

A close-up photograph of a basket filled with fresh, harvested vegetables. The basket contains several bright orange carrots with green tops, several round rutabagas with their green stalks, and a bunch of purple beets. The vegetables are piled together, creating a vibrant and natural scene. The lighting is soft, highlighting the textures of the roots and the freshness of the produce.

# Connect

*Your Weekly News from St Leonard's & St Mary's*  
**Sunday 8th October Harvest**

*thank*  
**GOD** *for*  
**HARVEST**



Dear friends,

*"On behalf of my wife and I"*

*What a wonderful surprise and blessing it was to receive a gift from the congregations of St Leonard's and St Mary's on the celebration of our 25th Wedding Anniversary. We had already booked a wee second honeymoon to Balmaha on Loch Lomond and so we put the gift to good use purchasing tickets to cross the Loch by boat to Luss and back as well as a few cosy nights in some local pub restaurants.*

*Loch Lomond has always held a special place in our lives. I bravely and fearfully popped the question and asked Fiona to marry me at Balloch on a cold, windy, raining Valentines evening in 1998. Six months later on Saturday October 3rd we got married back in Dundee embarking on a voyage of life together as the new Mr & Mrs Harris. When Sam and Grace came along we wanted them to be baptised but by then the church we were married in had sadly closed. So we opted to return to Loch Lomond and Balmaha for their Baptisms. Our good friend Colin Strong the Minister who married us was also more than happy to conduct the service of Baptism and so our connection with Loch Lomond deepened. Therefore it felt right as we celebrated this special anniversary for us along with Izzy to return to the Loch were it all began.*

*Thankfully although a little rain fell this time round it resulted in a beautiful rainbow over Ben Lomond reminding us once more of God's love watching over us as we look and trust in him for the next part of our voyage together as husband and wife.*

*with love and blessings from Fiona and Peter*

## WELCOME

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you**

This is the day that the Lord has made  
**let us be glad and rejoice**

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
**Serve the Lord and be glad;**

Come to him with joyful songs.  
**For the Lord our God is good;**

His love goes on for ever and ever  
**His faithful love never fails.**

## HYMN      **COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME,**

Raise the song of harvest home!  
All is safely gathered in  
Ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide  
For our needs to be supplied;  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
Raise the song of harvest-home.

All the world is God's own field,  
Fruit unto His praise to yield;  
Wheat and tares together sown,  
Unto joy or sorrow grown;  
First the blade, and then the ear,  
Then the full corn shall appear:  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,  
Bring Thy final harvest home;  
Gather Thou Thy people in,  
Free from sorrow, free from sin;  
There, forever purified,  
In Thy garner to abide:  
Come, with all Thine angels, come,  
Raise the glorious harvest-home.

## PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Lord, we are sorry  
for the times when we have used  
your gifts carelessly,  
and acted ungratefully.  
Lord in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We belong to a people  
who are full and satisfied,  
but often ignore the cry  
of the poor and hungry.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We are often thoughtless,  
and do not care enough  
for the world and its people  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

## ABSOLUTION

God who is both power and love,  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by your Spirit,  
that we might be fruitful  
in the work of your kingdom  
**Amen**

## A HARVEST PRAYER

Let us pray together  
**Creator of the fruitful earth,  
who made us  
stewards of your creation.  
Give us grateful hearts,  
and help us to bless those in need  
as we remember how blessed we are this day.  
Amen**

## A READING FROM SCRIPTURE PSALM 104 V10-15

Lord, you cause water to flow from springs into the streams  
that flow down between the mountains.

The streams provide water for all the wild animals.  
Even the wild donkeys come there to drink.

Wild birds come to live by the pools;  
they sing in the branches of nearby trees.

You send rain down on the mountains.  
The earth gets everything it needs from what you have made.

You make the grass grow to feed the animals.  
You provide plants for the crops we grow—  
the plants that give us food from the earth.

You give us the wine that makes us happy,  
the oil that makes our skin soft,  
and the food that makes us strong.

## HYMN WE PLOUGH THE FIELDS AND SCATTER

The good seed on the land,  
But it is fed and watered  
By God's almighty hand;  
He sends the snow in winter,  
The warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine,  
And soft refreshing rain.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;  
We thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all His love.*

He only is the Maker  
Of all things near and far;  
He paints the wayside flower,  
He lights the evening star;  
He fills the earth with beauty,  
By Him the birds are fed;  
Much more to us, His children,  
He gives our daily bread.

All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above;  
we thank the Lord,  
O thank the Lord, for all His love

We thank thee, then, O Father,  
For all things bright and good;  
The seedtime and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food.  
Accept the gifts we offer  
For all thy love imparts,  
and what thou most desires,  
Our humble, thankful hearts.

## **THE GOSPEL READING**     **MATTHEW 21 V33-46**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Saint Matthew*

### **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus called to the people and said listen to another parable:

There was a great landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place.

When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. So the landowner sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them in the same way.

Last of all, he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance." So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,' they replied, 'and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.'

Jesus said to them, have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes”?

Therefore I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.’

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. So they looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that Jesus was a prophet.

*Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel*

**Praise to Christ our Lord**

## SERMON

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSIONS

## THE PEACE

Let us stand together:

We meet in Christ name  
for He is the Lord of the Harvest

**Let us share his peace**

## 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:  
Lord our God to you 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:  
Christ, our Lord, to you 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:  
Lord of all, to you 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:  
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise  
this, our hymn of grateful praise.

## 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.**



## EUCCHARISTIC 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.**

Worship and praise belong to you Father  
in every place and at all times.

You made us, all the people of the world  
and everything that is.

You bless us with a fruitful creation  
and give us the seasons of life,  
from Springtime to Harvest,

**We praise you, O Lord our God.**

As our world changes from  
one season to another  
through the great cycle of  
Springtime and Summer,  
Autumn and Winter.

**We praise you, O Lord our God**

As citizens of your kingdom,  
we join our praise with all of creation  
in heaven and on earth,  
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.

**We praise you, O Lord our God**

And we remember that on the night before Jesus 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.'

**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.**

Lord of the Harvest, send your Holy Spirit on us,  
that we might produce the fruit of your Kingdom  
and be upon this bread and this wine that we offer,  
that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power,  
they may be to us 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.

**Amen.**

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

*All are welcome at the Lord's table  
to come and receive communion or a blessing*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

**God of the harvest nourished by your love  
may we continue in our lives to daily give you thanks  
and praise for ever and ever Amen**

## BLESSING

May the blessing of God who has created and sustained us throughout this year, continue to grow in us the fruit of the Spirit, and encourage us to share the harvest of faith, hope and love; in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen**

## HYMN

### **ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL,**

All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colours,  
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning  
That brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
He made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

## NOTICES

## DISMISSAL

The harvest has been gathered in;  
go now in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ Amen**

Please do join with us for  
refreshments and fellowship together



## Harvest Goods 2023

Our Harvest Goods this year will be donated to the Storehouse. They are extremely grateful for the special support that comes in around the harvest time but sadly the work of Storehouse is an all year round endeavour and so if you are able we appreciate your support not just at this harvest time but in the weeks and months to come.

The following items are those that are currently in demand

- Jars of chocolate spread
- Bags of sugar
- Pot noodles
- Bags of multi pack crisps
- Cans of macaroni cheese
- UHT long life milk (blue lid)
- Tubs of hot chocolate (just add water variety)

Thank You once more for your generosity and love.



### Looking outwards:

#### A Harvest for Zimbabwe

Tearfund partner Zimbabwe Orphans through Extended Hands (ZOE) helps rural communities

overcome poverty, hunger and the effects of climate change so that families have enough food and income to support themselves. This Harvest week, pray for ZOE and the many farmers in Zimbabwe who have benefited from their support and expertise.

Kester from Gonyere village says her life used to be tough: 'I lived a painful and pitiful life. I was poor and I had nowhere to start.' But by joining a Tearfund - supported self-help group she has managed to not only provide for her family, she has enough to support others. Give thanks for her generosity and ask that more lives will be changed in her village.

To make a donation visit [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org)

## Vestry Meetings

Please hold the work of the Vestry in your prayers as the Vestry members meet this week to explore and discuss the ongoing developments and plans for the future of our churches as we look towards our AGM's later this year.

St Mary's Vestry Sunday 8th October 7pm in the Church

St Leonard's Vestry Wednesday 11th October 7pm at the Rectory



## SHOE BOX APPEAL 2023

We invite you to fill a shoebox for this years appeal. Filled boxes should be returned to the church by Sunday 5th November so they can be collected and begin their journey to bring joy and pleasure to those in need.

Please pick up an information leaflet available at both churches or visit:

<https://blythwood.org/> - for more information, thank you



## Pet Blessing Service

at St Mary's Sunday 15th October

a short service of 30 Minutes from 3pm

Come with or without your pet as we give thanks

for all creatures great and small.



## Memorial Service

Sunday 5th November at 4pm

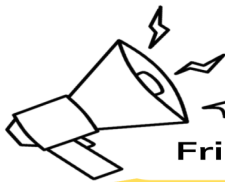
St Leonard's Church, Dobbies Road

An opportunity for us all to gather and remember our departed loved ones and continue to give thanks for their part in our lives.

# Beacon of Hope

Monday Mornings 10-12 Noon  
St Leonard's Dobbies Rd

## ST MARY'S



The

gathering <sup>Week 2</sup>

Friday 13th Oct 7-9pm...



- Teens&Twenties
- Praise+Singing&Dancin'
- Food!

📍 St Mary's Episcopal Church

If you play...  
Bring along your  
instrument



## Messy Planning Meeting

Tuesday 10th October 7.30pm

Come along and join us as we plan for the next Messy Church and explore the theme of Families and look at Father Abraham and his family.





Pet Blessing Service

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER

3PM

All Welcome

St Mary's Dalkeith

**St Mary's Sunday at 10am**

[stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://stmarysdalkeith.org.uk)

**St Leonard's Sunday at 10am**

[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)



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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

Please note that Monday is our Rector's day off