

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
LOWESTOFT



Holy Communion

Ordinary time
SERVICE ONE



Sunday 23rd February 2025
2nd Sunday before Lent

Setting: Farmer

Deacon Sarah
Presiding Canon Simon
Preacher Rev Jim

WELCOME & Introduction

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 721- Love divine

*1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.*

*2 Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.*

*3 Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee.
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love and praise.*

CHARLES WESLEY (1707-1788)

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*)

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Please sit)

all age talk Rev Jim

BIBLE READING[S]

New Testament: Revelation 4 Read by Sue

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald.

Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.' And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 702 - *Lead us, heavenly Father lead us*

***1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.***

***2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us;
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary
through the desert thou didst go.***

***3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy;
love with every passion blending
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.***

GOSPEL READING: Luke 8: 22-25

(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. *Luke*
Glory to you, O Lord.

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.

He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev Jim

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 Sarah

(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.**

NOTICES AND TIME OF SHARING

THE PEACE

(If you would like to, please stand)

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 598 - *Before the throne of God above*

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

***1 Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea:
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
whoever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.***

***2 When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the Just, is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.***

***3 Behold him there! the risen Lamb!
my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with my Lord, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.***

Charitie Lees De Chenez (1841–1923)*

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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: Let all mortal flesh (Cleobury)

Hymn: 764 - Peace, perfect peace

**1 Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.**

**2 Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?
To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.**

**3 Peace, perfect peace, death shadowing us and ours?
Jesus has vanquished death and all its powers.**

**4 Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?
Jesus we know, and he is on the throne.**

**5 It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease,
and Jesus call us to heaven's perfect peace.**

EDWARD HENRY BICKERSTETH (1825-1906)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

God our creator, by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart
of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished
at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through 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.**

HYMN 595 - *Be thou my vision*

**1 *Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.***

**2 *Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
Be thou ever with me and I with thee Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.***

**3 *Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.***

**4 *Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
Be thou mine inheritance now and always;
Be thou, and thou only, the first in my heart;
O sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art!***

**5 *High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright son,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.***

(Irish 8th century)

Translated by MARY ELIZABETH BYRNE (1880-1931)

Versified by ELEANOR HENRIETTA HULL (1860-1935)

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.

