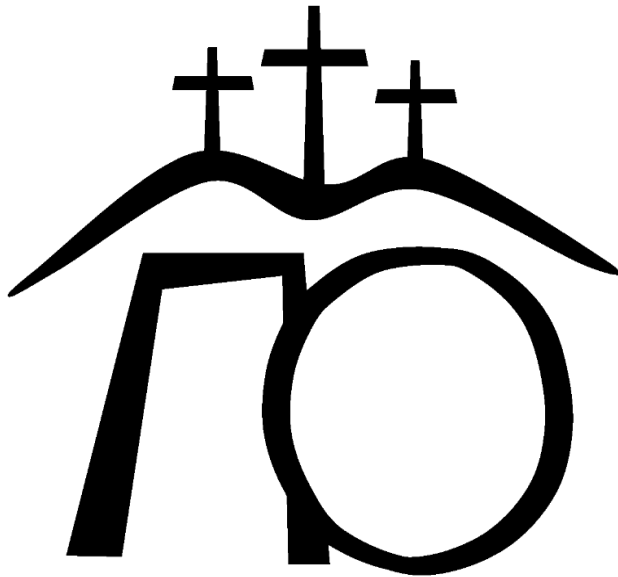


ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
LOWESTOFT



Easter Sunday

5th April 2026



Sung Eucharist

Mass Setting - St. Thomas (D. Thorne)

WELCOME & Introduction

Deacon Sarah
Presiding & Preaching Canon Simon

With the first gold of dawn came a resurrection,
a new hope that grew with the rising of the sun
and went into the waiting world.

Today is the day

When the darkness melted away.

Today is the day

When the light banished fear and decay.

God of Easter,
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 205 - Jesus Christ is risen today

**1. Jesus Christ is risen today, alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. alleluia!**

**2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. alleluia!**

**3. But the pains that he endured, alleluia!
Our salvation have procured, alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing: alleluia!**

LYRA DAVIDICA 1708 and others

Introduction to The Confession

In this moment, we are gathered, welcoming love's return, the tomb is empty, the stone laid back. Risen one, come amongst us, speak your words of peace, release us from our fears, heal us from our wounds, restore us from the tomb of sin, to the dance of life.

Please sit or kneel.

CONFESSION

Like the Prodigal, Jesus,
we have wasted your love.

Like Nicodemus,
we have crept about in darkness.

Like James and John,
we have slept through other's sorrow.

Like Peter,
we have denied and betrayed you.

Like Pilate,
we have washed our hands of blame.

And yet, as with the woman at the well,
you give us drink in the heat of the day.

As with the man born blind,
you open our eyes.

As with the disciples,
you wash our feet.

As with the criminal hanging near you,
you promise us paradise.

As with Peter,
you restore us in your love.

Give us, now, Jesus,
**the gift of repentance, the grace of forgiveness and hearts
made ready for Easter's joy.
Amen.**

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.

Please remain standing for the Collect.

THE COLLECT

God of glory,
By the raising of your son
You have broken the chains of death and hell,
Fill your church with faith and hope;
For a new day has dawned
And the way to life stands open
In our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit.

All Age Talk

New Testament Reading Colossians 3: 1-4 Read by Helen B

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



HYMN 700 - King of kings

***1 King of kings, Majesty
God of Heaven living in me
Gentle Saviour, closest friend
Strong Deliverer, beginning and end
All within me falls at Your throne***

***Your Majesty, I can but bow
I lay my all before You now
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve Your Majesty.***

***2 Earth and Heaven worship You
Love eternal, Faithful and True
Who bought the nations, ransomed souls
Brought this sinner near to Your throne
All within me cries out in praise.***

***Your majesty, I can but bow
I lay my all before You now
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve Your Majesty
I live to serve Your Majesty.***

JARROD COOPER

If you are able, please remain standing for the Gospel Reading.

Gospel Reading Matthew 28: 1-10

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 Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Canon Simon

THE Nicene CREED

Please stand as we affirm our faith.

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 Led by Christine

Responses:

Alleluia! Christ is risen

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

At the end:

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

Choir Anthem: Prayer of St. Teresa (Ogden)

NOTICES and time of sharing

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE (please stand)

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

Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia!

Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you. Alleluia!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN Bless the Lord, O my soul

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

***Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul,
worship His holy name,
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name***

**The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
and whatever lies before me
let me be singing
when the evening comes (*Chorus*)**

**You're rich in love
and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great
and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
ten thousand reasons
for my heart to find (*Chorus*)**

**And on that day
when my strength is failing
the end draws near
and my time has come,
still my soul will
sing Your praise unending
ten thousand years
and then forevermore!**

***Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul,
worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name
Yes, I'll worship Your holy name***

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

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

THE EUCHARISTIC 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.*

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.
You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.
Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.
As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

***Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,
Holy is the Lord God Almighty,
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,
Holy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.***

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.
Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

***Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,
Jesus is the Lord God Almighty.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,
Jesus is the Lord God Almighty.
Who was and is and is to come -
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord.***

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he 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.



Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory.

***Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lord,
Worthy is the Lord God Almighty,
Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lord,
Worthy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lord.***

As we recall the one perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.
Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in 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.

***Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,
Glory to the Lord God Almighty
Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,
Glory to the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
Glory, glory, glory to the Lord.***



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 for ever. Amen.**

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.

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.

Choir Anthems

The Easter Song of Praise

This joyful Eastertide (Wood)

HYMN: 427 - Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away

***1 Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
slain for us: and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of his sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of peace
around the table of the King.***

***2 The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
torn for you: eat and remember
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,
paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of his sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of love
around the table of the King.***

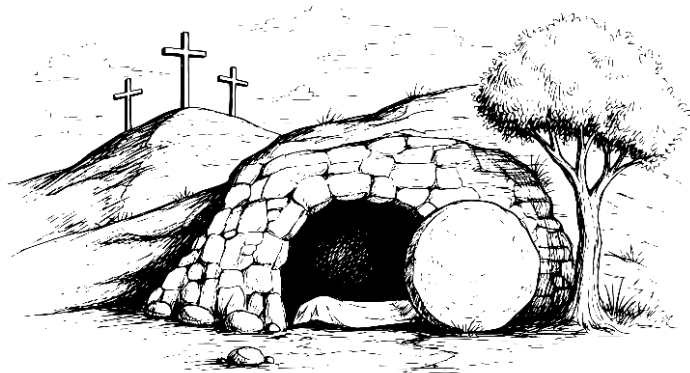
***3 The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you: drink and remember
he drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of his sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of grace
around the table of the King.***

***4 And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
to respond and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as his Body here on earth.
As we share in his suffering,
we proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
around the table of the King.***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Together we say this prayer:

**God of life,
who for our redemption
gave your only begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



HYMN 218 - Thine be the glory

***1 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!***

***2 Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!***

***3 No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life;
Life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won!***

Edmond Budry (1854-1932)

THE BLESSING

Risen Lord Jesus,

Let us trust you:

Roll away the stone of our doubts.

Let us proclaim you:

Roll away the stone of our reserve.

Let us rejoice in you:

Roll away the stone of heaviness of heart.

Let us find our hope in you:

Roll away the stone of our fear.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you, those you love
and those you pray for this day
and evermore.

Amen

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



01.04.2026

