



St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church

Church Secretary: **Sue Eardley**
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Order of Service

Sunday 11th May 2025



It all works out right in the end

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

Today's service is being led by: **Tom Griffiths**
The organ is played by: **Simon Gregory**

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

Lighting of Peace Candle

Call to Worship

Hymn 293 (R&S): Ye Servants of God (*Laudate Dominum*)

Prayers of Adoration, Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Reading: Acts 9: 36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd (Stuart Townsend)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green,
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my way in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil;
and my cup -- it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.

Refrain

And though I walk the darkest path ---
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

Refrain

Reading: Revelation 7: 9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their

hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Sermon: It all works out right in the end

Hymn 108 (R&S): The Love of God is broad like beach and meadow (*Som Stranden*)

Prayers for others

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**

Offertory and Offertory Prayer

Hymn 658 (R&S): For all the Saints (*Sine nomine*)

Blessing and Dismissal

If you'd like to support the work of St Paul's but have no cash for the collection, you can donate by card via <https://bit.ly/ForStPauls> or our card reader on request. We're registered for gift aid – see leaflets at the exits. Most members have a regular standing order in place. Please talk to any of the elders for more details.

Coming up...

Next Sunday's service will be led by **Professor the Revd. Canon Peter Galloway**, with input from **Tony Mandungu** of Christian Aid.

This will be followed by a soup lunch for Christian Aid, Quiz and further presentation by Tony. Please come and sign up on the notice board!

- **New EXPLORE Group:** Tuesday 13th May at 2.30pm, St. Paul's URC. This group is suitable for anyone who has expressed an interest in finding out more about becoming members of St. Paul's and newish members might find it useful too.
- **Evening House Group:** Wednesday 14th May 7.30pm, exceptionally at St. Paul's URC. All welcome even if you haven't been before – a light supper will be provided.
- **Morning House Group:** Thursday 15th May 10.15 for 10.30am, exceptionally at St Paul's URC. Again, all very welcome.
- **Warm Space:** Thursday 15th May 3.30-6.15pm. Please pop in and chat to our guests and please pray for this group.
- Do let Helen know your favourite hymns (and why) for the service on 25th May which she is organising.
- **Church Meeting and Cake Sunday** are now on 25th May

Advance Notices:

- **Book Club:** Thursday 12th June 7.30pm at St. Paul's URC. (*Precipice* by Robert Harris)

- **Christian Aid Walk:** Saturday 21st June – please see the Pauline magazine for more details

Prayer Time - Zoom - Every Saturday, 9am

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 / Password: 1111

If joining for the first time, please note that participation varies. If you find yourself on your own, please do not be put off! Others will be praying at this time but not able to join the Zoom. Please try another week. Thank you for joining St Paul's prayer life.

Thy Kingdom Come Here <https://thykingdomcomehere.uk/> encourages Christians to walk their streets, to pray for God's presence and love to be known there and to bless those living in that community, street or estate. Individual journeys are logged on a digital map to see how their own prayer journeys are part of a collaborative effort to cover their area or city in prayer street-by-street. Each street as it is prayed in changes colour so users are able to see which areas near them have been, or are waiting for someone to pray there. As people pray, the city changes colour, but more importantly will be changed through those prayers. If you walk a lot in Croydon it's a nice way to make it even more meaningful

For all future events and activities please see our website



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www.stpaulsurc.org.uk

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