

# Advent

*The Season of Hope and Expectation*



# Connect

**Sunday 28th November**

*Weekly News and worship*

*from St Leonard's Lasswade and St Mary's Dalkeith*

# From the Rector



This verse from Lamentations (3: 21-24)  
is written in a time of distress and turmoil.

***"Then I remember something  
that fills me with HOPE.  
The Lord's kindness never fails! ...  
The Lord can always be trusted  
to show mercy each morning.  
Deep in my heart I say,  
"The Lord is all I need; I can depend on him!"***

Over the four weeks of Advent we embrace four Advent themes as we journey towards Bethlehem and the celebration of the birth of Christ our Saviour. These four themes are Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Advent is about waiting and preparing for that which is to come. With hope filled with the assurance of God's promises we recall the promises of old that led up to the birth of Jesus. His birth fulfilled the hope that the people and prophets of old held onto. They placed their hope in God, in the Lord God who is faithful and in his time fulfils all his promises. Christmas celebrates that God is trustworthy and true and our hope is secure in him. As we await the return of Christ again we can have the assurance that even today God remains faithful and true and therefore our hope is not misplaced. Just as Jesus was born in fulfillment to the promises of old so to the promises of his return will one day come to pass. We place our hope in these promises that one day we when Christ shall return all wars will cease, pain and sorrow will be no more and every tear will be wiped away and the Lord will make all things new. We place our trust in God and hold on to these promises and look forward with hope.

During Advent we invite you to come and visit your church garden and take time to reflect and ponder on the meaning of Christmas and on the themes of Advent. We will be putting in place four large stones one for each week of Advent which will lead us in time to the Nativity scene which will be built up over the next few weeks. Feel free to come and ponder and ask God to renew your hope and trust in his promises.

*With love from Peter*

**Welcome:            Advent 1 HOPE**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*We light the first candle of Advent  
reminding us of the sure hope we place in God*

In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.

**I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

No one who hopes in the Lord will ever be put to shame,

Guide me in your truth and teach me your ways,

**for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.**

From PS25

**HYMN:    IN CHRIST ALONE MY HOPE IS FOUND**

**He is my light, my strength, my song**

**This Cornerstone, this solid ground**

**Firm through the fiercest drought and storm**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace**

**When fears are stilled, when strivings cease**

**My Comforter, my All in All**

**Here in the love of Christ I stand**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh**

**Fullness of God in helpless babe**

**This gift of love and righteousness**

**Scorned by the ones He came to save**

**'Till on that cross as Jesus died**

**The wrath of God was satisfied**

**For every sin on Him was laid**

**Here in the death of Christ I live**

**There in the ground His body lay**

**Light of the world by darkness slain**

**Then bursting forth in glorious Day**

**Up from the grave He rose again**

**And as He stands in victory**

**Sin's curse has lost it's grip on me**

**For I am His and He is mine**

**Bought with the precious blood of Christ**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand**

### **Confession:**

We declare that God is love and we are his children.  
There is no room for fear in love and 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,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility,  
that on the last day, when he shall come again  
in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

## **A Reading from the book of Jeremiah 33 v14-16**

"The days are coming," declares the Lord,  
"when I will fulfil the good promise  
I made to the people of Israel and Judah.  
"In those days and at that time  
I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line;  
he will do what is just and right in the land.  
In those days Judah will be saved  
and Jerusalem will live in safety.  
This is the name by which it will be called:  
The Lord Our Righteous Saviour."

## **The Gospel Reading**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Luke 21 v 25-33*

### **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

Jesus said 'There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

He told them this parable: 'Look at the fig-tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 'Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Sermon**

**Prayers of intercession**

## The Peace

we meet in Christ's name;  
**Let us share his peace.**

### Eucharistic Prayer II

*Anticipation (Suitable for Advent)*

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, God our maker.

Out of nothing, you called all worlds to be,  
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.

Dawn and evening celebrate your glory  
till time shall be no more.

In Christ your Son the life of heaven and earth were joined,  
sealing the promise of a new creation, given, yet still to come.

Taught by your Spirit,  
we who bear your threefold likeness  
look for the City of Peace  
in whose light we are transfigured and the earth transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose  
who await the coming of your Son,  
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.  
In Jesus you showed us yourself.  
Our hope is built on him,  
the first, the last, the living one.  
Obedient, even to accepting death,  
he opened the gate of glory  
and calls us now to share the life of heaven.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,  
alight with the vision of a feast  
that heralded a kingdom yet to come,  
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 of the Bread**

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 it is 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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

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.**

## Distribution of Communion

*Everyone is invited to come and receive the bread of communion  
or a blessing at this time  
Come forward take your mask off, sanitise your hands and receive,  
After receiving replace mask and return to pew*

## Prayer after Communion

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious  
And his mercy endures forever.

God for whom we wait, you have fed us  
with the bread of eternal life.

Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready  
to stand before the Son of man.

We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord.

Amen

## The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you  
and scatter the darkness from before your path;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son  
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

## **HYMN      LONGING FOR LIGHT, WE WAIT IN DARKNESS.**

**Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.**

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

### The Dismissal

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



# PRAISE & WORSHIP

Sunday 28th November

6.30pm in the Pitcairn Centre

An evening of Contemporary Worship

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and opening prayer
- 2) In memoriam
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Order of business
- 5) Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 10th February 2021
- 6) Matters arising from Minutes
  - a) Hall replacement
  - b) Charitable giving
  - c) Rectory Parity
- 7) Rector's Report
- 8) Secretary's Report
- 9) Treasurer's Report
  - a) Approval of annual report and accounts 2020—2021
- 10) Lay Representative's Report
- 11) Area Council Report
- 12) Property Report
- 13) Annual Safeguarding Report
- 14) Reports from groups and committees
- 15) Statistics
- 16) Election of:
  - a) Vestry Members
  - b) Lay Representative – currently Vicki Clark
  - c) Alternate Lay Representative – currently Chris Todd
  - d) People's Warden – currently Alison Bruce
- 17) Appointment of Rector's Warden – currently Martin Johnson
- 18) Appointment of Independent Examiner – currently Jack Kirk
- 19) Any other competent business:
  - a) ~~Rectory parity~~
  - b) ~~Charitable giving~~
  - c) Review and Visioning Exercise
  - d) Timing of Services
- 20) Vote of thanks
- 21) Closing Prayer

# Gospel puzzles

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

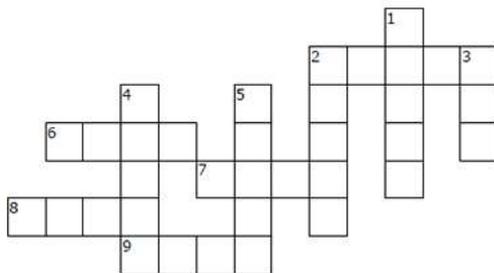
CAREFUL  
 CLOUD  
 EARTH  
 ESCAPE

GLORY  
 HEADS  
 HEAVEN  
 LIFT

MOON  
 NATIONS  
 POWER  
 PRAY

REDEMPTION  
 SEA  
 SIGNS  
 STAND

STARS  
 SUN  
 WATCH  
 WORLD



## ACROSS

- Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
- To make a request to God
- The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
- To raise from a lower to a higher position
- The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth

## DOWN

- To observe very carefully
- To rise to an upright position on your feet
- The earth's source of heat and light
- The planet on which we live
- Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky

# Jzzy's News



Hello Everyone,

What a week and Mum and Dad are struggling to keep up. AGM's, Messy Church, Sunday Church, Praise and Worship events, Christmas Fair, Grace's works night out and then the various pastoral bits that Dad squeezes in! But Come on Mum and Dad everyone else has got their Christmas Lights up so why not us?

And why can't I bark my favourite Christmas Carol yet? "Bark the Herald Angel Dog's Woof, glory to the new born King" is a brilliant and wonderful doggie carol celebrating the birth of Jesus who is in fact man's best friend.

I know I need to be patient. Its like when I go out for my night walk I want to go and do all the things that I once did in the light. Like chase my ball. Dad wont throw my ball at night in case he loses it. So I need to be patient and wait for the light to return. The lighter days will return, I know they will.

Dad says this time of being patient and waiting is called Advent and reflects our waiting on God to fulfil his promises. Just as Jesus came to fulfil the Old Testament promise of a Messiah, a new King that would be born to save us, so God has promised in Christ to come again. With hope we hold on for the light to come again as we patiently wait.

*With licks and love from Izzy*



# **Christmas Diary**

**Sunday 28th November** Advent 1 Hope

**Saturday 4th December** Christmas Fair

10-2pm at St Mary's

Variety of Stalls, Home-baking and Children's Activity

**Sunday 5th December** Advent 2 Peace

**Sunday 12th December** Advent 3 Joy

**Sunday 19th December** Advent 4 Love

**Friday 24th December** Christmas Eve

**4pm Christingle Service St Mary's**

Come along and build your own Christingle,

Have a hot chocolate or juice

Join us around the outdoor Nativity Scene for carols.

**8pm Carols at St Leonard's**

Join with us round the outdoor Nativity Scene at St Leonard's

As we sing some familiar carols

And hear again the amazing story at the heart of Christmas.

**11.30pm Midnight Christmas Mass**

Join us at St Mary's as we celebrate the birth of the King

**Saturday 25th December** Christmas Day

10.30am Joint Service at St Leonard's

**Sunday 26th Dec. 1st Sunday of Christmas**

10.30am Joint Service at St Mary's

**Sunday 2nd January** 2nd Sunday of Christmas

10.30am Joint Service at St Leonard's



# *Advent Stepping Stones*

*Helping us to reflect and prepare for Christmas*

Using the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love we invite you to participate in our new outdoor Advent Reflection. As we enter the season Advent and our outdoor Nativity scene is once more built up we are going to place four large stones around the Nativity Scene bearing the words Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Each stone will mark a Sunday in Advent and to accompany the stones we will have a leaflet to help guide us to reflect, pray and think about each of these themes as the steps we take towards celebrating Christmas and the arrival of Jesus Christ who is our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, and the one who in love gives us the gift of being Loved.



## **Christmas Store House Parcels**

Philip and the Storehouse crew are gearing up to deliver this years Christmas Parcels to those in need in our area.

If you would like to help please consider donating some of the following items which have been highlighted as those in most demand at this time.

Laundry liquid, Toilet roll, deodorant/ shower gel  
Cans of ravioli, cans of stew / can of mince  
multi pack crisps, rice puddings, tinned custard

Our Thanks to everyone who has donated goods to the work of the Storehouse over this past year many families and individuals have been touched by your love and support.

St Mary's Church Dalkeith Country Park

# Christmas Fair

Saturday 4th December  
10am-2pm



Crafts  
Homebaking  
Refreshments



Free  
Children's  
Activities



Quiz  
Live Music

This event is hosted by St Mary's Dalkeith & St Leonard's Lasswade  
For further information contact the Church Office 0131 663 7000  
FB @StLandM

[www.stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://www.stleonardslasswade.org.uk) - charity no SC014333

[www.stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://www.stmarysdalkeith.org.uk) - charity no SC003677



Join in with Weekly Sunday Worship

**St Mary's 9.30am**

**St Leonard's 11.15am**

[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)

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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677