

Connect

Harvest Sunday 3rd October 2021

Weekly News from St Leonard's and St Mary's

**Let the fields and their crops
burst out with joy!
Let the trees of the forest
sing for joy!**

Psalm 96 v12 NLT



Rector's Tweetings

Hello everybody,

As we celebrate the bounty of the Harvest and give thanks for all the good things around us I am reminded that Harvest time is both a time of looking back as well as looking forward. We can look out over the fields being cut and remember the barren days when they lay empty, then the ploughing and sowing, followed by the days of growth that lead us up to the harvest. As the seasons change once more the land in some cases rest or another crop may be sown utilising the soil in a new way.

In the church we too can look back at the past endeavours and events in the church life and give thanks. Even though in many ways it was a tough and unusual year we still are called to be grateful. However, as we begin to prepare for our Annual General Meetings in the coming months we also need to take stock of what we have or have not done and consider the future. The Farmers will be looking at their fields and live stock and wondering what next. Some may just continue with the same old routine while others are learning that they need to take the risk and be bold and try and diversify or even do farming in a whole new way. Often while watching Landward or Countryfile we hear of the struggles of our farmers yet also of some of their ingenuity and plans for the future. Farming still but farming in new ways.

What about us as a Church? Do we just do church following the same routine and ways of old or is it time to diversify our approach? Has the time come to be bold and strong and step out in faith and do church in a new way? During lockdown it was difficult sometimes to see the wood for the trees as we wondered about the future. Now however, we begin a time of discernment as we seek to move forward into the new norm, the new season and with faithful prayer new growth for the harvest to come.

Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

And also with you

Lord, You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness,
and the hills be girded with joy.**

May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep;
**and the valleys stand so thick with corn
that they shall shout with joy and sing.**

Ps 65 adapted

Hymn COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME,

Raise the song of harvest home!

All is safely gathered in

ere the winter storms begin;

God, our Maker, doth provide

For our wants to be supplied;

Come to God's own temple, come,

Raise the song of harvest-home.

All the world is God's own field,

fruit unto His praise to yield;

Wheat and tares together sown,

unto joy or sorrow grown;

First the blade, and then the ear,

then the full corn shall appear:

Grant, O harvest Lord, that we

wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come

and shall take His harvest home,

From His field shall purge away

All that doth offend that day

Give His angels charge at last

in the fire the tares to cast,

But the fruitful ears to store

in His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,
bring Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin;
There, forever purified,
in Thy garner to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home.

Confession

God of the Harvest when we are unkind to people,
and forget they to are your beloved children;
forgive us and help us.

When we are careless with the creatures of land and sea and sky
and forget that they are the gifts of your creation;
forgive us and help us.

When we ill treat the land, and pollute the skies
and forget that they display the splendour of our God
forgive us and help us.

**Forgive us, O God of love, and reconcile us to yourself,
to one another and to your creation's care.**

**Teach us, that the earth and all its fullness is yours,
the world and those who dwell in it;**

**And by your Spirit's power call us once more to love and
to safeguard the gift of life, now and forever. Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive *us our* sins, open *our* eyes to God's truth,
strengthen *us* to do God's will and give *us* the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Collect

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord
according to Matthew 13: 24-30
Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus told them another parable:

‘The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed ears, then the weeds also appeared.

‘The owner’s servants came to him and said,
“Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field?
Where then did the weeds come from?”

“An enemy did this,” he replied.

‘The servants asked him,

“Do you want us to go and pull them up?”

“No,” he answered,

“because while you are pulling up the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest.

At that time I will tell the harvesters: first collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; and then to gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.”

Give thanks to the Lord
for his glorious Gospel

Praise to Christ our Saviour

Sermon

Prayers for Today

Peace We meet in Christ name
Let us share his peace

Song **GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS, O God my Father,**
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
new mercies I see;
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Eucharistic Prayer

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 our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, O God,
Creator of all things visible and invisible,
Whom the heavens praise,
the sun and moon and all the stars,
the earth, the sea and all that is in them,
in every place and at all times.

Through your life-giving Holy Spirit
Who first moved over the waters of creation,
and brought forth life.

You now seek to renew your creation,
and call us to new birth,
in a world restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose,
with all your creatures throughout space and time
we offer you our praise,
together 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,
God our creator,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh.
Through Him you revealed yourself in the world,
and bring your saving work to its completion.
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 sets 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 the Spirit's 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.

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.**

As our Saviour 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Everyone is invited to come and receive the bread
In memory of God's great love for each one.*

Post-Communion prayer

**Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your
love in creation and have shared in the bread of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us
and make us generous with your love
and help us to be wise stewards of your creation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Blessing

May the Father,
who fed his children with bread and honey in the wilderness,
strengthen you in your pilgrimage to the Promised Land.

Amen.

May the Son,
who gave his own body for our heavenly food and drink,
keep you in eternal life and raise you up on the last day.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
help you discern the Lord's will to love in his name
and empower you to proclaim his death until he comes.

Amen.

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Song: LORD OF CREATION, TO YOU BE ALL PRAISE!

Most might your working,
most wondrous your ways!
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,
And yet in the heart
of the humble you dwell.

Lord of all power, I give you my will,
In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom;
your service is song;
And, held in your keeping,
my weakness is strong.

Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,
Rich truth that surpasses
my knowledge to find;

What eye has not seen
and what ear has not heard
Is taught by your Spirit
and shines from your word.

Lord of the bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart,
Your love to inspire me,
your counsel to guide,
Your presence to shield me,
whatever betide.

Lord of all being, I give you my all;
If e'er I disown you, I stumble and fall;
But, Lord, in your service your words to obey.
I'll walk in your freedom
to the end of the way.

Dismissal

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

Refreshments are served at the close of the service

Celebrations & Birthday's

 Birthday blessings to
 Yvonne Allen, Jan Brooks
& Wedding Anniversary Blessings on Fiona & Peter 3rd Oct.
 (did I remember to book the restaurant?)



Annual General Meeting

Monday 1st Nov St Mary's 7pm

Sunday 28th Nov St Leonard's

After church fellowship meal & Business meeting

The end of September marks the end of our Congregations financial year and the work begins to produce our Annual Accounts and Reports for this past year of 2020 -2021.

ANNUAL REPORTS NOW DUE! - News and Hopes please

We call on all group and activity organisers to submit an Annual Report that can be included in our Annual Report Document for this past year 2020-2021. We appreciate that not much may have happened but it would be good to hear your news and hopes for the coming year. Please pass these to Fiona. ASAP.

At St Mary's the AGM will take place on Monday 1st November at 7pm in the church. Refreshments will be served at the beginning before business starts for the evening.

At St Leonard's the Vestry has agreed to holding the AGM after our Sunday worship on the 28th November. The plans are to have a bring and share lunch and fellowship with business meeting immediately after the service.

Both meetings are key events in the life of the church and require your support and attendance as we receive the reports for this last year, elect new Vestry members and ponder the year ahead. Please do put the dates in your diary and hold these meetings in your thoughts and prayers.



Jzzy's News

Hello Everyone,

Do we need to be more dog?

When Dad and I are out for our walks he keeps talking to God about the churches and our way forward.

Now if it were up to me I would be telling you all to be more dog like. You see most of us dogs love to meet up with other dogs and when we are out and about we go over and introduce ourselves. Now I am not saying that you guys all start sniffing around each other as I think you might get arrested for doing that! However, I do know that when you humans are out and about and meet a fellow dog walker, conversation seem to begin effortlessly.

So for the growth of the church you all need to be more Dog. Get a dog and go for a walk, start up new conversations with people and in time you will be able to invite them to church. You could even invite them to a special pet service and blessing.

Now that reminds me I will need to speak to my good friends Jacqui and Jennie to see if we can get a dog friendly service running this year. They has some good ideas about engaging with people as they walk by the church. Maybe to have a church bench and dog bowl for people to sit at and contemplate while their dogs had a small drink. After all it would be good to make it easier for people to enter the church grounds and feel welcome there. It would be like putting a stepping stone in a stream as it may bring them closer to coming in to join with us for worship as they take a step closer.

I wonder what ideas you might have that Dad and you could try to create stepping stones to help other people to come closer to God and to come closer to joining in with our worship?

With licks and love from Izzy





With thanks to everyone who has helped create our section of the Cop26 Scarf which is pictured above. This will then be sewn together with other contributions and displayed during the Climate Conference in November.



Join in with some other Eco-activities

Pilgrimage: The Pilgrimage following the John Muir way and St Ninians way takes from **Dunbar to Glasgow Oct 17-31**. It takes in North Berwick, Aberlady, Portobello, Queensferry, Bo'ness, Falkirk, Grangemouth, and Kirkintilloch. Sign up at www.artandecology.earth/sign-up/

Please speak to Vicki Clark to find out more about our local involvement from Portobello to Queensferry **on Monday, October 25th**. The pilgrimage involves not only walking but lots of side-events so should be fun!

Film night: next meets on Wednesday November 3rd at St. Mary's. Come along and watch the film together and then discuss. All Welcome

Green Hearts: Do you have a Green Heart? We encourage you to display a green heart in a window and also to join in with making a display of hearts at the church. Make your own or cut out the green heart opposite to display

I look forward to seeing you at some of these events and to seeing your green hearts

◆ Eco Margaret



Display your love for the Environment

We are encouraging everyone to have a green heart and think about how we can encourage others to feel united in working together to show that we love and care for our planet.

So we encourage you to display a Green Heart in a window or on your house door as a sign of encouragement .

Make your own design or cut out the Heart above to join in.



Join in with
Weekly Sunday Worship



St Mary's 9.30am
stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's 11.15am
stleonardslasswade.org.uk

Find us on  @StLandM

Wednesday Morning On-line Worship
10am on Zoom & Facebook Live

Church Office & Rectory

11 Peacock Parkway
Bonnyrigg EH193RQ



0131 663 7000

or email  office.stlandm@gmail.com

Both Churches are registered Charities
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.