. Slater

The Reverend Dr. Martha Watson

MUSICIANS

Canon Michael McCarthy
Director of Music

George H. Fergus
Associate Director of Music and Assistant Organist

Dr. Edward M. Nassor
Cathedral Carillonneur

The Cathedral Singers

Thank you for worshipping at Washington National Cathedral, your National Cathedral.

The work of the Cathedral in service to the city, the nation, and the world is made possible entirely through private support. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark. It is only through your generosity that the Cathedral can fully live into its priorities of welcoming, deepening, convening, and serving.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Visit cathedral.org to sign up for our weekly newsletter. You can also make a gift to help keep the Cathedral strong — either as the plate is passed or by using our 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. 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 and in celebration of the marriage of Nicole Egge and Gregory Roberts; St. Mary's Chapel Altar: in memory of and thanksgiving for Anne Peeke; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory of Stephen Moore Lott, Margaret Elizabeth McKechnie Lott, and Patricia Hall Lott; Norman Prince Tomb, St. John's Chapel: in honor of Norman Prince; 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; War Memorial Chapel Wreath: in honor and memory of the men and women of the armed forces of our country; 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.

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Cover photograph of *Freedom I* window in War Memorial Chapel by Ken Cobb.



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