

# EMPIRE YOUTH SUNDAY

*By Albert Bau*

## A Call to High Endeavour

### ORDER OF SERVICE

*The Congregation is asked to join to the fullest extent in all the said and sung parts of the Service*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (*Announced by a single chord*)

THE BIDDING (*Said by the Minister, all standing*)

We are come together on this appointed day in common with many others in all parts of the world, to put ourselves into the hands of God that He may use us as His servants to bring about a new and better era in the history of mankind, and to pray for His help that we may be worthy in all ways of His high calling. First therefore, let us keep silence for a moment while we set our minds upon the thought—'The war-stricken world needs the best that is in me, and only God can make my weakness strong enough for such high endeavour.'

*Then shall silence be kept for a space*

AN ACT OF WORSHIP (*all still standing*)

*Minister* : The Lord be with you ;

*People* : And with thy spirit.

*Minister* : Lift up your hearts ;

*People* : We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Minister* : Let us give thanks unto our Lord God ;

*People* : It is meet and right so to do.

*Minister* : It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name, evermore praising Thee, and saying

*People* : Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory : Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High.

### HYMN

WORDS : M. RINKART. TUNE : NUN DANKET

ALL praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The One eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore ;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.



## THE LESSON

*Four passages from the Bible which teach us that when God calls men to high endeavour He is prepared to equip them for its achievement*

God's promise to Joshua. (Joshua I, verses 5, 6, 7 and 9.)

God's promise to King Solomon. (II Chronicles I, verses 7-12 inclusive.)

Christ's promise to the disciples. (Acts I, verses 7 and 8.)

St. Paul's triumphant account of how Christ's promise is fulfilled. (Romans VIII, verses 31, 32, 37, 38 and 39.)

## HYMN

WORDS: JOHN BUNYAN. TUNE: MONKS GATE

**H**E who would valiant be  
'Gainst all disaster,  
Let him in constancy  
Follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement  
Shall make him once relent  
His first avowed intent  
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round,  
With dismal stories,  
Do but themselves confound—  
His strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might,  
Though he with giants fight:  
He will make good his right  
To be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend  
Us with thy Spirit,  
We know we at the end  
Shall life inherit.  
Then fancies flee away!  
I'll fear not what men say,  
I'll labour night and day  
To be a pilgrim.

## THE ADDRESS

*After the Address the Preacher and the people shall together say the following prayer written by King Henry VI*

O Lord Jesu Christ, who has made me and redeemed me and brought me where I am upon my way: thou knowest what thou wouldst do with me: do with me according to thy will, for thy tender mercies' sake. Amen.

## HYMN

WORDS: RUDYARD KIPLING. TUNES: MELCOMBE OF ROCKINGHAM

**F**ATHER in heaven who lovest all,  
O help thy children when they call,  
That they may build from age to age  
An undefiled heritage.

Teach us to bear the yoke in youth,  
With steadfastness and careful truth;  
That in our time thy grace may give  
The truth whereby the nations live.

Teach us to rule ourselves away,  
Controlled and cleanly night and day;  
That we may bring, if need arise,  
No maimed or worthless sacrifice.

Teach us to look in all our ends  
On thee for judge, and not our  
friends;  
That we, with thee, may walk uncowed  
By fear or favour of the crowd.



Teach us the strength that cannot seek,    Teach us delight in simple things,  
By deed, or thought, to hurt the weak,    And mirth that has no bitter springs  
That, under thee, we may possess    Forgiveness free of evil done,  
Man's strength to comfort man's    And love to all men 'neath the sun.  
distress.

Land of our birth, our faith, our pride,  
For whose dear sake our fathers died ;  
O Motherland, we pledge to thee,  
Head, heart, and hand through the  
years to be !

*We have considered the meaning of the Bible passages for our own day and generation. An Act of Faith now follows in which we affirm our belief in God. Then comes the admission that our life has not been consistent with our belief, followed by the resolve to strive harder. Afterwards our prayers are said for others as for ourselves.*

#### AN ACT OF FAITH *(all together standing)*

WE BELIEVE : God is spirit : and they that Worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.  
God is light : and if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another.  
God is love : and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.  
Jesus is the Son of God : and God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.  
We are the children of God : and He has given us of His Spirit.  
If we confess our sins : He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.  
A world is passing away and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

#### AN ACT OF REPENTANCE *(all together)*

O GOD, our Father, we have sinned against thee in thought, word and deed : we have not loved thee with all our heart : we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. Have mercy upon us, we beseech thee ; cleanse us from our sins ; and help us to overcome our faults ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Minister shall then declare God's promise of forgiveness*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

#### AN ACT OF RESOLVE *(all together)*

WE RESOLVE, with the help of God, to bend our wills to do His will, to raise our eyes to the coming of His Kingdom, and to set our hearts to love our neighbours. We resolve to face what is real and attack what is hard, and ever to fight for all that is good and beautiful and true, in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

#### THE PRAYERS

*The minister shall then lead the prayers of the people. After each Bidding, silence shall be kept for a space, and then the Minister shall say :*

Lord hear our prayer.    *People :* And let our cry come unto thee.

Let us pray.

For the King and all in authority, that they may order all things according to God's will.

For all who fight, work or suffer for the allied cause in this war.



For the people of all nations, especially those who are under oppression or in distress.

For ourselves, that in this great day of God, He will accept and fit us for His service.

*Finally, all shall say together the Lord's Prayer*

OUR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name ; Thy kingdom come ; Thy will be done ; In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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

WORDS : J. RUSSELL LOWELL. TUNES : " AUSTRIAN HYMN " (" AUSTRIA " )  
or " HYFRYDOL "

ONCE to every man and nation  
Comes the moment to decide,  
In the strife of truth with falsehood,  
For the good or evil side :  
Some great cause, God's new Messiah,  
Offering each the bloom or blight ;  
And the choice goes by for ever  
'Twixt that darkness and that light.

Then to side with truth is noble,  
When we share her wretched crust,  
Ere her cause bring fame and profit,  
And 'tis prosperous to be just ;  
Then it is the brave man chooses,  
While the coward stands aside,  
Till the multitude make virtue  
Of the faith they had denied.

By the light of burning martyrs,  
Christ, thy bleeding feet we track,  
Toiling up new Calvaries ever  
With the cross that turns not back.  
New occasions teach new duties ;  
Time makes ancient good uncouth ;  
They must upward still and onward  
Who would keep abreast of truth.

Though the cause of evil prosper,  
Yet 'tis truth alone is strong ;  
Though her portion be the scaffold,  
And upon the throne be wrong,  
Yet that scaffold sways the future,  
And, behind the dim unknown,  
Standeth God within the shadow,  
Keeping watch above his own.

#### THE BLESSING

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