



CREATION

and God saw that it was good...

The Season of Creation 2022

Connect

Your Weekly News from St Leonard's & St Mary's

Sunday 4th September



*The Church should be and is
a Safe Place
a Place of Welcome
a Place of Hope*

I was shocked and sickened to hear that there had been a theft at St Mary's last Sunday and that a member's personal belongings had been stolen from within the church during our time of fellowship and refreshments.

We have worked hard at being a welcoming church that offers everyone a safe place to gather and find hope. Sadly, although we should indeed keep our doors and hearts open to people coming in and warmly welcome them, we need also to be aware that not every soul that enters in is filled with good intentions.

I am appalled that I have to write this but I want to encourage each of us to be aware of our own personal belongings at all times. Along with this we need to be watchful and if we do see someone's unattended belongs to keep an eye on them and remind them that they are there.

We long for our church buildings to be used, to be indeed a welcoming safe place for all. In the coming months both our churches will be exploring how to be open more. In being open we hope to offer a place that people can come and just be and in being in these special places may encounter and draw closer to God who offers us hope for today and tomorrow. As part of that plan CCTV will be installed at St Mary's in the coming week and at St Leonard's some of the Pastoral Team are exploring the possibility of opening the church up one day a week. We might even explore whether we could offer to be a "warm place" to help those in need at this time of escalating heating costs.

So let us not be disempowered by acts of evil but instead be empowered by God to respond with acts of love in Jesus name.

Welcome

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Living Creator, the world teems with your beauty
and abounds with your artistry and grace.

We gather to worship you, Lord of all creation

Hymn

JESUS IS LORD! Creation's voice proclaims it,

For by His power each tree and flower

Was planned and made.

Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it,

Sun, moon and stars in heaven

Cry, 'Jesus is Lord!'

Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!

Praise Him with hallelujahs

For Jesus is Lord!

Jesus is Lord! Yet from His throne eternal

In flesh He came to die in pain

On Calvary's tree.

Jesus is Lord! From Him all life proceeding,

Yet gave His life a ransom

Thus setting us free.

Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror,

From death He rose, and all His foes

Shall own His name.

Jesus is Lord! God sent His Holy Spirit

To show by works of power

That Jesus is Lord.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are his children.

There is no room for fear in love.

We love because he loved us first.

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.**

Collect

**God the Creator,
in Christ you call all people
to the fullness of glory
for which you created us in your image:
heal our hardened hearts,
renew our obedience to your will,
and conform our lives to your gracious design,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Reading

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker and also to
Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier and to the
church that meets in your home:

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

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because
I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the
Lord Jesus. I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may
be effective in deepening your understanding of every good
thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me
great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have
refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

Although, in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul – an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

I am sending him, who is my very heart, back to you. I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favour you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back; not to mention that you owe me your very self. I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Hymn

GOD FORGAVE MY SIN in Jesus' name,

I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to.

He said: 'Freely, freely, you have received,
Freely, freely give;
Go in My name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live.'

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to.

Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Luke 14.25-33

Glory to Christ our Saviour

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – yes, even their own life – such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

'Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, "This person began to build and wasn't able to finish."

'Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

Intercessions *Prayer is offered for the Church,
the world and its people*

Peace The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you

We share a sign of peace

Hymn

ALL TO JESUS I SURRENDER,

All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

I surrender all,
I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Saviour,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Humbly at His feet I bow,
Worldly pleasures all forsaken;
Take me, Jesus, take me now.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Make me, Saviour, wholly Thine;
Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power,
Let Thy blessing fall on me.

Offering:

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory,
the splendour, and the majesty;**

for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own we give you. Amen

Eucharistic Prayer for Season of Creation

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, O God,
Creator of all things visible and invisible,
Source of life and immortality,
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.

**By your holy Word you brought order out of chaos.
you divided light from darkness,
created the heavens and established the earth;
you divided the sea from the dry land,
and caused all life to come into being.
When you had made the plants and the animals,
you formed us in your own image,
and entrusted us with the priesthood of your Creation.**

In Christ your holy Word became flesh,
took our human form, lived among us,
and, through dying on the cross,
overcame sin and death,
that your creation might be restored in him.

**Through your life-giving Holy Spirit
Who first moved over the waters,
you renew your creation, 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.
Christ is your holy Wisdom,
existing beyond time, present at creation's birth.
Through Christ 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 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 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for all of creation
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:
**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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Distribution of Communion

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

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

**God, the source of all that is,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence
for all that you give us and make us generous
and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy. Amen.**

Blessing

God give you grace to be faithful stewards of Creation,
rejoicing that you are made in God's image, and seeking justice
for those who do not share in the earth's bounty,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn: CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing of Him
Who died for thee,
and hail Him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed over the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those He came to save.

His glories now we sing,
Who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of love,
behold His hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.

No angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends His burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.

All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou has died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

Dismissal

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

*Do join us for a time of fellowship and refreshment
at the close of the service*



SEASON OF CREATION

What is the Season of Creation?

The call for a "Season of Creation" within the worshipping life of the church has been in response to the churches growing understanding of global environmental issues brought about by climate change.

As we look out at the world we can physically see that our world so precious to us is undergoing some extreme weather patterns. While we have horrific floods in Pakistan, while raging wildfires destroyed crops and households in other parts of the world as well as here in the UK where we experienced one of its hottest summers on record.

Our worship should not be disengaged from the concerns of the world and so our provincial Faith and Order Board and College of Bishops have approved the introduction of a Season of Creation to our liturgical calendar. It is hoped that through these new liturgies being used in worship and the preaching of our faith that God created the world, and that it is good, and we, as human beings created in God's image, have a unique responsibility for the care of the planet, its wildlife and environments.

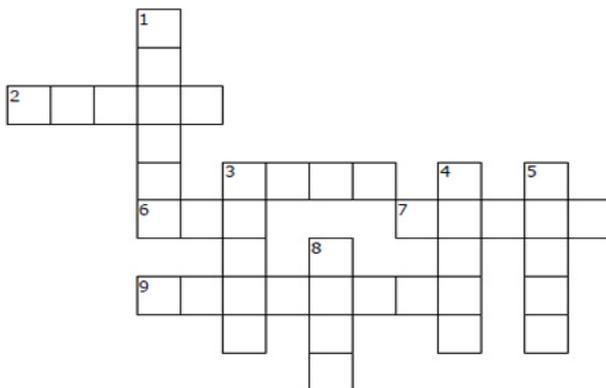
The Season of Creation runs from the first Sunday of September for five weeks, and often coincides with Harvest Thanksgivings which can be incorporated in the celebration of this season.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

St Leonard's Sunday 25th September

St Mary's Sunday 2nd October

Gifts of dried or tinned goods will be gratefully received and distributed through the Storehouse to those in need.



ACROSS

2. To form something by combining materials or parts; to construct
3. The amount paid for a something; the price
6. Fighting between two or more countries
7. Coins or currency used to buy things
9. A follower of Jesus

DOWN

1. To take someone as a model; to imitate
3. A wooden structure consisting of an upright with a horizontal beam
4. A very tall, narrow building, or part of a building
5. The opposite of war
8. A male ruler in some countries

Your Vestry.

The Vestry of the church is the main governing body of the church working in partnership with the Rector and Clergy Team. Each church has its own Vestry and occasionally meets together as a joint Vestry to discuss matters affecting both churches. As a church our year end happens in September and this is then followed by our Annual General Meetings. At that meeting we receive the Annual reports from the Vestry and other groups run and organised by the church. We hope to bring you news about the next AGMs after the meeting of your Vestry this September.

St Mary's Vestry Sunday 11th September 7pm

St Leonard's Vestry Wednesday 14th September 7pm



Messy Church

Autumn 2022

Time: 4pm to 6pm

You are invited to join us for some Messy Church fun:

September 24th

A Messy Harvest Celebration

Giving thanks for the food we eat and wondering what will we grow up to be like?

Please bring a donation for Harvest

Donations of tinned or dried foods will be collected and distributed by the Storehouse to those in need.

October 29th

Light Party - A celebration of light

As the darker months enfold us we wonder what does it mean to be children of the light.

Wear some bright clothing and reflectors, bring a torch and your smile to the party.

November 26th

Getting Ready for the New King

A time of looking forward to the arrival of the promised new baby who will one day be King.

Is it too early for tinsel and decorations? Come along and begin to think about how we can celebrate the birth of a King.

December 24th

Christmas Eve 4pm Messy Christingle

A celebration of joy and good news with Song and Story interlaced with fun, sweets, oranges and hot chocolate.

DOORS OPEN DAYS 2022



Help us with our Hospitality

Midlothian Doors Open Day

takes place on

Saturday 10th September

10am—4pm

As St Mary's is one of the venues that people are being signposted to and encouraged to visit we require your help to keep our doors open.

Could you help us on the day to welcome in the visitors, offer a cuppa and be the friendly face of our church community?

Speak to Steve Somerfield

if you would like to help out

thank you.

St Mary's Sunday at 10am

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk



St Leonard's Sunday at 10am

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

 [@stlandm](https://www.facebook.com/stlandm)

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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

Please note that Monday is our Rector's day off