

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH  
LOWESTOFT



# Holy Communion for the Easter season



**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Vocations Sunday**

**Mass Setting: Thorne**

Deacon Sarah  
Preacher Canon Lucy Dallas  
Presiding Canon Simon





**WELCOME & Introduction (please remain seated)**

**We Welcome Canon Lucy Dallas Diocesan Director of Ordinands**

Faith seekers will go to their activities at the end of the first Hymn

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 713 - Lord of all hopefulness**

**1 Lord of all hopefulness,  
Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike,  
no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking,  
and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
at the break of the day.**

**2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled  
at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labours,  
and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts,  
Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**3 Lord of all kindness,  
Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome,  
your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing,  
and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord,  
at the eve of the day.**

**4 Lord of all gentleness,  
Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment,  
whose presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping,  
and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
at the end of the day.**

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,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

*THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (please sit)*

**New Testament Reading: Acts 2.42-end Read by Amelia**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 448 - I come with joy**

***1 I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall,  
in love laid down for me.***

***2 I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.***

***3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.  
The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.***

***4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here.***

***5 Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one.***

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Please remain standing for the **GOSPEL READING**

**John 10: 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 *N.*

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

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit.

The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’

Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them.

I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON Canon Lucy

*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 Charles

*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.**

*Faith Seekers 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 212 - Now the green blade riseth

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

***1 Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.***

***2 In the grave they laid him, love whom men had slain,  
Thinking that he never would awake again.  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green,***

***3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for the three days in the grave had lain.  
Back from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.***

***4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Then your touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.***

JOHN MACLEOD CAMPBELL CRUM (1872-1958)

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            Let all mortal flesh (Cleobury

**HYMN 747 - 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.**

**2 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.**

**3 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.**

**4 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.**

**5 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

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 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 593 - At the name of Jesus**  
**The \* verses are omitted 2,4 & 6**

**1 At the name of Jesus  
every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him  
King of glory now;  
'tis the Father's pleasure  
we should call him Lord,  
who, from the beginning,  
was the mighty Word.**

**3 Humbled for a season,  
to receive a name  
from the lips of sinners  
unto whom he came,  
faithfully he bore it,  
spotless to the last,  
brought it back victorious  
when from death he passed.**

**5 Name Him, Christians, name him,  
with love as strong as death;  
but with awe and wonder,  
and with bated breath.  
He is God the Saviour,  
he is Christ the Lord,  
ever to be worshipped,  
trusted and adored.**

**7 Surely, this Lord Jesus  
shall return again,  
with his Father's glory,  
with his angel train;  
for all wreaths of empire  
meet upon his brow,  
and our hearts confess him  
King of glory now.**

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**

