



# H.M.S. HOOD

Service of Commemoration  
for those who lost their lives  
on 24 May 1941

St John the Baptist, Boldre  
Sunday 29 May 2022  
at 11.00am

## H.M.S. HOOD

Lost in action with the Bismarck 24 May 1941

Extract taken from the Despatch of  
Admiral Sir John Tovey,  
KCB DSO Commander Home Fleet.

“HOOD and PRINCE of WALES sighted the enemy at 05.35 hrs., and came into action at 05.53 hrs., steering to close the range as fast as possible. All three ships opened fire practically simultaneously at a range of about 25,000 yards. The shooting of both HOOD and the BISMARCK was excellent from the start and both scored hits almost at once. The BISMARCK’s second or third salvo started a fire in the vicinity of the port after 4” mounting. This fire spread rapidly and at 06.00 hrs., just after the ships had turned to open A arcs, HOOD was straddled again. There was a huge explosion between the after funnel and the main mast, and the ship sank in 3 or 4 minutes. She had fired only 5 or 6 salvos. The loss, by one unlucky hit, of this famous ship with Vice-Admiral Holland, C.B., Capt. Ralph Kerr, C.B.E., and her fine crew was a very grievous blow”.

There were only 3 survivors of the entire ship’s company of 1,418.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ    *Pièce Héroïque – César Franck*

## CHOIR AND CLERGY ENTER

### OPENING HYMN

During which the Book of Remembrance and the Standards are brought to the Sanctuary.

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.

## WELCOME

*Reverend Canon Andrew Neaum*

## OPENING SENTENCE AND BIDDING PRAYER for all Seafarers

### CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done. And we have done those things which we ought not to have done and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name.  
**Amen.**

Minister:

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.**

### PSALM 46

God is our strength and refuge,  
our present help in trouble,  
and we therefore will not fear,  
though the earth should change!  
Though mountains shake and tremble,  
though swirling floods are raging,  
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river  
within God's holy city;  
God is in the midst of her-  
she shall not be moved!  
God's help is swiftly given,  
thrones vanish at his presence-  
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker,  
learn of his deeds all-powerful:  
wars will cease across the world  
when he shatters the spear!  
Be still and know your creator,  
uplift him in the nations-  
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

### 1st LESSON

Psalm 107: verses 23-32

*Piers Cross*

### ANTHEM

Crossing The Bar – *C.H.H. Parry*

Choir

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,  
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;  
For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crost the bar.

## 2nd LESSON

Matthew 5: verses 1-12  
*Captain Catherine Jordan RN*

### HYMN

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways!  
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,  
In purer lives thy service find,  
In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard  
Beside the Syrian sea  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word  
Rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
The silence of eternity,  
Interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still small voice of calm!

## SERMON

*The Venerable Andrew Hillier RN*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

During which a collection will be taken.

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,  
Who biddst the mighty ocean deep  
its own appointed limits keep.  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose Almighty word,  
the winds and waves submissive heard,  
who walkedst on the foaming deep,  
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood  
upon the waters dark and rude,  
Who bid their angry tumult cease,  
and give for wild confusion, peace  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,  
our brethren shield in danger's hour:  
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
protect them whereso'er they go:  
and ever let there rise to thee  
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Please remain standing and face the HMS Hood corner.

## THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

*Rear Admiral Philip Wilcocks CB DSC DL*

A Commemoration of Vice Admiral Lancelot Holland C.B. and of the 1,415 officers and men who lost their lives in HMS HOOD in action with the enemy in the North Atlantic on 24 May 1941

We are met together to commemorate and to commend to the love of God all those who died in His Majesty's Ship HOOD: to give thanks for their lives and their example, to pray that we may be worthy of their sacrifice, and that there may never be wanting in this realm a like succession of people of spirit, humble and unafraid.

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure safekeeping, those who have died for their country in war; especially we remember those who served in HMS Hood and gave their lives in the service of their country. We remember with thanksgiving all who laid down their lives in the two World Wars, and those who have served in more recent and current conflicts. We pray for all whom we knew, or whose memory we treasure, and all who have died in the cause of peace and the service of mankind. **Amen**

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.

**All:            We will remember them.**

## THE LAST POST

## SILENCE

## THE REVEILLE

## LAYING OF THE WREATH

*Russell Hay and Titch Blachford*

When you go home  
Tell them of us and say  
For your tomorrow  
We gave our today



Please kneel or sit.

## NAVAL PRAYER

*Commander Mark Hamilton RN*

Eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the sea; who hast compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end; Be pleased to receive into thy Almighty and most gracious protection the persons of us thy servants, and the Fleet in which we serve. Preserve us from the dangers of the sea and air, and from the violence of the enemy, that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, and her Dominions, and a security for such as pass on the sea upon their lawful occasions: that the inhabitants of our island and Commonwealth may in peace and quietness serve Thee our God: and that we may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land, with the fruits of our labours and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies to praise and glorify thy holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord of all power and might, Who art the author and giver of all good things, mercifully grant us grace valiantly to fight in Thy cause. Give us the sure conviction that Thou art ever by our side. Grant us in battle unflinching courage and unconquerable spirit, so that no hurt nor obstacle may ever deter us from our duty. And in victory O Lord, grant us to be worthy of Thine everlasting love and to continue Thy faithful soldiers and servants until our life's end. And this we beg for Jesus Christ, His sake. **Amen.**

*Reverend Canon Andrew Neaum*

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.

O God our Father, the Creator and Giver of life now and in the world to come; we praise and thank you for your servants who counted their lives not dear to themselves, but laid them down for their friends. We beseech you to remember for good their loyal service and their faithfulness to death, and to fulfil in them the loving purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord we ask that you give us strength that we may live more bravely and faithfully for the sake of those who are no longer with us on earth, and grant us so to serve you that we may find fellowship for ever with them in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God our Father, we pray for all who serve our country within the armed forces. Grant that meeting danger with courage, and all occasions with discipline and loyalty, they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace, to the honour of your name. **Amen.**

Almighty God, direct the hearts and minds of those who bear in their hands the government of the people of our nation. Make them to uphold honour and justice, to restrain evil and oppression, and to seek the true prosperity of our nation and the welfare of mankind. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

### HYMN

During which the Standard bearers come forward.

The day you gave us, Lord, is ended,  
the darkness falls at your request;  
to you our morning hymns ascended,  
your praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank you that your Church, unsleeping  
while earth rolls onward into light,  
through all the world her watch is keeping  
and never rests by day or night.

As over continent and island  
each dawn leads to another day,  
the voice of prayer is never silent,  
nor do the praises die away.

So be it, Lord! Your throne shall never,  
like earth's proud empires, pass away;  
your kingdom stands and grows forever  
until there dawns your glorious day.

### THE BLESSING

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and to all mankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be with you and abide with you always. **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.

Thy choicest gifts in store  
On her be pleased to pour  
Long may she reign.  
May she defend our laws,  
And ever give us cause  
To sing with heart and voice  
God save the Queen.

Choir, clergy and Standards leave.

Organ      March in G – *Henry Smart*

*It is with immense gratitude that we record our appreciation for all those who have been involved in this Commemoration, including:*

*Rear Admiral Philip Wilcocks CB DSC DL*

*Captain Catherine Jordan RN*

*Piers Cross*

*Venerable Andrew Hillier RN*

*Jonathan Lush-Camps*

*Russell Hay and Titch Blachford*

*Commander Mark Hamilton RN*

*Flower Arrangers and refreshments providers*

*Diana Neaum*

*Timothy Rice*

*Reverend Canon Andrew Neaum*

*We hope that everyone will stay for coffee/tea after this service.*

*Two toilets are located through the Choir Vestry.*

*The collection will be divided between The Seafarers Charity  
and The Mission to Seafarers.*

*The next H.M.S. Hood Service of Commemoration at  
St. John the Baptist church will be at 11.00am  
on Sunday 28 May 2023.*

*This service is being recorded for viewing on St. John's Youtube channel.  
Whilst it is not our intention to film members of the general public, any  
persons wishing to remain out of camera shot should sit anywhere west  
of the south door (left of main entrance).*