



**Infected Blood:
A Service of Recognition,
Remembrance,
and Reflection**



Infected Blood
Memorial Committee

**Tuesday 19th May 2026
11.00 am**

WELCOME TO ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

We are the Cathedral for the Diocese of London in the Church of England (Anglican). Christian worship has been offered on this site for over 1,400 years and all are welcome to join in with that ongoing tradition, whether you are a person of Christian faith, another faith, or no faith.

Our regular worshippers, along with over 220 staff and many volunteers, make up the cathedral community. Please be assured of our continuing prayers for you as you return to your home or place of worship.

Members of the Red Cross team and St John Ambulance are present in the Cathedral today should you require assistance. You can find them at St Dunstan's Chapel, at the right hand side of the main entrance. The Chapel can also be used as a quiet space if you need to place to take a break.

Name Cards

Before the service starts please remember to collect a plain envelope. Inside each envelope is the first name of someone impacted by the contaminated blood scandal. During the service you will be asked to open the envelope and read aloud the name. The envelopes are being handed out near the Cathedral entrances.



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to those around you who may wish to pray quietly. Please ensure all electronic devices are set to silent or turned off and please do not take photographs during the service.

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Infected Blood Book of Remembrance

Many thanks to St Botolph-without-Bishopsgate who have kindly loaned the Infected Blood Book of Remembrance for the duration of this service. The Book of Remembrance lists the names of those who have died as a result of contaminated blood received during treatment for haemophilia and other bleeding disorders. If you wish to view the book it is at Chapel of St Michael and St George.

Infected Blood Inquiry Memorial

The Infected Blood Inquiry Memorial was created to remember all the people infected and affected by the use of contaminated blood and blood products. It consists of small, clear vials, each containing a personal message. The University of Manchester is now the custodian of the Inquiry Memorial. If you wish to add a bottle to the memorial please visit Chapel of St Michael and St George.

Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will be in attendance at today's service.

The St Paul's Cathedral Consort is conducted by James Orford, Organist. The organ is played during the service by George Inscoe, Sub-Organist, and before the service by Hilary Punnett, Assistant Director of Music.

A solo is sung by Michael Ball. The London Contemporary Voices Choir is led by Meg Ella Brookes, accompanied by Barny Jones.

Music before the service

Fantasia in C minor (BWV 537) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude, Fugue and Variation César Franck (1822-90)

Retrospection Harold Darke (1888-1976)

The bells of St Paul's will be rung half-muffled before the service in honour of all the lives remembered today.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please join in all texts printed in **bold**, and stand and sit as you feel able to do so.

Stand as the Choir and Cathedral Ministers enter.

Processional Hymn

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.**

Words: William Williams (1717-91)
trans. Peter Williams (1727-96) and others

Tune: *Cwm Rhondda*
John Hughes (1873-1932)

Recognition

Welcome

given by

The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett,
Dean of St Paul's

We gather today, in this Cathedral Church, to hold before God all who have been impacted by the decades long Contaminated Blood Scandal. We publicly recognise and remember the devastation wrought on thousands of lives and the untimely deaths of loved ones. Those gathered here, and those joining us online, today join together and take this time to publicly mark this grievous wound on our nation.

This tragedy alone would be catastrophic enough. However, it has been exacerbated by the lack of public recognition and acknowledgment. For too long, the administration of life changing and deadly viruses through contaminated blood and contaminated blood products has been hidden from public view. It has touched all corners of our United Kingdom and continues to take lives in the most cruel and harrowing ways.

Today, we come together as a nation to publicly recognise this scandal, to remember those whose lives have been lost, to reflect on what might have been for so many, and to reflect on what has been accomplished from your collective efforts. We pay tribute to those who have carried us to this stage and to those who continue to fight to ensure justice is delivered for all. We owe them all a debt that can never be repaid. In their honour, we commit ourselves to actions that will continue to promote the light and hope of our work. Their shining example should act as a beacon to all who strive for justice.

As well as those present, we remember those who cannot be here today. The empty seats reserved throughout the cathedral, act as a physical representation of our loved ones and remind us that they sit alongside us on our journey.

Here, beneath the Dome of this great church, we recognise the symbol of hope and resilience that it has been for many people throughout years past and present, and gather together to bear witness to a brighter future together.

Silence is kept.

Loving God, we rejoice in your promise
of new life, hope and peace.
In your mercy turn the darkness of death
into the dawn of new life,
help us to have courage to bear witness to truth,
strength to hold each other in our hope,
and to be agents of peace
for the health of our communities and world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Sit

The St Paul's Cathedral Consort sings

Anthem

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Words: Anon.

Music: from the *Messe de Requiem* (Op.9)
Maurice Durufié (1902-86)

Reading

read by

Alan Burgess and Juliet Batten,

So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Matthew 10. 26-31

Michael Ball sings

Song

There's a grief that can't be spoken
There's a pain goes on and on
Empty chairs at empty tables
Now my friends are dead and gone.

Here they talked of revolution
Here it was they lit the flame
Here they sang about "tomorrow"
And tomorrow never came.

From the table in the corner
They could see a world reborn
And they rose with voices ringing
And I can hear them now
The very words that they had sung
Became their last communion
On the lonely barricade at dawn.

Oh my friends, my friends, forgive me
That I live and you are gone
There's a grief that can't be spoken
There's a pain goes on and on.

Oh my friends, my friends, don't ask me
What your sacrifice was for
Empty chairs at empty tables
Where my friends will sing no more.

Words: Herbert Kretzmer (1925-2020)

Music: *Empty Chairs at Empty Tables*
from *Les Misérables*
Claude-Michel Schönberg (b.1944)

Remembrance

Reading

read by

Elisabeth Buggins

Not numbers on a ledger, not lines in a report –
but names once spoken softly in kitchens, courts, and wards.
They came for healing hands, for hope in careful veins,
and left with something silent that carried years of pain.
A trust was placed in strangers, in science, white and clean –
yet hidden in the lifeblood were truths left unforeseen.
We remember every heartbeat that faltered far too soon,
every chair left empty beneath an ordinary moon.
We remember quiet courage, the battles fought unseen,
the letters never answered, the spaces left between.
For families who kept waiting, for voices made to plead,
for justice slow in coming, for wounds that still can bleed.
Let memory be a lantern no darkness can deny –
a promise to the living we will not let this lie.
Not numbers, not forgotten, not shadows in the past –
your names are held in honour, your story ours to cast.
And in that shared remembering, we stand, we speak, we vow:
no life should bear such silence— not then, not ever, now.

Not numbers on a ledger
Granddaughter of an infected blood victim

Stand

In Memoriam

introduced by

Clive Smith,
Chair of the Infected Blood Memorial Committee

I would now like to invite everyone in the congregation to open your envelope. In a moment, please say in unison with me: 'I remember' and the name on your card.

For those joining us online and watching the livestream, or a recording of this service – I would like to invite you to join us too. Please say the first name, aloud, of someone you would like remembered and honoured.

I will now start:

I remember *Name*

Let's repeat together once more:

I remember *Name*

I would like to ask you to take that card away with you. Take care of the person named on it in a way that you see fit – they, or their family and friends, want them to be remembered and honoured.

If you are able to, please stand as we now begin to hold silence together. As we stand here, reflecting on the lives that have been lost and the lives that have been irreversibly changed by contaminated blood, thousands of petals will fall from the Whispering Gallery in the colours of our community.

Silence is kept, as petals fall from the Whispering Gallery, serving as a symbol of the collective loss of the contaminated blood community.

After the service, please feel free to gather some of the petals and place them in your envelope to take home with you.

Sit

Reading

read by

Leanne,
Daughter of John

They were here. Not just in years or in photographs, but in laughter that filled rooms, in quiet kindness, in the ordinary days that became extraordinary simply because they were there. Their life was not meant to end this way. There are questions that still echo, and a weight of wrong that words cannot soften. But even in the shadow of that injustice, their story is not defined by how they died. It is defined by how they lived. By the hands they held. By the love they gave freely. By the courage they showed when life became harder than it ever should have been. And though we grieve the years taken, the moments stolen, the future that should have been theirs – we refuse to let silence be the last word. Because love does not end with loss. It continues in the stories we tell, in the names we speak, in the determination that what happened will be remembered. They are missed in a thousand quiet ways – in empty chairs, in songs half-remembered, in the sudden thought of “I wish they were here.” And yet, in another way, they are. In courage. In memory. In the love that still moves through the lives they touched. They are not gone from the story. They are written into us.

They live on in us
Community Member

Stand

Hymn

during which, community members will carry candles forward to be lit under the Dome.

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

Words: H. F. Lyte (1793-1847)

Tune: *Eventide*
W. H. Monk (1823-89)

Sit

Reflection

The St Paul's Cathedral Consort sings

In paradisum deducant angeli;
in tuo adventu suscipiant te
martyres et perducant te
in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro
quondam paupere,
aeternam habeas requiem.

Words: Anon.

May angels lead you into paradise:
at your coming may the martyrs
receive you and lead you into
Jerusalem, the holy city.
May a choir of angels receive you
and with Lazarus,
who was once a beggar,
may you have eternal rest.

Music: from the *Messe de Requiem* (Op.48)
Gabriel Fauré (1845-1921)

Anthem

Prayers of Intercession

led by

The Reverend Timothy Miller,
Succentor

and

Brian Moore

Mike Simpson

Sybil Fowler

Jana Godfrey

Brendan Conwell

Caroline Carberry

Heather Smith

In the fullness of all we are and all we hold in this space together, let us pray.

Remain seated or kneel.

As we give thanks for the hard work that brought the Contaminated Blood Scandal into the light, we pray for all those who have died as a result of receiving contaminated blood, for all whose lives have been irreversibly changed as a result of contaminated blood, for those who continue to bear the emotional and physical scars through what they have suffered, for those who live with the void of their loved ones who have died from contaminated blood, and for the lives which were never born or conceived within the infected blood community. In the light of truth may no one be forgotten or feel alone, and may all find relief and rest in God and in one another.

God of comfort,
hear our prayer.

As we give thanks for those who have championed and supported those in our community, we pray for all people who have committed themselves to uncover this scandal, for those who have taken up the mantle for truth, restoration and compensation, for those who have not let this tragedy go unnoticed by the wider nation and world, and for those who ensure that history does not repeat itself. In the tangibility of acknowledgment and change, may we find comfort and recovery with God and with one another.

God of truth,
hear our prayer.

As we give thanks for the breadth of the communities that have grown from this tragedy and injustice, we pray for all those who are unable to be with us today: for those whose presence is marked by empty seats, flower petals, and lit candles within this cathedral, for those who have been unable to join in person but join us online, and for those who feel unable to publicly stand with us today. In our public act of gathering, may we all find strength in this community and feel solidarity in God and in one another.

God of healing,
hear our prayer.

As we give thanks for all the people remembered today and as we stand as a part of this wider community, we pray for those who feel their whole life has been defined and limited by contaminated blood, for those who worry that their loved ones are only remembered by this scandal, and for those who seek to hold onto the wholeness of human expression and identity. May today give opportunity for the limitations and confinement of this calamity to be lifted, for the uniqueness of our wider community to be embraced, and for all our stories and memories to grow more fully and not be solely defined by contaminated blood.

God of restoration,
hear our prayer.

As we look for signs of following the recommendations of the public inquiry, we pray for the community strength that has come from our diverse experiences, for the power of many people facing injustice and seeking change, and for the wider inspiration that has been sparked within other people outside our community as they have seen our courage and commitment. May we have wisdom to know where to keep pushing for justice and truth, may we be mindful of where our strength can be shared with those outside of our community, and may we be inspired by the many ways we can see our work making the world a better place.

God of new creation,
hear our prayer.

As we recognise the healing, grace and peace that our community and work have offered, we pray for our futures and all that is still to unfold in our lives, for the turning of the seasons and signs of spring that remind us of new life and possibilities in our coming days, and for the quiet occasions of peace we find in moments of beauty and hope. May we be embraced by love, may we be strengthened by the life of our gathered community, and may we be energised in our imaginations and actions in our anticipation of what we can become.

God of our journey,
hear our prayer.

We gather up all our prayers, those spoken aloud and those held in the silence of our hearts, in the words of 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.**

Sit

The London Contemporary Voices Choir sings

Song

You've got the words to change a nation
But you're biting your tongue
You've spent a life time stuck in silence
Afraid you'll say something wrong
If no one ever hears it how we gonna learn your song?
So come on, come on, come on, come on
You've got a heart as loud as lions
So why let your voice be tamed?
Maybe we're a little different
There's no need to be ashamed
You've got the light to fight the shadows
So stop hiding it away
Come on, come on

I wanna sing, I wanna shout
I wanna scream 'til the words dry out
So put it in all of the papers
I'm not afraid
They can read all about it
Read all about it, no oh, oh oh.

At night we're waking up the neighbours
While we sing away the blues
Making sure that we're remembered, yeah
'Cause we all matter too
If the truth has been forbidden
Then we're breaking all the rules
So come on, come on, come on, come on
Let's get the TV and the radio
To play our tune again
It's 'bout time we got some airplay of our version of events
There's no need to be afraid
I will sing with you my friend
Come on, come on

I wanna sing, I wanna shout
I wanna scream 'til the words dry out
So put it in all of the papers
I'm not afraid
They can read all about it
Read all about it, no oh, oh oh.

Yeah, we're all wonderful, wonderful people
So when did we all get so fearful?
And now we're finally finding our voices
So take a chance, come help me sing this
Yeah, we're all wonderful, wonderful people
So when did we all get so fearful?
And now we're finally finding our voices
Just take a chance, come help me sing this

I wanna sing, I wanna shout
I wanna scream 'til the words dry out
So put it in all of the papers
I'm not afraid
They can read all about it
Read all about it.

Words and music: *Read all about it*
Emeli Sandé (b.1987)

Reading

read by

Mark Ward

I was told I was the only one this had happened to. It was a lie. I was told there was no clinical evidence. It was a lie. I knew something was very wrong but felt like a lone voice in a black void. I attended the launch of Our Inquiry and there you were. You who knew my story, understood my pain. You who had campaigned for years to expose the harm done. For us all to be heard. I and you became us, together we bore witness. Bravely exposed our pain in support of the search for truth. We were seen, we were heard and painfully slowly things began to change. At last we were believed, vindicated. We are joined now forever by our blood line. It's our story line, our truth. May this line be drawn so no one has to face this kind of battle again. May all those who cannot be here to see this day be remembered. May all those still fighting for justice and honesty be victorious. May our community of Affected and Infected finally know peace.

Blood line
Joan

Address

given by

Sir Brian Langstaff,
Chair of the Infected Blood Inquiry

The St Paul's Cathedral Consort sings

Anthem

Set me as a seal upon thine heart,
as a seal upon thy arm;
for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.

Words: Song of Solomon 8. 6,7

Music: William Walton (1902-83)

Stand

Act of Commitment

given by

The Dean of St Paul's

As representatives from the diversity of our national community, those who have been directly impacted from the Contaminated Blood Scandal and those who stand with them, we are united in our commitment to remember this scandal and to support those who have been and continue to be impacted from this tragedy.

We belong to many different communities, but we share a common grief and anger but also love and hope. We acknowledge that the path has not always been easy and also that our work is not yet completed. We believe in a future where others can be saved from the devastation we have endured. We know that our unity can bring hope to others. We recognise that our work can inspire others to seek justice for themselves, their communities, and our world.

Do you, as members of the infected blood community, promise to remember all who have been impacted by this scandal.

We do.

Do you commit yourselves to continue to support those who have been impacted and to create moments to share in new opportunities to bear witness to both the struggle and the achievements of this community?

We do.

Do you promise to use your stories as messages of truth, hope and possibility for those in our wider community who suffer from injustice?

We do.

Blessing

given by

The Dean of St Paul's

May the author of life, the source of love,
and the spirit of hope, strengthen you and
guide you in all that you have committed to do,
in all that is still to be done,
and to establish all that has already been accomplished.

May you go out into the world
in courage, truth and expectation
for a brighter tomorrow.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Hymn

**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Words: (239) Jan Struther (1901-53)

Tune: *Slane*
Traditional Irish Melody

Remain standing as the Choir and Cathedral Ministers depart, after which you are invited to be seated for the playing of the Organ Voluntary.

Organ Voluntary

Fantasia in C minor (BWV 562)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The bells of St Paul's Cathedral are rung unmuffled.

The Cathedral floor will remain open until 1.00 pm, so that the congregation can connect and spend time together. The cafe in the Crypt will be open for you to purchase refreshments.

To exit, please follow the directions of the Wandsmen and Stewards.

Flowers

The flowers at the altar are arranged in the colours of our community.

Infected Blood Memorial Committee Mailing List

The Memorial Committee has designed and delivered the service today, with valuable input from the community. If you would like to keep up to date on their work, and ensure you are able to provide further input in the future, please sign up to their mailing list by scanning the following QR code:



Alternatively, you can email ibmemorialisation@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

Psychological Support

Free, comprehensive, and historically informed Infected Blood Psychological services are operational across the whole of the UK via self-referral. For more information visit:

infectedbloodpsychologicalservice.nhs.uk

We stand here today, gathered not by chance,
but by the quiet gravity of shared pain held together by threads no one
would ever choose:
suffering, hurt, despair, injustice.

We find ourselves in this circle,
seeking solace in one another,
because sometimes unity
is the only place left to rest.

The country looks on—
but how can it truly see
what it has not felt, what it has not carried in the depths of its days?
This tragedy is not measured in headlines,
but in lives interrupted,
in futures rewritten,
in voices that should still be here.

So we stand—
not just in silence,
but in memory.
To remember.
To reflect.
To honour those from our community
who are no longer beside us.
And we stand for the living too—
for those who carry this burden, in body and in soul—whether infected
or affected
each life shaped by something
never chosen.

Today, we do not turn away.
We stand together,
we speak their names in our hearts,
and in this shared moment,
we remind the world—
and ourselves—
that none of this is forgotten.
And none of you
stand alone.