
Order of Service

Sunday 29th January 2023
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL**

'YOUR VOICE IS POWERFUL'

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

WE SING: JESUS CALLS US HERE TO MEET HIM

(Tune: 663 'Hyfrydol')

**Jesus calls us here to meet him
as, through word and song and prayer,
we affirm God's promised presence
where his people live and care.
Praise the God who keeps his promise;
praise the Son who calls us friends;
praise the Spirit who, among us,
to our hopes and fears attends.**

Jesus calls us to confess him
Word of life and Lord of all,
sharer of our flesh and frailness,
saving all who fail and fall.
Tell his holy human story;
tell his tales that all may hear;
tell the world that Christ in glory
came to earth to meet us here.

Jesus calls us to each other,
vastly different though we are,
creed and colour, faith and gender
neither limit nor debar.
Join the hand of friend and stranger;
join the hands of age and youth;
join the faithful and the doubter
in their common search for truth.

Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule

Prayer of Praise & Confession

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.
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

'YOUR VOICE IS POWERFUL'

Reading: Micah 6: 1-8 *(pg. 757)*

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³ 'O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab
devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.'

⁶ 'With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?'

⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

WE SING: 629 MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE

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

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Lis-ten to the word that God has spo - ken;'. The second staff starts with a measure rest of 3 measures, then continues the melody. The lyrics are: 'listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that be-'. The third staff continues the melody. The lyrics are: 'gan cre - a-tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.' The piece ends with a double bar line.

Lis-ten to the word that God has spo - ken;
listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that be-
gan cre - a-tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un - der-stand.

Reading: **Matthew 5: 1-12** (pg. 785)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³ 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

WE SING: LISTEN TO THE WORD

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Lis-ten to the word that God has spo - ken; listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that be-gan cre - a - tion; lis-ten e-ven if you don't un-der-stand.'

Canadian, transcribed by John L. Bell

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 (pg. 926)

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

'SPEAKING AND LISTENING'

WE SING: 'MAKE US YOUR PROPHETS, LORD'

(Tune: 294 'Down Ampney')

**Make us your prophets, Lord,
who truly hear your word,
which fires us with your own inspiration.
In all we say and do
prove that your love is true;
the hope and source of peace for every nation.**

**And when we fail to love
or set ourselves above
our neighbours with their different ways of seeing,
bring us with all our pride
where Jesus, crucified,
for love of all, committed his whole being.**

**In faith and hope we pray,
use us to serve that day
when bigotry and hatred are defeated,
when perfect peace is won
and lasting justice done,
with love's eternal promises completed.**

Words: Alan Gaunt

Prayers for Others

'Kyrie' from 'The Armed Man': A mass for Peace
by Karl Jenkins

Offering for the work of this church

WE SING: 'COMMUNITY OF CHRIST'

(Tune: 121 'Leoni')

**Community of Christ,
who make the Cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life
for God alone:
the God who wears your face,
to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race
and every song.**

**Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee,
the hungry, and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.**

**Community of Christ,
through whom the word must sound –
cry out for justice and for peace
the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war
and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread,
and tears of anguish
into joy.**

When menace melts away,
so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace
and Christ it's Sun;
our currency be love
and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one
for evermore.

Words© Shirley Erena Murray

Sending Forth & Blessing

WE SING: 479 SHALOM, MY FRIENDS!

We go, in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

IN THE NAME OF CHRIST.

Amen

Coming up...

Tuesday Guild

International Needs Charity

Small Hall

Tuesday 31st January, 10:15am

Prayers for Peace

The Sanctuary

Tuesday 31st January, 12-1pm

M&R Team Meeting

Vestry Meeting Room

Tuesday 31st January, 8pm

Elders' Meeting

Vestry Meeting Room

Wednesday 1st February, 8pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

for St Paul's and South Croydon United Church

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820

Every Friday, **NEW TIME of 7pm**

Next Sunday Worship, with Holy Communion

led by Rev'd Martin Knight

Sunday 5th February 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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