

# Order of Service

*Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024*



## ***Make Way: A step into Narnia***

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

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Today's service is being led by: **Junior Church**  
The organ is played by: **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](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 all 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.**

*We pray that you will know God's presence as we worship – in church, at home, online, outdoors, at work, school; in all places.*

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## Welcome & Notices

### Lighting of the Advent Candle & Prayer

**All:** Redeeming God, You refine us with the fire of Your love that we might prepare Your way in our hearts and homes, in our towns and cities, and in the fields and valleys of our lives, as we await our redemption which draws ever nearer. Amen

**Reading:** Luke 3 4b-6

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

### Call to Worship

**Hymn 162 (R&S):** In the bleak mid-winter (verses 1,2,3 & 5)

### Introduction and Background

*Lucy's first encounter*

*At the house of Mr. Tumnus*

**Hymn 157:** See! Amid the winter's snow (verses 1, 2 & 5)

See, amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See, the Lamb of God appears,  
Promised from eternal years!

*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies,  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim!  
*(refrain)*

Sacred Infant, all diving,  
What a tender love was thine  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this!  
*(refrain)*

*Edmund's encounter with the White Witch*

*At the Beaver lodge*

**Hymn 512 (R&S):** Seek ye first (verses 1,2 & 3)

*A surprise encounter and change is in the air*

**Hymn 141 (R&S):** Make Way

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen

**Offertory & Offertory Prayer**

**A Step into Narnia – *questions & thoughts***

**Hymn 549 (R&S):** One more step (verses 1 – 5)

**Blessing & Dismissal**

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## *Coming up...*

### **Next Sunday's service will be led by Revd. Bill Bowman**

*It is our gift service so please bring food items for Purley Food Hub or monetary gifts which will be sent to Nightwatch.*

- **Guild meeting:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10.15am, John Hawks on the life of Jane Morris. All welcome.
- **Next House group:** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm, 372 Selsdon Road CR2 7AB, Festive theme. All welcome even if you haven't been before
- **Book Club:** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, Book is 'The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe', discussion to be held at their Christmas meal out 7.30
- **Christmas Lunch – please don't forget to sign up for this after service today:** Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 12noon – there is now a sign-up sheet in the corridor. Cost for the 3-course lunch is £6 for adults/£3 for children up to the age of 12, bring your own wine. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet any dietary requirements. All proceeds will go to Tuesday Guild charities

- **Warm Space Christmas celebrations:** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm-6.15pm. People not usually involved with Warm Space are invited to join for some short *Christmas themed worship* and *Christmas Dinner*. Please let Fran know for numbers/catering.
- **Help needed on Christmas Eve:** We need help with the preparation of sanctuary and hall, welcomers, offertory, reading volunteers, singing volunteers. Please see Fran if you can help!



- **Carol Singing practice sessions:** Held on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 11.45 am - 12. 45 pm & Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 5 pm. Attendance at both not strictly necessary but please confirm with Fran about attendance

## United Prayer Time - Zoom - Every Saturday, 9 am (note change of time)

'Zoom' Meeting ID: 845 5391 2820 / Password: 1111

*If joining for the first time, please note that participation varies. If you find yourself on your own, please do not be put off! Others will be praying at this time but not able to join the Zoom. Please try another week. Thank you for joining St Paul's prayer life.*

*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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# NARNIA CHRISTMAS PARTY

**BOOKING  
ESSENTIAL!**

**SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER  
12 - 2PM**

**ST PAUL'S URC, CROHAM PARK AVE, CR2 7HF**

**PARTY GAMES | CRAFT ACTIVITIES |  
LUNCH WITH MR & MRS BEAVER |  
TREASURE HUNT & FATHER CHRISTMAS!**

**Free entry!**

**Donations towards costs are  
welcome on the day!**



**To book your free tickets: [Info@stpaulsurc.org.uk](mailto:Info@stpaulsurc.org.uk)**

## Explore Narnia by Lamplight Saturday 21st Decemer 6pm - 8pm

Step through the wardrobe into our beautiful Church  
Sanctuary.

The Church will be open from 6pm - 8pm to enable people to  
explore 'Narnia' whilst listening to some beautiful music played  
on the Church organ.

No booking is required & free refreshments will be available  
(including Turkish Delight!)

Snowflakes made by the St Paul's community will be on display