



St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church

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Order of Service

Sunday 23 May 2021 at 10.30am



Welcome to St Paul's!

Please use 'T' on your hearing aid if you need to use the Hearing Loop.

This morning's service is being led by: Mr **John Ellis**
Past Moderator of General Assembly | Synod Area Leader, W Kent & E Sussex
The Organ is played by: Mr Robert Cooper

Important notes:

- It is a joy to welcome you to this service!
St Paul's URC has a **full Covid-19 Risk Assessment**, which is helping to keep everyone safe, so please follow the notices and advice you are given in church.
 - As you can see, we are using printed **Order sheets rather than Hymn books and bibles**. This reduces transmission of infection and the Orders are prepared in a clean environment.
 - **Offertory** – to reduce contact with physical notes and coins at this time, Standing Orders and bank transfers are preferred, but there is also a labelled collection box at the exit, where you can place your offertory.
 - Until government guidance changes, there will be **no congregational singing** during our services, but we will find other creative ways of using music!
 - We pray that you will know God's presence as we worship – in church, at home, online, in the garden, at work or school, and in all places.
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We extend a very warm welcome to you. If you do not attend a church elsewhere we invite you to join regularly with us in our Sunday worship and other activities – see www.stpaulsurc.org.uk

You are welcome to use the time before worship for quiet preparation, especially once the music begins. We light a candle at the start of the service to remind us all of Christ's message of peace.

The Reformed Church recognises God's Word as its supreme authority and you are asked to stand as the Bible is brought in at the start of worship, and again as the Bible is taken out after the blessing.

Welcome & Notices

Call to worship

Hymn for reflection: *Breathe on me, breath of God* (R&S 295)

1 Breathe on me, breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, breath of God,
Till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, breath of God;
So shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life
Of thine eternity.

Prayer of Approach

The Lord's Prayer

Reading: Acts Ch 2 vv 1-4 The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Family Time: Getting Connected

Hymn for reflection: *O breath of life* (R&S 302)

O breath of life, come sweeping through us,
Revive your Church with life and power;
O breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,
And fit your Church to meet this hour.

O Wind of God, come, bend us, break us,
Till humbly we confess our need;
Then in your tenderness remake us,
Revive, restore; for this we plead.

O Breath of love, come, breathe within us
Renewing thought and will and heart;
Come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,
Revive your Church in every part.

Junior Church are blessed and go to their own activities

Reading: Zechariah Ch 2 vv 1-13

Third Vision: The Man with a Measuring Line

I looked up and saw a man with a measuring line in his hand. ²Then I asked, 'Where are you going?' He answered me, 'To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length.' ³Then the angel who talked with me came forward, and another angel came forward to meet him, ⁴and said to him, 'Run, say to that young man: Jerusalem shall be inhabited like villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and animals in it. ⁵For I will be a wall of fire all round it, says the LORD, and I will be the glory within it.' ⁶Up, up! Flee from the land of the north, says the LORD; for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven, says the LORD. ⁷Up! Escape to Zion, you that live with daughter Babylon. ⁸For thus said the LORD of hosts (after his glory sent me) regarding the nations that plundered you: Truly, one who touches you touches the apple of my eye. ⁹See now, I am going to raise my hand against them, and they shall become plunder for their own slaves. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me. ¹⁰Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion! For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the LORD. ¹¹Many nations shall join themselves to the LORD on that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst. And you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. ¹²The LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem. ¹³Be silent, all people, before the LORD; for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

Sermon: Zechariah's Vaccination

Hymn for reflection: *We seek your Kingdom* (tune Eventide R&S 336)

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven's demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Holy Communion

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn for reflection: *O Thou who camest from above* (R&S 433)

O Thou who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze;
And trembling to its source return,
In humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work and speak and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up thy gift in me:

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of love and faith repeat.
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make my sacrifice complete.

Benediction and blessing

Information & Notices

We extend a very warm welcome to you!

United Prayer Time

for St Paul's and South Croydon United Church

Friday evenings at 7:30-8:00pm *Recurring 'Zoom' log-in details:*

Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820

Next Week - 30 May

We're delighted to welcome Carol Clack to lead our worship as it's the fifth Sunday and Martin is a free agent! Carol has completed her lay preacher training and it is a privilege to support her as she grows in ministry.

Quiz Evening - 26 June

Note in your diaries the next Quiz night supporting the MS Therapy Centre in Coulsdon. Tickets will be available soon but keep the evening free as it'll be loads of fun!

(Re)join the team

Now we are back regularly in church we're keen to involve more people in helping to ensure services run safely and everyone feels welcomed. We've a band of volunteers who do duties such as welcoming, cleaning and supporting our youth activities – please let Sue know if you can help once a month or so. !



St Paul's United Reformed Church

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