



St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church

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Order of Service

Sunday 25 June 2023



Heroes and Villains

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

Today's service is being led by: **Marion Moore**
The Organ is played by: **Pam Vaughn**

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

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.

Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made
We will rejoice and be glad in it
It is good to give thanks to the Lord
His love endures forever

Hymn: 268 Jesus is Lord

Prayers of adoration and 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.

Talk with Junior church

Hymn: 523 Give me joy in my heart

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 activities.

Hearing the Word

Reading: Judges 10: 6-7, 10-18 & 11. 1-10, 29-40
(copies of readings are available after the service)

Talk 1

Reading: Mark 6. 14-29

Hymn: Most villains Prefer *(tune 47 – O Worship the King)*

1 Most villains prefer
that nobody knows
their self-serving schemes
or how their wealth grows;
with sly propaganda
they'd smooth-talk and
charm,
so no-one will challenge
their vi'lence and harm.

2 Yet, prophets like John,
with selfless disdain,
cut right through the lies
and make God's truth plain,
till villains, unsettled,
lash out in their hate,
expose their own evil
served up on a plate.

3 True heroes commit
to caring and cost,
to evil's defeat,
to helping the lost;
they struggle for justice
and mercy for all,
exposing the villains
to hasten their fall.

4 Like John, Jesus came,
a hero to share,
who felt people's pain,
and showed that he'd care;
unlike Herod's feast, just
for cronies and cheats,
he'd feed starving thousands
with God-sharing feats.

5 So, what will we be,
which way will we take?
Will villainous ways
keep us on the make?
Or will we be heroes
and sheroes for right;
who live to bring justice,
for all, in life's fight?

6 As people of God,
our shared call is clear:
exposing the wrong,
resisting the fear;
whatever the evils,
help justice win through,
with Jesus, for Jesus,
do all we can do!

Talk 2

Responding to the Word

Prayers of intercession with Cadbury's Heroes ©



Caramels have a soft heart. Pray that you would have compassion, and feel for others, like Jesus did.



God often speaks in a 'whisper' - a still, small voice. Talk & pray about the things that God has been saying to you recently.



Creme Eggs are Easter chocolates. Praise God for sending Jesus as the Great Rescuer, to save us from our sins.



Pray about any hard 'bits' in your life or things that are difficult at the moment.



This one takes a long time to eat! Pray about things you need patience for at this time.



...a chocolate in 2 parts! Jesus told us to do 2 things - to love God & to love others. Pray that God will help you do this more.

(credit: Rachel Boxer)

Offering and prayer for the work of the church

Hymn: 557 To be a pilgrim

Blessing

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**Refreshments and cakes are available in the large
hall after the service**

Please enjoy the beautiful
photos displayed around
the sanctuary from the
Aperture Photo club in
Purley



Scouts and Explorers on the monkey bridge yesterday

Coming up...

St Paul's Day of Prayer – 8th July – details to follow and on our website

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

Book Club – *has decided its books till Christmas. Currently reading A Man called Ove by Fredrik Backman for 13th July.*

A huge thank you – *To everyone who contributed their time, family, money or prayers to make yesterday's fete such a success.*

For all future events and activities please see our website

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

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