



*St Paul's*  
**United  
Reformed  
Church**

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# Order of Service

*Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021*



*Welcome to St Paul's!*

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

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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

*We gather, looking back to see the paths taken,*  
**LOOKING ONWARD WITH HEADS HELD HIGH.**

*We honour those who have gone before us,*  
**LEARNING FROM THEIR SUCCESSES AND STRUGGLES.**

*We celebrate who we are today,*  
**AND WELCOME THE POSSIBILITIES  
AND OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE US.**

*We gather to worship God,*  
**THE GOD OF YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW.**

**MUSIC for reflection: 'ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH  
DO DWELL'**

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;  
come ye before him and rejoice!

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
without our aid she did us make;  
we are her folk, she doth us feed;  
and for her sheep she doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why: the Lord our God is good,  
her mercy is for ever sure;  
her truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

*Words: William Kethe (1560)*

## **Anniversary Prayer of Thanksgiving**

# ***Giving thanks!***

## **Act of Commitment**

**LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
AS WE GATHER THIS MORNING  
WE COMMIT OURSELVES AGAIN  
TO BUILDING AND ALWAYS BECOMING  
YOUR CHURCH IN THIS PLACE.**

**WE GROW FROM THE ROOTS OF OUR FOUNDERS**

**PERCIVAL BEDDOW**

**HENRY DARLEY**

**WILLIAM JEATER**

**PERCY PHILLIPS**

**THOMAS COMLEY**

**GEORGE GOODSIR**

**ROBERT MCMINN**

**JOHN REID**

**AND THE WOMEN AND MEN  
WHO HAVE CALLED THIS PLACE HOME  
OVER THE GENERATIONS;**

**WHO HAVE GROWN IN THEIR FAITH,  
BLOSSOMED WITH LOVE  
AND SHARED THEIR FRUIT  
IN SOUTH CROYDON AND BEYOND.**

**IN THANKSGIVING, WE RECOMMIT OURSELVES  
TO USE ALL THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN US  
TO SHARE THE GOSPEL AND LIVE YOUR KINGDOM,  
IN LOVE AND PRAISE OF GOD OUR CREATOR  
CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR  
AND THE SPIRIT WHO INSPIRES AND GUIDES. AMEN**

**MUSIC for reflection: '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 shines 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.  
Transform, revive and heal society.

*Words © LICC (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity)*

### **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***

**Reading:     John 15: 9-17                     (pg.878)**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

<sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.



## *'Bearing fruit'*

### **MUSIC for reflection:            'They did not build in vain'**

They did not build in vain who founded here a church  
as witness to God's love amid a world of pain;  
they built upon the rock that is the risen Christ,  
the one foundation laid, that stands each earthly shock.

In every place our world is storm and tempest tossed,  
the flames of fear and hate are evil's flags unfurled;  
yet still the Spirit's power in wind and fire of love  
pours gifts upon the church for service in this hour.

Those who have loved this place, a cloud of witnesses,  
surround and urge us on as we now run our race;  
though the horizon's bend conceals the way ahead,  
the footprints on the road show Christ waits at the end.

*Words - Alan Luff, 1989; alt.*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

#### ***The Lord's Prayer***

**MUSIC for reflection:**

**'Lord, for the years  
your love has kept and guided'**

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,  
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,  
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:  
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,  
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:  
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,  
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,  
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,  
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:  
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -  
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,  
past put behind us, for the future take us:  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

*Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith*

**Sending forth & Blessing**



**St Paul's United Reformed Church**

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