



Minister:
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Order of Service

Sunday 3rd September 2023
with Holy Communion

Unexpected Call



Welcome to St Paul's!

This morning's service is being led by: **Rev'd Martin Knight**
The Organ is played by: **Mr Lee Michael Walton**

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 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.**

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

Church Notices

Lighting our Peace Candle

Call to Worship

*O God, you summon the day to dawn;
you teach the morning to waken the earth.*

**GREAT IS YOUR NAME,
GREAT IS YOUR LOVE.**

*For you the valleys will sing for joy,
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*

**GREAT IS YOUR NAME,
GREAT IS YOUR LOVE.**

*To you the powerful of the earth shall bow,
the poor and the persecuted shall shout for joy;*

**GREAT IS YOUR NAME,
GREAT IS YOUR LOVE.**

*Your love and justice shall last for ever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.*

**GREAT IS YOUR NAME,
GREAT IS YOUR LOVE.**

**WE SING: 43 I SING THE ALMIGHTY
POWER OF GOD**

(Tune: 'Ellacombe')

Prayer of Praise, Confession and Assurance

We need you, O God.

WE NEED YOU, O GOD

...so, we respond:

**MAKER OF ALL, WE ARE YOUR CHILDREN,
THE CREATURES OF YOUR KINDNESS,
THE BEARERS OF YOUR NAME.**

**THIS DAY,
WE WILL WALK BY YOUR LIGHT,
FOLLOW YOUR SON,
AND LIVE BY YOUR SPIRIT.**

**THIS DAY,
WE WILL NOT OFFER TO YOU
OFFERINGS THAT COST US NOTHING.
FOR THIS DAY, THAT THE LORD HAS MADE;
WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.
AMEN**

would you make a good ... ?

WE SING: 547 MOSES, I KNOW YOU'RE THE MAN
(Vs's 1-3 only)

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: Exodus 3: 1-15

(Pg.44)

¹ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ⁵ Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' ⁶ He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to

bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.' ¹¹ But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' ¹² He said, 'I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.'

¹³ But Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your ancestors has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' ¹⁴ God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.'^h He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I AM has sent me to you."' ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "The LORD,^h the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you":

This is my name for ever,
and this my title for all generations.

Jeremiah 15: 15-19

(Pg.626)

¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore, thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

Matthew 16: 24-26

(Pg.798)

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

WE SING: 355 JESUS CALLS US! O'ER THE TUMULT

Unexpected Call

WE SING: 'SENT BY THE LORD, AM I'
my hands are ready now
to make the earth a place
in which the kingdom comes.
Sent by the Lord am I;
my hands are ready now
to make the earth a place
in which the kingdom comes.

*The angels cannot change
a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love,
of justice and of peace.
The task is mine to do,
to set it really free.
O help me to obey;
help me to do your will.*

Words © José Aguiar

Prayers for Others

Show yourself
AND HEAL US

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.
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory Forever and ever. Amen

WE SING: 'SENT BY THE LORD, AM I'

Offering for the work of this church

& Communion Charity offering

for 'Link to Hope' Shoebox Appeal



Holy Communion

Introduction, Invitation & The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you,

AND ALSO WITH YOU

WE SING: 'LORD, WE HAVE COME'

(Tune: 183ii 'Epiphany')

**Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted your friends.
Here, at your table, confirm our intention,
teach us to serve, without pride or pretence.**

**When, at your table, each time of returning,
vows are renewed and our courage restored,
may we increasingly glory in serving,
Lord, in your Kingdom, whatever our cause.**

**So, in the world, where each duty assigned us
gives us the chance to create or destroy,
help us to make those decisions that find us,
Lord, by your way of obedience and joy.**

Words: Fred Pratt Green

The Story & Great Prayer

...Let us pray.

The Lord be with you.

AND ALSO WITH YOU

Lift up your hearts.

WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.

*...Therefore, with all your people in heaven and on earth,
we praise you, saying the hymn of your everlasting glory:*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT

HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.

BLESSED IS THE ONE

WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

Sharing & Thanksgiving Prayer

WE SING: 607 THIS IS THE TRUTH WE HOLD

(Tune: 657 'Gopsal')

Sending forth & Blessing

*From where we are
to where you need us,
JESUS, NOW LEAD ON.*

*From the familiarity of what we know
to the wonder of what you will reveal,
JESUS, NOW LEAD ON.*

*To transform the fabric of this world
until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,
JESUS, NOW LEAD ON.*

*Because good things have been prepared
for those who love God,
JESUS, NOW LEAD ON.*

*And the blessing of God,
Creator, Son and Spirit,
goes with us now
and forever more.
Amen*

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

Coming up...

Tuesday Guild Coffee Morning

Held at the home of Eleanor Redshaw

Tuesday 5th September, 10:30am

In & Outreach / Spirituality & Worship Teams

Wednesday 6th September, 6:30/6:45pm respectively

Elders' Meeting

Wednesday 6th September, 7:45pm

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 Friday, 7pm

SCUC Quiz with Fish & Chips

All welcome to join our friends at South Croydon United Church

Saturday 9th September 2023, 6:45pm

Next Sunday Worship

led by Rev'd Martin Knight

Sunday 10th September 2023, 10:30am

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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