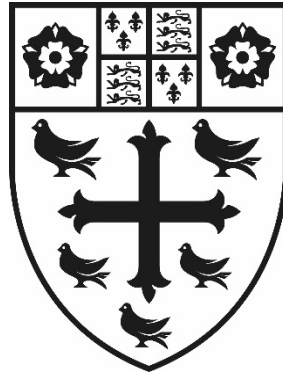


Westminster Abbey



A Service to commemorate
the life of Florence Nightingale

**FLORENCE
NIGHTINGALE
FOUNDATION**

Wednesday 15th May 2024

6.30 pm

Florence Nightingale Foundation

59th Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service, 15th May 2024

Since 1965 the Florence Nightingale Foundation has hosted the annual Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service in Westminster Abbey. It has only been cancelled once in 59 years, in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra, our Royal Patron since 1957, for her support of the Foundation. We miss her presence today, as sadly she is unable to join us. We also send our best wishes to all members of the Royal Family as we continue to pray for His Majesty The King and Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

Rolls of Honour

During this service we will remember nurses and midwives named in two Rolls of Honour.

The COVID-19 Pandemic Roll of Honour, introduced in 2022, is dedicated to all nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers who courageously and selflessly provided care during the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be carried today through the Abbey by the Chief Nursing Officers of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The Commonwealth Roll of Honour, introduced in 1965, commemorates nurses who lost their lives on active service in the Second World War. Today it is carried through the Abbey by a military nurse and escorted by the Chief Nursing Officers of the Royal Navy, British Army, and Royal Air Force.

Both Rolls of Honour are kept in the Florence Nightingale and Nurses' Chapel, Westminster Abbey.

The Procession of the Lamp

During the Service a burning lamp will be carried through the Abbey escorted by Florence Nightingale Foundation scholars and students from Chichester University and passed by a chosen Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar to the officiating clergy. It will be placed on the altar to represent "the undying spirit of the service displayed by Florence Nightingale", demonstrated by nurses and midwives today. The current lamp was first used for the service in 1970, the 150th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth.

Today, the 204th anniversary year of Florence Nightingale's birth on 12th May 1820, we gather to pause, reflect, and rededicate ourselves to the professions. Today's service celebrates nurses and midwives working in the UK and across the world: a global community.

Professor Greta Westwood CBE, Registered Nurse

Florence Nightingale Foundation

The Florence Nightingale Foundation is a living memorial to Florence Nightingale. Now in our 90th year, we continue to support and develop nurse and midwife leaders in the UK, improving care and saving lives. This year we now extend our support to nurses and midwives across the world.

Processions Before the Service

Florence Nightingale Foundation Officers Procession

The Officers are Sir Robert Francis KC, Patron, Dame Yvonne Moores DBE, Patron, Avey Bhatia, President, Simon Gillespie OBE, Chair, Anthony Carey, Treasurer.

Professor Greta Westwood CBE is the Chief Executive Officer.

The church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

Members of the congregation are requested kindly to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

The service is conducted by The Right Reverend Anthony Ball, Sub-Dean.

The service is sung by the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by Andrew Nethsingha, Organist & Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Peter Holder, Sub-Organist.

Before the service Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist, plays

Prelude and Fugue in G BWV 541 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

In manus tuas Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968)

Arabesque Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

Adante sostenuto from Symphonie gothique Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

*Prière à Notre-Dame
from Suite Gothique Léon Boëllmann (1862–97)*

The Right Honourable Victoria Atkins MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, and Amanda Pritchard, Chief Executive of NHS England, are received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. Presentations are made and they are conducted to their seats.

The Honorary Officers of The Florence Nightingale Foundation move to their places in Quire and the Lantern.

ORDER OF SERVICE

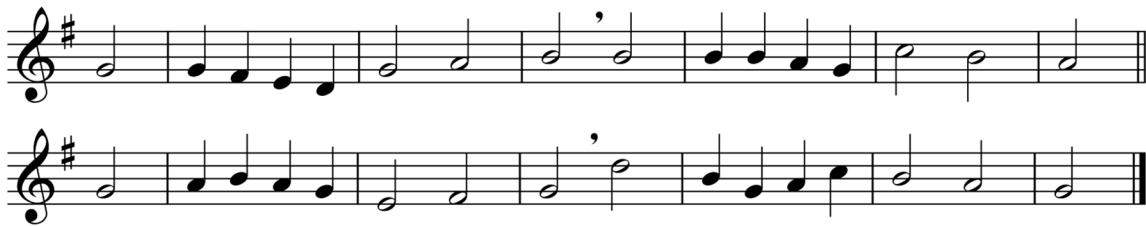
All stand as the choir enters. The choir sings the Introit

O COME, let us sing unto the Lord.
Let us sing unto the Lord,
and make a joyful noise unto Him with Psalms.

Cheryl Frances-Hoad (b 1980)

after Psalm 95

All sing the Hymn, during which the procession of clergy moves to places in Quire, the Lantern, and the Sacrarium.



ALL people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good:
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom heaven and earth adore,
from men and from the Angel-host
be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

*Old Hundredth 334 NEH
Genevan Psalter 1551*

*attributed to William Kethe (d 1594)
after Psalm 100*

All remain standing. The Right Reverend Anthony Ball, Sub-Dean, gives the Bidding

WELCOME to Westminster Abbey, the house of God, a place of remembrance, a community of hope. Today, before God, we gather to offer our praise and thanksgiving, and to recall the life and witness of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. Celebrating the work of the Florence Nightingale Foundation and in the good company of working nursing professionals we acknowledge the legacy of commitment, compassion, and excellence we inherit.

We pray that Florence Nightingale's determination to improve the quality of care, and secure better training may shape the gift we leave to those who follow us. We praise God for all those nurses who, like her, have carried the lamp of healing into the dark places of our world.

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.

All sit

The Right Honourable Victoria Atkins MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care reads the first Lesson

FOR just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

1 Corinthians 12: 12; 15-18; 23-26

Thanks be to God.

The choir sings the Anthem

LIGHT of the world, we know thy praise
the angels and archangels raise
and all the host of heav'n.

More worthily than our faint hymns,
whose jarring sound that glory dims,
which God to thee has giv'n.

But thou didst not disdain to take
our low estate, or e'en to make
the tomb thy resting place.

Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

So thou might bring into our night
the dawn of thine eternal light
to shine upon our face.

Nor death, nor hell, nor sin is Lord,
but thou, O Son of God. Thy word
is now our sovereign law.

Therefore we thank thee, and we pray
thy light may shine unto the perfect day
on us for evermore

Edward Capel-Cure (1860–1949)

Dame Ruth May DBE, Chief Nursing Officer, England, reads the second Lesson

JUST then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Luke 10: 25–37

Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing the Hymn



JESU, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none;
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within:
thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

All remain standing for the Procession of the Rolls of Honour. The Reverend Robert Latham, Minor Canon & 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. Let us remember also those nurses and midwives who gave their lives in faithful service during the Covid pandemic who are recorded in the Covid Roll of Honour.

The Commonwealth Nurses Roll of Honour was compiled by the British Commonwealth Nurses' War Memorial Fund to remember the nurses who lost their lives during the Second World War. The Bearer of the Roll this year is Leading Naval Nurse Alicia Castello from the Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service. She will be escorted by Captain Peter Selwood KHN, Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, Head of Naval Nursing Service; Colonel Paul Jackson KHN, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, Chief Nursing Officer (Army); and Group Captain Charlotte Thompson ARRC KHN, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, Director of Nursing Services (RAF).

The COVID-19 Pandemic Roll of Honour remembers the nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers who courageously and selflessly provided care during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is carried through the Abbey by the UK Chief Nursing Officers (CNO), Dame Ruth May DBE, CNO England, Sue Tranka CNO Wales, Maria McIlgorm CNO Northern Ireland, and Professor Jacqui Reilly CBE, Director of Nursing and Executive Lead for NHS National Services Scotland, representing Scotland.

The Rolls of Honour are received by the Sub-Dean and are placed near the High Altar

The Sub-Dean says

Let us pray.

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 sit. The choir sings the Anthem

MOTHER of God, here I stand now praying,
before this icon of your radiant brightness,
not praying to be saved from a battlefield,
not giving thanks,
nor seeking forgiveness for the sins of my soul,
nor for all the souls.
numb, joyless and desolate on earth,
but for her alone, whom I wholly give you.

*from The Veil of the Temple
John Tavener (1944–2013)*

Mikhail Lemontov (1814–41)

The Reverend Nikki Thornhill RN, Royal Naval Chaplaincy Service, gives the Address

All remain seated for the Procession of the Lamp, during which the organist plays

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 645

Johann Sebastian Bach

Florence Nightingale became known as ‘The Lady with the Lamp’ during her work in the ‘Florence Nightingale became known as ‘The Lady with the Lamp’ caring for soldiers injured during the Crimean War. The Lamp has become an international symbol of nursing.

The Lamp which will be processed in this service was donated in 1970 by Sir Dan Mason OBE in memory of his mother, Kathleen Dampier Bennett, a previous Florence Nightingale Foundation Committee Member. This year the Lamp will be carried by Scholar Emily Pimm, Social Care Deputy Manager for St Monica’s Trust.

Emily will be supported by Matt Brayford, Mental Health Leadership & Succession Programme Manager for Health Education and Improvement Wales, and Bev Summerhayes, Deputy Head of Nursing for Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The Lamp party will be followed by several FNF Scholars and Leadership Programme Alumni together with student nurses from the University of Chichester as well as members of the International Nurses. On arrival before the High Altar, the Lamp is passed to Matt Brayford who will pass the Lamp to Bev Summerhayes. This represents the transmission of nursing and midwifery knowledge from one to another.’

The Lamp and both Rolls of Honour are kept in the Florence Nightingale and Nurses’ Chapel, Westminster Abbey.

The lamp is then offered to the Sub-Dean, who places it on the High Altar

All stand. The Sacrist says

Let us dedicate ourselves afresh to the service of those in need.

All say

**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 Sub-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

Let us pray.

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.**

All sit. The choir sings the Anthem

THE Lord hath created medicines out of the earth;
and he that is wise will not abhor them.
And he hath given men skill,
that he might be honoured in his marvellous works.
My son, in thy sickness
leave off from sin, and order thy hands aright,
and cleanse thy heart from all wickedness.
Strengthen ye the weak hands,
and confirm the feeble knees.
Say to them that are of a fearful heart,
Be strong, fear not:
behold, your God will come;
he will come and save you.

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,
and the tongue of the dumb shall sing:
for in the wilderness shall waters break out,
and streams in the desert.
The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them;
and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.
It shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing:
the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it,
the excellency of Carmel and Sharon,
they shall see the glory of the Lord
and the excellency of our God.

Strengthen ye the weak hands,
and confirm the feeble knees.
Say to them that are of a fearful heart,
Be strong, fear not:
behold, your God will come;
he will come and save you.

O Saviour of the world,
who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us,
Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Strengthen Ye the Weak Hands
William Harris (1883–1973)

*Ecclesiasticus 38: 4, 6, 9a, 10; Isaiah 35: 3–6, 1–2
and acclamation at the Liturgy of Good Friday*

The Sacrist leads the Intercessions

Let us pray to God our Father, whose Son came that we might have life.

All kneel or remain seated

Professor Gemma Stacey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Florence Nightingale Foundation, says

HEAVENLY Father, we give you thanks for the life and legacy of Florence Nightingale. We pray for the work of the Florence Nightingale Foundation, for the patrons and staff, and all the support the foundation provides to nurses and midwives across the UK. We ask your blessing upon all who carry forward the pioneering work and spirit of Florence Nightingale.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Rachael Brown, Infection Prevention Nurse, Nuffield Health, Warwickshire Hospital, and Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar, says

WE give thanks for the vocation to nursing, midwifery and the caring professions. For those committed to high standards in care and training, development and fellowship, compassion and mercy. We pray for all in training and all discerning a call to serve.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Wendy Olayiwola, National Maternity Lead at NHS England and NHS Improvement, says

WE give thanks for all who work tirelessly to serve this nation in hospitals, hospices, care homes, and in the community. For their commitment to serve the needs of the most vulnerable in the most challenging of circumstances. We pray for their resilience, safety and refreshment.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Suresh Packiam, Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust, Founder of British Indian Nurse Association, and EDI Chair for the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Care Group, says

WE give thanks for those providing healthcare to and within our armed forces, and to civilians in places of conflict. For those risking their own lives to preserve life in places of challenge and danger. We pray for all nursing personnel on active service, and all who provide vital frontline support.

Lord, hear us,

Lord graciously hear us

The Reverend Helena Bickley-Percival, Chaplain, says

WE pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for those who are terminally ill, elderly, or frail; for all refugees and those who bear the scars of war; for all who live with chronic disability and pain, and those who support them and accompany them in their trials.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Sacrist concludes

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

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Sacrist concludes

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

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 stand to sing the Hymn



NOW thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the One eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore. Amen.

*Nun danket 413 NEH
in Johann Crüger's Praxis pietatis melica 1647*

*Nun danket alle Gott Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)
translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–78)*

All remain standing. The Sub-Dean pronounces the Blessing

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; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; 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 Abbey church

Music after the service

The organist plays

Choral Fantasia on The Old Hundreth

Charles Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

**Members of the congregation are requested kindly to remain in their places
until invited to move by the Honorary Stewards**

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung

Florence Nightingale Foundation's 90th Anniversary Fundraising Appeal

We are proud to share that this year marks Florence Nightingale Foundation's 90th anniversary. Our roots are developed from the International Council of Nurses: the Florence Nightingale International Foundation was established on 5th July 1934 as a memorial to Florence Nightingale and her work, and both organisations have grown from this.

Right now, nurses and midwives are facing immense pressures and we need your support to continue Florence Nightingale's legacy and reach more nurses and midwives in hospitals, in social care settings, and in homes – in every field and at every stage of their career.

'The FNF programme has enabled me to build my personal resilience and to develop ways to communicate in an impactful way. I can now find ways to channel my passion for being a voice for people who use the services within social care in a more effective and focused way.'

Emily Pimm

I would be most grateful if you would donate to Florence Nightingale Foundation's 90th Anniversary Fundraising Appeal; to mark this very special milestone in our organisation's history, we aim to raise £90,000 to support 90 student, 90 early career nurses and midwives, and 90 ward leaders and social care nurses, to improve care and save lives across the world.



As a registered charity that relies on external funding, we would like to thank you for supporting our Foundation as we come together to celebrate the extraordinary contribution of nurses and midwives everywhere.