

O come let us adore him

St Leonard's & St Mary's - Sunday 2nd January
The Second Sunday of Christmas

10am ONLINE WORSHIP

Join on Zoom using meeting ID

656 157 5203

Or watch along on Facebook Live or watch later in the day on our YouTube Channel

For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, '
plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.
When you will call on me and come and pray to me,
I will listen to you.
When you seek me with all your heart You will find me.
Jeremiah 29 v 11-13

Happy New Year to one and all.

As the Christmas tree is taken down and decorations return to their boxes we begin a new year with wonder and anticipation. It is my prayer that it will be a year of seeking, exploring and finding as we commit ourselves and the congregations of St Leonard's and St Mary's to prayer. Praying and seeking a renewed vision for the coming years and for God's plan to be revealed in and through us for his churches and the communities which we are called to love and serve in his name.

All of this requires each of us to seek the Lord with all of our heart, committing ourselves to both individual and corporate prayer. Asking that as we draw close to God we may be united in our desire to know the Lord and his plans for us and also to make him known. So we pray:

Father God, we desire as a church to take hold of the vision and plan You have for us and pray that You would lead and guide us to take a step of faith in the direction that You would have us go.

Help us we pray, to grasp the church vision that You have for us, and may we be sensitive to Your leading and guidance.

Help us not to make rash and quick decisions out of fear, but to humble ourselves and truly seek Your plans and purposes.

Draw us closer to each other and to You,
as we seek to know you and make you known.
We pray that the church vision that emerges in our hearts,
will have been prompted by the gift of Holy Spirit at work in us,
for the glory and praise of your name.
This we ask in Jesus' name

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Amen.

Opening Responses

We will light a light in the name of the Maker,

Who lit the world and breathed the breath of life into us.

We will light a light in the name of the Son,

Who saved the world and stretched out his hand in love to us.

We will light a light in the name of the Spirit, Who encompasses the world and blesses our souls with yearning.

We will light three lights for the Trinity of love: God above us, God beside us, God beneath us: The Beginning, the End, the Everlasting One.

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.

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.

Prayer of Confession

Father we acknowledge that we have not loved as you would have us love.
We turn to you again and ask for your mercy, forgive us and renew us through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

The minister declares God's forgiveness

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.

Collect:

God of power and life, the glory of all who believe in you, fill the world with your splendour and show the nations the light of your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Hymn SPEAK, O LORD, AS WE COME TO YOU

to receive the food of your holy word.

Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your church is built and the earth is filled with your glory.

Reading from Ephesians 1.3-10

Give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! For in our union with Christ he has blessed us by giving us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly world. Even before the world was made, God had already chosen us to be his through our union with Christ, so that we would be holy and without fault before him.

Because of his great love God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his children - this was his pleasure and purpose. Let us therefore praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son!

For by the blood of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in abundance!

In all his wisdom and insight God did what he had purposed, and made known to us the secret plan he had already decided to complete by means of Christ. This plan, which God will complete when the time is right, is to bring all creation together, everything in heaven and on earth, with Christ as head.

Gospel Reading from John 1: v1-5 & 9-14

When it is announced we say: Glory to Christ our Saviour.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. He came to those which were his own, but his own did not receive him.

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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

Reflection

Prayers

The Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and he shall be called the Prince of Peace. The Peace of the Lord be always with you And also with you

Hymn WHO AM I THAT THE HIGHEST KING

Would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh 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

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 praise you, faithful God!

You answer sin with grace and mercy;
you guide our wayward steps toward our heavenly home.

You offer healing for the broken, safety for the poor, belonging for the outcast, strength for the weak, and pardon for the sinner.
You reveal your kindness in every sorrow, your mercy even in death.
All your creatures see your works; and sing your eternal song

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is the one who comes
In the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord Jesus we remember your birth at Bethlehem, Your teaching and miraculous works, and your call for us to receive the Holy Spirit We recall your journey to the cross and the night on which you were betrayed While at supper with your friends You took bread and gave thanks You broke the bread and gave it to them saying "This is my body broken for you Do this in remembrance of me"

Later at that same meal you took wine and having given thanks you shared it with those around you saying "This cup is the new covenant sealed with my blood, drink 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. 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 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.

Prayer after communion

God our Father, you have made known to us again the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ: strengthen our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen

The Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God Almighty, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Be with you and remain with you now and always.

Hymn

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Over the hills and everywhere Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light

The shepherds feared and trembled When lo, above the earth, Rang out the angel's chorus That hailed he saviour's birth

And lo, when they had seen it they all bowed down and prayed; they travelled on together to where the babe was laid.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

The Dismissal

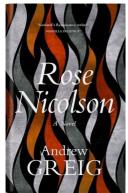
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord in the name Christ Amen



Proposed Rota for January Worship Online

	Lead	Preach	Preside	Reader	Intercessor
January 2 nd	Peter	Peter	Jacqui	Jennie	Peter
Jan 9 th Epiphany	Peter	Peter	Jacqui	Andrew Watt	Kathleen
Jan 16 th	Peter	Mike	Peter	Alison Bruce	Vicki Clark
Jan 23 rd Epiphany 3	Peter	Bill	Peter	Anne MacKay	John Fleming
Jan 30 th	Jacqui	Jacqui	Peter	Jennie	Jennie

LINK BOOK GROUP.



Our latest venture was an historical novel. Rose Nicolson by Andrew Greig.

Will Fowler was the narrator and also seemed to be the main character, despite the title. Rose ,the title of the book, drifted in and out of the story. It was a story of unrequited love set against the drama and pathos of the Scottish Reformation when religious passions ran high.

Altogether we found it a very interesting and enjoyable book.

Our next meeting Covid permitting will be on Friday 25th Feb.at 7.30pm venue tbd when we shall have read Passing by Nella Larsen.

John F.

NEXT WEEK

St Leonard's & St Mary's - Sunday 9th January A Celebration of Epiphany

10am ONLINE WORSHIP

Join on Zoom using meeting ID

656 157 5203

Or watch along on Facebook Live or watch later in the day on our YouTube Channel



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St Leonard's 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