



REMEMBRANCE

Grace upon Grace

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Dear Friends,

Christ Church is the second parish church I have served with a cemetery nearby. St. Stephen's on Vancouver Island was the first, actually in the middle of the cemetery. At every occasion for worship one could not escape the reality of death and yet there was also a deep sense of spiritual connectedness to faith, hope and resurrection. It has been said that memory is both a blessing and a curse. Many who experienced the hardships and brutality of war would prefer to forget it altogether. However, we all know that memory simply does not easily comply with our bidding. Remembrance Sunday is an opportunity to remember in the context of all that had been sacrificed for us. While we acknowledge that one death is too many, the numbers of deaths in the First and Second World War was staggering with over 61,000 and 42,000 respectively. In addition, we must not forget the wounded, those whose lives were forever changed. Lists are written upon monuments, on metal and wooden plaques. Lists found in Legions, other buildings and in churches. They all serve a common purpose of reminding us to "remember". We remember with respect, appreciation, and thanksgiving. Remembrance honours their sacrifice and acknowledges the loss in our communities and families. As a nation, it reminds us to work hard to avoid war and conflict where possible. Lord, help us to remember with grateful hearts the sacrifice made.

In the love of our Lord Jesus,

Wayne+