

*The night is over, the day is at hand,  
cast off the works of darkness,  
and put on the armour of light.*



# Connect

*St Leonard's & St Mary's  
Sunday 10th September 2023*

## Words of Welcome

Come let us worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

**Let the heavens rejoice, and creation sing his praise**

Rejoice O earth, sea and sky and every creature within you

**Let the heavens rejoice, and creation sing your praise**

**Creator God,**

**in Christ you call all people to the fullness of glory**

**for which you created us in your image:**

**heal our hardened hearts,**

**and renew our obedience to your will,**

**that we may perfectly love you,**

**and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

**Hymn      MORNING HAS BROKEN like the first morning;**

Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall, Sunlit from heaven,

Like the first dewfall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,

Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning

Born of the one light, Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, Praise every morning,

God's re-creation of the new day!

We lift up His praises with glory and honour

Sing of His goodness and of His love

Love for creation, love for His children

Jesus is risen, Saviour and Lord

## Reading from Romans 13 v8-14      A debt of Love

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.

The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not covet,' and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command:

'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Love does no harm to a neighbour.

Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

The night is nearly over; the day is almost here.

So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light.

Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, nor in sexual immorality and debauchery, nor in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Confession

God is love, and we are forever indebted to his love.

He loved us first and calls us to put love into action.

To love our neighbours and to do no harm.

So conscious of our own failing to love as we have been loved

Let us 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 Christ Jesus our Lord**

## Absolution

God, who is both power and love, forgives us and frees us from our sins, heal and strengthens us by your Spirit and raise us with all creation to new life through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Collect

**Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Hymn

### **HOLY SPIRIT, LIVING BREATH OF GOD,**

Breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Let the presence of the risen Lord,  
Come renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;  
Give me faith for what I cannot see,  
Give me passion for Your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
May Your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin,  
In each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace;  
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
Giving life to all that God has made,  
Show Your power once again on earth,  
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
May be clear for all the world to see.

## The Gospel      We read from Matthew 18. v15-20

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

'If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.

But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that "every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

'Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.'

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

## Sermon

**Song      AS WE ARE GATHERED Jesus is here;**  
One with each other, Jesus is here.  
Joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood,  
Part of the body, the church of God.  
As we are gathered Jesus is here,  
One with each other, Jesus is here.

## Intercessions for today

## The Peace

We meet in Christ's name

**Let us share His peace.**

Peace be 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

## 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 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 our thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, Our Source of Life,  
Creator of all things, visible and invisible,  
Whom the heavens and earth praise,  
from the dawn of time unto its end.

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

In Christ your holy Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.  
Through dying on the cross, he overcame sin and death,  
that we, your creation might be restored in him.

As children of your redeeming purpose,  
with all your creatures throughout space and time  
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 you showed us yourself  
our living hope, who opened the gates of glory  
and calls us now to share the love of his Good News.

On the night when he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends and 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 the life of the world  
Lord, unite us in this sign.

## **Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, let us 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.**

## Distribution of Communion

*All are welcome to come and 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

God of our salvation,  
restore in us the beauty of your creation  
and help us to turn and follow you  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## Blessing

May God give you grace to be faithful stewards of Creation,  
and the blessing of God,  
our Creator, Redeemer and giver of Life  
be with you now and evermore..

**Amen**

## Hymn      **GO FORTH AND TELL! O Church of God, awake!**

God's saving news to all the nations take:  
Proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,  
That all the world His worthy praise may sing.

Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;  
He will in grace respond to all who call:  
How shall they call if they have never heard  
The gracious invitation of His word?

Go forth and tell where still the darkness lies,  
In wealth or want, the sinner surely dies;  
Give us, O Lord, concern of heart and mind,  
A love like Yours, compassionate and kind.

Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:  
Share God's good gifts – let no one be denied;  
Live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,  
Your ransomed powers for His sole glory use.

Go forth and tell! O church of God, arise!  
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;  
Go till all nations His great name adore  
And serve Him, Lord and King forever more.

## Dismissal

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

# Meetings and Activities

**St Mary's Vestry** - Sunday 10th Sept, 7pm in the church.

**Messy Planning** - Tuesday 12th Sept, 7.30pm at Rectory

**St Leonard's Vestry** - Wednesday 13th Sept, 7pm at Rectory.

**Exploring Worship** - A short meeting after the morning service for all our Officiants, Servers, Readers, Intercessors and clergy as we consider Peter's paper on our "Sunday Eucharistic Worship"

St Leonard's 24th September / St Mary's 8th October



## Messy Church Dates @ St Mary's

Saturday 30th September 4-6pm

Saturday 28th October 4-6pm

Saturday 24th November 4-6pm



## Autumn Time Socials

### September Saturday 23rd - Walk & Talk

Its just a Walk in the Park followed by lunch which is now at the Cavaliere, sign up and join in.

### October Saturday 7th - Harvest Supper

Come ye thankful people come and join the harvest fun with a bring and share supper and entertainment in St Leonard's Church Hall. Please sign up to come and to help with catering. Our **Harvest Sunday is on the 8th October** . Donations towards our Harvest Flowers are welcome and on the Sunday Harvest gifts of tinned or dried food will be collected for the work of The Storehouse.

### November Friday 17th - St Andrew's Ceilidh

Get your dancing shoes on and strip a willow as we gather at the Roses Club in Bonnyrigg for a fun night of music, dancing, food, fun and fellowship.

### Wednesday 29th - Panto and meal at the Stair Arms.

Please note there was an error in a previous Connect News this is the correct date for the Panto and Meal - Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!!! Wed 29th November You can come to both or just join with us for the Panto or the meal.....

### December Saturday 2nd - Christmas Fair

Come along and enjoy a coffee and spend time enjoying the stalls in hope that you can buy one or two Christmas presents for family and friends.



**St Mary's**  
[stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://stmarysdalkeith.org.uk)

**St Leonard's**  
[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)

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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