

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

LOWESTOFT



Holy Communion

First Sunday
of the Month



Sunday 2nd August 2026

Mass Setting: St. Thomas (D. Thorne)



WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

(Please remain seated)

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”

Matthew 5:4

Theme:

“Kingdom comfort comes to those who grieve sin, suffering and the brokenness of the world”.

Opening Prayer

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 - Light of the World

**Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see.
beauty that made this heart adore you
hope of a life spent with you.**

Chorus

**So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that You're my God,
And You're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.**

**King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above;
Humbly You came
To the earth You created.
All for love's sake became poor.**

Chorus

**So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that you're my God,
And You're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.**

**And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.**

Chorus

**So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that you're my God,
And You're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.**

Saying sorry, being forgiven

Jesus says “I am the light of the world”. Those who follow me shall not walk in darkness but will have the light of life. Let us then bring to God our sins and in the glow of his light confess them with penitence and faith:

For things we should not have said:

Lord, have mercy:

Lord, have mercy.

For actions we regret:

Christ, have mercy:

Christ have mercy.

For not loving each other as you love us:

Lord, have mercy:

Lord have mercy.

May the Lord of love

Bring us back to himself

Forgive us our sins

And assure us of his eternal love

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Gloria- Sung to 'Ode to Joy' (please stand)

*Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love you well;
on the earth let all your people
speak your grace, your wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
mighty Father, heaven's king;
hear our joyful adoration
and accept the thanks we bring.*

*Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with God in triumph seated -
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Savior, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three-in-One!*

Collect – Prayer of the Week

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please sit

Introduction to the readings

***New Testament Reading* Revelation 21: 1-5 Read by Austin**

A New Heaven and a New Earth

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN 212 Now the green blade rises

***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)

*Please remain standing for the **Gospel Reading***

Matthew 5: 1-12 Read by CJ

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

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Canon Simon

Jesus does not dismiss sorrow; he meets mourners with the promise of God's comfort and restoration.

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 by Roo

Lord, in your mercy
hear 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 are able, please stand)

God has called us to live in light and peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Please offer one another the sign of peace

OFFERTORY HYMN 557 Beauty for Brokenness

(During the offertory hymn the bread and wine and collection are brought to the Altar)

***1 Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord, in your suffering world this is our prayer.
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset your kingdom increase!***

***2 Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.
God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.***

***3 Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness, his cross for the pain.***

***4 Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned: our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed;
make us content with the things that we need.
God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.***

***5 Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame,
until your justice burns brightly again;
until the nations learn of your ways,
seek your salvation and bring you their praise.
God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray:
melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.***

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Please sit - 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

Let us come together at the Lord's table.

Reader 1: *Who is invited to the Lord's Table?*

Reader 2: *Listen, and we will hear.*

All are invited;
the young and the old,
the rich and the poor,
the lowest and the least.

Reader 1: *Why do we give thanks at this table?*

Reader 2: *Listen, and we will hear.*

We give thanks because Jesus showed us the way;
we give thanks because Jesus is the Way.
Jesus is a gift from God for the world.

Reader 1: *Why do we eat and drink at this table?*

Reader 2: *Listen, and we will hear.*

We eat because on the night before Jesus died,
he ate with his friends.
He gave them bread and said,
"This is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."



At that same meal he took a cup of wine and said,
"Drink this cup. This is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."



Reader 1: *What do we remember at this table?*

Reader 2: *Listen, and we will hear.*

We remember Jesus' birth
and his presence as God with us.
We remember Jesus' life and his love.
We remember Jesus' suffering and death on the cross.
We remember the resurrection and the promise of new life.
We remember that we are waiting in hope
to see Jesus again.

And now we give you thanks because Christ, Light of the World, has
dawned in our hearts.

***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.***



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 the bread of life
And that life is the light of the world

**God here among us
Light in the midst of us
Bring us to light and life**

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

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.

HYMN 512 Christ's is the world

***1 Christ's is the world in which we move;
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love;
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
and Christ is the one who meets us here.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.***

***2 Feel for the people we most avoid —
strange or bereaved or never employed.
Feel for the women and feel for the men
who fear that their living is all in vain.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.***

***3 Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
feel for the women whom men have defiled,
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
and feel for the weary who find no rest.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.***

***4 Feel for the lives by life confused,
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.
To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.***

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet of 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 678 In Christ alone

**1 In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**2 In Christ alone! — who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.**

**3 There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine
bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!**

Stuart Townend (b. 1963) and Keith Getty (b. 1974)

CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING

May God the Father Who raised Jesus from the dead strengthen you
May Jesus the son our constant companion lead you in paths of peace
And may the Holy Spirit guide your way as you seek to lead lives that
recognise him in all things

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

