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Order of Service

Sunday 13th August 2023



Having faith enough to...

Welcome to St Paul's Garden Service!

This morning's service is being led by: Rev'd Martin Knight

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 <u>www.stpaulsurc.org.uk</u>

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

Loving God, as we worship out here, as a visible part of our community WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE WITH ALL OUR HEART AND SOUL

as we worship sitting on green grass, surrounded by trees & plants WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE CREATION WITH ALL OUR BEING

as we see and hear the sights and noises of everyday life WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE FOR YOUR IMAGE IS EVERYWHERE.

WE SING: 'GLORIA'

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria! Alleluia, alleluia!

Words © Taizé

<u>Prayer of Praise, Confession and Assurance</u> 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

A good time buy?

Reading: Jeremiah 32: 6-15

⁶ Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came to me: ⁷ Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' ⁸ Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the LORD, and said to me, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD. ⁹ And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰ I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. ¹¹ Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; ¹² and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard.

¹³ In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, ¹⁴ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. ¹⁵ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

WE SING: 'LORD, FOR THE YEARS'

your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way, sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided: Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today. Lord, for that Word, the Word of life which fires us, speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze, teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us: Lord of the Word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him, loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain, hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him: Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us self on the cross and Christ upon the throne, past put behind us, for the future take us: Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith

Planting our thanks, hopes and prayers

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: 'ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED' he doth still my trust renew. Me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true. God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.

Daily doth the almighty giver bounteous gifts on us bestow; his desire our soul delighteth pleasure leads us where we go. Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son. Christ doth call one and all; ye who follow shall not fall.

Words: Robert Bridges

Reading: Hebrews 11: 1-2, 7-8, 29, 12: 1-2

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

⁷ By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save his household; by this he condemned the world and became an heir to the righteousness that is in accordance with faith.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword.

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Having faith enough to...

WE SING: 'JESUS TAWA PANO'

Jesu tawa pano; Jesu tawa pano; Jesu tawa pano; tawa pano, mu zita renyu

Jesus we are here, Jesus we are here, Jesus we are here, we are here, serving for you.

Words: Patrick Matsikenyiri (Zimbabwe)

Prayers for Others

Offering for the work of this church

WE SING: 'O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED'

to serve thee to the end; be thou for ever near me, my Master and my Friend; I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will. O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised, to all who follow thee, that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be; O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end, O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my Friend.

Words: J.E.Bode

Sending forth & Blessing

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

There will be a quick Extraordinary Church Meeting at about 12noon.

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

Summer BBQ

Donations on the day Please sign up in the corridor or let Sue know you're coming Thursday 17th August 2023, 3:30-6:30pm

Next Sunday Worship

led by Mrs Bea Pollard Sunday 20th August 2023, 10:30am

For all future events and activities please see our website

Our Minister, Martin, is now on leave until Saturday 26th August. Please contact Sue or Bea during that time.



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

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