

LAMENT AND HOPE

A dramatic reading presentation in place of the Prayers of the People for
Remembrance Day 2018

(Adapted from an earlier version, kjg)

Prayer leader, Reader 1 – Dean Ken, Reader 2

R1: Today we pause to remember and lament the horrors of war.

R2: We remember Canadian soldiers who died in wars past: World War 1, World War 2, the Korean War, the Gulf Wars, the Bosnian War, the war in Afghanistan, and many more. As we remember together, let us observe a minute of silence after which we will hear familiar words spoken:

A minute of silence is observed, after which we hear these words:

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)

R1: We remember young men and women who never returned home.

- We remember their families, their friends, their communities, and we grieve with them.
- We remember those who were disabled or traumatized.
- We remember indigenous and non-indigenous folks alike.
- We remember all people who suffered the devastation of past wars, both combatants and civilians.

We remember all people who continue to suffer the scourge of violent conflict, in times past and times present.

- Those who are sick or injured, and need care
- Those who live with the sound of guns and bombs around them
- Those who are caught in cycles of violence they can't escape
- Those who are paralyzed with fear

R2: Help us O healing and reconciling Lord, as we name our hopes for a world of peace. We remember specially those who bind up the wounds of war, as we pray:

- For those who work to end hostility
- For those who provide aid in conflict zones
- For those who care for the sick and the dying
- For those who investigate and defend human rights
- For those who support and welcome refugees

R1: We remember people who actively build peace:

- Those who say NO to killing and bombing
- Those who work to resolve conflicts through dialogue and diplomacy
- Those who seek to address the root causes of violence
- Those who practice nonviolent resistance in the face of injustice
- Those who build bridges of friendship and reconciliation with their enemies

Blessed are the peace makers. Christ is our Peace, and the peace which passes understanding.

The Peace of God which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

