ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

LOWESTOFT



Holy Communion for Trinity & Ordinary Time SERVICE ONE

Sunday 1st September 2024 14th Sunday after Trinity

Please feel free to sit or stand as you feel most comfortable. Congregational responses are usually shown in **bold type**, where these are also in *italics* they are normally sung.



WELCOME & Introduction

Deacon: Gill

Presiding & Preacher: Canon Simon Stokes

We meet in the presence of God who knows our needs, feels our pain, and shares our joy.
This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

HYMN 708 - Lift up your hearts!

'Lift up your hearts!' We lift them, Lord, to thee; here at thy feet none other may we see: 'lift up your hearts!' E'en so, with one accord, we lift them up, we lift them to the Lord.

Above the level of the former years, the mire of sin, the slough of guilty fears, the mist of doubt, the blight of love's decay, O Lord of light, lift all our hearts to-day.

Above the swamps of subterfuge and shame, the deeds, the thoughts, that honour may not name, the halting tongue that dares not tell the whole, O Lord of truth, lift every Christian soul.

Lift every gift that thou thyself hast given: low lies the best till lifted up to heaven; low lie the bounding heart, the teeming brain, till, sent from God, they mount to God again.

Then, as the trumpet-call in after years, 'Lift up your hearts!' rings pealing in our ears, still shall those hearts respond with full accord, 'We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord!'

Henry Montagu Butler (1833–1918)

The Lord be with you And also with you.

Let us worship the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Prayers of Penitence

We are invited to confess what we have done wrong using these or other suitable words

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Therefore let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Confession (please sit or kneel)

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
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, our God. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

(If you are able, please stand to sing the Gloria)

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 (Prayer of the week - found on the pew sheet)

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (Please sit)

all age talk

BIBLE READING

The Epistle: James 1: 17-27. Read by Terri

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act - they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 373 - Purify my heart

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver. Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold. Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord. I choose to be holy, set apart for you, my Master, ready to do your will.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy. Purify my heart cleanse me from my sin, deep within. Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord. I choose to be holy, set apart for you, my Master, ready to do your will.

Brian Doerksen (b. 1965)

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7: 1-23

(Please remain standing)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
one God, who was, and who is, and who is to come, the Almighty. **Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark. *Glory to you, O Lord.*

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) So, the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?" He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions." And he continued, "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and mother,' and, 'Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.' But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God) - then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. Thus, you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that." Again, Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? For it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body." (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)

He went on: "What comes out of a person is what defiles them. For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come - sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Canon Simon

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(If you would like to, please stand as we affirm our faith)

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 led by Gerda (Please sit or kneel)

These responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

At the end:
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

CALLING OF BANNS OF MARRIAGE, NOTICES AND TIME OF SHARING

THE PEACE

(If you would like to, please stand)

These words may be used:

We are the body of Christ, by one spirit we were all baptised into one body. Let us pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

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

DEACON: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN 790 - Teach me, my God and King

(During the hymn the bread & wine are brought forward and the altar is prepared)

Teach me, my God and King, in all things thee to see, and what I do in anything to do it as for thee.

A man that looks on glass, on it may stay his eye; or if he pleaseth, through it pass, and then the heaven espy.

All may of thee partake; nothing can be so mean, which with this tincture, "for thy sake," will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause makes drudgery divine: who sweeps a room, as for thy laws, makes that and the action fine.

This is the famous stone that turneth all to gold; for that which God doth touch and own cannot for less be told.

GEORGE HERBERT (1593-1633)

With this bread that we bring we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood, gifts from God to his table we bring. we shall remember Jesus.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (please sit or kneel)
[The Choir may remain standing]

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!

Lord of all life, you created the universe where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth to discover and to cherish.

You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child. He suffered on the cross; he died to save us from our sins; he rose in glory from the dead, and we share his risen life.

You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and clothe us with power from on high. And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

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, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember his death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another, work for the healing of the earth, and share the good news of Jesus, as we wait for his coming in glory.

DEACON: Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

United as one body, we pray for the coming of God's Kingdom in heaven and on earth, using the words our Saviour taught us:

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 forever. 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.

The Agnus Dei is sung:

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

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

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to come forward to receive the bread and the wine or a blessing, it is helpful for us if you say your name when you come to the front.

An anthem is usually sung by the Choir and then a **HYMN** is also sung during Communion. (Please remain seated)

Anthem: 'Turn thy face from my sins' Attwood.

HYMN: 747 - O God, you search me and you know me

O God you search me and you know me 1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze. When I walk or lie down you are before me: ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar, and with love everlasting you besiege me: in every moment of life and death, you are. Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have known its meaning through and through. You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me, still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you: even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me, gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you: safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957) based on Psalm 139

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Said by a minister and found on the weekly pew sheet.

Father of light,

in whom is no change or shadow of turning, you give us every good and perfect gift and have brought us to birth by your word of truth: may we be a living sign of that kingdom where your whole creation will be made perfect in Jesus Christ our Lord.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou for ever near me, my Master and my Friend: I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear; my foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee, that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be; and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own; my hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end; and then in heaven receive me, my Saviour and my Friend.

THE BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, be upon those you love, pray for and care for now and for evermore. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

or

By the power of the Spirit, we take into our community the peace and love of God.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

