



Minister: **Revd. Martin Knight**  
020 8406 0667 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 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023*



*Welcome to St Paul's!*

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

---

Today's service is being led by: **Elaine Leck**  
The Organ is played by: **Rob Baston**

## 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](http://www.stpaulsurc.org.uk)

Pick up a ‘welcome’ leaflet with a little more about us and pictures of our elders – by the entry and exit doors.

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.*

---

What are the white cloths?

We traditionally put these on pews for communion and you are invited to sit ‘behind’ them so you can be served at

‘God’s table’

(it also makes it easier for the servers to reach you).

## Welcome & Notices

### Call to Worship

Elaine        Jesus said: 'The time approaches, indeed it is already here, when those who are real worshippers will worship God in spirit and in truth. Such are the worshippers whom God wants. God is spirit and those who worship God must worship in spirit and in truth.

Elaine        Come, Holy Spirit

**Response    Fill us with your peace**

Elaine        Come, Holy Spirit

**Response    Unite us in our worship**

Elaine:        Come, Holy Spirit

**Response:   Raise us by your power**

Elaine:        Come, Holy Spirit

**Response:   Come now.**

**Hymn:** CREATOR GOD (Tune: How great thou art)

Creator God, your love abounds forever

Creation's beauty fills the earth and sky.

Your shining stars, the universe expanding,

Amazing power, creation does display.

*Creator God, we lift our song to you,*

*How great your love, how great your love. (repeat)*

When through the fields, and mossy woods we wander,  
We hear the birds, and rustling of the leaves;  
When we absorb the sunrays shining brightly,  
And feel the shade beneath the spreading trees,  
*Creator God...*

Walking the streets, through city ways and byways  
We hear the sounds of life and children's play;  
When justice rings from every church's spire  
We feel the hope of promises you've made.  
*Creator God...*

And when we think, how love and peace surround us,  
Eternal One, we scarce can take it in,  
Your truth, your realm, your justice spreading broadly,  
Our hearts are filled, for Love has entered in.  
*Creator God...*

*Words: Rev'd Ana Gobledeale*

**Prayers:** Prayer of Praise, Prayer of Confession,

### **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.

## **First reading:** Acts 2:1-8, 11b-14

### The Coming of the Holy Spirit

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

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? In our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

## Talk to Junior church

### Hymn: SPIRIT OF GOD (Tune: Skye boat song)

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind  
gentle as is the dove,  
teach us the truth and help us believe,  
show us the saviour's love.*

1. You spoke to us long, long ago,  
Gave us the written word;  
We read it still, needing its truth,  
Through it God's voice is heard.

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind...*

2. Without your help we fail our lord,  
We cannot live his way;  
We need your power, we need your strength,  
Following Christ each day.

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind...*

*Words © Margaret Old*

### The grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
And the Love of God  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all, now and for ever more

**Junior church leave for their departments.**

**Reading:** Acts 2:14-24, 32-33, 36-39, 41

## **Peter Addresses the Crowd**

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

“In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.  
And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him

among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. Therefore, let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

**Reflections:** From Ascension to Pentecost and the birth of the Church



**Hymn:** 576 GOD'S SPIRIT IS DEEP IN MY HEART  
(Verses 1 & 2 only)

## Prayers for Others

**Hymn:** 308 and 309 (remain seated)  
Spirit of the Living God

**Offering and prayer** for the work of  
this church & *Communion Charity*  
*Collection for War Child (Ukraine)*



**At War Child, we are driven by a single goal – ensuring a safe future for every child living through war.**

**Hymn:** 302 O breath of life come sweeping through us

**HOLY COMMUNION** led by Angela Bannerman  
*(The bread is gluten free and non-alcoholic wine is available on each tray)*

**Hymn:** 572 Colours of Day dawn into the mind

## Sending out and Blessing

# ST PAUL'S SUMMER FETE

Saturday 24th June  
2pm - 4:30pm

ST PAUL'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
CROHAM PARK AVE, CR2 7HF

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- Bouncy castle •
- Face painting •
- Outdoor games •
- Cake • Ice cream •
- Refreshments •
- Children's craft activities •
- Plant stall • Tombola •
- Bric-a-brac stall •
- Soul Symphony Choir •
- and much more!

[www.stpaulsurc.org.uk](http://www.stpaulsurc.org.uk)

## **We need help with the following for the fete please:**

- Offers to 'man' stalls and activities for the day
- Offers to set up / clear away before and afterwards
- Donations of items for tombola, bric-a-brac, plant stall, cakes, books, children's clothes & toys – please leave in Jubilee Room.
- Loan of gazebos (and return of a loaned church one!)
- Loan of small tables to use for refreshments
- Distributors of leaflets door to door
- Offers to put up posters in places you visit
- Enthusiasm to tell / invite friends, neighbours, family
- Prayers of encouragement for volunteers, community participation, energy, mission and (ideally) sunshine!

**If you can help or have any ideas or questions please contact: Helen, Pat GO, Sue, Dennis, Pat S or Christine**

**Thank you!**

---

# Coming up...

**Christian Aid** – many thanks to all who collected for this worthy charity and/or donated in recent weeks

**United Prayer Time – Zoom** - St Paul's & South Croydon  
United Church Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820, password 1111  
**Every Friday, 7pm**

**St Paul's Book Club** – currently reading *Endell Street* by Wendy Moore next meets on 8th June 7.30 in the Jubilee Room for coffee, cake and a chat about the book and lots of other things!

**Garden project** – We'll be having more 'Dig Days' once the planters are installed to bed in the numerous plants Martin and Adam have been fostering for us awaiting their forever home. Look out for emails and WhatsApp messages.

***For all future events and activities please see our website***

---

Croham Park Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 7HF    [www.stpaulsurc.org.uk](http://www.stpaulsurc.org.uk)

All words and music used with permission - CCLi: 212639 / CCL

Streaming Licence: 199867

