

connect

*The Scottish Episcopal Churches of
St Leonard's & St Mary's
Sunday 16th June 2024*

*This is what the
Kingdom of God
is like.*



Pray for the Election

The coming General Election is critical moment in the life of our nation, which will shape our future. This is a time for us all to ask important questions about what kind of country we want to build.

The world and our nation face deep challenges – from questions of war and peace, poverty and injustice to the very future of the earth God has given us. Faced with such huge questions, our calling as Christians is to turn first to God in prayer. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to pray each day, 'your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven'.

This simple and profound prayer is our starting point during the days leading up to the General Election – and all the days beyond. Pray for all who are standing that they be drawn towards the values and norms of God's Kingdom, to love mercy, seek justice and to walk humbly.

May God's will be done in our nation and in God's world

**Guide the leaders of the nations
that they may work for the common good,
and strengthen our hearts with a vision of your kingdom.
Hear us, good Lord.**

**Endue the High Court of Parliament
and all the ministers of the Crown
with integrity, wisdom and understanding.
Hear us, good Lord**

**Guide all candidates for office and the leaders of the nations
into the ways of peace and justice.
Hear us, good Lord.**

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

Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
Amen.

Collect for Purity

**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.**

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 fulfil 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 power 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.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are his children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because he loved us first.
Therefore let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.**

We are truly sorry.

**Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

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. **Amen.**

Collect of the day

We pray together

**Almighty God, without you we are not able to please you.
Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule
our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

Reading from 2 Corinthians 5.6-10 & 14-17

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Hymn **I AM A NEW CREATION,**
No more in condemnation,
Here in the grace of God I stand.
My heart is overflowing,
My love just keeps on growing,
Here in the grace of God I stand.

And I will praise You Lord,
Yes, I will praise You Lord,
And I will sing of all that You have done.

A joy that knows no limit,
A lightness in my spirit,
Here in the grace of God I stand.

Gospel **Mark 4.26-34**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Mark
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

“This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain, first the stalk, then the head, then the full seed head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.” With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

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

Sermon

Intercessions

Prayer is offered for the world and its people, for those who suffer and those in need, for the church and its members.

Peace

We meet in Christ name
Let us share His's peace.

Hymn **NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISETH, from the buried grain,**

Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

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.**

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 thanks and praise.

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

All power is yours.

You created the heavens and established the earth;
you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours
are brought together in a wonderful exchange.

He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you.

Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth
in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose
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,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh.

He is the Word existing beyond time,
both source and final purpose,
bringing to wholeness all that is made.

Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross.
By your power you raised him from the dead.
He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free
to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death,
knowing that his hour had come,
having loved his own, he loved them to the end.

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.

The 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 has 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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
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 welcomed at our table to receive the Bread and Wine
of communion reminding us of God's love and welcome to us.*

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

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

Lord God, by your Holy Spirit help us to confess that Jesus is our Lord and saviour and to serve you faithfully in the world. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord.

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Hymn **FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION, thanks be to God;**
for the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Dismissal

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



THURSDAY 4TH JULY AT 7PM AT DALKEITH BAPTIST CHURCH

YOU'RE INVITED

Join the **Watoto Children's Choir** as they sing, dance, and share their stories of restoration & hope.

You are invited to come and hear the Watoto Children's Choir as they sing and share their stories of restoration and hope. This is a free concert although donations will be collected on the evening to help offset the costs of the tour. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening of praise.

**COME &
JOIN US
FOR**



**BBQ and end of term celebration
Saturday 29th June
4-6pm at St Mary's
Crafts, Fun, Games and BBQ**



Passports



Cards with a PASS Mark



Driving licences



Certain travel cards

No ID? Apply for a Voter Authority Certificate

electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

0800 328 0280

The
Electoral
Commission

Remember to vote on the 4th July

We have been asked to remind all our members that when attending a Polling Station this year they will now need show some form of Photo ID.

If you do not have any photo ID you can apply for an Voter Certificate. Apply at your local library or online at:

www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate



St Leonard's Sunday 10am

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

St Mary's Sunday 10am

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

Find us on  @StLandM

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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

Our Rector's day off is usually a Monday