
Order of Service

Sunday 16th April 2023

Baptism & 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: **Mr Edward Rook**

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

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

WE SING: 'WHEN EASTER TO THE DARK WORLD CAME'

(Tune: 260 'Truro')

**When Easter to the dark world came
bright flowers glowed like scarlet flame:**

***At Eastertide, at Eastertide,
the whole world sang at Eastertide!***

**When Mary in the garden walked,
and with her risen son she talked:**

At Eastertide...

When John and Peter in their gloom

met angels at the empty tomb:

At Eastertide...

When ten disciples met in fear,
then 'Peace', said Jesus, 'I am here':

At Eastertide...

When Thomas could not understand,
then Jesus stretched his wounded hand:

At Eastertide...

And friend to friend in wonder said:
'The Lord is risen from the dead!':

At Eastertide...

This Eastertide with joyful voice
we'll sing 'The Lord is here! Rejoice!'

*At Eastertide, at Eastertide,
the whole world sings at Eastertide!*

Words: W.H. Hamilton, arr. Martin Knight

Prayer of Adoration & Confession

The Lords' 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*

'Jesus appears to Thomas'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_QcGnwilXI

Baptism

Introduction & Lighting of Baptismal Candle

The Lord is here.

HIS SPIRIT IS WITH US.

Jesus Christ came that we might have life.

AND HAVE IT IN ALL ITS FULLNESS.

...

Jesus Christ, Light of the World

MAY WE BLAZE IN THE DARKNESS

WITH YOUR UNQUENCHABLE FIRE.

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

Pouring of Water and Prayer

...may it be for Charlotte the water of new birth.
BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.

The Baptism

Declaration & Blessing

...and that church gathered here, blesses you:
**THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU;
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU,
AND BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU;
THE LORD LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE UPON YOU,
AND GIVE YOU PEACE.**

Presentation

WE SING: 549 ONE MORE STEP *(vs. 1-3)*

Admission to Church Membership

The Re-Affirmations

By the candidates:

By the congregation:

*In welcoming Eleanor, Sharon, Tony and Charlotte
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: 549 ONE MORE STEP *(vs. 4-5)*

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**

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

'Give Thomas a break'

WE SING: THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'LL NOT WANT

(Tune: Brother James' Air)

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green: he leadeth my
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
even for his own Name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill:
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.**

**My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me:
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.**

Words: Psalm 23, Scottish Psalter

Prayers for Others

Open our eyes

WE LONG TO SEE YOU

Offering for the work of this church

& Communion Charity offering for St Paul's Benevolent Fund

Holy Communion

Invitation

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you,

AND ALSO WITH YOU

WE SING: 447ii I COME WITH JOY TO MEET MY LORD

The Story & Prayer

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

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD,
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT.
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.**

**BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES
IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.**

Sharing & Thanks

WE SING: 713 JUBILATE

Closing responses

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

Coming up...

Tuesday Guild

Craft and Natter (AGM is now on 25th April)

Tuesday 18th April, 10:15am

Prayers for Peace

Each Tuesday, 12-1pm

Synod Area Prayer - Zoom

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 896 3882 1888 / Password: URC50

Every Thursday, 5pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

For St Paul's and South Croydon United Church

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820

Every Friday, 7pm

Unlock London Walk

(speak to Cathy Heath)

Saturday 22nd April

Next Sunday Worship

led by John Ponsford

Sunday 23rd April 2023, 10:30am

*Looking ahead: **Christian Aid Lunch***

Sunday 30th April 2023,

The minister is on leave until Tuesday 25th April 2023.

Please contact Sue or Bea with anything urgent.

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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