

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
LOWESTOFT



Holy Communion for the Easter season



Sunday 12th April 2026
2nd Sunday of Easter

Mass Setting: Thorne
Presiding & Preaching Canon Simon
The Church APCM follows this service

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 203 - Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

**1 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King.**

**To all the world glad news we bring:
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**2 The Lord of Life is risen for ay:
bring flowers of song to strew his way;
let all the earth rejoice and say
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**3 Praise we in songs of victory
that Love, that Life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**4 Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing to-day with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

CYRIL ARGENTINE ALINGTON (1872–1955)

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

Risen Christ,

for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

(please sit)

Diocesan Video relating to Parish Share

HYMN 209 - Love's redeeming work is done

***1 Love's redeeming work is done,
fought the fight, the battle won.***

***Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!
Lo, he sets in blood no more!***

***2 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal!
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.***

***3 Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?***

***4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
following out exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise,
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.***

***5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection thou!***

CHARLES WESLEY (1707-1788)

Please remain standing for the **GOSPEL READING**

John 20: 19 - end Read by Grace

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.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'

Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'

Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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 Sarah

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, 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 805 - There is a Redeemer

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

**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***

KEITH GREEN (1953 – 1982) and MELODY GREEN (b.1946)

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 Now the green blade rises (Bullard)

Hymn 429 - Bread is blessed and broken

***1 Bread is blessed and broken,
wine is blessed and poured:
take this and remember
Christ the Lord.***

***2 Share the food of heaven
earth cannot afford.
Here is grace in essence —
Christ the Lord.***

***3 Know yourself forgiven,
find yourself restored,
meet a friend for ever —
Christ the Lord.***

***4 God has kept his promise
sealed by sign and word:
here, for those who want him —
Christ the Lord.***

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 652 - Guide me, O thou great redeemer

***1 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.***

***2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my Strength and Shield,
be thou still my Strength and Shield.***

***3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.***

WILLIAM WILLIAMS (1717-1791)
Translated by PETER WILLIAMS (1727-1796)

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

