



**St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church**

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Order of Service

Sunday 19th November 2023



The Great Banquet

Please use 'T' on your hearing aid if you need the hearing loop.

Today's service is being led by: **Albert and Elizabeth Wood**
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

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

Hymn 285: O for a thousand tongues (vv 1,4,5,6)

Prayers of 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 thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Reading: Isaiah 25: vv 6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all
peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines
strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the
shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is
spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all
faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away
from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said

on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Family talk : It's a party!

Hymn 415: You shall go out with joy (x2)

Blessing: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us now and for ever more. Amen

Junior Church leave for their own activities

Offering and dedication

Hymn 413 What a friend we have in Jesus (remain seated)

Prayers of intercession

Hymn: I stand amazed

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how He could love me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain: *How marvellous! How wonderful!*
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!

For me it was in the garden
He prayed – ‘Not my will, but Thine’;
He had no tears for His own grief,
But sweat drops of blood for mine.

How marvellous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!

He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them His very own;
He bore the burden to Calvary,
And suffered, and died alone.

How marvellous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see,
‘twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me.

*How marvellous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!*

Talk : Don't miff the Mayor

Reading : Matthew 22 V 1-10 The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

Dialogue

Hymn 349: I heard the voice of Jesus

Reading: Matthew 22 vv 11-14

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Talk: The Banquet Bouncer

Hymn 740 : Tell out my soul

Blessing

Coming up...

United Prayer Time – Zoom - St Paul's & South Croydon
United Church Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 **Every Saturday**
8am

Church Meeting – is not taking place today but
rescheduled to Sunday 3rd December after worship

Iona Trip – if you are interested in joining the St
Paul's trip to Iona from 7-13 September next year
please contact Sue as soon as possible for more
details

For other events and activities please see our website

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