



*St Paul's*  
**United  
Reformed  
Church**

*Minister:*

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# Order of Service

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021*  
*Including Holy Communion*



*Welcome to St Paul's!*

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

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

## Important notes:

- It is a joy to welcome you to this service!  
St Paul's URC has a **full Covid-19 Risk Assessment**, which is helping to keep everyone safe, so please follow the notices and advice you are given in church.
  - As you can see, we are using printed **Order sheets rather than Hymn books and bibles**. These Orders have been quarantined for 72hrs before the service. All hymns will also appear on the TV screen.
  - **Offertory** – to reduce contact with physical notes and coins at this time, Standing Orders and bank transfers are preferred, but there is also a labelled collection box at the side, where you can place your offertory.
  - Until government guidance changes, there will be **no congregational singing** during our services, but we will find other creative ways of using music!
  - Our service will be **broadcast via zoom** for folk at home.
  - We pray that you will know God's presence as we worship – in church, at home, online, in the garden, at work or school, and in all places.
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## Church Notices

### Call to Worship

*Christ is risen!*

**HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA**

### **MUSIC for reflection: 'Lift high the cross'**

*Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name!*

To many ears the gospel sounds insane,  
so, we lift our voices: wisdom to proclaim. *(1 Cor. 1:18)*

*Lift high the cross...*

Born on the run and living with the lost,  
he calls us to follow and to face the cost. *(Luke. 14:28)*

*Lift high the cross...*

In halls of power and where injustice reigns,  
Christ shouts out in anger. Let us do the same! *(Matt. 21: 12)*

*Lift high the cross...*

Led to the cross, he shared our human strife;  
then risen in glory, calls us back to life. *(1 Peter. 2:24)*

*Lift high the cross...*

Light of the world: Christ blazes in the dark.  
As Church we arise, to be his holy spark. *(John. 8: 12)*

*Lift high the cross...*

*Words – Refrain: George W. Kitchin, Verses: Martin E. Knight (2016)*

*Music: Sydney H. Nicholson*

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Confession**

### ***The Lords' Prayer***

*Whoever lives in love, lives in God*

**FOR GOD IS LOVE**

**Reading: 1 John 4: 7-16, 20-21**

*Sue Eardley*

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

# 'What does God's love look like?'

## **MUSIC for reflection: 'Love is the touch'**

*Sung by Lori True*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIBAX0cCKel>

Love is the touch of intangible joy;  
love is the force that no fear can destroy;  
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;  
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;  
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;  
love is the will to be whole once again;  
love is the trust of a friend on the road:  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the Maker, and Spirit, and Son;  
love is the kingdom their will has begun;  
love is the pathway the saints all have trod:  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

*Words© Alison M. Robinson*

**Prayers of Intercession**    *led by Linda Dean*

# HOLY COMMUNION

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

## **Introduction and The Peace**

*As we come to this meal,  
we seek peace for each other and for the world.*

*The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

**AND ALSO WITH YOU**

## **MUSIC for reflection: 'A New Commandment'**

'A new commandment I give unto you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you;  
that you love one another as I have loved you.  
By this shall all know that you are my disciples:  
if you have love one for another;  
by this shall all know that you are my disciples:  
if you have love one for another.'

*Lawrence Bartlett*

## **Invitation and The Story**

### **Great Prayer**

### **The Sharing**

### ***Prayer at the end of the meal***

## **MUSIC for reflection: 'The love of God comes close'**

The love of God comes close  
where stands an open door  
to let the stranger in,  
to mingle rich and poor.  
The love of God  
is here to stay; embracing those who walk his way.

The joy of God comes close  
where faith encounters fears,  
where heights and depths of life  
are found through smiles and tears.  
The joy of God  
is here to stay; embracing those who walk his way.

The Son of God comes close  
where people praise his name,  
where bread and wine are blest  
and shared as when he came.  
The Son of God  
is here to stay; embracing those who walk his way.

*Words© John Bell*

## **Sending forth & Blessing**

*Christ is Risen!*

**HE IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA!**



**St Paul's United Reformed Church**

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