

CONNECT

The weekly news from St Leonard's & St Mary's

Sunday 9th May 2021



Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return,
and come with singing unto Zion;
and everlasting joy shall be upon their head:
they shall obtain gladness and joy;
and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

Isaiah 51 v 11

A Guide to worship in the Church

during this strange time of COVID



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 Joyful Return

**Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return,
and come with singing unto Zion;
and everlasting joy shall be upon their head:
they shall obtain gladness and joy;
and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.**

Isaiah 51 v 11

Isaiah 51 is a wonderful passage of hope and joy as the people of God redeemed, set free are able to return with joy to worship the Lord who has saved and delivered them from sin and death. Last Sunday at St Mary's for me had similar echoes. It was a joyful time as we returned to worship in the house of the Lord. Although we aren't yet allowed to sing we did return with joy and delight as we meet together. There was a lovely chatter of life and friendships as old friends came together although socially distant. For so long we had mourned not meeting together, trapped in lockdown, but now as more freedoms come our way that sorrow and mourning is fleeing away.

The joy continues this week as we prepare to open the doors of St Leonard's and welcome you to join with us for our second week of worship back in the Lord's house. If you would like to come we invite you to let us know your intention of being present by booking-in in advance of the Sunday Service. We would love to see you there as we continue our celebration of the Easter Season with joy and thanksgiving for all that God has done for us.

It is through the wonderful events of Easter that God has indeed redeemed us, set us free, giving us a new hope and purpose, called and chosen to be not servants of God but more than that, Children of God, friends of Jesus. We should let this truth, that we are loved, redeemed and called back to know God through the presence of the Holy Spirit, to bubble up within us, allow it to bring the blessing of Joy and gladness. We can return for the way is open and God calls us to come. To come with rejoicing and hopefully one day soon our singing too.

With love from Peter



Christian Aid Week 10 - 16 May 21

Are You ready to contribute and make a change.

The Double Threat of Climate Chaos and Covid

The twin threats of Covid-19 and the climate crisis will be the focus of this year's Christian Aid Week (10-16 May). The charity is asking supporters to stand in solidarity with those at the very brunt of these global crises, specifically with all those forced to walk long distances to collect water for their families. For us hand washing in our homes, a key line of defence against coronavirus, is not an option for the world's three billion people who do not have access to soap and water at home.

But while coronavirus has sharpened this issue of a reliable source of water, the impacts of climate change remain the biggest challenge for the communities Christian Aid works with. Unpredictable water sources, triggered by erratic weather, are pushing families into extreme poverty as crops fail, livestock die, and incomes are destroyed. In Kenya Christian Aid is helping people in rural communities where drought has become more frequent and intense, resulting in food shortages for millions of people as crops struggle to grow.



In 2020, drought was followed by relentless rainfall and flooding causing further crop damage. With no access to reliable water sources or a way to capture rainfall, many families are pushed to the edge of survival.

People like Rose – a 67-year-old widowed grandmother who, in times of drought, spends hours walking 8km each way to collect water – have little time to do other activities like growing food to eat or sell.

Christian Aid partner organisations are empowering communities to access and build water dams or rock catchments near their homes, so women and children are spared the long and often hazardous walk to collect water and families have an accessible water supply for their crops, livestock and other hygiene needs.

Christian Aid Chief Executive, Amanda Khozi Mukwashi has urged the British public to support efforts to help some of the world's poorest communities protect themselves from the threats of Covid-19 and the climate crisis. Amanda said: "People living in poverty are on the frontlines of the climate crisis. They are losing food, water, homes and family. Every day, they walk further, dig deeper and build stronger to survive. They battle the worst of a climate crisis they did not create. *This is unjust*. Now they face a double threat, as coronavirus threatens lives and livelihoods like never before.



Let us stand together with those on the frontlines to battle coronavirus and fight for climate justice. With God's vision of a more just world in our mind's eye and hope in our hearts, let us raise our voices as one to create lasting change, before it is too late."

This year also sees the UK host the G7 summit where leaders of some of the world's richest nations meet to discuss global issues and COP26, the next annual UN climate change conference is planned to take place in Glasgow in November. Both provide opportunities to increase the pressure on government leaders for change.

"Christian Aid and other agencies are calling for an increase in financial support to the world's poorest countries and for their debts to be cancelled so they can better confront the climate crisis. We need a green recovery that leaves no-one behind – either in the UK or in the world's poorest countries – and a stop to the expansion of fossil fuel energy."

Christian Aid Week, the charity's biggest annual fundraiser, unites over 20,000 churches every year to support global neighbours in need. This year, continued restrictions on gatherings have forced supporters to become more creative with their fundraising. But every donation, every envelope, every fundraiser will help some of the world's poorest communities.

£5 could buy a shovel to build a dam,
£10 could buy a pair of taps at a water point
£42 could buy 350kg of cement to build an earth dam.

To donate and find out more about Christian Aid's work please visit

www.christianaid.org.uk



Jzzy's News

Hello everyone,

I am really sorry that I didn't get along to see you for our first Sunday back in church. I heard it was a really good service and although Mum had some technical problems and Dad was all muffled, but it was a joy to be there.

"Everyone is a genius.

But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid."

-Albert Einstein

However, I think you should all write a letter of complaint on my behalf to the church office and to any newly elected officials in parliament, as we need people to stand up for me, Cuthbert and others who have been or are oppressed at this time.

Dad said it was my own fault as I did not book in on time! This is a social injustice, as I am being judged on my inability to use the dog and bone.

Surely Dad should know that you shouldn't judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree. If you do that the fish will spend its life believing its stupid.

Anyway to allow more of you to attend our Sunday Services I am taking the noble stand of lying down on Sunday morning and letting you go in my place. I will try and find a cosy spot in the sun or just snuggle up in my bed. You will of course be in my barks and prayers as I wait at home joyfully wagging my tail waiting on Mum and Dad's return. Please do remember to pick up the dog and bone and book in though as this will keep Mum happy too.

With love and licks from Izzy



Plastic Fantastic?

This is the Eco Congregation Scotland theme for May.



Be part of our eco conversation.

This week we are talking about shampoo bars. Do we need the conditioner ones too or is the shampoo bar so effective only one is enough? By using a bar instead of shampoo in a plastic bottle, you will save 3 plastic bottles and 2.7 litres of water.

A Conditioner bar saves 5 plastic bottles and 5.1 litres of water. The conditioner bar lasts up to 5 months.

As a church, let's rise to the challenge of reducing our plastic in the bathroom. Keep the conversation going by taking part and recommending to others your favourites and where to buy them.

Prayer written by Len Gregory, Trustee of Eco-Congregation Scotland.

It's our mess, God:

A world full of toxic waste,
a world of plastic that consumes our everyday living,
like a drug that has possessed us.

Creating God,
help us to take better care of this wonderful planet we call home.
Teach us how to respect and be mindful of the gifts that you give,
gifts that sustain our lives and the lives of others.

Enable us to understand the need to protect
our fragile eco-systems that maintain the rhythm of life.
Empower us to become less reliant on plastic.

Let us pray for generations yet to come.

Let us begin to reverse the effects of climate change for their sake.
Let us model our approach to recycling on your grace
which regards no gift as trivial and no person as redundant.

Recycle our faith with new vigour and purpose.

Recycle our hope with conviction that things can change.

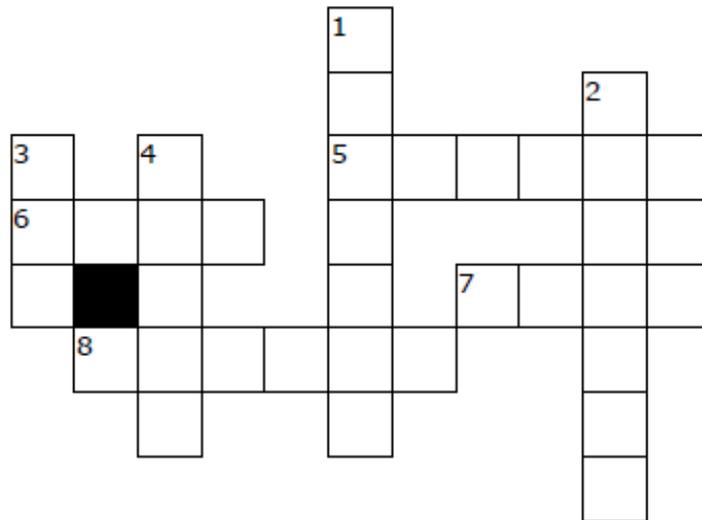
Recycle our love so that there is justice for all living things.

Amen

Bible Puzzles

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

COMMAND	MASTER	LIFE	DOWN	SERVANT
JOY	REMAIN	GREATER	LAY	FRIENDS
LOVE	OBEY	CHOSE	FRUIT	FATHER



ACROSS

- One who has authority over another person
- To do what you are told; follow the rules
- To hold dear, to like or desire greatly
- A person that you like very much

DOWN

- An order which a person is expected to obey
- Someone that performs duties for a master
- A state of happiness or delight
- To gain knowledge, skill, or understanding

WORSHIP

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 9th May 2021

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"

I pray that you will be able to use the following liturgy to guide you through the service or use for your own meditation at another time

Our Birthday Blessings this week

go to **Betty Tinley**

& Congratulations to

Martin and Pat Johnson

on their wedding anniversary



Online Coffee at Mary's
10:30 am Saturday Mornings

*This event is kindly hosted by Andrew Watt
To obtain your weekly Coffee invite please speak to Andrew
or email andrew@andrewwatt.org.uk*

Welcome & Easter Acclamation

Peter

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

Peter / Mike

As we remember the great things that God has done for us in Christ, we
come with penitence and with faith to confess our sins;

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

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command to love and to bear fruit to the glory of God the Father. Amen

The Gospel **John 15 verses 12 - 17** Alison

When the Gospel is announced we say
Glory to Christ our Saviour

“My command is this” said Jesus: “love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

This is my command: love one another.”

give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Reflection Peter

Intercessions Sandiann

The Peace Peter

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

Eucharistic Prayer Mike

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, Author of all being.

Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, 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.

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all,
for by the Cross eternal life is ours
and death is swallowed up in victory.

In the first light of Easter, glory broke from the tomb
and changed the women's sorrow into joy.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread,
speaking peace to the fearful disciples,
and welcoming weary fishers on the shore,

he renewed the promise of his presence, and of new birth in the Spirit

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
at supper with his disciples 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 bless our bread and wine, that we may 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

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 once more.

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

Prayer after Communion

Lord you have chosen and appointed us to bear the fruit of your love. May we be strengthened by the fire of your love to do your will, in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

**Hymn Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in, O His love for me
Oh His love for me**

**Who the Son sets free, Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am**

**Free at last, He has ransomed me, His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me**

***Who the Son sets free Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
In my Father's house there's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am***

I am chosen! Not forsaken!
I am who You say I am.
You are for me. Not against me.
I am who You say I am

Dismissal Peter

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

Please remember to book in for next weeks Sunday Service
Worship will be at
St Mary's at 9.30am on the 16th May

23rd May St Leonard's 11.15am
30th May St Mary's 9.30am
6th June St Leonard's 11.15am

All being well Zoom Worship will also take place at those times.

Pray for India

I will say of the Lord, 'You are my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'

God of power and might we lift our brothers and sisters in India to you.

We pray for your protection,

We pray for your provision,

We pray for the nations of earth to have compassion,

When people are in need, you are our refuge.

When people are scared, you are our refuge.

When people are mourning, you are our refuge.

Compassionate God, draw close to those who seek your refuge today.

Amen.

St Leonard's & St Mary's



Next Sunday Worship at St Mary's at 9.30am

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.