St Matthew's Church, Chichester Road, Croydon

Remembrance Sunday



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.

(During the procession, the poppy wreath is brought forward and laid on the table)

Hymn (746)

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne,
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be Thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) based on Psalm 90

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Introduction

We meet in the presence of God.
We commit ourselves to work
in penitence and faith
for reconciliation between the nations,
that all people may, together,
live in freedom, justice and peace.

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

Let us pray:

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith, for reconciliation between the nations, that all people may live together in freedom, justice and peace.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world; its pride, its selfishness, its greed; its evil divisions and hatreds. Let us confess our share in what is wrong, and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word , and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who has promised to forgive all who repent of their sins and believe in his Son, Jesus Christ;
grant us pardon for our sins,
peace in our hearts,
strength in his service,
and everlasting life.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect

The Collect is said, and all respond
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.**

Please be seated

The Liturgy of the Word

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.

Please stand

Hymn (799)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; He leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill;
for Thou art with me, and Thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou has furnishèd
in presence of my foes;
my head Thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Scottish Psalter 1650 Psalm 23

Second Reading

Please be seated

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

Gospel Reading

Let us stand to greet the Gospel of Christ

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the people of God, that they may worship you in spirit and in truth,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of justice, mercy and truth,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peacemakers, that you may protect them from all evil,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our loved ones, wherever they may be and for all those who wear the King's uniform on our behalf,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies, and those who wish us harm, that you may turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and wounded, and for all prisoners and captives, that they may know your power to heal and save,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

cf Colossians 3.14

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

Let us offer one another a sign
of God's peace.

Hymn

Be in our midst, and gather us together,
and let your loving-kindness be our guide;
help us discern your image in each other,
and walk with humble footsteps by your side.
Send us to work, O Lord, Almighty Giver,
till all who thirst and hunger now are filled;
let justice thunder like a mighty river,
that every storm of strife and conflict may be stilled.

When all the world's great sorrows overtake us,
and we are crushed by centuries of pain,
grant us your strength, and lovingly remake us
that by your grace we may be whole again.
And when the sins of passing generations
make all the wounds of history still feel raw,
send out your healing power among the nations,
and fill this broken earth with heaven's peace once more.

Grant us that peace beyond the mind's discerning;
help us to live the truth that sets us free.
And may the Spirit's fire within us burning
help us become who we are called to be.

In eager longing for your new creation,
a world reshaped by love and hope and grace,
with Christ the Prince of Peace as our foundation,
we'll build your kingdom now, in this and every place.

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**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 (B)

The Lord is 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.

Blessed are you, Lord of life,
creator of heaven and earth,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
For through his death on the cross,
your Son Jesus Christ has broken the power of evil,
and by his glorious resurrection
has opened for us the gate of life eternal.

In him you seek the lost, restoring those whose lives
have been shattered and torn apart.
In the fullness of time, he will gather all things to himself,
enfolding us and all who have died in war in his undying love.
And so we pray that we who have set our hope on Christ
may come to the peace of heaven,
there, with angels and archangels,
to sing your praise for ever:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
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.

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

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers with all who believe in the coming of God's kingdom of peace we pray together:

**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

**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.**

Invitation of Communion

Jesus said: Gather up the fragments that nothing may be lost.
Lord, feed us with the bread of heaven.

Communicant members of any Christian Church are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing please bow your head.

Anthem

Hymn (42)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us Your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us Your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making Your kingdom come.

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957) © 1993 Bernadette Farrell

Act of Remembrance

Music is played while we are invited to place our poppies in front of the wreath

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
we will remember them.
We will remember them.

Last Post

Two Minutes Silence

Reveille

The Kohima Epitaph

When you go home
tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow
we gave our today.

Ever-living God
we remember those whom
you have gathered
from the storm of war into the peace
of your presence;
may that same peace
calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the
nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants
with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.
And weeping o'er the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

National Anthem

God save our gracious King,
long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
on him be pleased to pour,
long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

Not on this land alone –
but be God's mercies known
from shore to shore.
Lord, make the nations see
that all humanity
should form one family
the wide world o'er.

Author Unknown

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.

Notices

Hymn (650)

Great is Thy faithfulness,
O God my Father,
there is no shadow of
turning with Thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been,
Thou for ever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
new mercies I see;
all I have needed
Thy hand hath provided,
great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me.

Summer and winter,
and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars
in their courses above,
join with all nature
in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness,
mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and
a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and
bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine,
with ten thousand beside!

Thomas Obadiah Chisholm (1866-1960)
© 1951 Hope Publishing Company

Blessing and Dismissal

May the God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our
Lord Jesus Christ,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
comfort and assure you of his love
in this world and the next;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love your neighbour.
Go in power to work for reconciliation.
Go in hope to proclaim the
resurrection.

Thanks be to God.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God. Amen

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