Westminster Abbey

A Service to Celebrate the Life of Florence Nightingale
in the centennial year of her death

Wednesday 12 May 2010
6.30 pm
The Florence Nightingale Foundation is a living memorial to Florence Nightingale. In its activities, it
- advances the study of nursing and promotes excellence in nursing practice
- raises funds to provide scholarships for nurses and midwives to study at home and abroad, to promote innovation in practice, to extend knowledge and skill to meet changing needs
- promotes the special contribution of nursing to society and to the health of people
- encourages international understanding and learning between nurses

The Service is held annually and during the ceremony processions take place that are of significance.

The Adjutant and Chelsea Pensioners process. Their participation is in memory of, and in gratitude to, Florence Nightingale for her care of the troops—who were their predecessors—during the Crimean Campaign.

The Honorary Officers who process represent the Florence Nightingale Foundation. They embody the traditional link between nurses and voluntary lay people who work together in a charitable context to develop and advance the practice of nursing and midwifery for the benefit of all those who need healthcare. Their endeavours pay constant tribute to the inspiration and example of Florence Nightingale and her great achievements.

The Honorary Officers of the Foundation are President Baroness Emerton; Vice-Presidents Mrs Maureen Acland, Miss Theo Noel Smith, Lord Remnant, Colonel Tommy Tucker, and Mr Bryan Wilson; Chairman Mr Bryan Sanderson; Vice-Chairman Mr Geoffrey Walker; and Honorary Treasurer Mr Geoffrey Blacker.

The Nurses’ Roll of Honour was compiled by the British Commonwealth Nurses’ War Memorial Fund and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel (formerly the Nurses’ Chapel) in the North Ambulatory of Westminster Abbey, which can be visited at any time on request to the Vergers. The bearer of the Roll, who this year will be Chief Petty Officer Naval Nurse Amanda Tinsley, is escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces.

The Lamp was given by Sir Dan Mason OBE, in memory of his mother, Kathleen Dampier-Bennett, and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel. This year the Lamp will be carried by Florence Nightingale Scholar The Reverend Tom Keighley RN. A unique feature of the Service this year is that the Lamp will be escorted by student nurses from the Armed Forces and from the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing at King’s College London, signifying her influence on the Armed Forces and Nursing.

On arrival before the altar the Lamp will be handed to Florence Nightingale Scholar Ria Bhola, Clinical Nurse Specialist at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, London. She will pass the Lamp to Florence Nightingale Scholar Carly Mann, Preceptorship Midwife at Hitchingbrooke Hospital, Cambridge. This represents the transmission of knowledge from one nurse to another and highlights the diversity of care given by nurses for the benefit of humanity.

The Address will be given by The Most Reverend Dr Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town, former Primate of South Africa and Metropolitan.

The First Lesson will be read by Andrew Martin Smith, Trustee, The Burdett Trust for Nursing. The Second Lesson will be read by Lieutenant Colonel Richard Martin, Trustee, The Florence Nightingale Foundation.
The Introit was specially commissioned by King’s College London to mark the centennial anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s death. The composer, John Browne, is Composer-in-Residence at King’s College London.

Most of the Abbey is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

Please ensure that mobile phones, cellular phones, and pagers are switched OFF.

The service is sung by the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by James O’Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The Organ is played by Robert Quinney, Sub-Organist.

Please join in singing the hymns and in saying the words printed in bold type.

Before the service, James McVinnie, Assistant Organist, plays:

Andante espressivo from Sonata in G Op 20 Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr BWV 662 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Andante recitativo—Allegro assai vivace Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809–47)

from Sonata in F minor Op 65 no 1

The Adjutant and Chelsea Pensioners move from the West End of the Church to their places in the Lantern. All remain seated.

The Representatives of the Churches and other Faith Communities move to their places in the Sacrarium. All remain seated.

The Honorary Officers of The Florence Nightingale Foundation move to their places in the Quire. All remain seated.

Her Majesty’s Lord Lieutenant of Greater London is received at the Great West Door by The Dean and Chapter of Westminster and is conducted to his place in the Quire. All remain seated.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster is received and is conducted to his place in the Quire. All stand, and then sit.
ORDER OF SERVICE

The Choir and Clergy move to places in the Nave. All stand.

The Choir sings

THE INTROIT

Little children, love one another. Remember we are not so many small selves, but members of a community. A real nurse sinks self.

John Browne (b 1961) Florence Nightingale

All sing

THE HYMN

during which the Collegiate Procession moves to places in the Quire and Sacrarium

He who would valiant be,
’gainst all disaster,
let him in constancy
follow the master.
There’s no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound,
his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
though he with giants fight,
he will make good his right
to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
us with thy spirit;
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, flee away!
I’ll fear not what men say,
I’ll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

Monk’s Gate 372 NEH
adapted from a traditional English melody
by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

John Bunyan (1628–88)
All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, says

THE BIDDING

We stand together in the presence of almighty God to offer him our worship, praise, and thanksgiving. Let us prepare to hear and receive his word and to bring before God the needs of our world. Above all, as we mark the centenary of the death of Florence Nightingale, we shall thank God for her enterprise, heroism, and example. We praise God for all those nurses who, like her, have carried the lamp of healing into the dark places of our world, remembering those who are currently caring for the sick or injured in war zones. We pray that her ideals of compassion, quality of care, and training may continue to inspire and sustain nurses everywhere. In a moment of silence let us remember that to which we each are called and prepare to dedicate ourselves anew to the service of all in need.

A brief silence is kept. The Dean then says:

Let us confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

All remain standing and say together

THE CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Dean gives

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
The Dean says:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

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, forever and ever. Amen.

All sit. Andrew Martin Smith, Trustee, The Burdett Trust for Nursing, reads from the Nave Pulpit

1 CORINTHIANS 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All remain seated. The Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

Lead me, Lord, in thy righteousness: make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76) from Psalm 5

from Praise the Lord, O my soul
All remain seated. Lieutenant Colonel Richard Martin, Trustee, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, reads from the Lectern

MATTHEW 9: 27–end

As Jesus walked along the road, two blind men followed him, crying loudly, ‘Have mercy on us, Son of David!’ When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, ‘Do you believe that I am able to do this?’ They said to him, ‘Yes, Lord’. Then he touched their eyes and said, ‘According to your faith let it be done to you.’ And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, ‘See that no one knows of this.’ But they went away and spread the news about him throughout that district. After they had gone away, a demoniac who was mute was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, ‘Never has anything like this been seen in Israel.’ But the Pharisees said, ‘By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons.’ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.’

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;
But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
    sent him to die – I scarce can take it in  
that on the cross, our burden gladly bearing,  
    he bled and died to take away our sin;

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
    and take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,  
    and there proclaim: My God, how great thou art!

How great thou art 262 CP  
Swedish folk melody  
arranged by Stuart K Hine

All sit for

THE PROCESSION OF THE ROLL OF HONOUR

The British Commonwealth Nurses’ Roll of Honour is borne in silence from the Chapel of St George through the Nave to the Sacrarium.

The Reverend Michael Macey, Minor Canon of Westminster, says:

Let us remember those Nurses and Midwives who answered God’s call and gave their lives in the Second World War while caring for the sick and wounded, whose names are recorded in the Nurses’ Roll of Honour, and those who have given their lives in subsequent conflicts.

The bearer of the Roll, Chief Petty Officer Naval Nurse Amanda Tinsley, is escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces.

The Roll of Honour is received by The Dean and is placed near the High Altar.

The Dean says:

God our Father, we praise your holy name for all who lived and died in the service of others and are now at rest in Christ. Their example has encouraged us, their witness has inspired us, and the memory of them makes us glad today. For them all we thank you, we honour and we worship you, as they do now by your grace and in your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
All stand to sing

THE HYMN

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
etire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there’s another country, I’ve heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

Thaxted 295 AMNS
Gustav Holst (1874–1934)

Cecil Spring Rice (1859–1918)

THE ADDRESS

by

The Most Reverend Dr Desmond Tutu
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town, former Primate of South Africa and Metropolitan

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illumining.
Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
    and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
    and o’er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
    shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
    wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

All sit for

THE PROCESSION OF THE LAMP

The Lamp is carried by The Reverend Tom Keighley, and escorted by student nurses from the Armed Forces and the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing, King’s College London.

On arrival in the Sacrarium the Lamp is passed to Ria Bhola who passes it to Carly Mann to represent the transmission of knowledge. It is then offered to The Dean, who places it on the High Altar.

The Minor Canon says:
Let us dedicate ourselves afresh to the service of those who need our care today.

All say together:

May this lamp signify
our sacred calling to serve the sick and injured,
which was heard and answered by Florence Nightingale,
passed on from generation to generation,
and received with gladness and humility by us today.
The Dean says:

Jesus said, ‘Like the lamp, you must shed light among your fellows, so that, when they see the good you do, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.’

Matthew 5: 16

O God, the Father of lights, from you come every good and perfect gift: we thank you for Florence Nightingale and for her vision, courage, and compassion, of which this Lamp is the undying symbol. Kindle our hearts we pray, by the fire of your Holy Spirit, so that we may shine for you in the darkness of human suffering and sorrow; through him who is the light of the world, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum:
dat panis caelicus figuris terminum.
O res mirabilis: manducat Dominum
pauper servus et humilis.

The bread of angels becomes the food of humanity:
the heavenly bread brings mere symbols to an end.
O what marvel: a poor humble servant
consumes the Lord.

César Franck (1822–90) from Sacris solemniis juncta
Office Hymn for Matins, Corpus Christi

All remain seated for

THE INTERCESSIONS

The Minor Canon says:

Let us pray to God our Father, whose mercy is everlasting.

In this centenary year of the death of Florence Nightingale we give thanks for her life and for the lives of those she inspired to serve others in showing care and compassion. We give thanks for all former members of The Florence Nightingale Foundation, remembering especially Dr Mona Gray, Vice-President of the Foundation, who died in June last year; and we pray for the continued work of The Florence Nightingale Foundation.

Lord, hear us:
Lord, graciously hear us.
Mary Spinks, Director, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, continues:

For all who promote health and who care for the sick, both in hospital and in their own homes; for nurses in training and for those who teach them; and for all engaged in research:

Lord, hear us:
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lieutenant Air Craftsman Bethan Morgan, Royal Air Force, says:

For all those who promote health-care within the Armed Forces, remembering especially those currently serving in theatres of battle. For those who exercise stewardship, make policy, and allocate resources; for those who are presently serving in places of great human tragedy:

Lord, hear us:
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Emily Jane Webber, Student Nurse, The Florence Nightingale School of Nursing, continues:

For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for the terminally ill, the elderly and the frail; for the disabled, and for those who experience pain:

Lord, hear us:
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

The Minor Canon concludes:

Remember in your kingdom, O Lord, those who have faithfully served you here on earth and are now at rest; and grant us with them, and all the faithful departed, the joys of your salvation.

Lord, hear us:
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Help us, O Lord, by your grace, so to fulfil the purpose for which in your wisdom you created us and in your love you redeemed us; that all our days on earth may be of service to others, and may realise among us today your kingdom and your glory; through him who took the form of a servant, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Choir sings:

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

*Henry Walford Davies (1869–1941) from Pynson’s Horae 1514*
All stand to sing

THE HYMN

during which a collection is taken for
The Florence Nightingale Foundation

I danced in the morning when the world was begun.
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I’ll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I’ll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John—
they came with me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high;
they left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black—
it’s hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I’d gone;
but I’m the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I’ll live in you if you’ll live in me—
I am the Lord of the Dance said he.

Lord of the Dance 375 NEH
American Shaker tune adapted by
Sydney Carter (1915–2004)
All remain standing. The Dean says

THE BIDDING AND PRAYER FOR THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE CHAPEL

Earlier today the Nurses’ Chapel, in which the Florence Nightingale Lamp resides, was re-dedicated in memory of Florence Nightingale. As we give thanks for her life, service, and commitment to nursing, let us pray for God’s blessing on the Chapel, that it may be a place where the sick and the suffering may find comfort, and those who care for them may find peace and the grace of God.

Almighty God, to whose glory is dedicated this house of prayer, we praise you for the many blessings you have given to those who worship you here: accept, we pray, our dedication of the Nurses’ Chapel to be the Florence Nightingale Chapel for the use of those who are sick and for those who care for them. In your mercy, hear the prayers of all who cry to you in this place out of any pain or anxiety; and grant unto them the strength of your loving presence, the tranquillity of your peace, and the assurance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen, and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

All remain standing as the Procession moves to the West End of the Church.

After the Service the Sub-Organist plays:

Toccata from Symphonie V Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

The bells of the Abbey church are rung.
The Florence Nightingale Foundation wishes to thank Bucks New University for its support on this occasion.

This Service is dedicated to the Vice President of the Foundation, Doctor Mona Grey, who died in June 2009, and who supported the Foundation and nursing during her lifetime.

Donations, legacies, or sponsorship make a great difference to the achievement of the Foundation’s aims and objectives.

To fund the Foundation’s work requires the support of well-wishers both new and present. If you feel able to assist in the valuable work of the Foundation, you may like to visit our website www.florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk or telephone us on 020–7730 3030 or fax us on 020–7730 6262

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