



Christmastide and Epiphanytide

*(from Christmas Day to the eve of
the Presentation)*

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.

Entry Hymn

The Gathering

Grace mercy and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you;

And also with you

Do I not fill Heaven and Earth?
Says the Lord;

**Now he is made flesh
and laid in a narrow manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are
God

**And now we see you as a new
born child.**

Prayers of Penitence

*From Christmas Day until the Eve of the
Epiphany:*

Hear the words of the Angel to
Joseph:

‘You shall call his name Jesus,
For he will save his people from their
sins.’

Therefore, seek the forgiveness of
God

Through Jesus the Saviour of the
world.

*From the Epiphany until the Eve of the
Presentation:*

The grace of God has dawned upon
the world through our Saviour Jesus
Christ

Who sacrificed himself for us
To purify a people as his own,
Let us confess our sins...

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed 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 lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on *you*; pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins; confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness; and bring *you* to everlasting life; through Jesus 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
At the end all respond, **Amen***

The Liturgy of the Word

*Please sit for the **First Reading***

At the end the reader says

**This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God**

Song

The children may leave for Young Church;

*Please sit for the **Second Reading***

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

From Christmas Day until The Eve of the Epiphany:

Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia.

From the Epiphany to the Eve of the Presentation:

Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

We have seen his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.

Alleluia.

Reader: 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

Please Stand to affirm our faith in the words of the

The Nicene Creed

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

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

At the end;

**Merciful father, accept these
prayers for the sake of your
Son, Jesus Christ. Amen**

Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand for **The Peace**

*From Christmas day until the Eve of the
Epiphany:*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son
is given, and his name shall be called
the Prince of Peace...

*From the Epiphany until the Eve of the
Presentation:*

Christ is our peace.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new
creation. The old has passed away:
behold, everything has become new.

Followed by;

The peace of the Lord be always with
you

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of
peace

The Preparation of the Table

And the Taking of the Bread and Wine

Offertory Hymn

Prayer of Preparation

*From Christmas day until the Eve of the
Epiphany:*

Word made flesh, life of the world, in
your incarnation you embraced our
poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your
riches.

Amen.

From the Epiphany to the Eve of the Presentation:

Lord, accept your people's gifts,
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,
but hearts and voices raised in praise
of Jesus Christ, our light and our
salvation.

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**

From Christmas day until the Eve of the Epiphany:

All glory and honour be yours always
and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-
living God. We give you thanks and
praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus
Christ, who for love of our fallen
race humbled himself, and was born
of the Virgin Mary by the power of
your Spirit, and lived as one of us.
In this mystery of the Word made
flesh
you have caused his light to shine in
our hearts, to give knowledge of
your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of
the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of
heaven

we lift our voices to proclaim the
glory of your name and sing our
joyful hymn of praise:

From the Epiphany to the Eve of the Presentation:

All honour and praise be yours
always and everywhere, mighty
creator, ever-living God, through
Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:
for at this time we celebrate your
glory made present in our midst.
In the coming of the magi the King of
all the world was revealed to the
nations.

In the waters of baptism Jesus was
revealed as the Christ, the Saviour
sent to redeem us. In the water
made wine

the new creation was revealed at the
wedding feast. Poverty was turned to
riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of
heaven

we lift our voices to proclaim the
glory of your name and sing our
joyful hymn of praise:

**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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us

worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St Matthew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As the children return from Young Church we sing:

Chant:

The Lord's Prayer

**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

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.**

Agnus Dei

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

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

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

Christ is the Bread which has come
down from Heaven

Give us this Bread for ever

This prayer may be said:

**Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come
in.**

**Our hands were unclean, our
hearts were unprepared; we
were not fit even to eat the
crumbs from under your
table.**

**But you, Lord, are the God of
our salvation, and share your
bread with sinners. So cleanse
and feed us
with the precious body and
blood of your Son, that he
may live in us and we in him;**

**and that we, with the whole
company of Christ, may sit
and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

*Communicant members of any Christian
Church are invited to receive Holy
Communion. Children and those who
are not confirmed are welcome to come
forward for a blessing. If you wish to
receive a blessing please bow your head.*

Anthem

Hymn

Prayers after Communion

The President may say

a Post Communion Prayer

**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

For Christmastide:

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

For Epiphanytide:

Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,
reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches of his grace;

followed by

... And the Blessing of God Almighty, Father Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, and those that you love, now and always.

Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ, Amen

Organ Voluntary

Ministers and people depart

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