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# Order of Service

*Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023*  
Fourth Sunday in Lent



Welcome to St Paul's!

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This morning's service is being led by: **Rev'd Martin Knight**  
The Organ is played by: **Mr John Hankin**

## **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](http://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.*

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## **Church Notices**

### **Call to Worship**

**WE SING: BE STILL, FOR THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD**

**the Holy One, is here;  
come bow before Him now  
with reverence and fear;  
in Him no sin is found -  
we stand on holy ground  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord  
the Holy One, is here.**

**Be still,  
for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire  
With splendour He is crowned:  
how awesome is the sight -  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.**

**Be still,  
for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place;  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister His grace:  
no work too hard for Him -  
in faith receive from Him.  
Be still,  
for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.**

*Words & Music © David J. Evans*

### **Prayer for Awakening and Peace**

*O God, aware that we are in your presence,  
we come asking for you to wake us from our slumber;  
from our night of sleep with bleary eyes.  
Awaken us to the brightness of your dawn*

**AWAKEN YOUR PEOPLE, O LORD**

*From ways of being church that hide your boundless glory -  
help us to understand how to worship you more fully.*

**AWAKEN YOUR PEOPLE, O LORD**

*From ways of serving that are a burden and not a joy -  
help us to understand how you want us to serve you;*

**AWAKEN YOUR PEOPLE, O LORD**

*From relationships that come with limits  
help us to understand how to love each other  
so that the world will know that we are your disciples;*

**AWAKEN YOUR PEOPLE, O LORD. AWAKEN ME**

*...Peace be with you*

**PEACE BE WITH US**

# Would you forgive?

## **WE SING: I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY**

**I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?**

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

**I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?      *Here I am, Lord...***

**I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts are satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?      *Here I am, Lord...***

## **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**

**Reading: Jeremiah 31: 31-34** (pg. 642)

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

**Reading: John 12: 20-33** (pg. 875)

### ***Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus***

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

## *Jesus Speaks about His Death*

<sup>27</sup> 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

## **WE SING: 243 NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISETH**

*(Omit vs. 3 in books)*

# 'The BIG Why?'

## **WE SING: 650 GOD WITH HUMANITY MADE ONE**

### **Prayers for Others**

#### ***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*

### **Offering for the work of this church**

## **WE SING: LIFT HIGH THE CROSS**

*(Tune: 422 'Crucifer')*

***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)*

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

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

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

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

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

### **Sending Forth & Blessing**

*We go now, to serve Christ*

**AND TO FOLLOW HIM.**

*May our lives and the life of this Church,  
fall like grain into the earth,*

**SO THAT WE MAY BEAR MUCH FRUIT.**

*May we allow God to reshape us*

**AS WE ACCEPT GOD'S GIFT OF NEW LIFE.**

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

**IN THE NAME OF CHRIST, AMEN.**

# Coming up...

## Tuesday Guild

*Craft & Natter*

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 10:15am**

## Prayers for Peace

**Each Tuesday, 12-1pm**

## WarmSpace

**Thursday 3:30-6:30pm**

## United Prayer Time - Zoom

*'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820*

**Every Friday, 7pm**

## Next Sunday Worship

*led by Elaine Leck*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 10:30am**

***worship followed by:***

## AGM & Church Meeting

*please stay for fellowship and discussion*

*as we give thanks for the past year and look forward!*

***For all future events and activities please see our website***



Croham Park Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 7HF [www.stpaulsurc.org.uk](http://www.stpaulsurc.org.uk)

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