
Order of Service

Sunday 15th October 2023

Membership

with Holy Communion



Welcome to St Paul's!

This morning's service is being led by: **Rev'd Martin Knight**
The Organ is played by: **Mrs Pam Vaughn**

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

Humanity of God's creation, we are many and diverse

WE ARE BEAUTIFUL.

WE ARE UNIQUE.

WE JUDGE EACH OTHER'S DIFFERENCES,

YET WE ARE MANY PARTS OF GOD'S INFINITE LOVE.

Humanity of God's creation, we have bodies.

WE ARE VARIED SHAPES AND SIZES

WE ARE DIFFERENT AGES, GENDERS AND SEXUALITIES

WE SHAME EACH OTHER'S BODIES,

YET WE ARE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.

Humanity of God's creation, we have opinions

WE HOLD DIFFERENT VIEWS

WE LIKE OUR OWN CROWD

WE OFTEN FEEL ALONE

YET WE ARE ALL PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.

*Humanity of God's creation, we gather to worship
God's infinite love,
made in God's image
and as the body of Christ*
THANKS BE TO GOD!

WE SING: 567 THY HAND, O GOD, HAS GUIDED

Prayer of Praise, 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

'Many parts'

Admission to Church Membership *by Re-affirmation of Baptism*

Introduction

The Proclamation of Faith in the Apostles' Creed

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of God,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

The Affirmations & Promises

*...In welcoming William, Antz, Karen and James,
as fellow-members in the life of this church,
do you promise your friendship in the Lord,
and will you give them your support in prayer and service,
so that they, and we,
may continue to grow in the knowledge and love of God
and witness to Jesus Christ our risen Lord?*

WE DO, AND WITH GOD'S HELP, WE WILL.

Laying on of Hands and Prayer

Welcome

In the name of Christ we welcome you.

**MAY WE GROW TOGETHER IN UNITY,
AND BE BUILT UP INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST IN LOVE,
TO THE GLORY OF GOD,
CREATOR, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN**

WE SING: 'IN CHRIST ALONE'

**In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this Corner-stone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the world he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the God of love was glorified;
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave he rose again!**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the love of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus restores my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme on earth,
can every pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the love of Christ I'll stand!**

Words: Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend, (alt. Martin Knight)

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: Isaiah 25: 1, 6-9 (Pg.568)

O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

1 Corinthians 12: 12-26

(Pg.933)

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single

member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

WE SING: 92 AMAZING GRACE

'One Body with many members'

WE SING: 'O DAY OF PEACE'

(Tune: 'Jerusalem')

**O day of peace that dimly shines
through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
guide us to justice, truth, and love,
delivered from our selfish schemes.**

**May swords of hate fall from our hands,
our hearts from envy find release,
till by God's grace our warring world
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.**

**Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
nor shall the fierce devour the small;
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,
a little child shall lead them all.**

**Then enemies shall learn to love,
all creatures find their true accord;
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
for all the earth shall know the Lord.**

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr

Prayers for Others

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

Offering for the work of this church

& Communion Charity offering for St Paul's Benevolent Fund

Holy Communion

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

Introduction, Invitation & The Peace

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

The Story & Great Prayer

*...Therefore we gladly join our voices
to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:*

(sung – copy the leader)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest
**GLORY TO GOD, GLORY TO GOD,
GLORY IN THE HIGHEST**

To God be glory forever
TO GOD BE GLORY FOREVER

Alleluia! Amen!

ALLELUIA! AMEN!

Peruvian Gloria

Sharing & Thanksgiving Prayer

**WE SING: 117 O LORD MY GOD,
WHEN I IN AWESOME WONDER**

Sending forth

The cross

WE SHALL TAKE IT.

The bread

WE SHALL BREAK IT.

The pain

WE SHALL BEAR IT.

The joy

WE SHALL SHARE IT.

The Gospel

WE SHALL LIVE IT.

The love

WE SHALL GIVE IT.

The light

WE SHALL CHERISH IT.

The darkness

GOD SHALL PERISH IT.

Blessing

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

Coming up...

Tuesday Guild

Outing to St Andrew's, Limpsfield Chart and afterwards at the Grumpy Mole for lunch.

Tuesday 3rd October, 10am – 2.30pm (ish)

Short Service for Peace

A 30min service as we seek peace for our world.

In the sanctuary

(Keep an eye on Whatsapp or Sue's emails, as we are trialling the format for this service)

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, 9am

Next Sunday Worship

led by Joyce Brissett

Sunday 22nd November 2023, 10:30am

For all future events and activities please see our website

***Martin is on retreat on Iona from Friday 20th to Saturday 28th October.
Please contact Sue or Bea as necessary.***



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

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