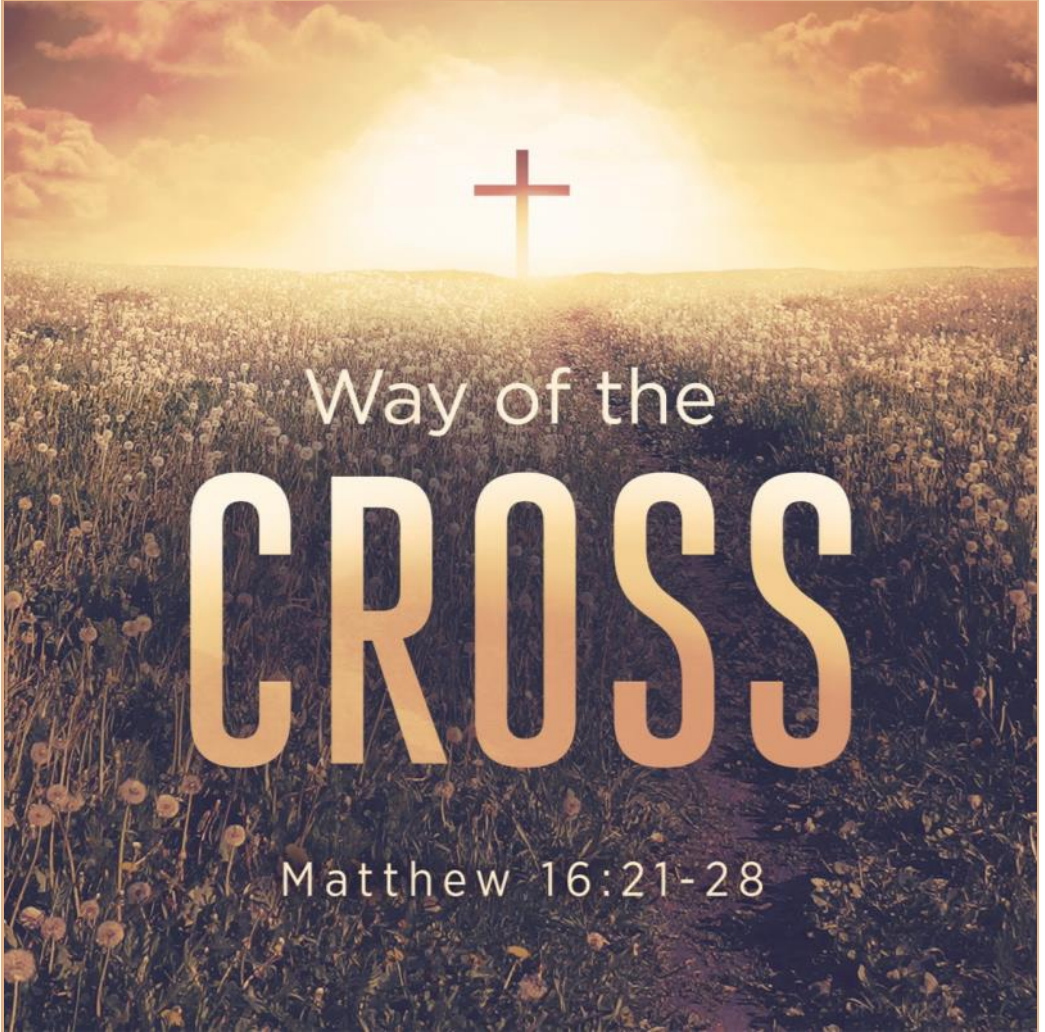


ST LEONARD'S & ST MARY'S
CONNECT



Way of the
CROSS

Matthew 16:21-28

The weekly news keeping us connected as a church community

Sun 30th August 2020



There is no Gospel without the Cross

This week as we gather for our Sunday worship we will be reading from Matthew 16 verses 21-28. This passage follows on from last weeks reading where Jesus asked the disciples "Who do you say I am" to which Peter replied You are the Messiah the son of the living God. The challenge then set for us by Jacqui was "who do we say Jesus is?"

This week the account of Jesus life moves on from there and we read at verse 21

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Jesus already knew that his mission and purpose was not just to come close to humanity and experience what it meant to be human but that he came to die. His dying would be at the very core of his life and ministry. His death and resurrection would have eternal and cosmic ramifications that would reverberate throughout time, past, present and future. He would endure pain and suffering, he would humble himself and offer himself to the agony of cross out of a great amazing love for us and

all creation. All so that we and ultimately all creation could be made new, ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven.

This indeed is the amazing grace, the forgiveness and life we sing about. Even today it is freely offered and given to us and to all who call on the name of Jesus for forgiveness and salvation. He died on our behalf, even before we were born, God loved us and died for us in Christ Jesus. This indeed is good news, gospel news.

So how should we then respond. In part that is up to each individual between you and the Lord. However, if we are serious about becoming followers of Jesus then the way of the cross also should become our way of life.

As Jesus surrenders all for us, becoming human and dying for us, are we willing to surrender all to Jesus? Not just Sundays or once in a while when it suits us but to commit to live for Jesus everyday. Jesus calls us to take up our cross and follow him. Not the old cross of death and punishment but the cross of a loving and sacrificial life. The way of the cross calls us to be sacrificial with our love, it will cost us in our time, our commitments and our finances. Jesus is asking us to lay down our old lives and to find new life by living for our Lord today. To love not just those who love us but our enemies, or that annoying Rector. To love the body of Jesus, the Church, by helping to resource it with your support both in prayer, in attendance, in being involved in the life of the church and supporting it financially.

We are called to be like Jesus, to make sacrifices in our lives, setting aside time for prayer, as well as study so we can know God more. That's what it means to be a disciple. It takes dedication and love but ultimately it is worth it, when Jesus says well done my faithful servant.

How will you "Take Up Your Cross" and follow?

with love from Peter



Eco Congregation News

Litter Picking Event

Sunshine, fellowship and outreach brings smiles to our hearts.



As the family of St Leonard's and St Mary's gathered for the litter picking event we had enough supporters to be able to spread out and go litter picking around the nearby streets, over by the River Esk grassy bank and down at Sainsbury's Local and along by the Letts factory area.

We were delighted with the response and can't thank everyone enough for

the hard work done by all. Around a dozen bags were collected and Vicki who organised the whole event took them to the dump the following day. Thank you Vicki. On the day a number of people asked us who we were and why we were doing what we were doing. We were able to tell them that we were members of the local church and felt called to love our neighbours by caring for the environment in which we love.

It was suggested that maybe we needed our own High Viz Vest with the Church Logo on them to highlight who we were. It was good to be a witness in the town of the church at work caring for our town.



Understandably we all need to hand in apologies when commitments or dates clash; we cannot do everything every time a meeting or gathering is called. However, all of us can do our own small thing where we are.

I received the following message from Jan Brooks that encouraged me and also made me smile when I read it. She simply wrote 'Rubbish and gloves disposed of in litter bin. I collected a whole bag in a small area on the sports fields to the side of Lasswade High School'. Our thanks go to Jan for doing her own litter pick in the morning as she couldn't join us at the event; it's great to be part of an Eco Minded Congregation.

The Cloud Forest Film night

The Zoom event was well attended with attendees from our church congregation and others out with. We were also delighted to welcome Betty for the first time to aid in our discussion. Thanks to Pauline's advertising the event we had a lady called Alex from the Bristol area join us! Alex had seen the event advertised through Greenpeace.

The film was slowly paced but filled with beautiful images and showed the life of a small community

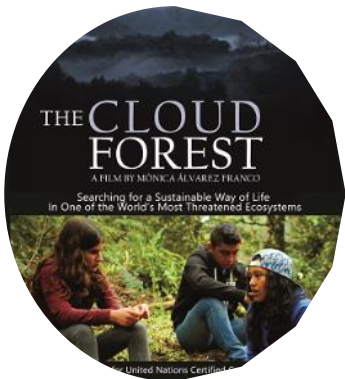
in Veracruz Mexico trying to redesign their own culture searching for a simpler sustainable life through co-operative working and education. With a call that although we are small, small acts of goodness make a difference.

Having watched three films now on the Eco Crisis, we all agreed that genuinely and actively involving the younger generation is vital. So how do we do that, through the schools; supporting Grace and the Girls' Brigade; Messy church; or the possibility of the Intergenerational group in the community garden? Do we have the courage and go for it? I think we need God's help, Can we pray for this please, for God to lead us in connecting with our teenagers and the wider community on these issues.

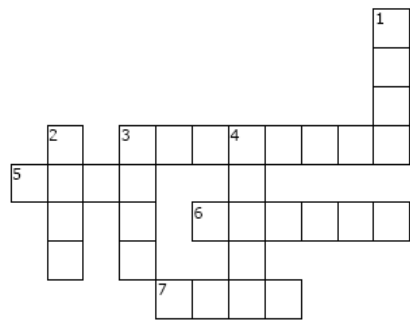
The Eco Gardening Group

Kathleen and I will be going along to the Community garden at St Mary's on Thursday 3rd September between 10am and 12noon. We intend to do some further weeding of the path in preparation for the bark to go down. If you are free and would like to join us then please bring your own tools and refreshments and we can see how much we can get done.

Margaret



Bible Puzzle Time



ACROSS

3. One who believes in Christ and follows his teachings
5. The period between birth and death
6. To accept the leadership of someone
7. To no longer have something because it has been taken away from you or misplaced

DOWN

1. To keep something from harm or loss
2. To discover something unexpectedly or as a result of a search
3. To refuse to allow yourself to have something you want
4. The object upon which Jesus was crucified

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

GIVE	EXCHANGE	GOOD	WHOLE
FIND	SAVE	CROSS	GAIN
SELF	SOUL	FOLLOW	LOSE
DENY	WORLD	FORFEIT	LIFE

Our Puzzles are based on the Weekly Gospel Reading

Congratulations!

Birthday's

Kathleen Donald 6th September

Do let us know if there are any birthdays or other celebrations coming up that we can share in the Connect.

Online Coffee at Mary's

10:30 am Saturday Mornings

bring your own coffee, cake and chat



So If you would like to be part of this Online Zoom Coffee Morning and our fun social activities please email Andrew Watt

andrew@andrewwatt.org.uk

for details of how to join the Zoom Meeting.

Andrew hosts this event on behalf of our churches

THE BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL



Please return your Lent Boxes to Tom or Anne. we can also arrange a pick up if needed.

Donations can also be given to Tom or Anne for the ongoing work of the Church. Your donations are gratefully appreciated.

Project Embabazi

Supporting Communities in
Uganda

Contact Tom Mooney 663 0889
or Anne Mckay 663 5008
or speak to Peter at the Church Office

Izzy's News



*Dear Friends,
I hope you are all keeping well and that all these COVID phases and guidelines have not left you to perplexed and frustrated!*

Our Grace started back at school and to begin with they didn't need to wear a mask and now they do! So in support of Grace I am wearing my mask as she has done well returning to school amidst all the usual anxieties of teenage life never mind living through a pandemic. Wearing a mask is just one small thing we can all do to help each other be a little safer.

Sometimes the worlds problems seem to much to bear and so we are left feeling deflated and believing that we can't make a difference. I know I can't do much but I can cuddle up to Dad as he prays, and join in with our Zoom worship to hopefully bring you a smile. You see God doesn't call us to be God and to handle all the cosmic stuff he calls us to be the people he created us to be. People who would love and care for one another and the garden in which we have been placed. Each of us needs to look after our own little patch, and do small acts of kindness, then when we can come together to do slightly bigger small acts of kindness until nationally if not globally we can come together in love and kindness for one another and for God. So start with something small and manageable.

Our litter pick event and Film night picked up on this theme of small things making a difference. More than twelve individuals were involved, going off in pairs doing their own areas, and together we collected 12 bags of rubbish. It was a marvellous event to be part of and my thanks to those involved. So what about you what small thing could you do today or this week as an act of kindness and love?

with licks and barks Izzy



Your Local Weekly Worship Online

Sunday @ 10am with Eucharist Celebration

Wednesday @ 10am Informal Worship

Find our Facebook group at

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

or Zoom into worship by joining the meeting using

ZOOM Meeting ID: 656 157 5203 at 10am

If you have been unable to join with us online for our worship I pray that you will be able to use this liturgy to guide your own worship during this week.



The Provincial Website also offers a weekly service that goes live from 11am each Sunday. You can download the weekly Liturgy :

www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship

In Memoria

We continue to hold all who have recently suffered bereavement and those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

James Goldie's funeral will take place this week on Wednesday 2nd September at 2pm in Mortonhall Crematorium. Our prayers are with his family and friends especially Pamela & Ian Nicolson with Julie and Katie.

The Welcome Jacqui

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hymn

TO GOD BE THE GLORY! great things He hath done!

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father
through Jesus the Son;
And give Him the glory,
great things He hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!

Confession Jacqui / Elizabeth

God is love and we are his children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because he loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.**

We are truly sorry.

**Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us, 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 raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Collect

**Almighty and merciful God,
as we surrender to your love,
reign in our hearts
that we may love and serve you
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end.**

A Reading from Matthew 16: 21-28 Jennie

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew
Glory to Christ our Saviour

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'

Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

'Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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

Reflection *Peter*

Song **ALL TO JESUS I SURRENDER,**

All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Saviour,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Make me, Saviour, wholly Thine;
Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power,
Let Thy blessing fall on me.

Intercessions for Today *Anne*

The Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Eucharistic Prayer *Elizabeth*

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 him thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, in every place and at all times.

All power is yours. You created the heavens

and established the earth; you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours

are brought together in a wonderful exchange.

He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you.

Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth

in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose

we offer you our praise with angels and archangels

and the whole company of heaven,

singing the hymn of your unending glory:

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.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh.

He is the Word existing beyond time,

both source and final purpose,

bringing to wholeness all that is made.

Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross.

By your power you raised him from the dead.

He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free

to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death,
knowing that his hour had come,
having loved his own, he loved them to the end.

At supper with his disciples he took bread
and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end.

Amen.

Breaking the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As Christ has 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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Distribution of Communion

You may say this prayer as the Priest takes bread and wine on our behalf:

*God of mercy, we thank you for Jesus our Saviour,
Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine this day,
we thank you that we do receive your Holy Spirits presence,
the forgiveness of sins, and life eternal. Amen*

Prayer after Communion

**Living God, increase in us the healing power of your love.
Guide and direct us that we may please you in all things,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of Nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Dismissal *Jacqui*

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

**St Mary's
Dalkeith**



**St Leonard's
Lasswade**

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

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office.stlandm@gmail.com

Do call or email if you need help