

# Minster Bethel Congregational Church (MBCC)

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08/11/2020 - Genesis 45

## Remembrance



All lockdown services can be found at: [www.mbccs.co.uk](http://www.mbccs.co.uk)

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 46.1

**Good morning and welcome to our service of Remembrance.**

This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. **Lamentations 3.21 -23**

Our first hymn is “New Every Morning” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Flz15z\\_Qso](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Flz15z_Qso)

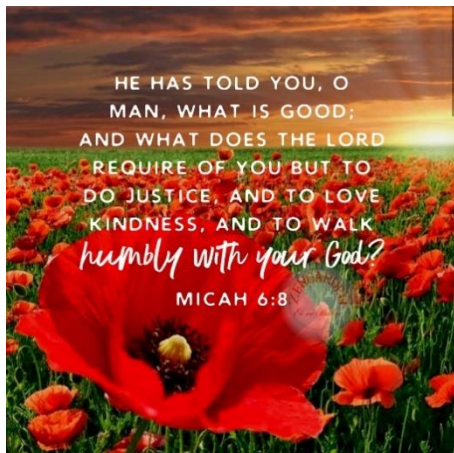
New every morning is the love  
Our wakening and uprising prove;  
Through sleep and darkness safely brought,  
Restored to life, and power, and thought.

New mercies, each returning day,  
Hover around us while we pray;  
New perils past, new sins forgiven,  
New thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.

If on our daily course our mind  
Be set to hallow all we find,  
New treasures still, of countless price,  
God will provide for sacrifice.

The trivial round, the common task,  
Would furnish all we ought to ask,  
Room to deny ourselves, a road  
To bring us daily nearer God.

Only, O Lord, in thy dear love  
Fit us for perfect rest above;  
And help us this and every day  
To live more nearly as we pray.



# In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow

**Between the crosses, row on row,**

That mark our place; and in the sky

**The larks, still bravely singing, fly**

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

**We are the Dead.** Short days ago

**We lived, felt dawn,** saw sunset glow,

**Loved, and were loved,** and now we lie

In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw

**The torch; be yours to hold it high.**

If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, **though poppies grow**

**In Flanders Fields.**



We are in the presence of God.

We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between the nations, that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace. We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror. We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

## REMEMBERING

**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.**



**Last Post - two-minute silence - 'Reveille' <https://youtu.be/Z6oWG2naqig>**

Ever-living God we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



**Our reading today is Genesis 45:** <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%2045&version=NIV>

Today we are remembering those who gave their lives so we can enjoy our freedoms. As we come to the end of the book of Genesis, we see a time when this great family had the opportunity to remember and share experiences, but this was after many bad things had happened and at a time when Joseph could have been resentful and not forgiven.

Remember Joseph had had his multi coloured coat ripped off him and thrown in a pit. He had been sold into slavery. He was lied about. He was thrown in jail. He had interpreted dreams and put in charge in a very senior position to oversee the management of the famine.

In today's reading we see that Joseph had a choice. He could choose to punish his brothers for what they had done to him, or he could forgive them and reunite with them. Joseph chose forgiveness, and God wants us to forgive others, too.

There are times when someone has done something nasty to us and we've been angry at them. Those times hurt us, but we have to make a choice whether we forgive or not.

We are going to try an experiment. Get a lemon and cut it in half. Now take a bite of one half of the lemon.

What did that taste like? – Bitter? Sour? Horrible?

Now squeeze the other half the lemon into a cup and add sugar. Mix it together. Now how does that taste? Sweet? Pleasant? Nice?

The first lemon was bitter like the bitterness we feel when we don't forgive. The second lemon was sweet and tasty like the sweetness we feel when we forgive others.



God chooses to forgive us when we ask, and Joseph forgave his brothers for the horrible things they did. God wants us to follow Joseph's example of sweet forgiveness and forgive others.

The comic strip consists of six panels, each with a title, dialogue, and a brief summary of the scene:

- Panel 1:** Title: "Joseph gets a special coat from his father". Dialogue: "Here's a special coat made for you" / "Thank you, father". Summary: "Genesis 37:1-11. Joseph was Israel's (Jacob's) favorite son, so he gave him a special coat".
- Panel 2:** Title: "Joseph gets sold to Egyptians". Dialogue: "Why are you dad's favorite son?". Summary: "Genesis 37: 12- 28. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him so they decided to sell him".
- Panel 3:** Title: "Joseph gets sent to jail". Dialogue: "How dare you treat my wife like that!" / "But Potiphar, I have done nothing wrong. You expect me to believe you over my wife?". Summary: "Genesis 39:7-19. Potiphar's wife asked Joseph to sleep with her but he refused".
- Panel 4:** Title: "Joseph interprets the other prisoners' dreams". Dialogue: "In my dream, there was a wine with three branches. I took the grapes with Pharaoh's cup and I gave the cup to him." / "The branches represent three days. In those days, Pharaoh will set you free." / "In my dream, I had three baskets on my head. There were birds and they were eating from it." / "The baskets also represent three days. But, you will be hanged on a pole and the birds will eat your flesh." Summary: "Genesis 40: 1-23. Joseph interpreted the dreams of the chief cupbearer and the chief baker".
- Panel 5:** Title: "Joseph meets his brothers again". Dialogue: "Why are you here?" / "I will not give you anything! You are spies." / "We came from the land of Canaan to buy food." / "But sir, believe us. We need food. We're not spies." Summary: "Genesis 42:1-25. Joseph recognized his brothers and acted like he didn't no them. He treated them as if they were spies".
- Panel 6:** Title: "Jacob brings his family to Egypt". Dialogue: "Joseph, you're safe! I thought you died years ago. Now that I know you're alive, I can rest peacefully." Summary: "Genesis 45:1-28. Jacob found out that Joseph was still alive and by knowing that, he can peacefully die".

**Remembrance:** We remember them who gave their lives for us

**Remember to Forgive:** As we remember don't forget to forgive those who have hurt us

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jeR5JWalcpo&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jeR5JWalcpo&feature=emb_logo)



**Our next hymn is:  
“I vow to thee my country”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4d9fZAeYels>

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 questions, 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.

Let us pray.



May Gods blessing surround you each day

As you trust Him and walk in His way;

May His presence within

Guard and keep you from sin.

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

