

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
LOWESTOFT



Service of Holy Communion

(Alternative Service)



Sunday 17th August
9th Sunday after Trinity

Before the start of the service

Song: *Jesus, be the centre*

***Jesus, be the centre,
be my source, be my light,
Jesus.***

***Jesus, be the centre,
be my hope, be my song,
Jesus.***

***Be the fire in my heart,
be the wind in these sails,
be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.***

***Jesus, be my vision,
be my path, be my guide,
Jesus.***

***Be the fire in my heart,
be the wind in these sails,
be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.***

WELCOME & Introduction (please remain seated)

Preaching & presiding Canon Simon

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

HYMN 598 - *Before the throne of God above.*

**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)*

Prayers of Penitence

We come to God from whom no secrets are hidden,
and ask for forgiveness and peace.

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)

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you:
Restore us when we are lost.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:
Forgive us when our lives don't reflect your love.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Spirit, you give us life and peace:
Free us from the turmoil of our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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 PERUVIAN GLORIA (please stand)

This may be omitted or another version used

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father!

To Him be glory for ever!
To Him be glory for ever!

Alleluia. Amen.
Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus...
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus...

To Him be glory for ever!
To Him be glory for ever!

Alleluia. Amen.
Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit...
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit...

To Him be glory for ever!
To Him be glory for ever!

Alleluia. Amen.
Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen. Alleluia. Amen.

THE COLLECT (prayer of the week - found on the pew sheet)

Lord God,
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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (please sit)

all age talk

BIBLE READING

New Testament: Hebrews 11:29-12.2 Read by Helen

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented - of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains are gone)

*Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

*The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

*My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.
Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine*

GOSPEL READING Luke 12:49-56

(please remain standing)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!

From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.' He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Canon Simon

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (please stand)

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 Sarah
(please sit or kneel)

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 (please stand)

Deep peace be in your hearts,
Deep peace with God's good earth,
Deep peace with friend and stranger,
Deep peace with God - Creator, Redeemer and life-giving Spirit.
The deep peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN 589 - *Angel voices ever singing.*

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

**1 Angel voices, ever singing,
round thy throne of light,
angel harps, for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
Thousands only live to bless Thee,
and confess Thee
Lord of might.**

**2 Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us
and wilt hear us?
Yea, we can.**

**3 Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure
all combine.**

**4 In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer,
all unworthily,
hearts and minds and hands and voices,
in our choicest
psalmody.**

**5 Honour, glory, might and merit,
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessed Trinity!
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven
render thee.**

Francis Pott (1832-1090)

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 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.*

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.

Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

***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 of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from
heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

Sing

***Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine:
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation purchase of God;
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:***

***This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.***

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food.
He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Do this in remembrance of me.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
He took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Sing

***Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.***

***This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.***

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Sing

***Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love***

***This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.***

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:

***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.***

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 (please remain seated)

489 - From heaven you came.

***1 From heaven you came, helpless babe,
Entered our world, your glory veiled;
Not to be served but to serve,
And give your life that we might live.
This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.***

***2 There in the garden of tears,
My heavy load he chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.
This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.***

***3 Come, see his hands and his feet,
The scars that speak of sacrifice,
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered.
This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.***

***4 So let us learn how to serve,
And in our lives enthrone him;
Each other's needs to prefer,
For it is Christ we're serving.
This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.***

GRAHAM KENDRICK (b. 1950)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

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

Lord, we have broken your bread
and received your life.

By the power of your Spirit,
keep us always in your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

HYMN 719 - *Lord, the light of your love. [Shine Jesus shine]*

1 Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.*

**2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

***Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.***

**3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory;
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

***Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.***

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950) 719 Words and Music: © 1987, Graham Kendrick / Make Way Music Ltd

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious to us.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and grant us peace.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon us and remain with us,
be upon those we 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.

or

By the power of the Spirit, we take into our community the peace
and love of God.

In the name of Christ. Amen.



BEFORE YOU GO

We're so glad that you decided to join us today.

If you are new to the church
and would like us to keep in touch,
or to arrange a time when we can visit you,
please leave your details with us.

You are very welcome to join us for refreshments
in the church centre following the service.

**May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.**

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REVISED
29.07.2025