



Thanksgiving Service



St Matthew Croydon

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

Here and now we're bound together:
held in one divine embrace.

Help us see, in one another,
difference as a gift of grace.

As each passing generation
worships you in fresh new ways,
join our songs with all creation,
lift our voice to sing your praise.

Lord, affirm our shared vocation:
may we bring your plans to birth,
build your church on sure foundations,
fit to serve a troubled earth.

Growing, praying, sharing, learning,
deep in wisdom, broad in scope,
love-revealing, truth-discerning,
living out the gospel hope.

In your work of transformation
you are making all things new.
Stir our hearts' imagination,
call us now to work with you.
Send us out to share your mission;
show us each our part to play.
as we live the Great Commission,
joyful in your world today.

Tune: Hyfrydol (Alternative tunes: Blaenwern, Abbot's Leigh)
words © Ally Barrett / Jubilate administered by Jubilate Hymns Ltd

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

Jesus said:

Before you offer your gift,
go and be reconciled.

As brothers and sisters in God's family,
we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in
newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

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 Peruvian Gloria

Verse 1

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to the Father!
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the
Father!**

Chorus

To God be glory forever!
To God be glory forever!
Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, A men!

Verse 2

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus!
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ
Jesus!**

Chorus

Verse 3

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit!
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the
Spirit!**

Chorus

The Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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

Deuteronomy 30.9–14

Moses spoke to the people, saying, The Lord your
God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your
undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of

your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

¹¹Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹²It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' ¹³Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' ¹⁴No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

At the end of which, the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song

Peace is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

Love is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

Joy is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

Hope is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

Christ brings peace to all creation,
flowing out through you and me,
love, joy, hope and true salvation,
setting all the captives free.

vv. 1-4 unknown, v.5 © 1999 Kevin Mayhew Ltd

Please be seated.

Second Reading

Colossians 1.1–14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as

you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

An acclamation may be sung

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 10.25–37

A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. ‘Teacher,’ he said, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ²⁶He said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What do you read there?’ ²⁷He answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.’ ²⁸And he said to him, ‘You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.’ ²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbour?’ ³⁰Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, “Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.”

³⁶‘Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?’ ³⁷He said, ‘The one who showed him mercy.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Talk

The Creed

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

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
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

The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence, and then says

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.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

Come to God's table, for all is prepared,
the bread that we offer is broken and shared,
Christ's presence among us is food for the soul,
reviving, renewing, and making us whole.

Come to God's table, and drink of the wine,
the blood of the Saviour, in mystery divine,
the cup of salvation both priceless and free,
transforming God's people to all we can be.

Come to God's table, we come as we are,
we bring all the burdens we've carried so far,
in body, in spirit, in soul, mind and heart,
to feed on the grace only God can impart.

Come to God's table! then go in God's grace
to hold all the earth in a heav'nly embrace,
sent out in the Spirit to tend and to care
in thought, word and action, our life is our prayer.

*words © Ally Barrett / Jubilate administered by Jubilate Hymns Ltd
copyrightmanager@jubilatehymns.co.uk Tune: 'Slane'*

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is
yours.**

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned
towards your world.

In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin
and death.

Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

**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.**

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.

This is his story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest

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.

This is his story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

This is our story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

This is our story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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.

Every time we eat this bread

And drink this cup,

**We proclaim the Lord's death
Until he comes.**

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.

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

Hymn (604)

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

Richard A. M. Gillard (b. 1953) © 1977 Scripture in Song/Maranatha! Music

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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 (587)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
the sun forbear to shine;
but God, who called me here below,
will be forever mine.

When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun.
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

John Newton (1725-1807)

A Prayer for the Emerging Generations

Gracious God,
We thank you for the ministry of those who care for
children, young people and their families in your
Church.

Lord Jesus, who welcomed children,
Empower those called to this ministry with courage
and creativity.

May their ministry be rooted in joy, emboldened by
the Spirit,
And always grounded in your unshakable love.

Bless those who serve the emerging generations.
May they be signs of your presence,
Bringing light in the darkness, peace into places of
anxiety, And hope in the context of despair.

Lord Jesus,

Impart a vision in us to see the younger generations.

To abundantly welcome them as an integral part of your Church.

Forming in us a Christ-like character and a child-like hope. Leading the Church to reflect your love in word and deed.

In your loving name

Amen

The peace of God,

which passes all understanding,

keep your hearts and minds

in the knowledge and love of God,

and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;

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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