Connect News

Sunday 19th March 2023 Mothering Sunday

Welcome

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. And also with you.

Praising and Thanking God

We light this candle as we pray and place before God the life of our world reminding ourselves that the love of God is like a light in our darkness.

Blessed be God for ever.

On this Mothering Sunday, we light this candle for all who have mothered us, who have loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for us. For those who have suffered loss of their children and for the children who grieve and remember their mothers love this day. Blessed be God for ever.

We light this candle in thanksgiving for Jesus, our Lord, born of a woman and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, his mother, a reminder of God's patient, waiting love. **Blessed be God for ever**.

Let us praise God who loves us. We lift our voice to sing God's praise

Hymn LET ALL THE WORLD IN EVERY CORNER SING:

'My God and King!'

The heavens are not too high; His praise may thither fly: The earth is not too low; His praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing: 'My God and King!'

Let all the world in every corner sing: 'My God and King!' The Church with psalms must shout, No door can keep them out: But, above all, the heart must bear the longest part. Let all the world in every corner sing: 'My God and King!'

Prayer of Confession

Let us be still as we draw near to God and bring before the Lord the brokenness of the world, and our own broken lives marred by sin. So we call to mind our sin, our failure to love as Christ called us to love.

Silence for reflection

Let us pray Your love gives life to us O Lord, yet we fail to live as your children. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You call us to do good. Yet often the good week seek is for ourselves only and not for the people you have created. Christ, have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

You hear us when we cry for help. Yet we ignore and reject the cries of others in their time of need. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; you are gentle with us as a mother with her children. Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; through your gentleness we find comfort in fear. Your warmth gives life to the dead, your touch makes sinners righteous.

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; in your love and tenderness remake us. In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

Prayer of Anselm (1109)

Collect

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Reading Revelation 7 v9-17

I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out;

'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'

All the angels standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures fell down on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying:

'Amen! Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!'

Then one of the elders asked me, 'These in white robes – who are they, and where did they come from?' I answered, 'Sir, you know.' And he said, 'These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore,

`they are before the throne of God

and serve him day and night in his temple;

and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

"Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them," nor any scorching heat.

For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; "he will lead them to springs of living water."

"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Hymn GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS, O GOD MY FATHER,

There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

> Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided, Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their courses above, Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Gospel Reading John 19 v25-27

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

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing near by, he said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

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

Sermon

Prayers of Intercessions

The Peace

As a loving parent the Lord provides for us a place of welcome, peace and rest around his table. May the peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you** Let us share his peace

Hymn MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST MY SAVIOUR

Live in me from day to day, By His love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of Christ dwell richly In my heart from hour to hour, So that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.

May the peace of God my Father Rule my life in every thing, That I may be calm to comfort the sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me, As the waters fill the sea; Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May I run the race before me, Strong and brave to face the foe, Looking only unto Jesus, as I onward go.

Offering

Let us present our offerings to the Lord: Generous God, accept the offering of your people for the work of your Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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 give him thanks and praise. Maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome.

Your spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Father's house. We, who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the joy of his obedience, now 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 Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through the dark struggle, death was swallowed up in victory that life and light might reign. Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the Firstborn, freely offered up his life.

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.**

Let us pray together as our Lord taught us to 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. 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

All are welcome to come and receive as we gather at our Lord's table

Prayer after communion

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

Father we give thanks for all that you have provided for us. Help us to share out of the well of your great love so that the people around us may be touched by your tenderness and care. Amen

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, to take up your cross, and to follow him; and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always **Amen**

HYMN FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH,

For the beauty of the skies, For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies: Father, unto Thee we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night, Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light: Father, unto Thee we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth, and friends above; For all gentle thoughts and mild: Father, unto Thee we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

For each perfect gift of Thine To our race so freely given, Graces, human and divine, Flowers of earth, and buds of heaven: Father, unto Thee we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

The Dismissal

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



CHURCHES SPRING CLEANING St Mary's Spring Clean Friday 24th March 10-2pm (with soup and roll lunch)

Our thanks and appreciation to all who turned up to help with the St Leonard's Spring Clean on Friday and Saturday. What a wonderful effort by all involved freshening up the building in time for Easter. Now if you do see a cob web or spot an area we missed then do feel free to get a cloth and wipe it away. Thank You.



Knitting Group

Our next meeting will take place at Newbyres Nursing Home in Gorebridge at 10.30am on Thursday 23rd March. Come for the yarn or just for the chat and fellowship as we share with the residents of the Nursing Home.

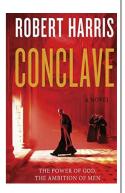
Summer Churches BBQ

Just a wee heads up about some plans for the end of June. It is hoped that working together with the other churches in the area we will put on a free BBQ event on Fri 16th and Sat 17th June in Kings Park Helpers will be needed nearer the time.



<u>The Link Book Club</u>

Our next book club discussion evening on Friday 31st March in St Mary's at 7.30pm. We are currently reading Conclave by Robert Harris revealing some of process of electing a new Pope and the power struggles within Vatican City. If you would like to join us please do feel free to come along on the evening, even if you haven't yet read the book or finished it yet you will be welcomed to join us.





Palm Sunday Evening Worship Sunday 2nd April 6pm at the Full Gospel Church

Maundy Thursday Worship

Ecumenical Eucharist at St Nicholas Buccleuch Church 7.30pm

Good Friday

10.30am St Mary's Dalkeith Act of Witness 2pm Bonnyrigg Cross Act of Witness

Stations of the Cross, St David's Dalkeith 7.30pm Good Friday Evening Choral Song Cockpen Church 7pm

Easter Morning

7.30am Easter Celebration Kings Park Dalkeith followed by light breakfast at StJKP church.

