

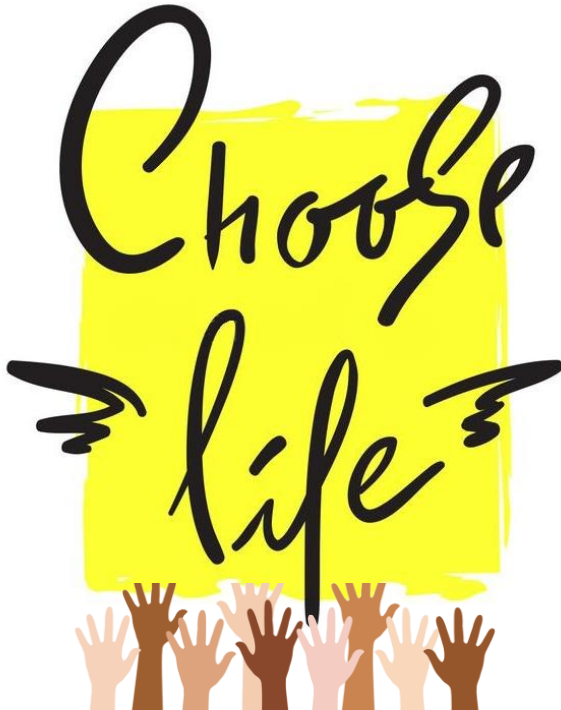


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Order of Service

Sunday 12th February 2023
Second Sunday before Lent



Welcome to St Paul's!

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

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: 41 FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

(Tune: 184 'Dix')

Prayer of Praise & Confession

Responses:

Alleluia!

WE REJOICE, AND WE ARE GLAD

for each and every day, are your days too.

**HELP US TO LIVE AS YOUR CHILDREN
ALL THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES.**

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

Reading: Deuteronomy 30: 15-16 (pg. 163)

¹⁵ See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

Your Best Life!

WE SING: 549 ONE MORE STEP

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**

A Prayer of Preparation as we read God's word.

Reading: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

(pg. 163)

¹⁵ See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Reading: Matthew 5: 27-37

(pg. 786)

²⁷ 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹ 'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³ 'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

WE SING: 745 A NEW COMMANDMENT

Choose Life!

Choose Life. Choose a job. Choose a career. Choose a family. Choose a 'very' big television, choose washing machines, cars, compact disc players and electrical tin openers. Choose good health, low cholesterol, and dental insurance. Choose fixed interest mortgage repayments. Choose a starter home. Choose your friends. Choose leisurewear and matching luggage. Choose a three-piece suite on hire purchase in a range of fabrics. Choose DIY and wondering who you are on a Sunday morning. Choose sitting on that couch watching mind-numbing, spirit-crushing game shows, stuffing junk food into your mouth.

Choose your future. Choose life.

John Hodge – 'Trainspotting'

WE SING: 'O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME AND YOU KNOW ME'

All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
in every moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me beyond my understanding:
God my present, my past and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Words© Bernadette Farrell

Prayers by the Pond

Offering for the work of this church

WE SING: 620 FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

(Tune: 559 'Westminster Abbey')

Sending Forth & Blessing



**DISASTERS
EMERGENCY
COMMITTEE**

**We will be taking a special collection
next Sunday – 19th February 2023
for the DEC Turkey-Syria Appeal.**

*20,000 People have died, with many thousands
injured and 17 million in urgent need of shelter, food
and medical aid.*

*If you would prefer to donate online, details are here:
<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal>*



Coming up...

Tuesday Guild

'Ministry to Minister'

Tuesday 14th February, 10:15am

Prayers for Peace

Each Tuesday, 12-1pm

WarmSpace

Every Thursday 3:30-6:30pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820

Every Friday, 6pm

NEW! Bible Breakfast

Enjoy a simple breakfast and explore the readings for Sunday!

Sunday 19th February, 9-10am

Next Sunday Worship

led by Revd. Martin Knight

Sunday 19th February 2023, 10:30am

'Faith-Talk' Church Away Day – Sanderstead URC
Saturday 25th April, 10am to 1:30pm

For all future events and activities please see our website



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