

St Leonard's & St Mary's

Connect

And

Be Kind

to one another,

tender hearted,

forgiving each other,

just as

GOD

also in

Christ

forgave you

EPHESIANS 4:32

*The weekly news keeping us connected as a church community
Sun 13th September 2020*

A Rectors Muse



The journey towards re-opening our Church Buildings has been a long and winding one. Now with recent increases in COVID outbreaks it may even be further jeopardised!!!



However, after consultation with the Vestries and our Clergy, we have agreed to work towards a return to some form of worship within the church buildings starting in October.

Before we do open an application to our Bishop will have to be lodged, outlining the procedures we have and will be undertaking along with a copy of the risk assessments that have already been undertaken. All being well he will then grant permission for the doors to be open.

Initially to begin with we will only meet in one church building on a "week-about" basis with St Leonard's on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the Month and St Mary's on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. Each Sunday will begin at 10am.

Alongside the in-church services we are planning to continue with our on-line services too. We hope to set up the Zoom meeting and Facebook broadcast from within the church service. So the aim is that we will all be together in one worship service whether we attend in person or join in via the internet. So you will have a choice as to how you can access your weekly Sunday worship. You could continue to join us on Zoom, or watch on Facebook or attend the church building the choice is yours. When needed you can catch up on Youtube too!

When we do return to using the church building things will be different. Like other venues we hope you will understand that a number of restrictions and guidelines will need to be adhered to until we enter Phase 4.

Social Distancing, wearing a mask, sanitising our hands on entry and exit and reduced contact with other people will all be required. Within our worship service this will mean no hand shaking or physical greeting on arrival or during the sharing of the peace. We will be spaced out across the church and discouraged from singing and socialising within the building. Other restrictions will also be in place for receiving communion, as well as how we enter and exit the building.



It already feels awkward and awful to have to consider that we may even have to turn some people away from attending church. Each church will only be allowed to have a limited number in attendance. So we will need to introduce a booking system for each Sunday as well as keep a register of who was in attendance. It is also still advised that those in a higher risk category should still seek to minimise their contact with others. Nevertheless, it will be up to each individual whether they feel it is right for them to come to the church building or not. For those with Zoom etc the safe choice maybe to stay safe, stay at home and join in on Zoom.

Our Site Management Teams at each church will now be tasked to get the buildings ready in preparation for reopening. However, your prayers and support are requested at this time, praying that we do not over stretch ourselves, or rush in foolishly but carefully and cautiously take this step forward in faith.

yours with love and prayer Peter



Eco Congregation News

Protecting Creation

Hi everyone, tonight (Thursday 10th Sept) we held an Eco Zoom Meeting it was really uplifting and energising. Afterwards, I was eager to share 'items on the agenda with you' however as I began to write I decided that there is no need to hurry, as nature and autumn are here for us all to cherish. Sometimes it's just beautiful as an Eco congregation to reflect on God's creation. Enjoy the autumn colours as they emerge before us.



BIRDS IN THE TEMPLE

How lovely is your dwelling place, LORD Almighty!
My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.
Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young
a place near your altar,
LORD Almighty, my King and my God.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house;
they are ever praising you.

Psalm 84:1-4 (New International Version)

In Psalm 48, the Psalmist expresses his longing for God's presence. It's like a hunger or thirst, a physical yearning for the peace of the temple and the refreshment of being with God.

As he thinks about the temple, he observes the wildlife that have found a place there. Sparrows visit the temple, perhaps picking up the scraps from the market or leftovers from the grain offerings. Swallows are nesting in the temple, raising their young on the high walls and in the eaves. How blessed it would be, he muses, to live like those birds, always in the presence of God. Their whole lives would be praise.



Today we have the Holy Spirit. The presence of God is no longer uniquely found in the temple, but we may still experience a hunger for connection with God, or for the fellowship of God's people. And still today we have a variety of creatures that live in and around the church. Each of them live out their animal lives to the glory of their creator, and they are worshippers at our church buildings at St Mary's and St Leonards in their own ways. Let's look out for them, just as the Psalmist watched the birds in the temple.

Looking for a simple action:

A simple way to care for the creatures around us is to put up bird boxes or bat boxes. Build an insect hotel or make places for hedgehogs to call home, so that more of God's creatures can find shelter.

STOREHOUSE — DONATIONS

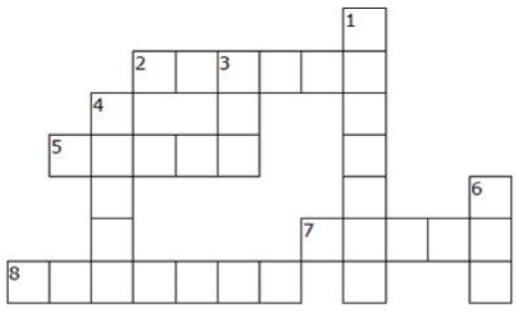
Donations of tinned and dried foods can be dropped off
from 10 to 10.30 am on Wednesdays
at the Full Gospel Church

Alternatively if you cannot make the Wednesday drop off and have any donations of food please contact the church office and we will arrange to pick these up for you. THANK YOU

Bible Puzzles Time

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

PETER	ANSWERED	MANY	JESUS
SINS	FORGIVE	HOW	LORD
ASKED	TIMES	BROTHER	SEVEN



ACROSS

2. A statement given in reply to a question
5. The number that is equal to six plus one
7. The Son of God
8. To pardon someone for doing something wrong

DOWN

1. A male with the same parents as someone else
3. To break God's law
4. A fisherman who became one of Jesus' disciples
6. To seek an answer to a question

Congratulations!

Birthdays

Richard Clark 70th Birthday on Sunday 13th September

Anniversaries

Steve & Val Cameron 22nd Wedding Anniversary September 12th

Jeanette & Jim Connor 61st Wedding Anniversary September 26th

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

£ End of the year! £

As a Charity the Church's financial year runs from October to September.

Our Treasures during this unusual year have done a great deal of work in the background paying the on-going bills and expenses and keeping an eye on the day to day finances. As a thank you to them it would be wonderful if when they do our end of year calculations that they discover that we are in the black and not the red. Please consider making a donation to the work of the church or to review your monthly giving. This will help us cover the costs of this year as sadly we have been unable to hold our usual fundraising events and concerts. Thank You for all your support and if you would like to help please speak to the Treasurers or contact the Church Office.



Izzy's News

Dear Friends,

Our Autumn has arrived and my Dad has turned into a Monkey as I found him swinging from a tree the other day. Above is a picture of him at the top of our apple tree. He says he was just up there picking apples for us to give away to anyone who wants them.

However, it is my belief that he was in fact once again looking at some alternative way of trying to bring his sermons to life. I once heard him speak about a guy called Zac! Now Zac was a wee guy of not much stature but boy could he climb trees. Now sadly Zac chose to work for the Tax man and this made him unpopular as he abused his position and forced people to pay even more tax than owed.

Anyway this guy Zac wanted to see Jesus. He had heard so much about him and maybe he wanted to charge him Tax on storytelling or distributing loaves and fishes. However, because of the crowd he couldn't even see Jesus so he ran ahead and climb a tree. That way he would be out of sight of the people but still have a good view. To Zac's surprise Jesus saw him up the tree and called him down and told him that he was coming to tea. Zac was so touched by Jesus love and forgiveness that he changed his ways.

We have all done the wrong thing before and maybe even treated others badly but I hope like Zac you come to know that Jesus sees you, and loves you, and calls you to be forgiven and in return to also forgive.

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

The Welcome Peter

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hymn **AMAZING GRACE! how sweet the sound**

That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there a thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

Confession Peter / Bill

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 God, you call your Church
to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you.
Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may turn to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.**

A Reading from Matthew 18: 21—35

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

The parable of the unmerciful servant

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.'

'At this the servant fell on his knees before him. "Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything." The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.'

'But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. "Pay back what you owe me!" he demanded.

'His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, "Be patient with me, and I will pay it back." 'But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

'Then the master called the servant in. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

'This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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

Reflection Bill

Song **GOD FORGAVE MY SIN in Jesus' name,**
I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.

*He said: 'Freely, freely, you have received,
Freely, freely give;
Go in My name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live.'*

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to.

Intercessions for Today *Jennie*

The Peace

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

Eucharistic Prayer *Bill*

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

**God of peace, by your mercy and forgiveness we have been
reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have come
to know your love always have the courage to forgive.**

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen

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

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US,

How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss –
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Dismissal *Peter*

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

**St Mary's
Dalkeith**

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk



**St Leonard's
Lasswade**

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

Find us on  **@StLandM**

Church Office & Rectory 11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH193RQ



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

Do call or email if you need help