

St Leonard's & St Mary's

Connect

*Your weekly newsletter keeping us connected
as a church family and community*

Sunday October 11th





A Rector's Muse

Recently as a family we had the privilege of being invited to the Wedding of Kirstie and Neil Harris. Neil is my nephew he is a fairly quiet and laidback sort of guy while Kirstie is a bubbly artistic girl and both of them are dog mad. Especially for Roscoe and Matilda their Collies. As a couple they love visiting Arran and so that was where they were tying the knot.

With all that was going on with COVID it was all touch and go as to whether the event would take place or not, but I am glad to report that after a mad dash for an earlier Ferry than was planned we all made it to the Island and had a wonderful Wedding and a relaxed few days on Arran.

I feel for the many couples this year who have seen their Wedding plans cancelled or put on hold. At one point you couldn't get married and then it was only the Bride and Groom with those signing as witness that were to attend. Currently its only 20 guest and often with no bridal chorus of "hear comes the bride" or Pachelbel's Canon. No singing "One more step along the world I go" or "Give me Joy in my heart". But at least some weddings can go ahead even though the Wedding Feast maybe curtailed. Do pray for all who have newly

Our Gospel reading this week from Matthew chapter 22 is another of Jesus Stories, a parable about a great wedding. Imagine planning a great big royal wedding. All the preparations are in place, the banquet is ordered and so the invitations go out. But one by one those invited reject the Lord's invitation. The King had invited his chosen people, set them aside and blessed them provided for them and entrusted himself to them. Those that were invited, were the chosen ones and now they spurn the invitation from their Lord and King and refuse to go.

So the King, although angered by what these people have done does a marvellous thing that becomes a blessing for everyone. Rather than having a few chosen ones he opens up the wedding and calls his servants to let everyone know that they are invited to come and celebrate at the wedding feast of his Son.

You too, even today are invited to this marvellous event, invited to be part of the greatest feast ever. Invited to sit at the banqueting table of the Lord. What an honour and a privilege! How will you respond? Will you endeavour to get there and how will you prepare yourselves so that you are dressed and ready to attend in the greatest wedding in the kingdom? All of us after all will need to wear the right clothes!

What does this mean that we have to be properly clothed? One interpretation signposts us to Colossians 3 v12-14 and there we read;

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Are we clothed in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. These are the garments or virtues that God longs to see in us and through us. All of us are called to come and draw close to God. All of us are invited to the banquet and to sit at the table of the Lord. However, when we accept God's invitation to be part of his party he is not just looking for you to turn up on the last day. God is looking for you to change out of your old way of life and put on the new clothes of compassion, kindness etc and so on.

So let us all rejoice that we are all invited, the Lord God invites us to come and to be part of celebration of the marriage of his great son, who out of love for his bride laid down his own life to win her heart and redeem her back to be united with him for ever. What a party that will be!

with love from Peter, looking forward to the feast

Izzy's News



Dear Friends,

I made a lot of new friends this week at the Little Hawthorn Nursery. Dad was invited along to talk a little about Harvest. So I tagged along to see what all the fuss was about.

It was wonderful. I got invited in to their garden and all the children were outside enjoying the fresh air. They were ever so gentle and I was able to show them that most dogs are friendly. Although it is always good to be careful and to speak to their owner first before patting a dog you don't know. So that was my job done.

Dad talked a little about giving thanks for where all our food comes from and for all the people who are involved in making food. I am always thankful in the evening when my bowl gets filled with food although sometimes I do get a bit fed up with kibble for every meal. Thankfully Mum and Dad usually add a little variety every now and then. Occasionally I am even thankful for the little nibbles I can scrounge in-between meals. I have this little song I sing and Dad goes aww! Izzy's singing and gives me a treat. Don't tell him that I know how to pull his heart strings.

After the little talk the Nursery gave us a bag of food to pass on to Philip at the Storehouse. This will then go out to help families in need in our area. I think some one needs to remind Dad that we haven't had a Harvest Service this year. I know there's this COVID thing going on but it would still be good for all of us to gather a bag of food and to donate it to the Storehouse as an act of thanksgiving for all that we have and all those who work to provide us with food. I think I will try and get Mum to remind Dad to do something before the end of October? You could too.

with licks and barks Izzy

Eco News Report

Hi everyone,

Lots of planning and thought has been going on behind the scenes and hopefully soon we will proudly producing and launching our own range of Church fashion beginning with a Hi Vis vests for our litter picking events or other occasions when needed.

This may also lead to other items like T-shirts etc for use at future Messy Church Services when these hopefully resume in the new year. As they are designed to be used and used again they are our own version of reusable fashion.

Last week, we encouraged each other to use the terminology 'Fast Fashion' for goods that we buy and may only use once or twice then throw away. Whilst reading an article this week, I discovered that 'Slow Fashion!' is the term that is used at the other end of the spectrum.

Slow Fashion is an awareness and approach to fashion, which considers the processes and resources required to make clothing, particularly focusing on sustainability. It involves buying better-quality garments that will last for longer and values fair treatment of people, animals and the planet.

Perhaps many of you have heard this term and I am behind the times? Or is it now that my brain is becoming programmed into all things Eco! I have been reading more, watching TV programmes, films, documentaries, listening to others points of view. Even in the midst of Coronavirus we all need to keep an eye on how we can be more sustainable and Eco-friendly.

Sometimes though it just feels like we are being bombarded with so much! Is it time for some reflection and silence? Or is it just me yet again needing to ground myself? We have begun an exciting journey as a congregation, full of energy and enthusiasm but if we don't stop and pause and let our souls catch up we might lose sight of our creator's vision for us here at St Leonards and St Mary's.

It is therefore good for all of us to take time and be still and seek the Lord.



Seeking Silence

Assaglioli wrote, "Talking tends to disperse the energies needed and accumulated for action."

Ghandi famously spent every Monday in silence. He said:

"In the attitude of silence the soul finds the path in a clearer light, and what is elusive and deceptive resolves itself into crystal clearness. Our life is a long and arduous quest after Truth."

The Psalmist says in Psalm 46 that we are to be still and know God, and in Psalm 37 we are encouraged to be still and wait patiently for the Lord. Jesus himself in the business of life took time to be still.

Take time to be still and sit in silence for a time. Maybe begin by reading some encouraging verses of scripture or a psalm and ask God by the Holy Spirit to guide you into his presence as you sit and be still. It can be difficult sometimes to achieve so stick with it especially if you have never done this before. It may feel unnatural especially if your mind is active but real inner silence can occur only after we first use our strong and skilful will to focus our attention on some chosen subject like the verses we have read or on a thought about God welcoming us into his presence. Once our thoughts are centred on an appropriate phrase or image that induces a state of calm, we can quietly, in our own time, let this image go and remain peaceful and still.

Of course, our thoughts might still be flowing through us, but we can continue by letting them run over us like a river runs over a rock which never clings to the water or tries to follow it downstream. This inner state is also a kind of silence in which God may speak to us we might surprisingly hear the whisper of insight or intuition needed at that very moment.

Prayer is encouraged to be the root of everyone's daily practice in our church family; let's use the silence to focus our attention on God as a loving, hopeful resource and see where the Spirit leads. Please do pray for our gatherings and activities as a church family. Pray as we gather for church Zoom worship in the weeks ahead. Pray to for God to bless and give wisdom to our Vestries and leaders as they discuss our activities and plans for the future months. Pray too for us to remain committed to God and to caring for the world that he has entrusted to us.

yours endeavouring to be active and still
Margaret

Congratulations!

Birthdays

Mary McPhail 18th October

Online Coffee at Mary's

10:30 am Saturday Mornings

bring your own coffee, cake and chat.

For details of how to join the Zoom

Coffee Morning please contact Andrew Watt

andrew@andrewwatt.org.uk



Scottish History Group



We are starting a ZOOM HISTORY GROUP to explore Scottish History, comprising a short talk followed by an informal discussion.

We plan to meet monthly on the

2nd Monday of the month at 2.30pm.

Our first meeting will be held on the

Monday 12th October 2020.

As a trial we are limiting it to 9 people so if you are interested please contact

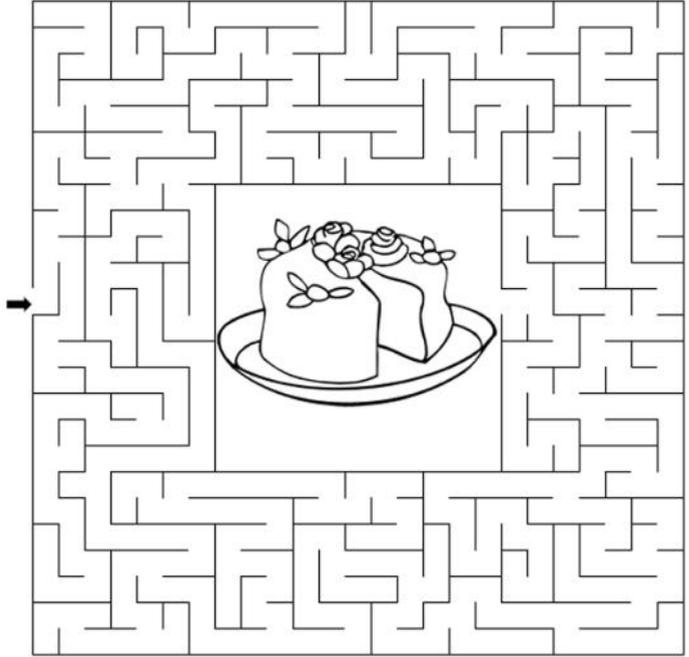
MITCH THOMSON on 01875 320067

or by email on mitchonline16@gmail.com

For the first session be prepared to bring three Scottish Words and be open to share briefly about their meaning! This will form a fun ice-breaker to kick us off as we discuss the idea of such a group. We are then planning that each month a group member would be encouraged to share and present a piece of Scottish History that they have an interest in. We are aiming for a 40 minute meeting with about half based on the presentation and the other half on discussion to begin with. We hope this will be both an informative and fun activity for those on the group. So get in contact with Mitch by phone or email and book your place. Slangevar

Bible Puzzle Time

You have been invited to the wedding feast but can you find your way to the wedding cake?



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

PARABLES	STREET	INVITED	BANQUET
GUESTS	HEAVEN	KINGDOM	CORNERS
SERVANTS	CATTLE	COME	OXEN
FILLED	REFUSED	WEDDING	DINNER



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 Following pages include the liturgy for Sunday 11th October
This service will be on ZOOM, Facebook Live and later on Youtube.



You are invited to the banqueting table

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 **I COME WITH JOY**, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

The spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known: alive and among us here.

Together met, together bound, by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world, the love that makes us one.

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.
So 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, in our baptism you adopted us for your own.
Quicken, we pray, your Spirit within us,
that we, being renewed both in body and mind,
may worship you in sincerity and truth;
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 22:1-14 Vicki Clark

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

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. 'Then he sent some more servants and said, "Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet."

'But they paid no attention and went off – one to his field, another to his business. The rest seized his servants, ill-treated them and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

'Then he said to his servants, "The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find." So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. He asked, "How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?" The man was speechless. 'Then the king told the attendants, "Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." 'For many are invited, but few are chosen.'

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

Reflection **Bill**

Song **YOU ARE THE VINE,**
We are the branches,
Keep us abiding in You.
You are the Vine,
We are the branches,
Keep us abiding in You.
Then we'll grow in Your love,
Then we'll go in Your name,
That the world will surely know
That You have power to heal and to save.

Intercessions for Today *Val Cameron*

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

**O Lord, since without you we cannot please you:
let the work of your mercy in all things guide our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our 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

YOU ARE THE KING OF GLORY,

You are the Prince of Peace;
You are the Lord of heaven and earth,
You're the Sun of righteousness.
Angels bow down before You,
Worship and adore, for
You have the words of eternal life,
You are Jesus Christ the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David!
Hosanna to the King of kings!
Glory in the highest heaven,
For Jesus the Messiah reigns.

Dismissal *Peter*

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

Lyfe Group - a Small Group Study on Zoom

Tuesday 20th October at 8pm

We might not be able to meet in each others houses at this time but through the wonder of Zoom we invite you to take part in a new on-line Home group by being part of our first Lyfe Group. Lyfe is a simple yet profound way of engaging with each other and exploring the scriptures together. Each week there is a different focus based around a short video introduction, reading of a passage of scripture, a discussion and an opportunity to experience or put into practice what you have been learning. Sign up by getting in touch with Vickie Clark or Fiona Harris

SHOE BOX APPEAL 2020

It's time to get ready for this years Shoebox Appeal bringing a smile to many people for whom a small gift can make all the difference.

If you would like to take part in this years Shoebox Appeal please

contact Martin Johnson 01875 320458

email t.m.johnson@btinternet.com



**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