

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH  
LOWESTOFT



# Holy Communion for the Easter season



**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Mass Setting: Thorne**

**Deacon Sarah  
Presiding & Preaching Canon Simon**

## **WELCOME & Introduction [please remain seated]**

Lord of all life, God of Easter  
all living things reflect your glory.  
Restore and heal all that is wounded  
Roll back the stone of prejudice and fear  
Release the signs of spring

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### **HYMN 710 - *Light's abode, celestial Salem***

***1 Light's abode, celestial Salem,  
Vision whence true peace doth spring,  
Brighter than the heart can fancy,  
Mansion of the highest King;  
O how glorious are the praises  
Which of thee the prophets sing!***

***2 There for ever and for ever  
Alleluia is outpoured  
For unending and unbroken  
Is the feast day of the Lord;  
All is pure and all is holy  
That within thy walls is stored.***

***3 There no cloud nor passing vapour  
Dims the brightness of the air;  
Endless noon-day, glorious noon-day,  
From the Sun of suns is there;  
There no night brings rest from labour,  
For unknown are toil and care.***

***\*4 O how glorious and resplendent,  
Fragile body, shalt thou be,  
When endued with so much beauty,  
Full of health, and strong, and free,  
Full of vigour, full of pleasure  
That shall last eternally!***

***\*5 Now with gladness, now with courage,  
Bear the burden on thee laid,  
That hereafter these thy labours  
May with endless gifts be paid,  
And in everlasting glory  
Thou with brightness be arrayed.***

***6 Laud and honour to the Father,  
Laud and honour to the Son,  
Laud and honour to the Spirit,  
Ever Three, and ever One,  
Consubstantial, Co-eternal,  
While unending ages run.***

THOMAS A KEMPIS (C. 1380 – 1471)

In the light of the risen son  
We worship today

**Faithful one, whose word is life:  
come with saving power  
to free our praise,  
inspire our prayer  
and shape our lives  
for the kingdom of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Invitation to **CONFESSION**

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and  
confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Confession (***please sit or kneel***)

When we do not live in the joy of the resurrection  
but are caught up in the demands of the world

Lord have mercy  
**Lord have mercy**

When there are no signs of spring in our hearts  
And we neglect to care for our world

Christ have mercy  
**Christ have mercy**

When we fail to see Christ in friend and stranger  
And we fail to see Christ in ourselves

Lord have mercy  
**Lord have mercy**

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our  
sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit and raise us to new life  
in Christ our Lord **Amen.**

*Please stand to sing the Gloria*

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.  
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.***

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.***

***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.***

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.***

***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.***

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.***

### ***THE COLLECT (Prayer of the week - found on the pew sheet)***

Risen Christ,  
by the lakeside you renewed your call  
to your disciples:  
help your Church to obey your command  
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## ***THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (please sit)***

*All age talk*

*After which the Children may go out for their own activities*

### **READINGS**

#### **New Testament: Acts 16: 9-15    Read by Delphine**

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,

and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptised, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 805 - *There is a redeemer***

**1 There is a redeemer,  
Jesus, God's own son,  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
Holy One.**

***Thank you, O my Father,  
for giving us your Son,  
and leaving your Spirit  
till the work on earth is done***

**2 Jesus my redeemer,  
name above all names,  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah.  
O for sinners slain.**

***Thank you, O my Father,  
for giving us your Son,  
and leaving your Spirit  
till the work on earth is done***

**3 When I stand in glory,  
I will see his face,  
and there I'll serve my King for ever,  
in that holy place.**

***Thank you, O my Father,  
for giving us your Son,  
and leaving your Spirit  
till the work on earth is done***

Please remain standing for the **GOSPEL READING**

**Gospel: John 14: 23 – 29**

Jesus is risen from the dead

**Alleluia!**

He has defeated death

**Alleluia!**

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing

**Alleluia!**

He has the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

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

Jesus answered him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ‘I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

**SERMON Canon Simon**



*We stand to affirm our Faith*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – *led by Captain John***

*Please sit or kneel*

*These responses may be used*

Risen Christ Jesus

**Open the tombs of our hearts**

*at the end*

God of the Easter faith

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour  
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Banns of Marriage,***

***If the Children have gone out, they return***

***Notices and time of sharing***

**THE PEACE (*please stand*)**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,  
'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

**And also with you. Alleluia.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**OFFERTORY HYMN 644 - *God is love***

(During the hymn the bread & wine are brought forward, and the altar is prepared. The collection is also offered at the Altar)

***1 God is love: let heav'n adore him;***

***God is love: let earth rejoice;***

***let creation sing before him,***

***and exalt him with one voice.***

***He who laid the earth's foundation,***

***he who spread the heav'ns above,***

***he who breathes through all creation,***

***he is love, eternal Love.***

**2 God is love: and he enfoldeth  
all the world in one embrace;  
with unfailing grasp he holdeth  
ev'ry child of ev'ry race.  
And when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
then they find that self-same aching  
deep within the heart of God.**

**3 God is love: and though with blindness  
sin afflicts the souls of all,  
God's eternal loving-kindness  
Holds and guides us when we fall.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
o'er us final triumph gain;  
God is love, so love for ever  
o'er the universe must reign.**

Timothy Rees (1874-1939)

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we believe you, and all we have heard  
is true. When you break bread

**May we recognise you as the fire that burns within us  
that we may bring light to your world. Amen**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**[Please sit or kneel - The choir may remain standing]**

**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.**

We praise you for Jesus Christ,  
risen to life, eternal as your love.  
With the women at the tomb,  
we raise the strain of gladness.

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 now we give you thanks that  
The day of resurrection has come,  
scattering fear and gloom.  
And so we rejoice with all your people of every time and place,  
and with angels and archangels,  
to proclaim the glory of your name

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



Great is the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died:***

***Christ is risen:***

***Christ will come again.***

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,  
for ever and ever praising you and singing

***Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.***



### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we  
pray

**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.**

## THE 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*

***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.***

Come to this table, because Jesus loved you  
and gave himself for you.

Come and meet the risen Christ,  
for we are his Body.

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. The choir will receive Holy Communion first at the High Altar, followed by the rest of the congregation who will receive Holy Communion at the Chancel step.

An anthem is usually sung by the Choir and then a Hymn is also sung during communion (please remain seated)

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.

**Anthem**      Irish Blessing (Chilcott)

**HYMN**      566 - *Put peace into each other's hands*

***1 Put peace into each other's hands  
and like a treasure hold it,  
protect it like a candle-flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.***

***2 Put peace into each other's hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God's creation.***

***3 Put peace into each other's hands  
like bread we break for sharing;  
look people warmly in the eye:  
our life is meant for caring.***

***4 Give thanks for strong - yet tender - hands,  
held out in trust and blessing.  
Where words fall short, let hands speak  
out  
the heights of love expressing.***

***5 Reach out in friendship, stay with faith  
in touch with those around you.  
Put peace into each other's hands:  
the Peace that sought and found you.***



## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ  
gives the water of eternal life:  
may we thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns,  
now and for *ever*.

## **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

**Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.**

**We are fed by your love,  
we are strengthened by your life.**

**We are sent forth into this world  
to live your way and share your joy.**

**We are now commissioned to:  
feed as we have been fed,  
forgive as we have been forgiven,  
love as we have been loved.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Amen.**

**HYMN 507 - We have a gospel**

**1 We have a gospel to proclaim,  
good news for all throughout the earth;  
the gospel of a Saviour's name:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**2 Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,  
not in a royal house or hall,  
but in a stable dark and dim,  
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**3 Tell of his death at Calvary,  
hated by those he came to save;  
in lonely suffering on the cross:  
for all he loved, his life he gave.**

**4 Tell of that glorious Easter morn,  
empty the tomb, for he was free;  
he broke the power of death and hell  
that we might share his victory.**

**5 Tell of his reign at God's right hand,  
by all creation glorified.  
He sends his Spirit on his Church  
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**

**6 Now we rejoice to name him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
This gospel message we proclaim:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

EDWARD JOSEPH BURNS (b.1938)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed Alleluia!**

## **THE BLESSING**

The God of peace,  
Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
That great shepherd of the sheep,  
Through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
Make us perfect in every good work to do his will,  
Working in us that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
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.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
Alleluia, Alleluia

**In the name of Christ**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia**



