



Cambourne Church

What to expect at Sunday services

We're delighted to welcome you to join us for our service as we worship together.

If you're new or visiting, please introduce yourself to us; we'd love to welcome you to our church.

We recognise that everyone's experience of church is different and unique and that coming into a new church can be daunting.

With that in mind, we've created these notes which will hopefully answer some of your questions about what happens on Sunday mornings so that you know a little of what to expect.

If you have any questions or comments please do chat to one of the Welcome Team - they're the folks with the blue lanyards!

So welcome! Whether you've just moved to the area, have lived here all your life or are visiting, you are very welcome.



For more information;



www.cambournechurch.org.uk



office@cambournechurch.org.uk



01954 710644

What will I find when I walk in through the front door?

A warm welcome! Members of the welcome team will be at the front door and will be able to help you get oriented, answer your questions and direct you to where you need to go.

From the front door, you will enter the foyer area where folks will be chatting before and after the services etc and getting refreshments from the hatch. The welcome table is also in the foyer.

Where do I go when I come in?

You are extremely welcome to spend some time in the foyer or you can go straight through into the main hall and find a seat.

Where can I sit?

You are very welcome to sit wherever you feel most comfortable.

During the course of the services, the congregation are invited to stand up and sit down at various points as they are able but this is entirely your choice.

Where are the words for songs etc?

All of the words that people are invited to say or sing throughout the service will be on the large screen. The bible reading will also be on the screen but, if you would prefer, there are bibles (NIV) on the trolley by the central double doors into the foyer. You are very welcome to use these during the service.

The words in bold on the screen are those which the congregation are invited to say aloud together. Don't feel any pressure to join in if you would rather not.

What if I come at the wrong time or am late?

Please don't worry! You are very welcome to join us whether you are early, late or on time! We are used to people coming in late and finding a seat. The welcome team will be on hand to assist you.

What if I come on my own?

Everyone is welcome at Cambourne Church whether you are here as part of a large family / friendship group or on your own. We have 'welcome buddies' within our community who the welcome team can introduce you to, if you're comfortable with that and you'd like someone to sit with.

When are the services?

Sunday One is on the first Sunday of the month. It is a 10.00am service for all ages. We bring familiar elements from Little, Young and Youth Church into our worship as children together in God's family. The church hall is set up with activity tables at the front and rows of chairs behind – we invite you to participate from wherever you feel most comfortable.

On the other Sundays of the month there will be 9.30am and 11.00am services with groups for children and young people at the 11.00am service.

Communion will be celebrated on at least two Sundays each month, as publicised.

Any changes to this will be shared on our Facebook page or shown on the calendar on the website. eg around Christmas, Easter and in the summer there are often special services and changes to the normal schedule.

Will I have to join in?

Not at all! You are free to simply observe or participate as much as feels comfortable for you.

Is there a dress code?

No! Please just be yourself and come dressed in your 'normal' clothes.

What if I have additional needs?

The church building is wheelchair accessible and there are several marked blue badge parking spaces in the car park.

There is a hearing loop in the main hall for services. Please turn your hearing aid to the T setting.



If you have difficulty in seeing the screen from your seat, please do let the welcome team know as there is a tablet available which you can use to follow the screen slides if this is easier for you.

The weekly Notes and News is available in large print on the trolley

We have members of our community with varying additional needs including neurodiversity. If there is anything we can do to help you, please do let the welcome team know and we will do our very best to assist you.

What is the style of worship?

As we are a Local Ecumenical Partnership of four denominations (Church of England, Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Church), we use elements from all four denominations in our worship. This can be seen in the words used for prayers, communion etc.

The 9.30am service is more traditional in style with the music mainly consisting of hymns played on a keyboard.

The 11am service is more contemporary in style with the music being led by a worship team or on videos. Most of the songs are more modern than those played at the 9.30am service.

There will be some singing to start with as well as some prayers, a reading from the bible and a talk (some reflections).

Is an offering taken?

We do not take a financial offering as part of our services but there is a white offering box by the central double doors for financial gifts to the church if folks wish to give financially in this way.

There are also ways to give regularly to the church for those who want this.

What happens at Communion?

Communion is a key way in which Christians worship when we share bread and wine in remembrance and thanksgiving for Jesus.

After the minister leads a prayer of thanksgiving all are invited to make their way to the front. Often a queue forms so you can wait in your seat and join the queue when you are ready. Whatever your church background or lack of it, everyone who wants to receive communion is welcome.

The bread and wine are signs of God's sacrificial love for us in Jesus. Children are welcome to receive the bread and wine at their parents' discretion. There are usually some children and some adults who choose not to receive the bread and wine, but who still go to the front and instead receive a short prayer of blessing from the person distributing the bread.

Bread - there will be one or two people serving bread. Gluten free wafers are available. Please ask for them when you get to a bread station.

Standing behind the people serving bread will be those serving the wine. There is the choice of two wines.

- Shared cup - alcoholic communion wine
- Individual cups - non-alcoholic communion wine. You are welcome to drink from the individual cups at the station or take it away from the station.

You are warmly invited, but are also very welcome to remain in your seat as an honoured guest among us. If, for any reason, you have difficulty coming to the front for communion or for prayer then those distributing the bread and wine can come to you once others have been served.

What is "Sharing the Peace"?

When we have a communion service we also usually "share the peace" beforehand. People are invited to greet one another with a handshake. There is usually lots of movement as many people move around the building greeting each other. Some use the words "Peace be with you", but others use other words. Feel free to join in as much or as little as you like.

What is there for children and young people at church?

We are hugely blessed at Cambourne Church to have a significant number of children and young people in our fellowship. They form about a third of our worshipping community.

Sunday One

On the first Sunday of the month at 10am, we hold an all-age communion service.

Children and Young People

Our 11am services start with all ages together in church, then we break out into three age-based groups:

Little Church is our group for under 5s (pre-schoolers). We meet in the Annexe for a story, and time to play, create and pray. All Under 5s must be signed-in by a parent/guardian. Children under the age of 3 must be accompanied by an adult.

Young Church is for children of primary school age. We meet in the Annexe for games, Bible stories, prayer, crafts and activities. Children should be signed-in by a parent/guardian, unless already registered. All children should be collected by their parent/guardian when the service has finished.

Youth Church is for young people of secondary school and sixth form age. We walk over to Cambourne Soul for hot chocolates, games and Bible-based discussions. We walk back to church together after the service has finished.

On Sunday mornings, our group leaders can be identified by their yellow lanyards.

What if my children make a noise?

You'll be in good company! It's a privilege to be able to worship together with all ages and we recognise that brings a certain level of unpredictable noise and activity. All we ask is that we are respectful of others. The foyer is available if you'd like to step outside of the service, but there's no pressure or expectation.

What do the different coloured lanyards mean?

On Sunday mornings, there will be people wearing various coloured lanyards. This helps identify them and their role so that folks know who they are.

Yellow - the Little Church, Young Church and Youth Church teams

Blue - the Sunday welcome team

Purple - the church staff team

Where are the toilets?

The main toilets are accessed from the foyer (turn right in front of the kitchen hatch) and there are;

- 6 toilets
- 1 fully accessible toilet with potties and toddler toilet seats
- 1 baby change room with sink

There is also 1 fully accessible toilet with baby change facilities in the Annexe but this is only used by the Little Church and Young Church groups which meet in the Annexe on Sunday mornings.

Can I breastfeed?

Absolutely yes! You are very welcome to feed your baby wherever you feel most comfortable. There is a sofa in the foyer if you prefer to use a comfortable chair.

Are there refreshments?

Very much so! We see hospitality as a big part of our welcome. Tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are served in the foyer after services where there is plenty of time to meet new people and ask questions.

The refreshments are free but there is a donations box if you would like to give a donation but there is no expectation for you to do so.

Is there somewhere quiet I can go during the service?

You are very welcome to use the foyer area with the tables, chairs and sofa during the services if you would like a quieter space. There are toys and books for children (in the red cupboards / on the shelves) and also a prayer corner available for personal prayer.

The service (slides and sound) is piped through into the foyer so that folks don't miss the service if they are in the foyer.

If you need assistance during the service for any reason, please let a member of the welcome team know.

What if I want to speak to someone after the service?

Please do speak to the folks at the welcome table and they will do their best to answer your questions or direct you to someone else who can!

Where can I find more information about Cambourne Church?

Do chat to the folks at the welcome table who have lots of information about Cambourne Church or visit our website

www.cambournechurch.org.uk

