



St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church

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Order of Service

Sunday 18th June 2023
3rd Sunday of Pentecost



Welcome to St Paul's!

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

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

As we come together in worship

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THIS DAY THAT YOU HAVE MADE

*As we share in scripture and silence,
song and stillness, prayer and preaching*

BE PRESENT WITH US

**IN WHATEVER WE BRING WITH US
AND WHEREVER YOU WILL LEAD US**

Receive all that we offer

RENEW ALL THAT WE ARE.

Unite us in this time of sharing,

**UNITE US WITH YOU, WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH THE
WORLD. Amen**

WE SING: 302 O BREATH OF LIFE, COME SWEEPING THROUGH US

Prayer of Praise

*In garden and bushland, mountain and oceans
WE SEE THE SIGNS THAT GOD IS WITH US.*

*In grass that grows through cities of concrete and brick,
WE SEE THE SIGNS THAT GOD IS WITH US.*

*In the faces of people whom God so loves,
WE SEE THE SIGNS THAT GOD IS WITH US.*

*Where the poor and abused are heard and raised,
WE SEE THE SIGNS THAT GOD IS WITH US.*

*In our brokenness, there is the hope of wholeness.
**IN OUR EMPTINESS,
THERE IS THE HOPE OF FULLNESS.***

*In our darkness, there is the hope of light
IN OUR DOUBT, THERE IS THE GIFT OF FAITH*

*This is the Word of Christ for us!
**THE FLAME OF THE HOLY SPIRIT LIVES IN THIS PLACE
AND CALLS US TO FOLLOW JESUS.***

Confession and Assurance

Leader: *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.**

Leader: 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.**

Leader: *May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.*

All: **AMEN**

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

HELP WANTED!

WE SING: 'SENT BY THE LORD AM I'

**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

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**

Israel's False Shepherds

The word of the LORD came to me: ² Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to them—to the shepherds: Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? ³ You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. ⁴ You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them.

⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁰ Thus says the Lord God, I am against the shepherds; and I will demand my sheep at their hand, and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

God the True Shepherd

¹¹ For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹² As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and

they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Reading: Matthew 9:35-10:4 (Pg. 790)

The Harvest Is Great, the Labourers Few

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. **36** When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. **37** Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; **38** therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'

The Twelve Apostles

10 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. **2** These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; **3** Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; **4** Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

WE SING: 579 LORD, THY CHURCH ON EARTH IS SEEKING

NOW HIRING!

Prayers for Others

Using the sung response:

Leader: *Thuma mina,*

All: **THUMA MINA, THUMA MINA,
THUMA MINA, SOMANDLA**

Leader: *Send me, Lord*

All: **SEND ME, JESUS, SEND ME, JESUS
SEND ME, JESUS, SEND ME, LORD**

South African traditional

Offering for the work of this church

WE SING: 'I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY'

I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?...

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life for them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

*I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

Words: Daniel L. Schutte

Sending forth & Blessing

ST PAUL'S

SUMMER

FETE

Saturday 24th June
2pm - 4:30pm

ST PAUL'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
CROHAM PARK AVE, CR2 7HF

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- Bouncy castle •
- Face painting •
- Outdoor games •
- Cake • Ice cream •
- Refreshments •
- Children's craft activities •
- Plant stall • Tombola •
- Bric-a-brac stall •
- Soul Symphony Choir •
- and much more!



www.stpaulsurc.org.uk

Coming up...

Synod Area Prayer - Zoom

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 896 3882 1888

Password: URC50

Every Thursday, 5pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 / Password: 1111

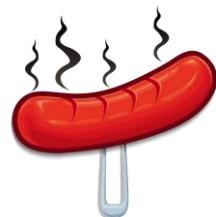
If you would like us to pray for you or a person/situation close to you, please message/email Martin or Sue.

Every Friday, 7pm

Scouts Outdoor Worship and Barbecue

*Everyone welcome at the 7th/12th Scouts Hut,
(down public footpath beside 35A Birdhurst Rise)*

Friday 23rd June, 2023, 6:30pm



St Paul's Summer Fete

Join us for lots of fun!!!

Saturday 24th June, 2023, 2-4:30pm



Next Sunday Worship

led by Rachel St.Clair

Sunday 25th June 2023, 10:30am

For all future events and activities please see our website



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

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