

# Connect

*St Leonard's & St Mary's  
Sunday 20th August 2023*

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

*Hebrews 11:6*

## Words of Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God, the Father  
and from his Son Christ Jesus, Our Lord  
**Amen**

**Almighty God to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Hymn      DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND,**

Forgive our foolish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;  
In purer lives Thy service find,  
In deeper reverence, praise,  
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,  
Beside the Syrian sea,  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word  
Rise up and follow Thee,  
Rise up and follow Thee.

O sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee  
The silence of eternity,  
Interpreted by love,  
Interpreted by love.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of Thy peace,  
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and Thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,  
O still small voice of calm,  
O still small voice of calm!

## **Prayer of Confession**

We humble ourselves before the Lord  
and call upon him to have mercy upon us  
as we confess our sins with penitence and faith.

*silence is kept*

We pray together

**Almighty God, our Father in heaven,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought and word and deed  
and in what we have left undone.  
Forgive us and renew us,  
that we may serve you  
with a renewed appreciation of your great love for us,  
through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen**

God who is both power and love,  
forgive us and free us from all our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

## **The Collect**

**Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and sent into our hearts the Spirit of your Son.  
Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
Amen**

## Reading from Hebrews 11 1-6

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for  
and the assurance about what we do not see.  
This is what the ancients were commended for.

By faith we understand that the universe was formed by God's  
command so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he  
was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings.  
And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience  
death: 'He could not be found, because God had taken him away.'  
For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who  
comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those  
who earnestly seek him.

## Hymn **AMAZING GRACE! how sweet the sound**

That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there a thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

## **The Gospel      We read from Matthew 15 v21-28**

*Hear the Good News of our risen Lord according to Matthew*  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.' Jesus did not initially answer her. So his disciples came to him and urged him, 'Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.' He answered them, 'Was I not sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.'

The woman came and knelt before him and said. 'Lord, help me!' He replied, 'It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.' 'Yes it is, Lord,' she said. 'Yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Then Jesus said to her, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed at that very moment.

*At end: give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel*  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

## **Sermon**

## **Intercessions for today**

## The Peace

Within God's mercy and grace  
we meet in Christ's name  
**Let us share His peace.**

Peace be with you  
**and also with you**

**Hymn**      **BE STILL, for the presence of the Lord,**  
the Holy One is here;  
Come bow before Him now with reverence and fear.  
In Him no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground;  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire, with splendour He is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight,  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place;  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.  
No work too hard for Him,  
in faith receive from Him;  
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

## 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

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 Father  
in every place and at all times.  
You made us, and all the people of the world  
and everything that is.

**You give us the daylight.**  
**Your Word lights up our minds.**  
**Your Spirit lives in us**  
**so that we can look at the world with your eyes.**

As citizens of heaven,  
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.**

Father you never forget us  
or turn away from us even when we fail you.  
You sent your Son Jesus, who gave his life for us.  
He healed those who were sick,  
cared for those who were poor  
and cried with those who were sad.  
He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.

For all your love we give you thanks  
in the way that Jesus showed us.

For on the night before he died,  
while he was having supper with his friends,  
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.'

**So, as we do what he told us,  
we open our hearts to him;  
we remember how he died  
and rose again for us.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,  
and send your Holy Spirit on us  
and upon this bread and wine;  
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ,  
and that, sharing your life,  
we may travel in your company to our journey's end.

**With all your people  
we give you thanks and praise  
through the Son and in the Spirit,  
now and for ever. 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**

*Everyone is invited to receive communion or a blessing at this time.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

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

**Eternal God, we have received your promises of mercy and love.  
May we who have been nourished by holy things  
live as faithful heirs and children of your promised kingdom,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## **Blessing**

Christ our king make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always..  
**Amen.**

## Hymn

### **THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'll not want.**

He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone.  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,  
And He anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know.

## Dismissal

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

*Please do join with us for refreshments  
served at the close of the service*

# Wonderful Generosity and Love

## Ukrainian Fund Update



Due to the generosity and love of many members of our congregations we have been able to help support four different Ukrainian families in various ways over this past year.

The Raichevs our original sponsored family are now settled in Dalkeith with the children beginning their next year at school. Alla and her family have recently moved into a house

in Gorebridge, while Katya our new pianist at St Leonard's has moved in to a house with her daughter and grandson in Loanhead. Then Nadia who was staying with Alison Bruce is now living with her daughter Yana (who was living with Pauline Jones and have moved to accommodation in Woodburn.

The opportunity to support these individuals and their families has been a blessing both to those who have fled the war but also to us as churches living out Jesus call for us to love our neighbours. We give thanks to God for all who helped make this possible with financial gifts or gifts of items, friendship and support. Once again the families thank you for your kindness and generosity and for how we have helped make them feel welcomed and loved in their new home with us in Scotland. We continue to pray for them and for an end to the war.

As the families now move on to becoming more self reliant we feel the time has come to close the Ukrainian Fund. So if you have been in the habit of making donations to this fund please feel free to stop or consider supporting other work like Christian Aid. Of course none of us knows the future but for now we feel we can congratulate ourselves and give thanks for a job well done.

There is approximately £3000 still in the fund and this will in part be distributed to each family as a gift for them to purchase items that they have asked for if funds allow. As well as these final gifts we plan also to hold onto half the money and for this to be kept in reserve to allow us to offer additional support to help cover heating and lighting costs over the winter months. Any final surplus will then be gifted on to the families.

Vicki Clark

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 CRUMBS

FALL  
 LOST  
 ISRAEL  
 SUFFERING

MERCY  
 JESUS  
 WOMAN  
 KNELT



**St Mary's**  
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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