



FOR I KNOW

THE
Plans
I HAVE
FOR
You

declares the Lord, plans for
peace and not for evil, to give
you hope and a future.

JEREMIAH 29:11

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Connect News

Sunday 1st January 2023 - 1st Sunday of the New Year

The Welcome

The Lord be with you
and also with you

We gather this morning, at the dawn of this new year,
to worship the Lord who journey's with us
and calls us into a covenant relationship of service and love

**We gather to meet with the Lord and with each other
as we journey together as his people**

Hymn **SING TO GOD NEW SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

All His deeds are marvellous;
He has brought salvation to us
With His hand and holy arm:
He has shown to all the nations
Righteousness and saving power;
He recalled His truth and mercy
To His people Israel.

Sing to God new songs of worship:
Earth has seen His victory;
Let the lands of earth be joyful
Praising Him with thankfulness:
Sound upon the harp His praises,
Play to Him with melody;
Let the trumpets sound His triumph,
Show your joy to God the King!

Sing to God new songs of worship:
Let the sea now make a noise;
All on earth and in the waters
Sound your praises to the Lord:
Let the hills be joyful together,
Let the rivers clap their hands,
For with righteousness and justice
He will come to judge the earth.

Prayer of Confession

At the start of this New Year,
let us seek his grace to know that all our days are known to him
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

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:

Eternal Lord God,

**we give you thanks for bringing us through the changes of times
and seasons to the beginning of another year.**

**Help us by your Holy Spirit to honour and glorify your Holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn **SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you,
Hallelu, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelu, hallelujah!

Man shall not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God,
Hallelu, hallelujah!

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and it shall be opened unto you,
Hallelu, hallelujah!

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Matthew 6 v 25-34

Jesus says "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

'And why do you worry about clothes?

See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you,

Oh you of little faith?"

Do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" Pagans run after all these things, but your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

Therefore, seek first his kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

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

Sermon

Prayers for today

Hymn HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US,

How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss –
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory. (Souls)

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life –
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart –
His wounds have paid my ransom.

The Renewal of the Covenant

God made a covenant with the people of Israel,
calling them to be a holy nation,
chosen to bear witness to his steadfast love.

The covenant was renewed in Jesus Christ our Lord,
in his life, work, death and resurrection.
So that through him all people may be set free from sin ,
and be united by his redeeming love.

In this new covenant God promises us new life in Christ.
For our part we promise to live no longer for ourselves but for God.
To love the Lord our God, to seek and follow the ways of the Kingdom

We meet, therefore, as generations have met before us,
to renew the covenant which bound them and binds us to God.

**Eternal God,
in your faithful and enduring love
you call us to share in the new covenant of Christ, Our Lord.
In obedience, we hear and accept your commands;
in love we seek to do your perfect will;
with joy we offer ourselves anew to you,
to be your holy people, loving and serving one another,
as we love and serve the Lord.
Amen**

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace
The Peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you

Hymn BEHOLD THE LAMB WHO BEARS OUR SINS AWAY,
Slain for us, - and we remember the promise made
that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the king

The body of our saviour Jesus Christ,
torn for you, - eat and remember; the wounds that heal,
the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the king

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you — drink and remember, He drained death's cup
that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the king

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise, to respond
and to remember, our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth

As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King

Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas

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.

And now we give you thanks
because you have redeemed our time
and have given us this year of grace to proclaim your favour
and celebrate your steadfast love.

As children of your redeeming purpose
who celebrate the birth 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 the Messiah you have come to us,
and lived for a time among us, that we might for ever live with you.

Obedient to your calling, he accepted death on the cross.

When you exalted him on the third day,

and bestowed on him the name above all names,

he opened the gate of glory that we might be your children,

and share in his kingdom of Peace.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
desiring to complete the work for which he came into the world,
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.

**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 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.**

The Distribution of Communion

All are welcome to come and receive the bread and wine of communion

Distribution of Communion

Prayer after communion

**Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of
entering into the new covenant always follow the way of your Son.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

The Christmas Blessing

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine
upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you
and give you peace; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy
Spirit be with you now and throughout this year.
Amen

Carol: 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

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

When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me
and he showed me the way.

He made me a watchman
upon the city wall,
and if I am a Christian
then Christ is Lord of all.

The Dismissal

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

*On behalf of the Congregations of St Leonard's and St Mary's
we pray you will have a peaceful and happy New Year*

*Sunday Worship at 10am for both churches
resumes from next Sunday, 8th January*

Some Key dates and activities for 2023

Key diary dates

Ash Wednesday	22nd February marks the beginning of Lent Morning Service 10am St Leonard's Evening Service 7.30pm St Mary's
Mothering Sunday	19th March
Palm Sunday	2nd April, beginning of Holy Week
Easter Sunday	9th April
Spring Harvest	10-14th Peter and others away
Pentecost	28th May
Harvest	Sunday 1st of October

Regular Events and Activities

1st Saturday of the Month	Coffee at St Mary's 10.30 –12Noon
Last Saturday of the Month	Messy Church 4-6pm
1st Tuesday of the Month	Pet Food Bank

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



Pet Food Bank Tuesday 3rd January

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.

Edinburgh



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**

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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677