



A Service of Thanksgiving
to mark the

80th Anniversary of Victory in Japan Day

Sunday 17 August 2025
6pm



WELCOME to Guildford Cathedral

Welcome to this County Service of Thanksgiving to mark the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Japan Day. The officiant and preacher this evening is The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, Dean of Guildford.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SERVICE

We sing the hymns and say together the words in **bold** type. Although posture is suggested please do whatever is most comfortable for you. A large print copy of this order of service is available from the stewards.

MUSIC IN THE SERVICE

We welcome today the choir of Godalming Minster under the direction of Matthew Greenfield, with organist Mitchell Farquharson.

Opening Versicles and Responses

Humphrey Clucas (b.1941)

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis

Collegium Regale Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The Last Post and Reveille are played by Warrant Officer (Class 2) Pete Bryan, Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment Band.

King George VI's Speech to the Houses of Parliament 15 August 1945 (extract)

'The surrender of Japan has brought to an end six years of warfare which have caused untold loss and misery to the world. In this hour of deliverance, it is fitting that we should give humble and solemn thanks to God by whose grace we have been brought to final victory. My Armed Forces from every part of my Commonwealth and Empire have fought with steady courage and endurance. To them as well as to all others who have borne their share in bringing about this great victory and to all our Allies our gratitude is due. We remember especially at this time those who have laid down their lives in the fight for freedom.'

COLLECTION

There will be a collection taken in the second hymn this evening, using a green gift aid envelope if you are a taxpayer. You can make a contactless donation by using the contactless collection plates on your way out, or the contactless box (by the west doors of the Cathedral) or our QR code. If you use the contactless plates or box and you are a taxpayer, please complete a green gift aid envelope and write 'contactless donation' on the front; please put the envelope in the plate or the cash box at the west end.



Your support makes a real difference to the ministry and mission of Guildford Cathedral. If you would like to support this work on a regular basis it's very simple to set up a direct debit via the Parish Giving Scheme. The phone number is 0333 002 1271, and the Cathedral reference code is 170617001. On behalf of all at Guildford Cathedral, thank you.

THE CIVIC PROCESSION

At 5.55pm, please stand for the entrance of Civic Dignitaries:

Virger

Deputy Mayor of Guildford
Chair of Surrey County Council
Lord-Lieutenant's and High Sheriff's Cadets
High Sheriff of Surrey
HM Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey The Dean

Please sit to await the Dean of Guildford's welcome.

WELCOME The Very Reverend Bob Cooper

Stand **HYMN**

During which the Cathedral procession enters, the Standards and Union Flag are presented.



I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me;
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross of Calvary:

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
sing it with his saints in glory
gathered by the crystal sea.*

I was lost, but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray;
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way:

I was faint and fears possessed me;
I was bruised from many a fall;
hope was gone, and shame distressed me,
but his love has pardoned all:

Days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrow's paths I often tread;
but his presence still is with me;
by his guiding hand I'm led:

*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
sing it with his saints in glory
gathered by the crystal sea.*

He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet;
then at last he'll bring me over
saved by grace and made complete.

Words: Sing Glory 43 Francis Harold Rowley (1854-1952)

*Music: CP 278 Hyfrydol, melody by Rowland H. Pritchard (1811-1887) harmonised
by editors of English Hymnal (1906)*

OPENING VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Sung by the choir

○ Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.
○ Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

BIDDING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Dear friends, we have come together on this day to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of Victory in Japan.

We come together conscious of our need for God's forgiveness for the sin and the desire to dominate others that leads to conflict between people, and war between nations.

As we remember the many soldiers, sailors, and air force pilots and crew who gave their lives restraining evil and opposing tyranny, so we also come in thanksgiving for those who continue to strive for peace across the world.

But above all things, let us pray that God's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven, as we join our voices together and say

**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.**

Sit

VICTORY IN JAPAN DAY 1945

Colonel (Retired) Patrick Crowley MA MBE DL, Deputy Colonel, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, Chief Executive, South East Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association (SERFCA)

PSALM 62.5-12

Sung by the choir

Nevertheless, my soul, wait thou still upon God :
for my hope is in him.

He truly is my strength and my salvation :
he is my defence, so that I shall not fall.

In God is my health, and my glory :
the rock of my might, and in God is my trust.

O put your trust in him always, ye people :
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our hope.

As for the children of men, they are but vanity :
the children of men are deceitful upon the weights,
they are altogether lighter than vanity itself.

O trust not in wrong and robbery, give not yourselves unto vanity :
if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.

God spake once, and twice I have also heard the same :
that power belongeth unto God;

And that thou, Lord, art merciful :
for thou rewardest every man according to his work.

Stand 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.

Chant: Thomas Attwood Walmisley (1814-1856)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 19.23-27a

read by The Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, Mr Michael More-Molyneux

The first lesson is written in the nineteenth chapter of the book of Job, beginning at the twenty-third verse.

‘O that my words were written down!

 O that they were inscribed in a book!

 O that with an iron pen and with lead

 they were engraved on a rock for ever!

For I know that my Redeemer lives,

 and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;

and after my skin has been thus destroyed,

 then in my flesh I shall see God,

whom I shall see on my side,

 and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

 My heart faints within me!’

Here ends the first lesson.

MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

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.

Text: Luke 1.46-55

Sit

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Hebrews 9.24-28

read by Tim De Meyer, Chief Constable of Surrey Police

The second lesson is written in the ninth chapter of the letter to the Hebrews, beginning at the twenty-fourth verse.

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgement, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Here ends the second lesson.

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared :

before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

Text: Luke 2. 29-32

ANTHEM

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 marvellous 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.

Words: Canticles 8, St John 15, 1 Peter 2, 1 Corinthians 6, Romans 12
Music: John Ireland (1879-1962)

SERMON

The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, Dean of Guildford.

Sit or **THE PRAYERS**

kneel

The officiant invites all to pray, saying

Trusting the promises of God, and with faith in his mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

For those who served and died in the Second World War read by
Lieutenant Colonel Helen Currie, Commanding Officer
103 (Force Support) Battalion, Royal Electrical and
Mechanical Engineers

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those men and women
who have died in active service, particularly in the Second World War,
whose sacrifice brought Victory in Japan.
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,
now and for ever.

Amen.

For all places at war in the world read by
Private Morgan Griffiths, 4th Battalion, Princess of Wales's
Royal Regiment

We pray for nations still devastated by war,
for their people and their leaders,
and for those who suffer the effects or memories of past wars;
for veterans, for those who mourn,
and for all innocent victims whose lives have been shattered
by the cruelty of others.

Be close to those in our own day who have grown weary
or lost hope as a result of violence or terror,
to all refugees and displaced people,
and inspire the work of those who seek to address
the causes of discord and distrust.
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

For those who serve today read by
Squadron Leader June Machin, RAF Air Cadets

O Lord God of Hosts,
stretch forth, we pray, your almighty arm
to strengthen and protect our service personnel.
Support them in times of conflict,
and in their rest and training keep them safe from all evil;
endue them with courage and loyalty;
and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For the peace of the world read by
Commander Sarah Royston, Royal Naval Reserve

Lord our God,
as we remember, teach us the ways of peace.
As we treasure memories, teach us to hope.
As we give thanks for the sacrifices of the past,
help us to make your future in this world,
until your kingdom come.

Amen.

The officiant says

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Amen.

HYMN

During the hymn a collection will be taken. Please see the notice at the front of this order of service for details of how to give electronically.



Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
who bid'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee,
for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Universal Lord,
who suffered death by nails and sword,
from all assault of deadly foe
sustain thy soldiers where they go;
and evermore hold in thy hand
all those in peril on the land.

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,
who fills with strength the human race,
inspire us all to know the right;
guide all who dare the eagle's flight;
and underneath thy wings of care
guard all from peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power!
our colleagues shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee,
praise from the air, the land and sea.

Words: Verses 1,4 William Whiting alt. (1825-1878);

verses 2,3 Brian Elliott CF

Music: CP 413 Melita, John Baccus Dykes (1823-1876)

Please remain standing.

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Spoken by Brigadier Paul Evans OBE DL

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.
We will remember them.

*The beginning of two minutes silence is signalled by the sounding of
the Last Post.*

Silence is kept

The Reveille is sounded.

The Kohima Epitaph is spoken by
Brigadier (Retired) Dave Neal, President Surrey Royal British Legion

When you go home
tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow
we gave our today.

Attributed to John Maxwell Edmonds (1875-1958)

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious King,
long live our noble King,
 God save the King.
Send him victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us,
 God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
on him be pleased to pour,
 long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
and ever give us cause,
to sing with heart and voice,
 God save the King.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop of Guildford

God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth,
and all people, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
come down upon you
and remain with you always.

Amen.

HYMN



O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home;

Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.



A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Words: based on Psalm 90, Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

*Music: CP 537, St Anne, Melody and bass from A Supplement to the New Version 1708
probably by William Croft (1678-1727)*

*Please remain standing as the standards, HM Lord-Lieutenant, High Sheriff,
Civic Dignitaries and Cathedral procession process out.*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Saraband in Modo Elegiaco Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

You are invited to refreshments at the back of the Cathedral.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE END OF THE WAR

The 2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment had to surrender to the Japanese at the fall of Singapore in February 1942. They had to endure three and a half years of brutal captivity from the surrender until VJ Day. 149 East Surreys died whilst POWs. Company Sergeant Major Len Jelley was one of the men who survived the ordeal, despite having to work on the bridge over the River Kwai. These are his words, recollecting the end of the War:

'When the war actually finished we were in a place called Ubon which is right over in the east of Thailand near the border with Laos and we went out one morning to go to work. We had started digging a runway for an aerodrome half way through it and they made us dig big trenches across it so we thought they are going to have some funny aeroplanes land on here. Anyway, we realised that something must be happening and one morning we were all lined up, normal Tenko, all counted, one or two got a box aside the ears because they weren't standing up straight and finally we stood there for about an hour and wondered what was going on. We all got our mess tin full of cold rice for our lunch and were all told to sit down and that's unusual, you didn't get told to sit down very often, which quite pleased us. We looked at one another, we knew there was something going on by the way the Japs were acting and after two or three hours we were all told to go back to the huts, Yasmee day, (yasmee is rest), and we all went back, glad of a day off.

Next morning we paraded the same, the same thing happened, all men sit, all men go back to hut, lovely, another day off. That evening we were all called out on the parade ground, lined up, several hundred of us, and we had a chap who was our interpreter. His grandmother, I believe, was Japanese although he was in our Royal Army Ordnance Corps and he and the Japanese Commandant stood up on the little box, gave a speech in Japanese and then this chap interpreted. "War in South East Asia is over, you are all going back to your families", and I can honestly say not one peep, not one cheer, nothing, complete silence and after a while it was just all men back to the huts, then you heard "Rule Britannia", God Save the King, you never heard such a sound, beautiful.

Then all the Dakotas started landing; we were put into Dakotas and flown to Rangoon and taken to a camp in Rangoon. There were lovely tents there, all nice and clean, all put up and we looked in there and there were beds in there with sheets on them, white sheets on beds, you couldn't believe it and from that day to this I shall never know why some of the chaps couldn't get on the bed, they slept down beside on the ground, couldn't get up on the bed, couldn't bring themselves to get on the bed. I tell you I did, I was in there quicker than that, but it was a wonderful sight it really was.'



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

SERVICES TODAY (TRINITY 9)

7.30am Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*

8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *in the Lady Chapel*

9.45am Cathedral Eucharist with baptism of Jacob Sturge, sung by
Godalming Minster Choir

6pm Choral Evensong for VJ Day sung by *Godalming Minster Choir*

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*

8am Tuesday

8.30am Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

9am Saturday

Holy Communion *in the Lady Chapel*

8.30am Tuesday

9am Monday, Wednesday, Friday

12.30pm Thursday

9.30am Saturday

Evening Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*

4pm Wednesday,

Choral Evensong *sung by the Danensian Choir*

4pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 24 AUGUST

BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE

7.30am Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*

8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) *in the Lady Chapel*

9.45am Cathedral Eucharist *sung by the Danensian Choir*

6pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Danensian Choir*

DANENSIAN CHOIR VISITING THIS WEEK

From Monday 18 to Sunday 24 August we will be hosting a visiting residential choir to sing weekday Evensong (see list of services above), and Choral Eucharist and Evensong on Sunday. Founded in the 1960s by Benjamin William Appleby, the choir continues to thrive, primarily performing Anglican Church music in the grand cathedrals of the country.

NOTICES

If you would like a notice included in the service sheets for Sundays please send them to Carolyn Howard-Jones (liturgyadmin@guildford-cathedral.org) by 4pm on the Tuesday preceding the Sunday. Thank you.

UKRAINIAN ICONS

We are looking forward to the two Ukrainian icons being installed into the Cathedral. The icon of Our Lady will be installed at evensong on Sunday 7 September which is the Eve of the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and the icon of St Michael will be installed at the 9.45am service on Sunday 28 September, the Eve of Michaelmas. There will be appropriate liturgical accompaniment to the installations and there will be a suite of resources to help people engage with them. I am looking forward to these additions to the cathedral and enabling people to access the depth of spirituality contained within icons. Dean Bob.

VISION AND STRATEGY 2026-2030

Work has begun on developing our Vision and Strategy for 2026-2030. This September, we will launch a comprehensive consultation exercise where the voice of our cathedral community will be central to shaping our future direction. To support this process, there will be a congregational meeting after the 9.45am service on Sunday 14 September. This will be an opportunity to learn more about the Vision and Strategy development process and to ask any questions you may have. We are also forming a prayer group to surround this important work in prayer and are looking for volunteers who would like to support the process in this way. We look forward to your participation in this important and exciting journey as we plan together for the years ahead. Dean Bob.

FRIENDS OF GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL LUNCH CLUB

Good food, great company - everyone welcome!

Looking for a relaxed and friendly way to spend your Sunday lunchtime after church? Whether you come to the Cathedral Eucharist or attend another local service, why not join others for lunch at a nearby pub or restaurant? You don't need to be a member of The Friends of Guildford Cathedral – just come along and enjoy a meal with like-minded people. Whether you're on your own, with a partner, or bringing a friend, there's a seat for you. We hope to meet once a month, ideally on the first Sunday. If you are interested, please email: friends@guildford-cathedral.org

FOREIGN COINS AND BANKNOTES!

Your old and left over currency, both coins and notes, are of value to the Cathedral's Coins Scheme for converting to sterling for fundraising. We invite donations of the following: notes and coins in Euros, from any African country, Indian or Indonesian currency, US dollars, Singapore dollars, obsolete UK currency; Scandinavian currency; currency from Mexico and Chile - and from any other countries - is invited. Everything we receive is changed into sterling for Cathedral funds. Our total stands at £31,240 and we are climbing! Donations large or small can be left in the Sacristy or Office. Thank you. John Mitchell.

SAFEGUARDING AT GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral is committed to Safeguarding as an integral part of its ministry and mission, promoting a safer culture and the welfare of every child, young person and adult. As such, the Cathedral has robust policies, procedures and guidelines in place, to ensure good practice throughout the community. Chapter has overall responsibility for Safeguarding, and the Safeguarding Leadership Group reports to Chapter every month on the progress of our Safeguarding journey and any issues arising. The members of the Safeguarding Leadership Group are listed below and can be contacted at any time on any Safeguarding concern you may have about yourself or another member of the Cathedral Community.

Mary Morris (Cathedral Safeguarding Officer)
07949 685683 marymorris31@outlook.com
Matt O'Grady (Cathedral Safeguarding Lead)
07757 850952 dops@guildford-cathedral.org
Reverend Canon Chris Hollingshurst (Chapter Safeguarding
Representative) 07534 970127 chris.hollingshurst@guildford-cathedral.org
Katherine Dienes-Williams (Organist and Master of the Choristers)
07716 757984 katherine@guildford-cathedral.org

In addition to Cathedral contacts, a new online link is now available for anyone wishing to report a safeguarding concern to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. The link is available on the 'Report a concern' page of the Diocesan website and allows you to complete all the necessary details that will enable the DST to make an assessment, take any necessary action or give advice as quickly as possible. The teams remain available for calls and queries via our team number 01483 790739 and our email address – safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk