



St Paul's
**United
Reformed
Church**

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Order of Service

Sunday 3rd April 2022

The Fifth Sunday of Lent
with Holy Communion



Welcome to St Paul's!

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

This morning's service is being led by: **Rev'd Martin Knight**
The Organ is played by: **Mr John Hankin**

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 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.**

Important notes:

- St Paul's URC has a **full Covid-19 Risk Assessment**, which is helping to keep everyone safe, so please follow the advice you are given in church.
- We encourage people to **maintain social distancing** where possible and to **wash and sanitise their hands regularly**.
- **Mask wearing** is now a matter of personal choice.
- The hymns and responses are in this **Order sheet and on the TV, but feel free to pick up a Hymn book or bible should you wish.**
- **Offertory** – we circulate the collection bag for contributions to the church's work but standing orders and bank transfers are preferred (*please ask an elder or welcomer for details*) and we have a credit card reader if that is easier.

We pray that you will know God's presence as we worship – in church, at home, online, in the garden, at work or school, and in all places.

Call to Worship

Lighting our Peace Candle

WE SING: 289 TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Prayer for Thanksgiving & Confession

The Lord's Prayer

'What is of value?'

Reading: John 12: 1-8

(pg.874)

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)

⁷Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

WE SING: 403 LAUDATE, OMNES GENTES

As Junior Church leave, we bless them and each other with the words of 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**

Reading: Psalm 126

(pg.499)

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

² Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
'The LORD has done great things for them.'

³ The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

⁴ Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

⁵ May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

⁶ Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Reading: Isaiah 43: 16-21

(pg.586)

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.

¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

WE SING: 97 KING OF GLORY, KING OF PEACE

'Signs of abundant love'

Prayers of Intercession

TAKE MY LIFE

Adaptation, guitar and vocals by Nathan Drake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-T7VyCMbQQ>

Offering for the work of this church

& Communion charity collection,
this month for 'Unique':

Understanding Chromosome & Gene Disorders



HOLY COMMUNION

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

Introduction & The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

AND ALSO WITH YOU

WE SING: 107 THE LOVE OF GOD COMES CLOSE

(Vs 1,2 & 5 only)

Invitation & The Story

*...while they were eating, he took a piece of bread,
said a blessing, broke it and gave it to them with the words,
'THIS IS MY BODY. IT IS BROKEN FOR YOU,
DO THIS TO REMEMBER ME.'*

*Later, he took a cup of wine, saying,
'THIS CUP IS GOD'S NEW COVENANT,
SEALED WITH MY BLOOD.
DRINK FROM IT ALL OF YOU, TO REMEMBER ME.'*

The Great Prayer

*...so now, in gratitude, we join our voices
with those of the Church on earth and in heaven, as we say:*
**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY,
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!**

The Sharing & Prayer

WE SING: 433 O THOU WHO CAMEST FROM ABOVE

Sending Forth and Blessing

Pray for Peace

St Paul's is open for private prayer every Tuesday and Thursday during the current situation in Ukraine.

Tuesdays 12-1pm

Thursdays 5-6pm

(See website/WhatsApp for changes)



Coming up...

Tuesday morning 'Guild'

'Easter Miscellany'

Tuesday 5th April - 10.15 for 10.30 start. All welcome!

Elders' Meeting

Wednesday 6th April – 8pm

St Paul's Book Club – on 7th April

'Pompeii' - Robert Harris

Thursday 7th April – 9:30-9pm.

United Prayer Time - Zoom

for St Paul's and South Croydon United Church

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820

Friday evenings at 7:30-8:00pm

Table Top Sale

Saturday 9th April – 9:00am-12:00pm

Next Sunday's Worship – Palm Sunday

led by Rev'd Martin Knight

Sunday 10th April 2022, 10:30am

Lent Course – Whole Life Worship

See notices in the corridor or our website, or catch Fran or Sue

Wednesday 13th April, 7.45-9pm in the small hall.

For all future events and activities please see our website



St Paul's United Reformed Church

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

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