Westminster Abbey

A Service to Commemorate the Life of Florence Nightingale

Wednesday 11th May 2011
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 and midwives

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, Mrs Mary Spinks, 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 Corporal Anthony Williams, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Army Nursing Corps, 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 Joanne McCormack. The Lamp will be escorted by student nurses from Queen’s and Ulster Universities, Belfast, and the Open University.

On arrival before the altar the Lamp will be handed to Florence Nightingale Scholar Steven Robertson. He will pass the Lamp to Florence Nightingale Scholar April Brown. 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 David Chapman, Education Development Executive, former Headmaster, Embley Park School, and Principal, Hampshire Collegiate School (UCST).

The First Lesson will be read by Professor Anne Marie Rafferty CBE, Trustee, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, and Head of School, Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, King’s College London. The Second Lesson will be read by The Reverend Angela Johnson, Chaplain, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Naval Nursing Service Association.
Most of the Church, with the exception of the transepts, 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:

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr BWV 662 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Londonderry Air traditional
arranged by James McVinnie (b 1983)
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.

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

An organ fanfare is sounded. All stand.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra is received.
ORDER OF SERVICE

The Choir sings

THE INTROIT

Out of suffering may come the cure.
Give us back our suffering
we cry to heaven in our hearts—
suffering rather than indifferentism.

John Browne (b 1961) Florence Nightingale
commissioned for this service

All sing

THE HYMN

during which the Collegiate Procession, together with
Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra,
moves to places in the Quire and Sacrarium

Alleluia! Alleluia!
hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim
for the world’s salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heav’nly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia! to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia! to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.

Lux eoi 103 NEH
Arthur Sullivan (1842–1900) Christopher Wordsworth (1807–85)
Canon of Westminster 1844–69
All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, says

THE BIDDING

Welcome to Westminster Abbey, which has seen so many occasions of joy and sorrow and remembrance. We come into the presence of almighty God to offer our worship, praise, and thanksgiving. In particular we thank God for Florence Nightingale, for her enterprise and heroism, and for the example she has left us.

We pray that her ideals of compassion, quality of care, and training may continue to inspire and sustain nurses everywhere. We praise God for all those nurses who, like her, have carried the lamp of healing into the dark places of our world.

In a moment of silence let us prepare to hear and receive God’s holy word and to bring before God the needs of our world. Let us remember with pride the vocation we have each received 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. Professor Anne Marie Rafferty CBE, Trustee, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, and Head of School, Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, King’s College London, reads from the Nave Pulpit

1 KINGS 17: 17–24

After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill; his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. She then said to Elijah, ‘What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring sin to my remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!’ But he said to her, ‘Give me your son.’ He took him from her bosom, carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid him on his own bed. He cried out to the Lord, ‘O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?’ Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the Lord, ‘O Lord my God, let this child’s life come into him again.’ The Lord listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; then Elijah said, ‘See, your son is alive.’ So the woman said to Elijah, ‘Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth.’

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All remain seated. The Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625) Collect for the third Sunday after Epiphany
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1623–25
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

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  
ar ranged by Stuart K Hine (1899–1989)
Russian hymn  
translated 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 Sacramium.

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey, Minor Canon and Sacrist, 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, Corporal Anthony Williams, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Army Nursing Corps, 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,
entire 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
David Chapman
Education Development Executive, former Headmaster, Embley Park School,
and Principal, Hampshire Collegiate School (UCST)

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

The King of love my Shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread’st a table in my sight;
thy unction, grace bestoweth:
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

St Columba 457i NEH
John Bacchus Dykes (1823–76)

Psalm 23
versified by Henry Williams Baker (1821–77)
All sit for

THE PROCESSION OF THE LAMP

The Lamp is carried by Joanne McCormack, and escorted by student nurses from Queen’s and Ulster Universities, Belfast, and the Open University.

On arrival in the Sacrarium the Lamp is passed to Steven Robertson who passes it to April Brown to represent the transmission of knowledge. It is then offered to the Dean, who places it on the High Altar.

The Sacrist 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 comes 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

Jesu, joy of man’s desiring, Holy wisdom, love most bright Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring Soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, With the fire of life impassioned Striving still to truth unknown, Soaring, dying round thy throne.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) Salomo Frank (c 1659–1725) from Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben BWV 147 translated by Robert Bridges (1844–1930)
All remain seated for

THE INTERCESSIONS

*The Sacrist says:*

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

We give thanks for the life and work of Florence Nightingale and for the lives of those she inspired to serve others in showing care and compassion. We pray for the continued work of The Florence Nightingale Foundation and for the significant contribution to clinical care made by its scholars.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Professor Elizabeth Robb, Chief Executive, 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.**

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.**

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 Sacrist 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.

All remain standing. The Dean says:

Almighty God, whose Son taught us that every service done for others is done for him:  
give the wisdom, the will, and the strength to be living examples of this truth, that in serving one another we may glorify him, our Saviour and 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 sing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen.  
Long live our noble Queen.  
God save The Queen.  
Send her victorious,  
happy and glorious,  
long to reign over us:  
God save The Queen.
All remain standing as the Procession moves to the west end of the Church.

*After the Service the Sub-Organist plays:*

Sinfonia *from* Wir danken dir, Gott, wir danken dir BWV 29  
Johann Sebastian Bach
arranged by Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)

*The bells of the Abbey church are rung.*
The Florence Nightingale Foundation wishes to thank The University of West London (formerly Thames Valley University) for its support on this occasion.

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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