



St Paul's
**United
Reformed
Church**

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Order of Service

Sunday 18th April 2021

*Including the Induction of Mrs Angela Bannerman
as a Serving-Elder*



Welcome BACK 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

What can bring us happiness?

THE LOVE OF GOD AMONG US

What can bring us happiness?

THE JUSTICE OF GOD AROUND US

What can bring us happiness?

THE BREATH OF GOD WITHIN US

Open our minds to the scriptures

OPEN OUR EYES TO JESUS IN OUR MIDST. Amen

Hymn of Praise: 'Christ triumphant, ever reigning'

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

Yours the glory...

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

Yours the glory...

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory...

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Yours the glory...

Words © Michael Saward

Induction of Mrs Angela Bannerman as a Serving Elder

Introduction

Statement of Purpose

Statement concerning the Nature, Faith and Order of the United Reformed Church

With the whole Christian Church
the United Reformed Church believes in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**The living God, the only God,
ever to be praised.**

The life of faith to which we are called
is the Spirit's gift
continually received
through the Word, the Sacraments
and our Christian life together.

**We acknowledge the gift
and answer the call,
giving thanks for the means of grace.**

The highest authority
for what we believe and do
is God's Word in the Bible
alive for his people today
through the help of the Spirit.

**We respond to this Word,
whose servants we are
with all God's people through the years.**

We accept with thanksgiving to God
the witness to the catholic faith
in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds.
We acknowledge the declarations
made in our own tradition
by Congregationalists, Presbyterians
and Churches of Christ
in which they stated the faith
and sought to make its implications clear.

**Faith alive and active:
gift of an eternal source,
renewed for every generation.**

We conduct our life together
according to the Basis of Union
in which we give expression to our faith
in forms which we believe contain
the essential elements of the Church's life,
both catholic and reformed;
but we affirm our right and readiness,
if the need arises,
to change the Basis of Union
and to make new statements of faith
in ever new obedience to the Living Christ.

**Our crucified and risen Lord,
who leads us in our faith
and brings it to perfection.**

Held together in the Body of Christ
through the freedom of the Spirit,
we rejoice in the diversity of the Spirit's gifts
and uphold the rights of personal conviction.
For the sake of faith and fellowship
it shall be for the church to decide
where differences of conviction
hurt our unity and peace.

**We commit ourselves to speak the truth in love
and grow together in the peace of Christ.**

We believe that
Christ gives his Church a government
distinct from the government of the state.
In things that affect obedience to God
the Church is not subordinate to the state,
but must serve the Lord Jesus Christ,
its only Ruler and Head.
Civil authorities are called
to serve God's will of justice and peace for all humankind,
and to respect the rights of conscience and belief.

**While we ourselves
are servants in the world
as citizens of God's eternal kingdom.**

We affirm our intention
to go on praying and working,
with all our fellow Christians,
for the visible unity of the Church
in the way Christ chooses
so that people and nations
may be led to love and serve God
and praise him more and more for ever.

**Source, Guide, and Goal of all that is:
to God be eternal glory. Amen.**

Affirmations

Induction *(The minister asks the congregation)*

*Do you, the members of St Paul's United Reformed Church,
South Croydon
accept and receive Angela
to serve as elder among you?*

WE DO

*Will you encourage and support her,
and respond to her ministry
acknowledging that it comes to you from God?*

WE WILL

Declaration of Induction

Renewal of Commitment

**WE WILL GROW TOGETHER
IN HUMILITY, GENTLENESS AND PATIENCE;
WE WILL NURTURE EACH OTHER IN FAITH;
WE WILL BEAR WITH ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE;
WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT
TO MAINTAIN THE UNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BOND
OF PEACE,
SO THAT WE MAY FAITHFULLY PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL OF
CHRIST.**

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***

³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

MUSIC for reflection: 'Come let us sing of a wonderful love'

Come let us sing of a wonderful love,
tender and true;
out of the heart of the Father above,
streaming to me and to you:
wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

Jesus, the Saviour, this gospel to tell,
joyfully came;
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,
sharing their sorrow and shame;
seeking the lost,
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.

Words: Robert Walmsley

'Scars reveal resurrection'

MUSIC for reflection: 'Christ has risen while earth slumbers'

Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumour.
Christ is risen, God is here!

Christ has risen for the people
whom he loved and died to save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave
Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
is not silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen to companion
former friends who fear the night,
sensing loss and limitation
where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer,
they expect no hopeful sign
till Christ ends their conversation,
breaking bread and sharing wine.

Christ has risen and forever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen. Christ is present
making us what he has been –
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

Words by John Bell & Graham Maule © 1988 WGRG

Prayers of Intercession

The Lords' Prayer

Response: *Open our eyes*
WE LONG TO SEE YOU

MUSIC for reflection: 'Guide me, O thou great Jehovah'

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open thou the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Words: Peter & William Williams

Sending forth & Blessing

...Christ is Risen!

HE IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA!



St Paul's United Reformed Church

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