



The Eucharist for Eastertide

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.

¶ The Gathering

Entry Hymn

Welcome and Greeting

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead.

Alleluia! He is Risen indeed

Prayer at the Easter Garden

Risen Lord Jesus, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden on the morning of your resurrection, so may we meet you today and every day: speak to us as you spoke to her; reveal yourself as the living Lord;
renew our hope and kindle our joy; and send us to share the good news with others. **Amen**

We pray together

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.

Please sit or kneel

The Confession and Absolution

Invitation to confession

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart...

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

The Absolution

May the God of love and power
✚ forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on
earth. Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father, we
worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your
glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of
the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right
hand of the Father: receive our
prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy
One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

*The president introduces a period of
silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'*

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no
entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice
and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.
Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

First Reading

At the end of each the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song

*After which the young people leave for
Young Church*

2nd Reading

At the end of each the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

The Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord,
and the living one; I was dead, and
behold I am alive for evermore.

Alleluia, Alleluia

*When the Gospel is announced the reader
says*

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.

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father
almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his
only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was
buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is
seated at the right hand of the
Father, and he will come to
judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the
holy catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and
the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

One of these responses may be used
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

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

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Let us offer one another I sign of peace

Offertory Hymn

Prayer of Preparation

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

In your loving care you spread before us the table of life and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed be God for ever.

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, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

**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.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

(or)

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross
and resurrection
you have set us free. You are
the Saviour of the world.**

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean. The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people. Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.

Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world. Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**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

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast.

Alleluia

The president and people receive communion.

Authorised words of distribution are used and the communicant replies

Amen.

Communion Hymn

Anthem

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with
him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Then we pray together

**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 Notices

Final Hymn

The Blessing

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from
the dead, open to you who believe the
gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son, who in bursting from the
grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter
faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the
disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's
peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

(or)

God the Father, by whose glory Christ
was raised from the dead, strengthen
you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing ...

The Dismissal

He is not here. He is risen. Go in peace
to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia,
alleluia.

**In the name of Christ. Alleluia,
alleluia. Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.

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