

Minister:

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# **Order of Service**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022 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 regularly with us in our Sunday worship and other activities – see <a href="https://www.stpaulsurc.org.uk">www.stpaulsurc.org.uk</a>

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

Just and merciful God, you speak through the prophets, challenging us to seek peace rooted in justice.

#### HELP US TO HEAR YOUR URGENT CALL.

Loving God, in Jesus you change our lives for good, challenging us to work for reconciliation.

# HELP US TO SEE YOUR WAY OF TRUTH AND LOVE.

With-us God, your Holy Spirit moves us to action, challenging us to live the Good News.

HELP US TO RESPOND WHOLEHEARTEDLY, HERE AND NOW – TO SAY YES! AMEN!

#### WE SING: 39 ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

(omit verses 5&6)

#### **Praise & Confession**

...YOU ARE PRESENT
WHERE WOMEN AND MEN OF GOOD WILL
STILL CHOOSE TO LIVE IN YOUR WAY,
CARING FOR CREATION AND FOR EACH OTHER,
COURAGEOUSLY SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER.

YOU ARE THERE
WHEN OLDER PEOPLE SHARE THEIR WISDOM.
YOU ARE THERE
WHEN STREET CHILDREN DANCE IN THE RAIN.
YOU ARE PRESENT WHEREVER,
IN THIS BROKEN WORLD, HOPE IS ALIVE.

THANK YOU, GOD, FOR BEING PRESENT WITH US NOW. 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory Forever and ever. Amen

# Promises promises

#### **Reading:** Haggai 1:15b-2:9 (pg. 768)

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying:

2 Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, 3 Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing?

<sup>4</sup>Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the LORD; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD; for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts, <sup>5</sup>according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear.

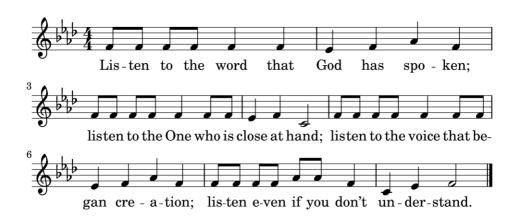
<sup>6</sup>For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; <sup>7</sup>and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>8</sup>The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>9</sup>The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.

WE SING: 123 THINK OF A WORLD

### **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

#### WE SING: LISTEN TO THE WORD



Canadian, transcribed by John L. Bell

**Reading:** Luke 20: 27-38 (pg. 855)

<sup>27</sup> Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him <sup>28</sup> and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. <sup>29</sup>Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; <sup>30</sup>then the second <sup>31</sup> and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. <sup>32</sup> Finally the woman also died. <sup>33</sup> In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.'

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; <sup>35</sup>but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. <sup>36</sup>Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels

and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. <sup>37</sup>And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. <sup>38</sup>Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.'

# Unpacking the Word...

WE SING: 354 COME, LIVING GOD,
WHEN LEAST EXPECTED

# Conversations...

**Silent Prayers for Others** 

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God in whom is power and compassion.

We believe in the Creator
who gave birth to the universe,
set solar systems dancing in space,
shaped molecules and mountains,
and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.
God's power topples tyrants,
and brings down walls of separation;
God's love embodies the tenderness
of a mother and father,
encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus,
born in obscurity in an occupied land;
a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst,
persecution and grief.
He understood the power of love
and confronted the powers of evil,
spoke the truth with courage and clarity,
forgave his enemies and changed lives.
In his living, dying and rising again
he showed love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts and empowers us, opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness.

Amen

<u>Offering</u> for the work of this church & Communion Charity offering for **Combat Stress** 



# HOLY COMMUNION

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

#### **Introduction & The Peace**

As we come to this table, we seek peace for each other.

The peace of the Lord be with you,

**AND ALSO WITH YOU** 

#### WE SING: Come! Share this feast with Christ!

(Tune: 294 'Down Ampney')

Come, share this feast with Christ!
Christ, who was always the guest
at tables with the rich – the poor he pleaded.
Find here a friendly face,
hard hands he will embrace
and draw you into freedoms own encounter.

Come, share this feast with Christ!
Christ, who was always the guest
in rooms of pain and sickness none would enter.
Eyes wide with tears God streams
into our wounds and fears,
to make us sure that love is heavens answer.

Come, share this feast with Christ!
Christ, who was always the guest
at wedding feasts with wine he shared so freely.
Throw caution to the wind!
Let down your hair and sing,
for Christ will dance with you the dance of freedom.

Come, share this feast with Christ!
Christ, who invites us as host
and pulls a chair for us to rest our burden.
O Bread and Wine be blessed!
Faith, hope and love confess.
Come share this feast with Christ who bids us welcome!

## **Invitation, The Story and The Great Prayer**

...in joyful praise, as we say:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY,
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

BLESSED IS HE
WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

### The Sharing and Prayer after the Feast

## WE SING: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT!

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our Light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church
Gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to us.
Make us your living voice.
Christ, be our Light...

Longing for shelter, many are homeless, Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, Walls made of living stone. Christ, be our Light...

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

Christ, be our Light...

Words© Bernadette Farrell

### **Sending out & Blessing**

MAY THE GOD OF PEACE INSPIRE US, MAY THE GOD OF JUSTICE EMPOWER US, MAY THE GOD OF HOPE ENCOURAGE US TO LIVE THE GOOD NEWS.

# Coming up...

| <b>Tuesday Guild</b> <i>Edward III &amp; Mrs Simpson, with Elizabeth Lanyo</i> | <b>10:15am</b><br><i>n</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Prayers for Peace Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November                             | 12-1pm                     |
| In & Out Team  | 6:30pm                     |
| <b>Spirituality &amp; Worship Team</b>   | 7pm                        |
| Elders' Meeting  | 8pm                        |
| Jubilee Room   | •                          |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November   |                            |
| Book Club  | 12:30pm                    |
| 'Strait is the gate' by Andre Gide   | . 2.30р                    |
| Meeting at the Coach House Cafe  |                            |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November   |                            |
| Warm Space   | 3:30-6:30pm                |
| Jubilee Room   | 5.50 0.50piii              |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November   |                            |
| Synod Zoom Worship   | 7-7:30pm                   |
| Meeting ID: 896 3882 1888 Passcode: URC50                                      |                            |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November   |                            |
| United Prayer Time - Zoom  |                            |
| for St Paul's and South Croydon United Church                                  |                            |
| 'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820   |                            |
| Friday evenings  | 6-6:30pm                   |

# Charity Christmas Card & Gift Fair 'Beetle Drive'

10am-1pm 7-9pm

Saturday 12th November

# **Next Sunday Worship,**

# **Remembrance Sunday**

led by Rev'd Martin Knight

Bring your donations for Purley Food Hub

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 10:30am

#### 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