

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE FUNERAL OF

The Right Honourable Sir Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill K.G., O.M., C.H.

30th January 2015

THE SENTENCES

I Am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

St. John 11. 25, 26.

WE brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

1 Tim. 6. 7. Job 1. 21.

HYMN

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 defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame, From everlasting thou art God, To endless years the same. A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

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

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

BIDDING PRAYER

Bretheren, we are assembled here as representing the people of this Land and of the British Commonwealth, to join in prayer on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the funeral of a very great man who rendered memorable service to his country and to the cause of freedom. We think of him with thanksgiving that he was raised up in our days of desperate need to be a leader and inspirer of the nation, for his dauntless resolution and untiring vigilance and for his example of courage and endurance.

On this day fifty years ago his soul was committed into the hands of God, the merciful Judge of all men and the giver of eternal life. We pray that the memory of his virtues and his achievements may remain forever as a part of our national heritage, inspiring generations to come to emulate his magnanimity and patriotic devotion. And, since all men are subject to temptation and error, we pray that we, together with him, may be numbered among those whose sins are forgiven and have a place in the Kingdom of Heaven, to which may God by his good grace bring us all.

THE LESSON 1 Corinthians 25. 20.

NOW is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's, at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule, and all authority, and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

THE COLLECT

O MERCIFUL God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth, and believeth in him, shall not die eternally; who also hath taught us, by his holy Apostle Saint Paul, not to be sorry, as men without hope, for them that sleep in him: We meekly

beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life, we may rest in him, as our hope is that this our brother doth; and that, at the general resurrection in the last day, we may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing, which thy well beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world: Grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: Deal graciously we pray thee, with those who mourn, that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

O LORD, who didst give thy servant Saint George grace to lay aside the fears of man, and to be faithful even unto death; Grant that we, unmindful of worldly honour, may fight the wrong, uphold thy rule and serve thee to our lives' end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

Then shall be sounded THE LAST POST

THE WREATH LAYING

Then shall be sounded **REVEILLE**

HYMN

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, alleluia! Glory, glory, alleluia!
Glory, glory, alleluia!
His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps; They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps; I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps; His day is marching on. Glory, glory, etc.

He hath sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat; O, be swift, my soul, to answer him; jubilant my feet!

Our God is marching on.

Glory, glory, etc.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born the Sea; With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me; As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, While God is Marching on. Glory, glory, etc.

THE BLESSING

GOD grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and to all peoples, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. *Amen.*