

Connect

Weekly Worship and News from St Leonard's and St Mary's

Sunday 18th February - The First Sunday of Lent

Welcome to St Leonard's & St Mary's



For God
so loved
the world
that he gave
his one
and only Son,
that whoever
believes in
him shall not
perish but
have eternal
life.

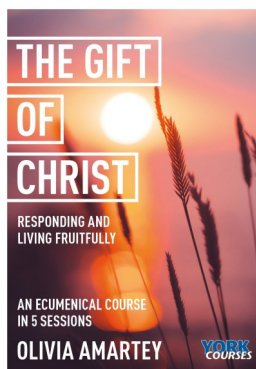
Dear Friend,

The season of Lent as a time of preparation for the great feast of Easter has been observed since the early days of the Christians faith.

By carefully keeping these days, we as disciples of Jesus take to heart the gospel's call to repentance and to accepting and receiving the assurance that through what Christ has done for us we are forgiven. Lent is often viewed as a time of denial and fasting but it is also a time for renewal and a fresh commitment to grow in faith and devotion to our Lord.

I and the Clergy Team invite you, therefore, in the name of Jesus, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

As part of this years devotion to study and growth as disciples of Jesus our Lent Course for 2024 will help us deepen our understanding of what God has done for us through the gift of Jesus. We will explore five main themes as we journey through Lent leading us up to Holy Week and Easter. As we work through the Lent Study Booklet "The Gift of Christ".



These themes for each week are:

Week 1 The Generosity of God

Week 2 Discovering our gift and responding

Week 3 Being with Jesus and becoming fruitful

Week 4 When things go wrong! How to stay on track.

Week 5 It's all good as God changes everything.

Each week we will touch on these themes within our Sunday and Wednesday Services and during the week our Lenten Study groups will help us delve deeper into the weekly theme as we discuss, share and explore together on a Monday or Tuesday Evening.

May God indeed bless us and renew us in our walk of faith as we journey together towards the great celebration of Easter.

Welcome:

The Lord be with you

And also with you

We gather as children of the family of God
to commemorate and remember God's unfailing love for us

**Although we turned away, God did not reject us
but came to reconcile us in His Son.**

**He showed great mercy and grace towards us
and welcomed us to come and sit at His table.**

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 Lenten call

The holy season of Lent
as a time of preparation for the great feast of Easter
has been observed since the early days of our Christians faith.

In the name of Christ, I invite you therefore,
to confess your sins with penitence and faith

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Do you repent of sin?

I repent of my sin.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Will you follow Christ?

I will follow Christ.

**Heavenly Father,
we acknowledge that we have not loved
as you would have us love.
We return to you and ask for your mercy,
forgive us and renew us
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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

Collect

**Generous God, You established the new covenant of Grace
through Christ your son. As members of this new covenant
empower us to be faithful disciples living to worship you
and proclaim your Good News through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

First Reading

1 Chronicles 29 10-13

King David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

"Praise be to you, Lord, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

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 Gospel Reading: LUKE 15:11-31

Hear the gospel of our Lord according to Luke
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I

could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!" "My son," the father said, "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

Prayers of intercession

The Peace

Through the generosity and goodness of God
we have been reconciled, to live at peace with God and each other
we meet in Christ's name;

Let us share his peace.

Hymn **THE KING OF LOVE my Shepherd is,**

Whose goodness faileth never;

I nothing lack if I am His

And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow

My ransomed soul He leadeth,

And where the verdant pastures grow

With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,

But yet in love He sought me,

And on His shoulder gently laid,

And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill

With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;

Thy rod and staff my comfort still,

Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever.

Offering

As we gather at this table we 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.**

The 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 thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, In every place and at all times.

**When we turned away you did not reject us
but came to meet us in your Son.**

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

As children of your redeeming purpose
may we who are called to share Christ's suffering
be made like him in his death
as we offer you this sacrifice of 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.**

We remember that on the night of the great Passover feast
Jesus at supper with his disciples took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke the bread and gave it to them,
saying: Take, eat;
this is my body which is broken for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father we do this in remembrance of him
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of the meal taking the cup of wine,
Our Lord gave thanks, and said:
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.

**Father we do this in remembrance of him
his blood is shed for all.**

**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 and generous Father
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and wine,
that they may be the Body and Blood of your Son
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
renewed for service in your kingdom.

Help us who are baptised in the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory may we grow in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our inheritance, in the company of the Virgin Mary the apostles and prophets and all our sisters and brothers living and departed

Through Jesus Christ our Lord with whom in and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit be all honour, and glory and praise to you our loving Lord. Amen

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught and encouraged us so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is 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

*Everyone is invited and welcomed
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.

**Living Lord, help us to be faithful to you not only in this place but
as we go to love and serve you as we proclaim the Good news.**

Amen

The Blessing

Christ the Lord, give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves and to take up your cross and 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 **BLESSED ASSURANCE, Jesus is mine:**

O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God;
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

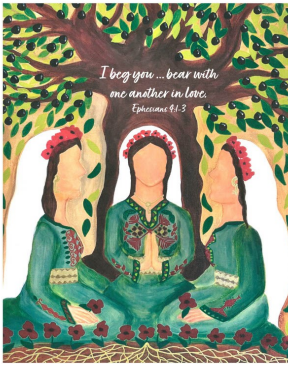
Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to keep a faithful Lent
as you love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

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



World Day Of Prayer

Friday 1st March 2024

Prayers written by Christian women of Palestine

St Mary's Dalkeith 7pm

Our Lady's Church Hall Lasswade 7pm

Join us for Messy Church Saturday 24th February

4-6pm at St Mary's

Bring along a cardboard box if you can as we explore the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho. Crafts, Story Song and a Meal. All Welcome



St Mary's Sunday at 10am

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's Sunday at 10am

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