

Connect News

Sunday 29th January 2023

The Churches of St Leonard's Lasswade and St Mary's Dalkeith



Cafe Church
This Sunday



Cafe Church reflecting the theme of Candlemas

Welcome & Introduction

Grace and Peace to you from the Lord,

And also with you

We meet in the name of Jesus, the prince of peace

let us share his peace

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God, you are the source of everlasting light.

Your son, our beloved Lord Jesus

was presented in the temple forty days after his birth.

He was recognised by Simeon and Anna,

and welcomed as the promised Messiah.

May we like them, behold the glory of the Lord Jesus.

Grant that we may stand before you

with hearts cleansed by your forgiving love.

We worship you, loving, liberating, life-giving God.

**Drawn to your light we offer you our prayers and praises;
seeking your way; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Hymn **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**, You step down into darkness.
Opened my eyes let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you
hope of a life spent with you.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created.
All for love's sake became poor.

*I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.
I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.*

Prayer Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light, pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance of your eternal splendour, that we, who by these kindling flames light up this temple to your glory, may have the darkness of our souls dispelled, and so be counted worthy to stand before you in that eternal light. Amen

Reading Hear the reading of **Luke 2: 22-38**

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord), there they offered a sacrifice in keeping with the Law: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.'

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna. She was very old; having had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Table Discussion

Candlemas celebrates the coming of Jesus as the light to the Gentiles and the glory of Israel. Even today we continue to use candles to represent the light of Christ guiding us and conquering the darkness around us.

Take time around your tables to consider and discuss the following:

What and where are the dark places in our world that need light?

What are the dark places in our own community?

What activities and events are bringing light to our neighbourhoods?

How can you share the light of God?

In your own life where do you need the Light of Christ to help you?

Using the post-it notes write your responses and then place them on the picture of the large candle. These will be used to help guide our prayers of intercessions

Table Activity

Using the resources on your table make your own candle for you to use at the close of the service and to take home as a symbol of you carrying the light of God in to your home and community.

Prayers of Intercessions

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.

(As we sing the table will be prepared and candles on table lit)

Confession

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:
"I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness
But shall have the light of life".
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
I am sorry that I have not behaved towards you and
towards my neighbours as you have commanded.
I have wounded your love, and marred your image in me.
I am sorry and ashamed.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for each one of us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself, and cleanse you from all your sins
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the light in our darkness, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The warmth and splendour of the light of love draws us to this table where we remember that we are loved, accepted and forgiven.

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

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 Lord.

In the beginning You said let there be light,
and created the heavens and established the earth;
you sustain in being all that is.

Although we turned away from you
and walked in the ways of darkness
you gave your Son, the Light of the world to us
and by your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth
in a creation restored by love to walk with you again.

As children of your redeeming purpose 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,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh.

He is the Word existing beyond time, both source and final purpose,
bringing to wholeness all that is made.

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 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.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Distribution of Communion

Bread and wine are distributed to all who wish to receive.

Prayer after communion

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

**Lord you call us
not only to receive your love and mercy
but to walk humbly and show mercy
as we reflect your light of love.
Amen**



**"Light kindles light
and flame kindles flame.
When God sets the world on fire
with His love, in the life and death
and resurrection of Jesus and the
giving of the Holy Spirit, there isn't
any less of God at the end of the
process, but there's a lot more of us."**
Rowan Williams.

Sending Out

As we draw our worship to a close we begin to look outward towards the people who live alongside us in our community. We go carrying the light of Christ. We go to be a light that kindles light in Jesus name.

From the Paschal candle, one by one, as we sing our closing song we receive the flame of love and kindle the light of another.

We pray that our flames of love would kindle the lights of others that we with them may be drawn closer to Christ throughout this week.

Song THE SPIRIT LIVES TO SET US FREE,
Walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity,
Walk, walk in the light.
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.

We say together

**Lord, let now thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen thy salvation:
which thou has prepared for us.**

**To be a light to lighten the gentiles:
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Amen**

Blessing

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
fill you with radiance and scatter the darkness from before your path.

Amen.

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,
gladden your eyes and warm your heart.

Amen.

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace.

Amen.

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

Amen.

Go in the light of Christ
to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ I will



World Day of Prayer
Friday 3rd March
St Leonard's Lasswade 7pm
or St John's Kings Park

As host at St Leonard's this year Joy is co-ordinating the event with the help of Alison and others. Please do speak to Joy if you are available on the night to help.



NEWS about THE RAICHEVS, OUR UKRAINIAN FAMILY

Many of you will be wondering how things are going with the Raichevs. They arrived in Scotland from Odessa in July and were staying at the Holiday Inn in Corstorphine while they were being matched with a host family.

They came to Midlothian in early November and stayed with us Clarks until the weekend before Christmas. Richard and I were understandably apprehensive prior to this as we were opening our home to complete strangers, plus we had heard mixed reports from other hosts when we went to host meetings. But God was with us and it turned out to be a wonderful experience. The family, which consisted of Tetiana (Tanya), Hennadii, Misha and Alina, were a joy to have and they filled our days with much laughter, school runs and food sharing.

The children have been attending King's Park School and enjoy it, slowly learning the language. Tanya goes to language classes in Edinburgh several times a week and is about to embark on a care home course which hopefully will lead to a job. Hennadii is also trying to improve his English and is trying to find voluntary work.

We found a 2-bed flat for them (and in view of the lack of rents in the area were very lucky). It could not have been more convenient for the Job Centre or the school, and while there have been the usual teething problems with flats (e.g. dealing with the energy company!), they seem to be settling in well. Richard and I continue to support the family as they have a few other issues to sort out, including navigating the NHS and Scottish Gas, but things are progressing well. We take them out to the park occasionally and before Christmas to the Christmas markets and ice skating, and they joined us for our Christmas meal at Broomieknowe Golf Club as well as at St. Mary's for Christingle. They are extremely grateful for the support the church has given them. As you are aware, many of you have contributed to the rent for their flat and they were overwhelmed with all the domestic items you have donated – the duvets, sheets, towels, iron, Hoover, dishes from Betty Tinley, TV, desks and even a Christmas tree!

We pray that they continue their journey towards independence here in Scotland and perhaps even returning to their homeland one day!

Vicki Clark

LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,
RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday 22nd February

10am at St Leonard's

7.30pm at St Mary's

*We plan to bring you news about our Lent Study Groups
and this years Bishop's Lent appeal soon*



Fairtrade Fortnight 27 February – 12 March

This Fairtrade Fortnight, please join us in spreading a simple message: choose Fairtrade now and help save our favourite foods.

? Did you know cocoa, bananas and coffee could soon be much more difficult to find on our shelves?

Climate change is making crops like these harder and harder to grow. Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink.

As a church we endeavour to be a Fairtrade church using tea, coffee, sugar and even our communion wine being sourced from Fairtrade. So we encourage you to do your part not just for this fortnight but throughout the year. Make life better, Fairtrade.

Together



Together was and is the watch word of our recent joint Vestry meeting bringing together the Vestry members from both churches to consider where and what we can achieve together while respecting the individual responsibilities of each Vestry. St Leonard's and St Mary's are known as a linked charge and therefore there are a number of shared responsibilities that are overseen by both Vestries. This is mainly around the housing and employment of the Rector, however we also seek to develop activities that members of either church can be part of together.

One outcome from the recent meeting was the desire to re-establish or create some new social and fundraising events for the churches and community to enjoy, as well as raising our profile and belief that there is more to church than just our Sunday worship.

Social Committee

Alison Bruce and Rebecca Brouwers-Harries are heading up the new Social committee and are looking for a couple of people from each church to join them as they begin to plan some social get togethers and fundraising events. They are also looking for your suggestions for these social and fundraising activities. I am suggesting go-karting or Laser quest nights but you might have other events in mind. So please do consider offering your help and suggestions. A suggestions box will be available for you to post your ideas. I am sure there are some good ideas out there?

Oh how about — A Crazy Golf competition or a Curry Night?



Fundraising China

Our thanks to Margaret Hall for the latest China set that was auctioned off on eBay to help raise funds for the upkeep of St Leonard's Organ.

If you have any china tea or dinner sets or any other goods that you feel would be suitable to sell then please do get in touch with Judy Strong

Regular Events and Activities



1st Saturday of the Month

Coffee at Mary's 10.30 –12Noon

an opportunity to come together and met up with friends and share together. As part of our Eco-Congregation Commitment we also look to run a monthly Swap Shop alongside Coffee at Mary's to help reuse items and reduce waste as a congregation.



1st Tuesday of the Month

Pet Food Bank 10am – 12 Noon

Working in partnership with Edinburgh Cat and Dog Home we seek to provide much needed help to pet owners looking for support of their pets. Come for a cuppa, a chat or just to pick up supplies.



Last Saturday of the Month

Messy Church 4-6pm

Craft, story, songs and a meal together. Join us for an alternative way of learning about and worshipping God as a messy church family.

Home Groups & Fellowship meet fortnightly

Monday Home Group - Contact Andrew Watt

Tuesday Home Group - Contact Vicki Clark

Fellowship Group - Contact Ann Mackay

Reflections Group - Contact Margaret McMeekin

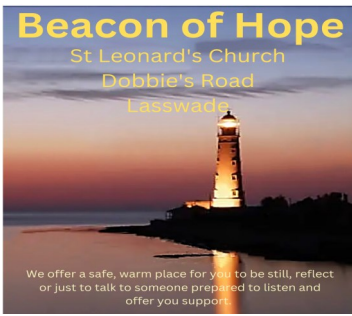
Link Book Group - Contact Vicki Clark / John Fleming

Pastoral Co-ordinators - Noreen Grieve for St Mary's

- Joy Mooney for St Leonard's

St Leonard's Vestry Usually meets 2nd Wednesday of Month

St Mary's Vestry Usually meets 2nd Sunday of Month



Mondays - Beacon of Hope

A warm welcome awaits you at St Leonard's on a Monday morning from 10 – 12Noon. Pop in for a coffee and chat with friends, at the back of church. Or take time to come up into the sanctuary to reflect and pray.

All Welcome.

Soup & Roll Lunch

Tuesday's at St Mary's 12-2pm

Pop in for a coffee and chat and a wee warm up with a free (donations welcome) Soup and Roll Lunch



Word Search

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

SPIRIT	RIGHTEOUS	PRAISED	COURTS	TEMPLE
CHILD	DEVOUT	LIGHT	JOSEPH	JESUS
PARENTS	SALVATION	ISRAEL	REVEALED	PIGEONS
SIMEON	PROMISED	DOVES	SACRIFICE	MARY



Join with us for Coffee at Mary's
Saturday 4th February
10.30—12Noon

Swap Shop at Coffee at Mary's
Jewellery, gifts, items for weddings

bring items to share with others or find a gift or item you might need like fascinators , cufflinks, or garters



Pet Food Bank
Tuesday 7th February
St Mary's 10-12

Please do let friends and neighbours who may be struggling with Pet Food bills know that they are welcome to come along and enjoy the warm space of St Mary's, have a cuppa and collect some free food for their pets.

We plan to make the Pet Foodbank a regular fixture this year taking place on the 1st Tuesday of every month.



St Mary's
stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's
stleonardslasswade.org.uk

Find us on  **@StLandM**

Church Office & Rectory 11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH193RQ

 0131 663 7000 or email  office.stlandm@gmail.com

Our Rector's Day off is usually a Monday

Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677