



St Paul's
**United
Reformed
Church**

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Order of Service

Sunday 11th July 2021



Welcome to St Paul's!

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

This morning's service is being led by: **Revd Martin Knight**
The Organ is played by: **Mr Robert Cooper**

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

This is the day that the Lord has made;

WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord;

HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.

MUSIC for reflection: 'The Kingdom of God'

The kingdom of God
Is justice and joy,
For Jesus restores
What sin would destroy;
God's power and glory
In Jesus we know,
And her and hereafter
The kingdom shall grow.

³
The kingdom of God
Is mercy and grace,
The prisoners are freed,
The sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed
God's banquet to share
and hope is awakened
In place of despair.

God's kingdom is come,
The gift and the goal,
In Jesus begun,
In heaven made whole;
The heirs of the kingdom
Shall answer his call,
And all things cry "Glory!"
To God all in all.

© 1973, words by Bryn A Rees

Prayers of Praise and Confession

Lord's Prayer

...Creator God, we worship You;

CREATOR GOD, WE WORSHIP YOU.

...Lord Jesus Christ, we worship you;

LORD JESUS CHRIST, WE WORSHIP YOU.

...Holy Spirit, we worship you;

HOLY SPIRIT, WE WORSHIP YOU.

...We have been indifferent to the damage our way of life has caused to your creation.

FORGIVE US, LORD GOD. HELP US TO LISTEN ONLY TO YOUR VOICE, TO DO JUSTICE, LOVE KINDNESS AND TO WALK HUMBLY IN YOUR WAY. AMEN

MUSIC for reflection: 'Noah built the most enormous boat'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQS2HHayr38>

**Noah built the most enormous boat,
That kept the birds and animals afloat,
The Lord was good, the Lord was strong,
And Noah lived his life for him.**

**Moses led his people through the sea,
Taking them away from slavery,
The Lord was good, the Lord was strong,
And Moses lived his life for him.**

*Oh thank you, oh thank you,
That all through history you were faithful,
Thank you, oh thank you,
That you are just the same when it comes to me.
When it comes to me, when it comes to me.*

David fought Goliath and he won,
A humble shepherd boy became a king,
The Lord was good, the Lord was strong
And David lived his life for him.

Daniel was inside a lion's den,
But God brought him to safety once again,
The Lord was good, the Lord was strong,
And Daniel lived his life for him.

Oh thank you, oh thank you...

Jesus died to take away our sin,
So we could get to know our God again,
The Lord is good, the Lord is strong,
And we will live our lives for him.

*Oh thank you, oh thank you,
That all through history you were faithful,
Thank you, oh thank you,
That you are just the same when it comes to me.
When it comes to me, when it comes to me.*

© Nick & Becky Drake

Bible Story in words and pictures: Mark 6: 14-29

Artwork by Daniel Park

The Death of John the Baptist

(Pic: 1)

¹⁴ King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' ¹⁵But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

(Pic: 2)

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

(Pic: 3)

²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

(Pic: 4)

²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.'

(Pic: 5)

²³And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.'

(Pic: 6)

²⁴She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

(Pic: 7)

²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.

(Pic: 8)

²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

VILLAINS & HEROES

MUSIC for reflection: '*Most villains prefer*'

Most villains prefer
that nobody knows
their self-serving schemes
or how their wealth grows;
with sly propaganda
they'd smooth-talk and charm,
so no-one will challenge
their violence and harm.

Yet, prophets like John,
with selfless disdain,
cut right through the lies
and make God's truth plain,
till villains, unsettled,
lash out in their hate,
expose their own evil
served up on a plate.

True heroes commit
to caring and cost,
to evil's defeat,
to helping the lost;
they struggle for justice
and mercy for all,
exposing the villains
to hasten their fall.

So, what will we be,
which way will we take?
Will villainous ways
keep us on the make?
Or will we be heroes
and work for what's right;
who live to bring justice,
for all, in life's fight?

As people of God,
our shared call is clear:
exposing the wrong,
resisting the fear;
whatever the evils,
help justice win through,
with Jesus, for Jesus,
do all we can do!

© words by John Campbell,

Junior Church blessing

*The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, Evermore. Amen*

GOD IS FAITHFUL!

Prayers of Intercession

Response:

Within the darkness that life can bring

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE.

MUSIC for reflection: 'Great is thy faithfulness'

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,

Words: T.O. Chisholm

Sending forth & Blessing

Coming up...

United Prayer Time - Zoom

for St Paul's and South Croydon United Church

Friday evenings at 7:30-8:00pm

Guild Social Time

in the garden of Fran Boto

Tuesday 13th July, 2:00-4:00pm

TABLE TOP SALE

Come along and grab a bargain!

Saturday 17th July 2021, 9:30-12:30pm

Next Sunday's Worship

led by Rev'd Martin Knight

including a Church Meeting,

with Tom Hackett,

Southern Synod Children's and Youth Development Officer

Sunday 18th July 2021, 10:30am



St Paul's United Reformed Church

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

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