



**Welcome to St Margaret's Church Ifield**  
*Loved as you are*



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Everyone is welcome at St Margaret's.*

**THE GATHERING**

*As we gather before the service, we speak to God.  
During the service, we let God speak to us.  
After the service, we speak to each other.*

*We stand and sing at the entrance of the clergy*

**Proclamation Hymn**

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.**

**Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.**

**Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
love with every passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy:  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.**

*JAMES EDMESTON (1791–1867)*

*Tune MANNHEIM*

*Melody from Friedrich Filitz Choralbuch, 1847 harmonised by LOWELL MASON (1792-1872)*

## **THE GREETING**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be  
with you.  
**and also with you.**

## **WORDS OF WELCOME**

### **THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from  
whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the  
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily  
magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

*The priest introduces the prayer ending with*  
Let us confess our sins.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not  
loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our**

**neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

*The priest offers absolution at the end please respond  
Amen.*

### **THE KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy.**  
Christ, have mercy, **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy.**

### **THE COLLECT**

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words, 'Let us pray.'  
The Collect is said, and all respond, Amen.*

### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Please sit for the readings*

#### **First Reading**

*Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Second Reading**

*Romans 5:12-19*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand*

***The Gospel Reading***

*Matthew 4:1-11*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please remain standing until the preacher has introduced the Sermon*

**THE SERMON**

*We stand*

**THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us declare our faith in God

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
From there he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Prayers for the Church, the world, and for all human need. After each petition the following response is used:*

Lord of Lent,  
**renew us by your Spirit**

*and at the end of the prayers:*

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

*We stand to share the peace.*

#### **The Peace**

*The priest introduces the Peace*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*Please remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.*

## **The Presentation of the Gifts**

**During the Offertory hymn the bread and wine and the collection are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared.**

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here;  
come bow before him now  
with reverence and fear:  
in him no sin is found —  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned:  
how awesome is the sight —  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place:  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him,  
in faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.**

*DAVID EVANS (b. 1957)*

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Music: BE STILL DAVID EVANS (b. 1957)*

*At the end of the Blessing of the Gifts please respond*

**Blessed be God forever**

*We sit or stand*

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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.**

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and at the end we say,*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest**

*The priest continues with the prayer which recalls the Last Supper, after the elevation the priest says, 'Great is the mystery of Faith'*

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again**

*The prayer continues and concludes with the doxology where we respond,*  
**Amen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 for ever. Amen.**

### *The Breaking of the Bread*

*The Priest breaks the consecrated 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.**

**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.**

## ***The Giving of Communion***

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The priest invites everyone to come to Communion or for a blessing*

*Please sit and wait to be directed for Communion.*

**During the distribution of Communion**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The Priest prays the post-communion prayer followed by*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him, we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **NOTICES**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*Please stand*

*The priest gives the blessing*  
**Amen.**

We go into the world to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love,  
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Hymn

**Christ is the world's true light,  
its captain of salvation,  
the daystar clear and bright  
of every land and nation;  
new life, new hope awakes,  
where peoples own his sway:  
freedom her bondage breaks,  
and night is turned to day.**

**In Christ all races meet,  
their ancient feuds forgetting,  
the whole round world complete,  
from sunrise to its setting:  
when Christ is throned as Lord,  
lands shall forsake their fear,  
to ploughshare beat the sword,  
to pruning-hook the spear.**

**One Lord, in one great name  
unite us all who own thee;  
cast out our pride and shame  
that hinder to enthrone thee;  
the world has waited long,  
has travailed long in pain;  
to heal its ancient wrong,  
come, Prince of Peace, and reign!**

*GEORGE WALLACE BRIGGS (1875–1959)*

*Words: From Songs of Praise, enlarged edition, 1931, Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.*

*Tunes NUN DANKET 67 67 66 66*

*Melody in Johann Cruger Praxis Pietatis Melica, 1647 harmony chiefly from Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Lobgesang, 1840*

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**Notices**

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**Service next Sunday:**  
*Second Sunday of Lent*

**Sunday Celebration(9.30)**  
**Parish Communion (11am)**  
**and on Facebook and the parish website [www.ifieldparish.org](http://www.ifieldparish.org)**

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