

Connect

The weekly news from St Leonard's & St Mary's
Sunday 13th June 2021



What shall we say the kingdom of God is like?

It is like a mustard seed that when planted,
it grows and becomes a large plant,
and so the birds come and perch in its shade.

Mark 4 v 30-32

A Guide to worship in the Church

We are operating within Tier 2 Regulations



Step 1 Please book in advance by the Friday before the Sunday

Service that you wish to attend. Phone 663 7000
or email: office.stlandm@gmail.com to book in.

Step 2 Remember to come If you find yourself unable to attend please do try and let us know to allow someone else to attend if possible.

Step 3 On the Sunday bring your mask and keep your distance

A 2 metre social distancing is encourage inside and outside the building. If there is a queue please be patient and wait to be welcomed in.



Step 4 Mask On - Hands Sanitised - be shown to a seat

We will welcome you and register your attendance.

You will be asked to sanitise your hands and then be guided to a seat. Please do feel free to say hello to those near by but keep your distance.



Step 5 The Connect News should be on your seat.

The Liturgy for the service can be found at the back of the Newsletter Please take the Connect News home with you. Be still and pray for God to bless you and those who gather with us for worship.



Step 6 Please do join in with the worship and responses. Sadly, singing is not to be encouraged but music and hymns will be played.

Step 7 Communion - Mask, Sanitise, Receive, - Mask, Sanitise, Return

At this time only communion bread will be served. When invited to come forward to receive please do so respectfully of others. When you come forward remove your mask, then sanitise your hands before receiving and consuming the bread. Then replace your masks and sanitise your hands before returning to your seat.

It is ok to pass by each other briefly as you move to receive communion. (If you are infirm or unable to come forward the Priest will come to you. Please ask to sit in an accessible place.)



Step 8 Leaving the Church

You will be directed to leave from the seating closest to the door leaving first. Please sanitise your hands as you leave.

As regulations ease we hope to return to offering Tea and Coffee after the service but currently we ask for you to fellowship briefly outside, if the weather allows, while remaining socially distant.



A Rector's Muse



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

I pray the Jones' will forgive me for this using this humourous clip that speaks to me about some of the things we may miss from hosting online worship.

We have all hankered after a return to some normality. Nevertheless, I do wonder if it is right for us just to return

to the way things have always been? As I look over the congregations I pray and wonder how we will raise up or welcome new people in to take on the duties and responsibilities of our churches. At St Leonard's John our Secretary and Tom our Treasurer are stepping down after many years of faithful service. Likewise at St Mary's, Kathleen was persuaded to take on Secretary duties for a year and that year is coming to a close. These Key posts will need to be filled for the Vestry to function as the Charitable Trustees of each church. I know many of us resist change but we also need to be honest about where we are today with two faithful but small congregations. We could keep on doing the same things but will that bring about the change and growth that we long for as a church? I believe it was Einstein who said: *"Insanity is doing the same thing, over and over again, but expecting different results."* Are we guilty of just doing the same thing over and over again hoping change will come?

So where do we begin? Our Gospel reminds us of the farmer sowing his seed. We are to start by sowing the seed of the Gospel. These Gospel seeds can take root and like the mustard seed although small to begin with by faith and prayer can be nurtured to grow. A farmer who wants to reap needs to sow and nurture the crop. Likewise we as individuals and collectively as a church need to sow seeds, small seeds, acts of love and kindness. We need to act with purpose, praying and having the faith in God to believe that as we represent Jesus our good deeds of love and service will make a difference. Fellowship and pastoral care are one element of church life that many of us are comfortable and happy to engage with, however, we should not neglect the fact that the church is called to reach out and make new disciples by sharing the seed of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

What small thing will you do?

With love and prayers
Peter



Philip and Esther from the Storehouse write:

Thank you all once again for your on-going support, generosity and kindness that has been shown to the work of the Storehouse. It is so appreciated.

We continue to distribute food parcels every week to a variety of families in their time of need and it is always lovely to let them know that these gifts come from the Churches of the local area.

Your donations are always welcome and needed so if you would like to donate an item, here are some of the things that we are hoping to include in the

summer parcels ...

Cans of macaroni cheese, chicken soup

Cans of ravioli, Multi pack crisps

Chocolate biscuits e.g club, Kitkat, twix bars etc

Pot noodles and other instant pot meals.

The Full Gospel church is open from 10am to 10:30am on a Wednesday to receive donations. Philip & Esther

Please note Peter & Fiona are happy to collect donations from you or for them to be dropped off at the Rectory 11 Peacock Parkway



Litter Picking Prayers

Thank you to everyone who came along and participated in our Prayer in the Park and Litter pick event last Saturday. As well as cleaning up some of the High St and side streets of Dalkeith these events in a small way help raise the profile of the church putting love into action in our community.



NEXT EVENT ECO—Film Night Wednesday 7th July

Look out for more information about our next EcoFilm Night when we look at the moral and ethical issues around climate justice and what part we can take in next weeks Connect News.



Izzy's News

Hello everyone,

Well Grace is going "Old School" she has managed to leave school and walk into a new job with a Modern Day Apprenticeship in Childcare and she is still only sweet sixteen. Well Done Grace!

Today not many young people can walk out of school and into a new job. At one careers fair that Mum and Dad attended it was reported that young people on average over their working life could experience work in six or seven different workplaces. Job security is not permanent.

Papa and Gran over in Kilmarnock tell their own stories of "the good old days" that it was fairly common for their peers to stop school on the Friday and start a new job on the Monday. Many of them would also be in that job for life? Oh how different the job market is today! Papa Harris was in the Navy and then after leaving his beloved aircraft carrier he worked at Massey (Harris) Fergusons in Kilmarnock until its closure. Sadly, by the 1980's the UK Job market had completely changed. Papa and my Dad struggled to find employment. Dad left school in 1985 and lived through Thatcherism and the Miners strikes. Work life was really tough trying to find and keep a job in the late 1980's. As Grace begins her new career path it would be lovely to hear your stories of your career or employment ups and downs.

Anyway I am not a working Cocker so work doesn't worry me, however, it does mean with Grace's new job that I get to visit the Rosewell Park and have a run around before we go and pick up Grace. We didn't know there was such a nice little park in Rosewell. I wonder what other gems I have missed and not had the opportunity to sniff around and leave my own scent mark to say that Izzy was here. Do let me know?

With licks and barks from Izzy



News update on David & Shelley Stokes



Dear friends,

We write this news on a chilly day in Salisbury from our terraced house in Bishopdown. We made it back to the UK safely! What follows is a brief report on what happened in our last few months in Argentina, We look forward to updating you more when we join with you for worship on Sunday 27th June by Zoom.

Final days in Juarez

In the months before Christmas, travel restrictions were relaxed in Formosa province, which allowed us to make brief trips to the Potrillo zone and then to the Santa Teresa zone. We were able to meet with some church leaders, including Bishop Crisanto and his family, and introduce the revised baptism and confirmation courses. On the way back a “despedida” (farewell) was laid on for us in Lote 8 – even though we thought further trips would be possible. But then just before the New Year, there was an outbreak of COVID cases in the province, including in Juarez. A strict quarantine was imposed which made further travelling impossible and limited farewells to a few people in Juarez itself. David had his final contact with Bishop Mateo sitting on the ground by the police checkpoint on the edge of the town. Month in Salta We left Juarez in mid-February and were based in Salta for our final weeks before departure. In Salta province, there were more COVID cases but fewer restrictions! It was possible to have a week-long trip to say some goodbyes in various Wichí communities in Salta province. We visited Mision Chaquena where we had lived as a family in the 1990s, then Mision La Paz where the training courses had been held in recent years, and finally Alto la Sierra. It meant so much to us that this trip happened. Then the final weeks in Salta we gradually worked through practical matters – transferring our truck to a colleague, sending boxes to England ahead of us, getting the necessary travel permissions – as well as saying farewells to people from the churches. Thank you for your prayers for that final stage as it was very complicated practically and hard to say goodbyes in the unusual circumstances.

Return to the UK

It was a relief to get on the plane in Salta on 16 March. The three flights proceeded without hitches, and all the documentation was in order for us to enter the UK and be carefully escorted to our quarantine hotel. After all the

stresses and strains of the final weeks in Argentina, we quite enjoyed quarantine in the Copthorne Hotel near Gatwick! Though we had internet and could have worked, we took that time as a much-needed break, a buffer between leaving and arriving like the long sea voyage used to provide.

When we were released, our daughter Sarah came to meet us, and somehow we managed to fit our four big cases, assorted other bags and violin into her little Kia Picanto for the drive to Salisbury. Our agent had left our house keys in the back garden, and we were able to move straight into our house. All our furniture and household things were in the garage. After over six years, everything was very dirty but in surprisingly good condition. Sarah has come two other days to help with the ongoing process of moving things in from the garage. Yesterday our son Jonathan and his wife AJ came for the day from London. We can't begin to say how wonderful it is to see the three of them again! The past two weeks have been full of sorting out all the things necessary for living here. We don't have a car yet, but we have a fridge and a printer and are working our way through the address and phone number changes. Shelley was not able to book a COVID vaccination because we were no longer registered with a GP, but by a fluke David was able to book a vaccination. We both went, and though neither of us could be registered through the online system, they gave us paper forms and vaccinated us both. Thank you, Lord, and thank you, NHS!

We are now settling in to life back in the UK and currently catching up with the various churches that supported us while we were in Argentina. We look forward to seeing you later this month when we join your service by Zoom.

Prayer points

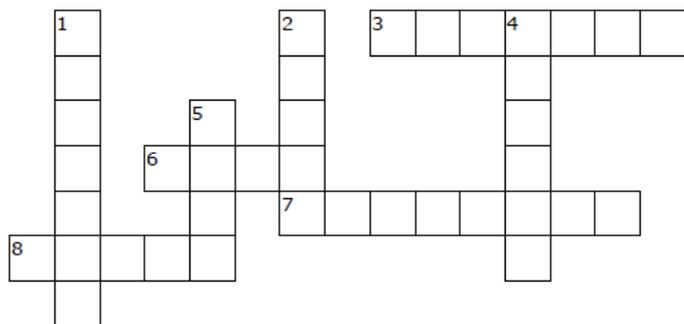
- We give thanks for the way the Lord opened up the various stages for our departure from Argentina.
- Pray for bishops Mateo and Crisanto as they deal with all the challenges the churches are facing in these days, and for the group tasked with finding the right way forward for ongoing training.
- Pray for +Nick and Catherine as they watch over the Diocese.
- Pray for us as we adapt to life in the UK and give thanks and report back to all of our link churches, friends and supporters.

*With our love and thanks,
David and Shelley*

Bible Puzzles

T Z Z P S M K T D V T T J C S
 D W R T S X D G A R D E N L B
 D F D D L H X E S R O G J Y E
 S R R O D M A P E G N L V W D
 M I P J B N Z D I U N E S T S
 B S U S R P W C E J C F Y U M
 N M P L A N T S Z T W O S W U
 K A K H N D O D V S P E P A S
 I L L I C G O U G U J Z L L T
 N L O H H R W F R V Z W A A A
 G E Y P E O A D G Y L I N R R
 D S U A S U K C R Y H N T G D
 O T E Z N N Y O P X R C E E O
 M B O E W D T L H I E P D S T
 N F Z O D S K P V C W J O T D

BIRDS	SHADE	NEST	MUSTARD	BRANCHES
JESUS	GARDEN	PLANTED	LARGEST	PLANTS
STORY	GROUND	SEED	SMALLEST	KINGDOM



ACROSS

3. Bigger than any of the others
6. A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
7. Not as big as any of the others
8. A living thing that grows in the ground, usually with leaves or flowers

DOWN

1. A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
2. An animal that has wings and is covered with feathers
4. An area where plants are grown
5. The place where birds lay eggs or give birth to their young

WORSHIP

Sunday 13th June 2021

Pentecost 4 Trinity 3 Proper 11 or just Sunday at St Mary's 9.30am

Join with us online for our worship this

There are a selection of ways to join in on ZOOM using ID: 656 157 5203

PHONE in dialling (0131) 460 1196

Catch up or Watch Live on by joining our Facebook Group

Look for "St Mary's and St Leonard's Church Family"

Situations Vacant -Readers, Intercessors, Worship Leaders

As we continue with our return to in-person worship we are on the lookout for volunteers to consider helping us in delivering our weekly worship

**Reading the Scriptures, Leading Prayers of Intercession,
Worship Leaders and also Tech People for Sound and Video.**

Please speak to Anne MacKay, or Peter and Fiona

Previous participants welcome and training available for new and old alike.

Our Birthday Blessings this week go to



Tom Mooney, Judy Jessiman,
Jacqui Shannon and Lilly King

Thelma Lewis

The service of Celebration for the Life of Thelma Lewis will take place at Mortonhall Crematorium on Thursday 24th June at 1pm. Thelma peacefully passed away to be with her Lord on Sunday 6th June and so we pray for all who grieve her passing, we especially pray for her daughters Helen and Charlotte and their families at this time.

Please speak to Peter if you would like to attend the service as there are a number of limited places.

Welcome *Val*

Grace and peace to you from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ

Amen

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to praise your holy name, O Most High,
It is good to proclaim your mercy in the morning
and your faithfulness at the end of the day.
It is good to worship the Lord.
Let us bless the Lord together.

Hymn **STAND UP, AND BLESS THE LORD,**
Ye people of His choice;
Stand up, and bless the Lord your God
With heart, and soul, and voice.

Though high above all praise,
Above all blessing high,
Who would not fear His holy name,
And laud and magnify?

O for the living flame
From God's own altar brought,
To touch our lips, our minds inspire,
And wing to heaven our thought!

God is our strength and song,
And His salvation ours;
Then be His love in Christ proclaimed
With all our ransomed powers.

Stand up, and bless the Lord,
The Lord your God adore;
Stand up, and bless His glorious name
Henceforth forever more.

Prayer of Confession *Val/Peter*

As we gather and bless the Lord who redeems us,
let us confess our sins with penitence and faith.

**Father we acknowledge
that we have not loved as you would have us love.
We turn to you again and ask for your mercy,
forgive us and renew us through Jesus Christ our Lord**

God who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raises us to new life in Christ our Lord . **Amen**

The Gospel *Robin*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Mark 4.26-34
Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is like this: A man scatters seed on the ground, and while he sleeps and rises, night and day, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. The ground produces fruit on its own: first the blade, then the head, then the full grain in the head. When the crop is ready, he swings the sickle without delay, because the harvest has come."

Then he said, "To what should we compare the kingdom of God? Or with what parable may we picture it? It is like a mustard seed, which when sown on the ground is one of the smallest of all the seeds planted in the ground. Yet when it is planted, it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches so that the birds of the sky can nest under its shade."

With many similar parables he continued to speak the word to them, as much as they were able to hear. 34 He did not speak to them without a parable. But when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

Give thanks to the Lord for His glorious Gospel
Praise to Christ our Lord

Reflection *Peter*

Prayers *Anne*

The Peace We meet in Christ name
Let us share his peace.

Song: **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 springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' 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 springeth green.

Eucharistic Prayer *Peter*

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

At supper with his friends we remember that
Jesus took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke the bread and gave it to them,
saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father we do this in remembrance of him
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper taking the cup of wine
he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father we do this in remembrance of him
his blood is shed for all.**

So by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit
we worship together as one body and offer up our sacrifice of praise
as we lift our voices to join the eternal song of heaven:

**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.

Come Holy Spirit, come upon us and upon this bread and wine
that overshadowed by your life-giving power they may be the Body
and Blood of our Lord and that we may be kindled by the fire of your
love and renewed for service in your Kingdom.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord taught us to pray;

**Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is 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 evermore. 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.**

Distribution of Communion

When directed please come forward to receive communion.

Remember to remove your mask and sanitise your hands before receiving.

After you have consumed the bread please replace your mask
and sanitise your hands before returning to your seat. Thank You.

(Mask, Sanitise, Receive, Mask, Sanitise, Return)

Prayer after Communion

**Holy and blessed God, guide us with your Holy Spirit,
that we may honour you not only with our lips but also in our lives.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

The Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord:
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Hymn **GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT,**

As year succeeds to year;
God is working His purpose out,
And the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.

From utmost East to utmost West,
Where'er man's foot hath trod,
By the mouth of many messengers
Goes forth the voice of God;
Give ear to Me, ye continents,
Ye isles, give ear to Me,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

What can we do to work God's work
To prosper and increase
The brotherhood of all mankind
The reign of the prince of peace?
What can we do to hasten the time,
When the earth may be filled
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

March we forth in the strength of God
With the banner of Christ unfurled,
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth
May shine throughout the world:
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin,
To set their captives free,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth,
Unless God blesses the deed;
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
Till God gives life to the seed;
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

The Dismissal

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



St Leonard's & St Mary's

Next Sunday Worship at St Leonard's 11.15am

As we prepare for worship to resumes within the church buildings we encourage those wishing to attend next Sunday's Worship to advise us of their intention to do so.

Please phone / email the Church Office preferably by Friday.

This will help us prepare the church for your arrival.

Thank You.



St Mary's

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

Weekly Online Worship will be available on Sundays
and on a Wednesday Mornings at 10am

Find us on  @StLandM

Church Office & Rectory

11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH193RQ



0131 663 7000 or email  office.stlandm@gmail.com

Both Churches are registered with the Scottish Charity Register as

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

Do let us know if any need arises at this time
and we will try and help.