

Beirut - Remembrance Week

On August 4, violence created chaos, destroyed lives and generated fear.

We remember the cries of the people caught amid fire and dust.

We remember families whose loved ones never returned home after that day.

We remember courageous men and women, who worked tirelessly to save lives,
seek the lost and heal the wounded.

We remember with confidence that Hope is still God's way.

On this day we pray:

Heavenly Father, Your Love never fails:

You are the source of all mercy and giver of comfort.

Today we come before You with heavy hearts as we remember
the events of August 4.

Father we bring before You the people of Beirut - Lebanon.
Unite us in solidarity with our Brothers and Sisters in Lebanon.

We grieve with those who still mourn,
and share memories with those who cannot forget.
May we draw strength from those who bravely responded,
and gave their lives to save others.

We remember their generosity and hospitality.

Above all may we remember Your faithfulness to us.

We ask You to help Lebanon to trust in Your unfailing love.

May Lebanon find peace, harmony and serenity.

May the beauty of Lebanon be restored.

May Your peace shattered in Beirut be renewed.

Though Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Amen!

HYMN: *“Lord of Beauty, Thine the Splendour”*

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

Be in peace and learn to trust in God's faithfulness, for He is a good and merciful God. He provides all your needs.

Put your trust in Him, for He is truthful, loving, caring and trustworthy.

Grace, love and peace be with you, now and forever. Amen.

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Longueville - St. Andrew's Uniting Church



A CRY FROM LEBANON

ORDER OF SERVICE

Pentecost 11

16 August 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us sing of the beauty around us! *Let us sing of the beauty within!*

O hear the earth tell that all shall be well!

All shall be well. In our bliss, in our sorrow, in the sun and in the rain, all shall be well.

INVOCATION

Put Your music in our soul, O Lord. If we have lost our song, help us find it. If our joy has dried up, water us with the lyrics of Your love. If our voices are flat, enliven us with the energy of life. O Lord, receive this our act of worship and praise, to the glory and honour of Your name.

Amen.

HYMN: 147 *“To God Be the Glory, Great Things He has Done”*

PRAYER - from St. Augustine

You are great, O Lord, and greatly to be praised: great is Your power and to Your wisdom there is no limit. And man, who is a part of Your creation, wishes to praise You You arouse him to take joy in praising You, for You have made us for Yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in You Lord, let me seek You by calling upon You, and let me call upon You by believing in You, for You have been preached to us. Lord, my faith calls upon You, that faith which You have given to me, which You have breathed into me by the incarnation of Your Son and through the ministry of Your preacher.

HYMN: *“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”*

CONFESSION

We come to God, knowing that we have failed to obey the call of Jesus to love God and one another with our whole being; but we come also to a God who reaches out to us with healing and reconciliation. *Silence*

Let us pray:

God of all mercy, give us grace today to make a fresh start.

We know we have not loved You with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbour as ourselves. As we hope to be forgiven, teach us how to forgive; and lead us forward in a new life where neither grudges nor resentment have a part; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Silence*

Let us pray:

For our misuse of Your creation, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

For our failure to love as You have loved us, Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

For our lack of faith in Your gift of life, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom; for God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Hear then Christ’s word of grace to us: *‘Your sins are forgiven’.*

Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, the Source of life and birth;

Praise God, the Word, who came to earth;

Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame;

All glory, honour, to God’s name.

HYMN: 442 (ii) *“All Praise to our Redeeming Lord”*

TIME TO PRAY

In silence please offer your prayers to the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN: 407 *“Breathe On Me, Breath of God” (Tune 449)*

BIBLE READINGS

Romans 10:5-15 (Page 1121)

Matthew 15:21-28 (Pages 971-972)

MESSAGE: *“Lord, Help Me! - A Cry from Lebanon”* **Krikor**

HYMN: 138 *“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”*