

St. Martin's Anglican Church,
Morley-Noranda

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Led by Reverend Barry May

Commemorating the 65th Anniversary
of
The Japanese Surrender of Malaya
on
12th September 1945



The Malayan Volunteers Group (MVG) developed from an informal gathering of a few Volunteer Veterans in the UK. They used to meet for an annual lunch time get together, to talk about times past and to enjoy each others company.

Opening Hymn :

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*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

I will go to my father, and say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

Dear friends, the Scriptures urge us to acknowledge our sins, and not to conceal them from God our heavenly Father, but to confess them with a penitent and obedient heart, so that we may be forgiven through his infinite goodness and mercy.

Therefore, let us draw near to the throne of our gracious God, as we pray:

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against holy laws.
We have left undone what we ought to have done,
and we have done what we ought not to have done.
Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us;
restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Grant, most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live godly, righteous and sober lives
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,
and serve thee with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Open our lips, O Lord:
and we shall declare your praise.
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.
Let us praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

First reading : Jeremiah: 19: 1-15 Read by Judy Hesse

**Now, Lord, you have let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation:
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
A light to reveal you to the nations:
and the glory of you people Israel.**

**Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

Second reading : Colossians: 3: 12-21 Read by Bill Adamson

Hymn :

*The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.*

*My soul He doth restore again;
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Even for His own Name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod
And staff my comfort still.*

*My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. (*All sit or kneel*).

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect of Peace

O God, the author and lover of peace, in knowledge of whom stands our external life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend your servants in all assaults of our enemies, that, surely trusting in your defence, we may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sermon : Reverend Barry May

The Captives Hymn : read by Gwen Cooke

Father, in captivity
We would lift our prayer to Thee,
Grant that daily we may prove
Those who place their trust in Thee.

Give us patience to endure,
Keep our hearts serene and pure,
Grant us courage, charity,
Greater faith, humility,
Readiness to own thy will,
Be we free or captive still.

For our country we would pray,
In this hour be Thou her stay,
Pride and selfishness forgive,
Teach us by Thy laws to live,
By Thy grave may all men see
That true greatness comes from Thee.

May they trust us to Thy care,
Know that Thou our pains doth share,
May the day of freedom dawn,
Peace and justice be reborn.

Grant that nations loving Thee,
O'er the world may brothers be,
Cleansed by suffering, know rebirth
See Thy kingdom come on earth.

Closing Hymn :

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*Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.*

*Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

*He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet;
Our God is marching on.*

*Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on.*

*In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free;
While God is marching on.*

*Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! While God is marching on.*

*He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is wisdom to the mighty, He is honour to the brave;
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of wrong His slave,
Our God is marching on.*

*Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on.*

The Last Post : Played by Andrew Partington

Silence

Reveille : Played by Andrew Partington

Final Blessing

After the final blessing, we move silently into the church entrance and gather around the Fallen Warrior Symbol for the laying of floral tributes.

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.

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MEMORIAL SERVICE 12th Sept 2010

On 12th Sept at 5.30pm, the date and time to coincide with the actual signing of the surrender by Japanese forces in Singapore in the presence of Lord Louis Mountbatten. The actual surrender was on 15th August but as Lord Mountbatten was not available the signing ceremony had been postponed to September.

It was originally intended in February to hold the Memorial Service in the Changi Prison Chapel for nostalgic reasons, but unfortunately, for several reasons and to the great disappointment of Robin Blackburn the manager of the Prison complex it had to be cancelled

The Singapore Grand Prix Motor Races was being held on the same day, this caused a shortage of hotel accommodation, and the Prison Chapel was used by the Drug Rehabilitation Assoc at the time we needed it, besides other factors it was decided to cancel the event.

In May it was decided to hold the Memorial Service in Perth as it was here that we had the largest number of MVG members. St. Martins Church in Noranda (a suburb of Perth) was chosen Revd. Barry May a retired Police Chaplain was asked and he agreed to conduct the Service. He being an ex-service man from the Australian Army and having served in New Guinea knew the conditions of the war in the tropics. The present Rector Revd, Neil Blay being only 2 months in the country, knew nothing about the Malayan Campaign and the FMSVF kindly offered his church to us. ...

In the lobby of the Church a model of the "Fallen Warrior" was erected with the Union Jack as a background. This proved to be a very effective introduction to the Service as everybody who entered the Church could not help but notice the Fallen Warrior, and as though they were paying homage stopped before it. This was very touching and set the mood.

While in the lobby of the Church the visitors were asked to sign the Visitor Book, and were given a Pew Sheet and an Order of Service (copy attached) The Church has a capacity of 120 persons, 90 notices were sent out and 61 persons were present and attended.



After the Final Blessing the congregation filed back into the lobby, where they were given either a Rose or a sprig of Rosemary to place as a tribute at the base of the Fallen Warrior.,

We then went into the Church Hall where refreshments for 100 were laid and this fed 60 Fellowship lasted until 7.00pm.

