



St Matthew Croydon

Lent Eucharist

Welcome to St Matthew Croydon.

If you are new to our church, please make yourself known at the end of the service to one of the wardens or a member of the clergy.

We meet after church to share tea and coffee and enjoy learning more about each other.

We do have a hearing loop – please switch your hearing aids to the ‘T’ position if you need this help.

Toilets are available, and the warden will happily direct you should you need it.

Fire exits are clearly marked and, in the event of any incident, you will be calmly directed to the correct exit.

Please turn your mobile phone off – and if you can’t do that, please ensure that the sound is off.

Our services are often livestreamed – if you have any queries about this, please speak to the warden at the back of the church. If you don’t want to appear on video please look for the labelled seats. No filming of any of our services is permitted.

Our children usually go to Young Church in the middle of our service, and any children visiting are welcome to join them.

¶ *The Gathering*

Hymn

The president may say
In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

The Greeting

The president greets the people
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**
Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

This prayer may be said
Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:
fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The president says

Almighty God,

who forgives all who truly repent,

have mercy upon *you*,

pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,

confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,

and keep *you* in life eternal;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

The Collect is said, and all respond

Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

Our hearts and minds are open.

First Reading

At the end of which, the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song/Hymn

Please be seated. The children leave for Young Church.

Second Reading

At the end of which, the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Let us stand to greet the Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead,**

and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

This, or another response, may be used:

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Hymn

Preparation of the Table

God of our journey,

as we walk with you on your path of obedience,
sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good

to give you thanks and praise,

almighty God and everlasting Father,

through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days

you lead us into the desert of repentance

that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace

and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word

you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds

we bless you for your mercy

and join with saints and angels

for ever praising you and *singing*:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,

through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command,

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of
sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As the children return from Young Church, we sing
Chant

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.
We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The Agnus Dei may be sung

Lamb of God,

**you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God,

**you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God,

**you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts

for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,

Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

We do not presume

to come to this your table, merciful Lord,

trusting in our own righteousness,

but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy

so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

**But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

*The president and people receive communion.
Authorized words of distribution are used and the
communicant replies **Amen.***

During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion prayer is said.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

¶ *The Dismissal*

Notices

Hymn

The president may use this or another blessing

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give to you a contrite heart.

Amen.

May Christ,
who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
heal you by his wounds.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace.

Amen.

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you and with all those you
love and care for, this day and for evermore. **Amen.**

A minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.

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