

Minister:

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Order of Service

Sunday 5th November 2023

with Holy Communion



Welcome to St Paul's!

It is a joy to welcome you to this service!

If you do not attend a church elsewhere, we invite you to join 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 during worship to remind us 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.

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

Church Notices

Call to Worship

God of all times and places

WE GATHER IN YOUR PRESENCE

God of eternity and every precious moment

WE TAKE THIS TIME AS YOURS

God of the here and now

WE ARE HERE WITH YOU

WE SING: 560 GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN

(Tune: 98 'Austria')

Prayer of Praise, Confession and Assurance

We gather in your presence, God,
IN OUR NEED,
AND BRINGING WITH US THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD.

We come to you, for you to come to us in Jesus AND YOU KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE WHAT HUMAN LIFE IS LIKE.

We come with our faith and with our doubts:

WE COME WITH OUR HOPES AND WITH OUR FEARS.

We come as we are, because you have invited us;

AND YOU HAVE PROMISED NEVER TO TURN US AWAY.

•••

Silence is kept

One: Before God,

with the people of God,

I confess to turning away from God

in the ways I wound my life,

the lives of others

and the life of the world.

All: MAY GOD FORGIVE YOU,

CHRIST RENEW YOU,

AND THE SPIRIT

ENABLE YOU TO GROW IN LOVE.

One: Amen

All: BEFORE GOD,

WITH THE PEOPLE OF GOD,

I CONFESS TO TURNING AWAY FROM GOD

IN THE WAYS I WOUND MY LIFE,

THE LIVES OF OTHERS

AND THE LIFE OF THE WORLD.

One: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,

and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

All: AMEN

ALL SOULS

WE SING: 64 I LIFT MY EYES TO THE QUIET HILLS

The Grace

THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
THE LOVE OF GOD
AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
BE WITH US ALL, NOW AND FOREVER, AMEN

Readings: Lamentations 3: 17-18, 21-26 & 31-33 (*Pg.669*)

- ¹⁷ my soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is;
- so I say, 'Gone is my glory, and all that I had hoped for from the LORD.'
- ²¹ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
- ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end:
- ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
- ²⁴ 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'
- ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.
- ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.
- 31 For the Lord will not reject for ever.
- ³² Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
- ³³ for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Luke 6: 17-21 (*Pq.838*)

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

WE SING: GATHERED IN SADNESS

(Tune: 45 'Bunessan')

Gathered in sadness each bearing stories, tumbled together, facing our loss, struggling with questions, wracked with confusions, we need your help now, God of the cross.

Even while grieving, we bring thanksgiving, thanks for our knowing, thanks for life shared, thanks for each moment, quirky and special, spent with our loved ones, knowing they cared.

Still, Christ be near us, mourning and grieving, walk each step with us, carry our loads.
Cleave to your children, share all our anguish, guide through grief's forests, clearing our roads.

John Campbell

REMEMBERING IS HOLY

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Responses

God of blazing light
Honour and glory are yours
FOR YOU CREATED ALL THINGS:
AND IN YOU WE HAVE OUR BEING

Christ who lived and died
Honour and glory are yours
FOR YOUR HUMANITY WAS BROKEN
AND YET LIGHT BURST FROM THE TOMB

Spirit that warms our broken hearts
Honour and glory are yours
FOR YOU DWELL WITH US,
AND NEVER LET US GO.

Once the central candle is lit, you are invited to come forward and light your own Place them on the table, naming those you remember, as we build a glorious light of remembrance.

'And Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life"

John 8: 12

Music: 'Light in the Hallway' sung by The Pentatonix

Close your eyes, lay your head down
Now it's time to sleep
May you find great adventure as you lie and dream
If you're scared of the darkness I will calm your fear
There's a light in the hallway
So you know I'm here

So count your blessings every day It makes the monsters go away And everything will be okay You are not alone You are right at home Goodnight, goodnight

You won't need me forever
But I'll still be here
For we all have our nightmares
Even me, my dear
From now on, if you need me
You can sing this song
There's a light in the hallway
Burning all night long

<u>Prayers</u> The Lord's Prayer

WE SING: 'BE STILL MY SOUL FOR GOD IS ON YOUR SIDE'

bear patiently the cross of grief or pain. Leave to your God to order and provide; in every change, God faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: your best, eternal Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end. Be still, my soul for God will undertake
To guide in future days as in the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
how Jesus' power ruled them long ago.

Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall be will God whom we adore, with disappointment, grief and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.

Words: Catharina Schlegel

Offering for the work of this church & Communion Charity offering for...



HOLY COMMUNION

(The bread is gluten free and non-alcoholic juice is available on each tray)

Introduction & The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you, **AND ALSO WITH YOU**

Invitation, The Story & Great Prayer

...therefore we sing, with all God's people:



Iona Gloria

Sharing & Thanksgiving Prayer

WE SING: 531 LORD OF ALL FAITHFULNESS

Readings: Revelation 21: 3-4 (Pg. 1007)

³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'

Blessing & Dismissal

...Neither death nor life can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

May they rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Amen

All are welcome to join us for refreshments and time together, in the halls, after the service!



ST PAUL'S

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD & GIFT FAIR

SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 10AM - 1PM

ST PAUL'S URC, CROHAM PARK AVE, CR2 7HF



- REFRESHMENTS
- TOMBOLA
- CAKES & SWEET TREATS
- CHARITY RAFFLE

- CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS
- · GIFTS
- · CHILDREN'S CRAFTS
- FESTIVE MUSIC



























www.stpaulsurc.org.uk

Coming up...

Tuesday Guild

'Orpheus' with Anne Love

Tuesday 7th November, 10:15am

Short Service for Peace

Martin will be in the Sanctuary for a 30min service as we seek peace for our world. You are very welcome to join him in person or via zoom: Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 / Password: 1111 (A message will go out, if this is not running)

Friday's, 7:45-8:15pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 / Password: 1111 If you would like us to pray for you or a person/situation close to you, please message/email Martin or Sue.

Every Saturday, 8am

Charity Christmas Gift & Card Fair

Saturday 11th November 2023, 10am to 1pm

Next Sunday Worship – Remembrance Sunday

led by Rev'd Bill Bowman

Sunday 22nd November 2023, 10:30am

For all future events and activities please see our website



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