

An Order of Service for Remembrance Sunday



8th November 2026 at 3pm

Animals in War Memorial, Park Lane, London

led by

The Revd Samantha Chandler



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<https://www.aswa.org.uk>

*This Remembrance Service is organised by
The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals (ASWA)
“Putting Animals on the Agenda of the Christian Church”*

www.aswa.org.uk

Introduction & Welcome

Hymn: O God, our help in ages past

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 defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Like flowery fields the nations stand
Pleased with the morning light;
The flowers beneath the mower's hand
Lie withering ere 'tis night.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home

Gospel Reading: John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other”.

Reflective Reading: Revd Samantha Chandler

Just a dog..... (author unknown)

From time to time, people tell me, “lighten up, it’s just a dog,”
or “that’s a lot of money for just a dog.”

They don’t understand the distance travelled, the time spent,
or the costs involved for “just a dog.”

Some of my proudest moments have come about with
“just a dog.”

Many hours have passed and my only company was
“just a dog,”
but I did not once feel slighted.

Some of my saddest moments have been brought about
by
“just a dog,” and in those days of darkness, the gentle
touch
of “just a dog” gave me comfort and reason to overcome
the day.

If you, too, think it’s “just a dog,” then you probably
understand
phrases like “just a friend,” “just a sunrise,” or “just a
promise.”

“Just a dog” brings into my life the very essence of
friendship,
trust, and pure unbridled joy.

“Just a dog” brings out the compassion and patience
that make me a better person.

Because of “just a dog” I will rise early, take long walks
and look
longingly to the future.

So, for me and folks like me, it’s not “just a dog”
but an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the
future,
the fond memories of the past, and the pure joy of the
moment.

“Just a dog” brings out what’s good in me and diverts my
thoughts
away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday they can understand that its' not
"just a dog"
but the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from
being
"just a man" or "just a woman."

So, the next time you hear the phrase "just a dog,"
just smile, because they "just don't understand."

Poem – The Empty Forge *written/read by Janet Wilkes*

It had that pungent smell of horse,
Dry hay and blackened iron and
I closed my eyes and saw the white
Core of the furnace and sparks that
Flew and heard a blacksmith whistle,
The horses whinnying and the
Clang of hammers on the anvil.

Then I opened my eyes and saw
The long, bare floor of the forge and
Iron hay rack, rusted over
And in that deserted place I
Felt great sadness for those horses
Pushed onto crowded ferries and
Then taken on long journeys in
Rough seas to France, to the Great War,
And for those that never came back.

Intercessions: Revd Samantha Chandler

A Time to Reflect: Anna Baggott - PDSA

Introduction to the Act of Remembrance

The Two Minute Silence

'They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
we will remember them.'

All: We will remember them.

The Laying of Wreaths on the Memorial

Hymn: Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not,
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, tho' tossed about,
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

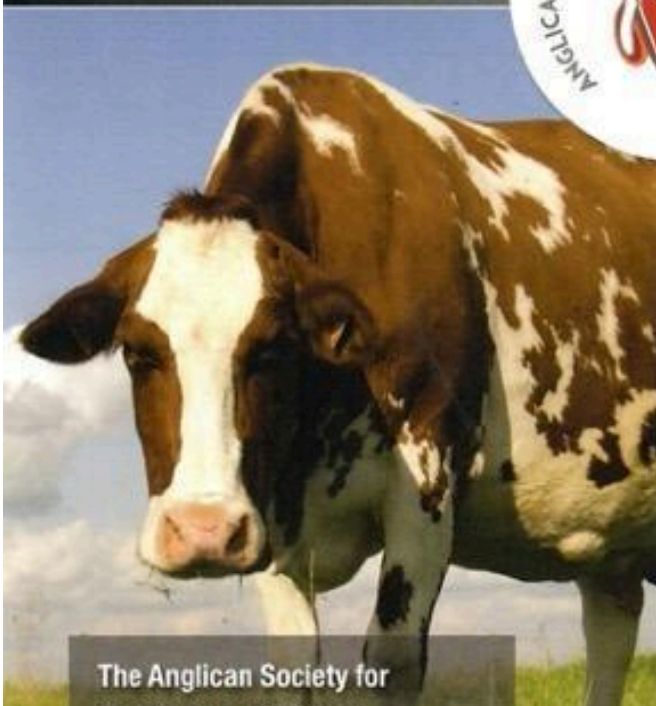
Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind,
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, Thy love unknown,
Hath broken every barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come!

Final Blessing and Dismissal

Putting Animals on the Agenda of the Christian Church



The Anglican Society for

The Anglican Society for the
Welfare of Animals

P.O. Box 7193, Hook, RG27 8GT

T: (01252) 843093

E: secretary@angsocwelanimals.net

www.aswa.org.uk