



**St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church**

Minister: **Revd. Martin Knight**
07392 463961 minister1@stpaulsurc.org.uk

Church Secretaries: **Sue Eardley**
07971 068887 Secretary@StpaulsURC.org.uk
Bea Pollard
020 8657 0162 ronandbea@btinternet.com

Order of Service

Sunday 8th January 2023



Refresh

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

Today's service is being led by: **John Ponsford**
The Organ is played by: **Robert Cooper**

It is a joy to welcome you to this service!

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

Feel free to spend 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.**

We pray that you will know God's presence as we worship – in church, at home, online, outdoors, at work, school; in all places.

Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

Lighting the peace candle

Hymn 187: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Prayers of approach and confession

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 thins is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever, amen

Talk

Hymn 431: Lord of the love that in Christ has reclaimed us

Junior Church blessing

Leader: Whether we are together or apart we are one in God's Spirit

Junior church: The Lord Bless us and keep us
All - The Lord shine his face upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace. Amen

The Junior Church leave for their activities

Reading: Isaiah 42: 1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,

I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who

sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Reading: Matthew 3: 13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness."

Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved with whom I am well pleased."

Hymn 192: Thou didst leave thy throne

Sermon

Offering - with prayer and dedication

Hymn 576: God's Spirit is deep in my heart

Prayers of intercession

Hymn 530: Living God, your joyful Spirit

The blessing

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ, amen.

Coming up...

Prayers for Peace - *The Sanctuary* **Tuesday 10th January**
12-1pm and every week

WarmSpace - *Open to all!* **Every Thursday 3:30-6:30pm**

United Prayer Time – Zoom - *St Paul's & South Croydon*
United Church Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 **Every Friday, 6pm**

Tuesday Guild - *On 10th January 10.15 for 10.30*
"Treasures or Tat - Why do we collect?" with Renia Jenkins.

St Paul's Book Club - *12th January, 12.30 in Croydon*
Bowling Club, Nottingham Road / Warham Road to discuss
the Girls in the Attic amongst other things. All welcome

Pauline copy date – *22nd January – please send articles to*
Pat GO

Church meeting – *29th January after worship – lots to*
discuss, please come!

For future events and activities please see our website

Croham Park Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 7HF www.stpaulsurc.org.uk
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