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Order of Service

Sunday 15th January 2023
Second Sunday of Epiphany



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 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.**

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

Church Notices

Lighting our Peace Candle

Call to Worship

Come! Rejoice! For we are in the presence of the Holy One.

WE TURN OUR EYES TOWARD THE LIGHT OF GOD.

Be glad and rest secure in the Eternal One.

WE PREPARE TO BE FILLED WITH GOD'S LIGHT;

TO BE CHANGED BY IT

TO BE WARMED BY IT

TO REFLECT IT BACK TO THE WORLD.

Gather to worship God with gladness.

WE WORSHIP GOD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

**WE SING: 187 WORSHIP THE LORD
IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS**

Prayer of Praise & Confession

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

A year to Reflect

WE SING: SENT BY THE LORD AM I

(sing twice)

**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© Jorge Maldonado

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**

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.

⁶ he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my
servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

⁸ Thus says the Lord:

In a time of favour I have answered you,
on a day of salvation I have helped you;

⁹ saying to the prisoners, 'Come out',
to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.'

They shall feed along the ways,
on all the bare heights shall be their pasture;

¹⁰ they shall not hunger or thirst,
neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down,
for he who has pity on them will lead them,
and by springs of water will guide them.

¹¹ And I will turn all my mountains into a road,
and my highways shall be raised up.

¹³ Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the Lord has comforted his people,
and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' ²¹And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' ²²Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' ²³He said, *'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" ;* as the prophet Isaiah said.

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

WE SING: HOW BRIGHTLY BEAMS THE MORNING STAR

(Tune: 182 'Wie schön leuchtet')

**How brightly shines the morning star!
What sudden radiance from afar
now cheers us with its shining!
Brightness of God, that breaks our night
and fills our darkened souls with light
who once for truth were pining!
Your word, Jesus,
inly feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing.
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing!**

**Through you alone can we be blest;
then deep be on our hearts impressed
that love that you have borne us;
so make us ready to fulfil
with burning zeal your holy will,
though some may vex or scorn us.
Sing, you people,
tell the story of his glory, till his praises
flood with light earth's darkest places!**

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1582), trans. John Schlegel

Called to reflect

WE SING: 'HAVE YOU HEARD GOD'S VOICE'

**Have you heard God's voice; has your heart been stirred?
Are you still prepared to follow?
Have you made a choice to remain and serve,
though the way be rough and narrow?**

***Will you walk the path that will cost you much
and embrace the pain and sorrow?
Will you trust in One who entrusts to you
the disciples of tomorrow?***

**Will you use your voice; will you not sit down
when the multitudes are silent?
Will you make a choice to stand your ground
when the crowds are turning violent?**

**In your city streets will you be God's light?
Will you listen to the voiceless?
Will you stop and eat, and when friendships start,
will you share your faith with the faithless?**

**Will you watch the news with the eyes of faith
and believe it could be different?
Will you share your views using words of grace?
Will you leave a thoughtful imprint?**

***We will walk the path that will cost us much
and embrace the pain and sorrow.
We will trust the One who entrusts to us
the disciples of tomorrow.***

Words© Jacqueline G. Jones

Prayers for Others

Offering for the work of this church

***'Eternal source of light divine, with double warmth thy beams display
and with distinguished glory shine, to add a lustre to this day'***

Alison Balsom (Trumpet) & Lestyn Davies (Countertenor)

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

Sending Forth & Blessing

Coming up...

Tuesday Guild

'iCare' – a charity supporting those with stroke/brain injury
Small Hall

Tuesday 17th January, 10:15am

Prayers for Peace

The Sanctuary

Tuesday 17th January, 12-1pm

Elders' Meeting

Vestry Meeting Room

Wednesday 18th January, 8pm

WarmSpace

Every Thursday 3:30-6:30pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

for St Paul's and South Croydon United Church

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820

Every Friday, 6pm

Next Sunday Worship

led by Lesley Baker

Sunday 22nd January 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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