

# Connect

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

**Sunday 3rd March - The Third Sunday of Lent**

Welcome to St Mary's & St Leonard's

## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

love,  
joy,  
peace,  
patience,  
kindness,  
goodness,  
faithfulness,  
gentleness,  
and self-control



Galatians 5:22-23

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent as a time of preparation for the great feast of Easter has been observed since the early days of the Christian faith. By keeping these days, we take to heart the gospel's call to repentance and the assurance of our forgiveness, and so we grow in faith and devotion to our Lord.

As part of that growth and devotion we are currently using "The Gift of Christ" study booklet in our Lent Study Groups and reflecting upon each weeks theme within our weekly worship on Sunday and Wednesday.

In the first week of study we considered afresh the great mercy and love of God who with amazing grace blesses us with the gift of salvation, the forgiveness of our sins through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. In week two we considered our response to the gift of God and pondered on the work of the Holy Spirit within us and that each one of us is called to use our gifts for the building up of the church. In this third week of study we are encouraged to be fruitful as followers of Jesus and more than that we are called to remain connected with Jesus, in contact with him, feeding on him just as a branch to be fruitful needs to remain attached to the tree or vine.

Like good students we are to spend time within our studies, to learn and to put that learning into practice. Each of us as a follower of Jesus, turns to learn from the Master and to turn his teaching into a way of life. The season of Lent may for some indeed be a time of pruning, a time to acknowledging that we have not remained faithful to Christ. We all need at times to confess that we have sinned and disconnected ourselves from our Lord through an absence of prayer, or study or indeed with our actions or lack of action, not being in line with the way of love.

God reminds us we are loved. We are the branches of his kingdom and he wants us to bear good fruit by remaining in contact with Jesus in this way he feeds us and makes us more fruitful. So we invite you afresh this lent to come to the cross, confess your sins and be reconnected to God.

*with love from Peter*

## Opening Responses

The Lord be with you  
And also with you

**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      **SPEAK, O LORD, AS WE COME TO YOU**

To receive the food of Your Holy Word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility;  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

## Prayer of Confession

God is love and we are his children.  
There is no room for fear in love.  
We love because he loved us first.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord Amen**

*The minister declares God's forgiveness*

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

## Reading of Scripture Galatians 5 16- 25

Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit..

**Hymn**      ***SPIRIT OF HOLINESS, Wisdom and faithfulness,**  
Wind of the Lord, blowing strongly and free:  
Strength of our serving and joy of our worshipping;  
Spirit of God, bring Your fulness to me!*

You came to interpret and teach us effectively  
All that the Saviour has spoken and done;  
To glorify Jesus is all Your activity;  
Promise and Gift of the Father and Son:

You came with Your gifts to supply all our poverty,  
Pouring Your love on the church in her need;  
You came with Your fruit  
For our growth to maturity,  
Richly refreshing the souls that You feed:

**The Gospel**      **John 15 v1-17**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus said "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last, so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

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

## Sermon

### Prayers of Intercession for today

**Peace** As we come to our Lord's table we meet in Christ's name  
**Let us share his peace**

### Hymn **WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS**

On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God:  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of Nature mine,  
That were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

## Offertory Prayer

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.**

## 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  
maker of heaven and earth  
your wisdom draws beauty out of chaos  
and brings a harvest out of sorrow  
and leads the exiles home.

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

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 of 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,  
your Chosen One, freely offered his life  
as an atonement for our sins.

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.

## The Lord's Prayer

As our saviour taught us so we 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.

*All are welcome to come forward 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 mercy and forgiveness, help us to abide in you  
and bear good fruit for the glory of your Kingdom  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

## The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, 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

**COLOURS OF DAY dawn into the mind,**

The sun has come up, the night is behind.

Go down in the city, into the street,

And let's give the message to the people we meet.

So light up the fire and let the flame burn,

Open the door, let Jesus return.

Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,

Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.

Go through the park, on into the town;

The sun still shines on, it never goes down.

The light of the world is risen again;

The people of darkness are needing a friend.

Open your eyes, look into the sky,

The darkness has come, the sun came to die.

The evening draws on, the sun disappears,

But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.

## The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**in the name Christ Amen**



Our Church Social Committee meets this Monday at 6.30pm and thanks everyone who participated in the recent feedback exercise. News about our next church social events will be published later.



Our next Planning Meeting for Messy church is on **Tuesday 5th March at 10.30am in St Mary's**  
Our Theme for this month will be Easter.



We warmly invite you to our Fellowship Group which meets on a fortnightly basis in St Mary's. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 6th March at 7.30pm**



Our Monthly Bake Stall at the Pitcairn Centre in Bonnyrigg takes place this **Thursday 7th March**. Donations of Home Baking can be brought to the centre on the day or dropped off at the Rectory.



The Cursillo gathering of encouragement and fellowship takes place this **Saturday 9th March 10am** in St Mary's. The event is open to members and non-members. All are Welcome.



## South Africa Mission Trip

### Sponsor a suitcase of donations

As Grace gets ready to head off to the Khaya Centre in South Africa it was suggested that we could help bless the Khaya centre by sponsoring a suitcase of donations.

We are looking to fill at least one suitcase with Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, Sanitary goods, toothpaste & brushes, children's shoes, socks, gloves and hats. In addition to these we want to also provide some art material like pens, pencils, crayons and colouring in books as well as children's story books.

Please bring your donations to church by Palm Sunday 24th March so we can pack the case and send Grace off to SA with a case full of blessings. Thank you all for your generosity





# St Leonard's Church Spring Clean & Gardening Day



Church Cleaning Friday 15th 2pm to 4pm  
and Sat 16th March from 10am

Gardening Day Saturday 23rd March 10am

Come along when you can on the above dates  
and help us spring clean the church  
and tidy up the garden in time for our Easter Celebrations

## Beacon of Hope



Join with us on Mondays for coffee and chat  
at St Leonard's Dobbies Road  
10am - 12 Noon



## St Mary's Church

(Dalkeith Country Park)  
in conjunction with

Edinburgh Dog & Cat Home

**PET FOOD BANK**  
10am to 12 Noon  
Tuesday 5th March

## 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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Church Office & Rectory 11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH193RQ

 0131 663 7000 or email  [office.stlandm@gmail.com](mailto:office.stlandm@gmail.com)

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