

Thomas Risley URC

5th April 2020

Service 8x8 link: <https://8x8.vc/thomasrisleychurch>

Led by: Steve Erhardt

Basic Order of Worship

Welcome & Explanations - (Elder on duty - Dave Grimshaw)

Call to worship

Bible Reading - [Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29](#)

Prayer

[Lords Prayer](#)

Bible Readings - [Matthew 21:1-11](#)

Sermon

Prayers for the local community and the wider world

Communion

Ordination of Elders (Elaine, Helen, Pam) ([see next page](#))

[The Grace](#)

★Please remember to keep yourself muted during the service and use the chat button to send messages or prayers. The Lord's Prayer, Communion response, and The Grace will be read aloud by individuals, we encourage you to join in but please stay on mute.



Communion Response:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The words for the Lord's Prayer and The Grace can be found on the website:

thomasrisley.org/sermons

The bible readings will not be on the screen but this is a good chance to use our own Bibles. If you have any trouble accessing a bible please contact us.

[Youtube playlist](#) for this week – songs for personal reflection

(<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLScwk6S5FJx1sJ0fOj6zrsc-o9FjHKRgU>)

The ordination of Elder

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

1. The United Reformed Church confesses the faith of the catholic Church in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. The United Reformed Church acknowledges that the life of faith to which it is called is a gift of the Holy Spirit continually received in Word and Sacrament and in the common life of God's people.
3. The United Reformed Church acknowledges the Word of God in the Old and New Testaments, discerned under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as the supreme authority for the faith and conduct of all God's people.
4. The United Reformed Church accepts with thanksgiving the witness borne to the catholic faith by the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and recognises as its own particular heritage the formulations and declarations of faith which have been valued by Congregationalists, Presbyterians and members of Churches of Christ as stating the Gospel and seeking to make its implications clear.
5. The United Reformed Church testifies to its faith, and orders its life, according to the Basis of Union, believing it to embody the essential notes of the Church catholic and reformed. The United Reformed Church nevertheless reserves its right and declares its readiness at any time to alter, add to, modify or supersede this Basis so that its life may accord more nearly with the mind of Christ.
6. The United Reformed Church, under the authority of Holy Scripture and in corporate responsibility to Jesus Christ its ever living head, acknowledges its duty to be open at all times to the leading of the Holy Spirit and therefore affirms its right to make such new declarations of its faith and for such purposes as may from time to time be required by obedience to the same Spirit.
7. The United Reformed Church, believing that it is through the freedom of the Spirit that Jesus Christ holds his people in the fellowship of the one Body, upholds the rights of personal conviction. It shall be for the church, in safeguarding the substance of the faith and maintaining the unity of the fellowship, to determine when these rights are asserted to the injury of its unity and peace.
8. The United Reformed Church declares that the Lord Jesus Christ, the only ruler and head of the Church, has therein appointed a government distinct from civil government and in things spiritual not subordinate thereto, and that civil authorities, being always subject to the rule of God, ought to respect the rights of conscience and of religious belief and to serve God's will of justice and peace for all humankind.
9. The United Reformed Church declares its intention, in fellowship with all the churches, to pray and work for such visible unity of the whole Church as Christ wills and in the way he wills, in order that people and nations may be led more and more to glorify the Father in heaven.

Affirmations of Elders

Do you accept this statement and confess again your faith in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
I do.

In dependence on God's grace do you reaffirm your trust in Jesus Christ as saviour and Lord and your promise to follow him and to seek to do and to bear his will all the days of your life?
I do.

Do you believe that the Word of God in the Old and New Testaments, discerned under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is the supreme authority for the faith and conduct of all God's people?
I do.

Do you accept the office of elder of the United Reformed Church in this congregation and do you promise to perform its duties faithfully?
I do.

Prayers for Ordained Elders

Thank you, God, for the various gifts which you give to your people, and for the varieties of ministry in the Church. Thank you for all women and men of faith and integrity who have served this local church. Thank you, now, for Elaine and Helen and Pam

Empower Elaine, Helen and Pam with your Holy Spirit, give them humility and grace, so that by their faithfulness, they may show your love to your people: in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. In your name, and trusting it to be your will, we now ordain Elaine, Helen and Pam to be elders.