

# Reflections for 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## Remembrance Sunday

### Just a Dream

Many years ago the prophet Micah heard and passed on the word of God, as he spoke about a dream – a dream of a new world, and of a time when:

weapons of war would be transformed into tools for sowing and reaping  
instruments of death would be turned into the means for life  
and every person would have the security of knowing that they had the  
means to provide for themselves and their families

You might hear that and think – isn't that wonderful, isn't that inspiring! Or you might hear it and think – but it's just a dream.

And it is 'just a dream', but dreams and visions can be powerful things, when they inspire people to take action for change. This Sunday we remember those who have put themselves at risk, and given up their lives, for the sake of others, in defence of this country and other countries. And, as we remember, could we dare to dream of a new and different world? Perhaps we could dream of a world where all the very best traditions and values of our armed forces, in their discipline and dedication to service, in their camaraderie and care for each other, and in their skills and their bravery, could be used to help others in times of crisis and emergency, at home and around the world, without ever needing to fire a weapon.

You may think that is impossible, or impractical – that it's 'just a dream'. Or, we might be inspired by that dream and vision to do something, however small. And if a lot of people do small things, that can add up to something that changes the world.

At Remembrance, we give thanks to God for the measure of peace that we enjoy, and we give thanks for those whose sacrifice has helped to make that possible. And, as we do that, we may open our hearts anew to hear the word of God, and to glimpse something of that dream, that vision of a much greater and deeper peace, and we can be ready to do something that will help to make that dream a little more real in our world today.

Revd John Waller

God of peace,  
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom  
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:  
look with compassion on the anguish of the world  
and by your healing power  
make whole both people and nations;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Bible readings: Micah 4. 1-5; John 15. 9-17

Story: 'No greater love than this' (the death of Jesus, based on Mark chapter 15)