

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

LOWESTOFT



Holy Communion

First Sunday
of the Month



Sunday 6th September 2026

Week 7: Blessed Are the Peacemakers Matthew 5: 9

Mass Setting: St. Thomas (D. Thorne)



WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

(Please remain seated)

Presiding & preaching Simon
Supported by the young people

Theme:

Peacemakers reflect the family likeness of God by pursuing reconciliation, justice and wholeness.

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 635 *For the healing of the nations*

***1 For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.***

***2 Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.***

***3 All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.***

***4 You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.***

Fred Kaan (1929–2009)

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To be led by CJ
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

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please sit

Introduction to the Romans reading

The New Testament Reading: Romans 12: 14-21 Read by Kiara

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

CJ

HYMN 725 *Make me a channel of your peace*

1 Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred

let me bring your love.

Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord

And where there's doubt,

true faith in you.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek

So much to be consoled as to console

To be understood as to understand

To be loved as to love with all my soul.

2 Make me a channel of your peace

Where there's despair in life,

let me bring hope

Where there is darkness, only light

And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek

So much to be consoled as to console

To be understood as to understand

To be loved as to love with all my soul

3 Make me a channel of your peace

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned

In giving of ourselves that we receive

And in dying

that we're born to eternal life.

SEBASTIAN TEMPLE (1928-1997)

from a prayer attributed to St FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Please remain standing for the Gospel Reading read by Jade

Matthew 5:1-12

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 Simon

Sermon focus:

Peace is not avoidance of conflict but active participation in God's reconciling work.

We stand to affirm our Faith Led by Roo

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 Roo

These responses may be used

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 42 *Longing for light*

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

1 *Longing for light, we wait in darkness.*

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

***Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.***

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

2 *Longing for peace, our world is troubled.*

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

3 *Longing for food, many are hungry.*

Longing for water, many still thirst.

***Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.***

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

4 *Longing for shelter, many are homeless.*

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

***Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.***

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

***5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.***

BERNADETTE FARRELL (b. 1957)

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 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.

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

Austin 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. 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 – Lamb of God (Webbe)

HYMN 764 *Peace, perfect peace*

***1 Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.***

***2 Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?
To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.***

***3 Peace, perfect peace, death shadowing us and ours?
Jesus has vanquished death and all its powers.***

***4 Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?
Jesus we know, and he is on the throne.***

***5 It is enough: earth's struggles soon shall cease,
and Jesus call us to heaven's perfect peace.***

EDWARD HENRY BICKERSTETH (1825-1906)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in 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 566 *Put peace into each other's hands*

***1 Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle-flame,
with tenderness enfold it.***

***2 Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.***

***3 Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:
our life is meant for caring.***

***4 Give thanks for strong — yet tender — hands,
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out
the heights of love expressing.***

***5 Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands:
the Peace that sought and found you.***

Fred Kaan (1929–2009)

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.

