
Order of Service

Sunday 9th July 2023
5th Sunday of Pentecost



Welcome to St Paul's!

This morning's service is being led by: **Rev'd Martin Knight**

It is a joy to welcome you to this service!

If you do not attend a church elsewhere, we invite you to join 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

All who delight in God, come and worship the creator.

**THANKS BE TO GOD WHO CREATES OUR DIFFERENCE
AND REJOICES IN THE UNIQUENESS OF EVERY BODY
AND BEING.**

*The Holy takes on flesh
in every gender and sexual orientation,
every race and ability,
every age and body-shape.*

**EVERY PERSON AND CREATURE IS A UNIQUE GLIMPSE
OF HOLY WONDER.**

*Blessed are those who search for God among the lives of the
oppressed, the betrayed, the turned-away, and the condemned.*

**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO RECEIVE WITH JOY
THE GIFTS OF GOD ALIVE AMONG US.**

God is with us. Let us worship and be transformed.

WE SING: 74 PRAISE TO THE LORD

Prayer of Praise

O God our Creator, your love is our home and our refuge.

WE ADORE YOU

O God in Jesus Christ, your love is our guide.

WE HONOUR YOU.

O God in Spirit, your love is the energy which motivates us.

WE REJOICE IN YOU

*O God our Creator, Christ and Spirit,
you are the faith which gives us courage to love,
the joy which renews our hope.*

WE GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE.

Confession and Assurance

Leader: *Before God,
with the people of God,
I confess to turning away from God
in the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others and the life of the world.*

**All: MAY GOD FORGIVE YOU, CHRIST RENEW YOU,
AND THE SPIRIT ENABLE YOU TO GROW IN LOVE.**

Leader: Amen

**All: BEFORE GOD,
WITH THE PEOPLE OF GOD,
I CONFESS TO TURNING AWAY FROM GOD
IN THE WAYS I WOUND MY LIFE,
THE LIVES OF OTHERS
AND THE LIFE OF THE WORLD.**

Leader: *May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.*

All: AMEN

*Loving God, in you is mercy that frees us,
in you is the fire which warms us,
the light which guides us home,
the rock beneath our feet.*

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR THIS GIFT BEYOND WORDS.

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.
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: 1 Corinthians 12: 14-18 (Pg.933)

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

One Body

WE SING: 'COME ALL YOU PEOPLE'

**Come all you people, come and praise your maker (x3)
Come now and worship the Lord!**

**Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari (x3)
Uyai mose zvino**

arr: Iona Community ©1995

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: 1 Corinthians 12: 18-27 (Pg.933)

¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable

members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Reading: Matthew 25: 31-46 (Pg.807)

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

WE SING: 'ALL THE COLOURS OF THE RAINBOW'

(Tune: 579 'Abbot's Leigh')

**All the colours of the rainbow
live unseen in daily light,
but their splendours find expression
when released to human sight;
so, the church reveals most beauty
where diversity is real:
breadth of race and class and gender,
room for doubt and space to heal.**

**All the body's parts are wanted,
not can one despise the rest:
head and hand must work together,
as must eye and ear and chest;
so the church needs all its members
for a range of ministries:
varied gifts with one great mission,
"Do this for the least of these."**

Teach us, God, our need of others:
through them help us fully live.
Wean us from our selfish habits;
let us listen, learn, forgive.
May we see your longed-for image
in each human heart and face,
and behold how those around us
can be channels of your grace.

Words: Carl P. Daw



WE SING: 'WE SEEK YOUR KINGDOM'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Lp2mMpSa1E>

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven's demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
Transform, revive, and heal society.

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society.

**Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society.**

**Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform, revive, and heal society**

*Words: Andy Flannagan, Noel Robinson, Graham Hunter
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Prayers for Others

Offering for the work of this church

WE SING: 345 GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

Sending forth & Blessing

Coming up...

Guild Coffee Morning – ‘The Manse’

Open to all!

140 Croham Valley Road, CR2 7RA

Tuesday 11th July, 2023, 10:30 to 12noon

Elders’ Meeting

Vestry

Tuesday 11th July, 2023, 8pm

St Paul’s Book Club

‘A Man named Ove’, by Fredrick Backman

Coach House Café, Coombe Wood Gardens

Thursday 13th July, 2023, 12:30 – 2pm

Synod Area Prayer - Zoom

‘Zoom’ Meeting ID: 896 3882 1888

Password: URC50

Every Thursday, 5pm

United Prayer Time - Zoom

‘Zoom’ Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 / Password: 1111

If you would like us to pray for you or a person/situation close to you, please message/email Martin or Sue.

Every Friday, 7pm

Croydon **P**ride Parade

Meet outside M&S on North End at 11:45am

Please let Martin know if you would like to join him!

Saturday 15th July, 12noon

Next Sunday Worship
Cafe-Style, All-age
Teddy Bear Service

Bring your own teddy or soft-toy!

led by Rev'd Martin Knight

Sunday 16th July, 10:30am



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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