



Third Sunday of Epiphany - Conversion of Paul

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

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

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 Matthew
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

That all the baptised will humbly welcome the word which has been planted in us and live it in loving service as volunteers and lay pastoral leaders,

We pray to the Lord
Lord, hear our prayer

For the Church that God will raise up people of faith who will put out into the deep and say “Here I am; send me,”

We pray to the Lord
Lord, hear our prayer

That the gifts God has given us in baptism will be used in gratitude to serve with joy and courage,

We pray to the Lord

Lord, hear our prayer

That we will confidently place our trust in the Lord and allow the Spirit to guide our hearts in discerning a call to lay leadership,

We pray to the Lord

Lord, hear our prayer

In gratitude for the many persons who serve this parish community as volunteers and lay pastoral leaders,

We pray to the Lord

Lord, hear our prayer

For each of us, that we will offer our lives and all our deeds in service to our God

We pray to the Lord

Lord, hear our prayer

That those who have responded to the call to serve as lay ministers will know the goodness of the Lord,

We pray to the Lord

Lord, hear our prayer

That as disciples of Christ, we will hold strong to our faith and manifest our belief in faithful service, we pray to the Lord

We pray to the Lord

Lord, hear our prayer

Additional prayers may be added

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

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

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

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

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

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;

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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