



St Paul's
United
Reformed
Church

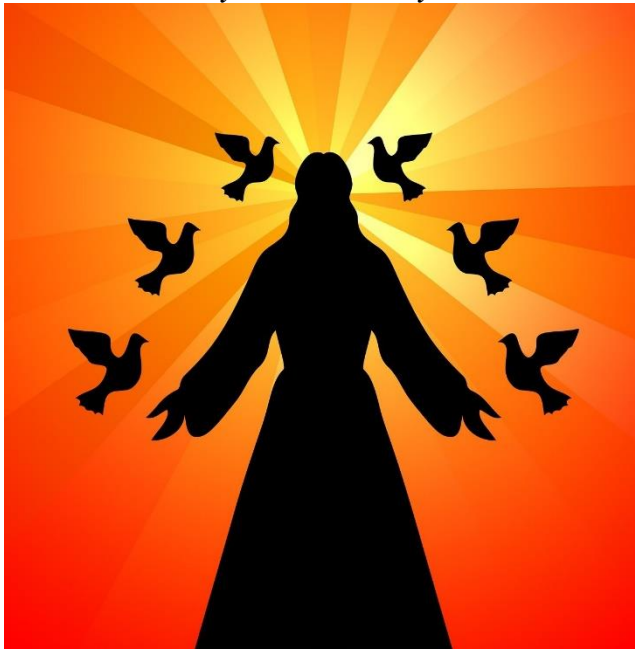
Church Secretary:

Sue Eardley

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Order of Service

Sunday 12th January 2025



The Baptism of Christ

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

Today's service is being led by:
Professor the Revd Canon Peter Galloway
The piano is played by: **Elaine Leck**

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 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.

Welcome & Notices

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Call to Worship

Hymn 586 (R&S): All my hope on God is founded
(verses 1,3 & 5, Tune *Michael*)

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia^[a] and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

Family Talk (*Fran*)

Hymn 591 (R&S): Do not be afraid

The Grace

All: 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

Junior Church leaves for their own activities

Reading: Luke 3:15-17;21-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' ²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Hymn 294 (R&S): Come down O love divine

Sermon *The Baptism of Christ*

Hymn 589 (R&S): How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord (Tune *Montgomery*)

Prayers for others (*Joyce*)

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

Hymn 289 (R&S): To God be the Glory

Blessing & Dismissal

If you'd like to support the work of St Paul's but have no cash for the collection, you can donate by card via <https://bit.ly/ForStPauls> or our card reader on request. We're registered for gift aid – see leaflets at the exits. Most members have a regular standing order in place. Please talk to any of the elders for more details

Coming up...

Next Sunday's service led by Albert & Elizabeth Wood

- **Guild meeting:** Tuesday 14th January 10.15am, Tony Miller: Railway Missions Ministry
- **Next House group:** Thursday 16th January 10.15-noon, 372 Selsdon Road CR2 7AB
- **Warm Space:** Thursday 16th January 3.30pm-6.15pm.
- **Croydon Nightwatch help:** Saturday 18th January – we will be making sandwiches for Nightwatch throughout January on Saturdays and would be very grateful for any help making them. Please see *Pat GO* for more details
- **Worship & Discipleship meeting:** Sunday 19th January, 9am
- **Church meeting:** this will be held next Sunday 19th January, after church service and *AFTER* Cake Sunday!
- **Copy date for the Pauline church magazine is next Sunday**

United Prayer Time - Zoom - Every Saturday, 9 am

'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



Agenda for Church Meeting

***NEXT** Sunday 19th January 2025 after worship and cake*

1. Opening Prayer, welcome & apologies
2. Notes of last meeting 17th November 2024
3. Matters arising
 - a. VC, mission and Awayday
 - b. Ministry and Mission contribution for 2025
4. Christmas events and impact
5. Commitment for Life programme
6. Report from Synod Area meeting
7. 2025 calendar and events
8. Any other business
9. Date of next meeting – AGM 16th March after worship and cake

St Paul's Valentine's Beetle Drive

Saturday 15th February
6:30pm-9pm

Croham Park Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 7HF

Prizes for the
winners!

£3 per person

Family Fun!

Raffle!

Light
refreshments
available to buy

All proceeds will go to support our annual
Shoebox campaign for Link to Hope and will
help bring love and hope to so many people



To book your tickets please email:
info@stpaulsurc.org.uk or complete the
booking form via the QR code

