

# Connect

*St Leonard's*

27th April 2025

The Second Sunday of Easter



## Words of Welcome

### The Easter acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### Hymn

**MAJESTY, worship His majesty,**

Unto Jesus be glory, honour and praise.

Majesty, kingdom authority,

Flow from His throne unto His own,

His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus,

Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.

Majesty, worship His majesty,

Jesus who died, now glorified,

King of all kings.

**HE IS LORD, He is Lord,**

He is risen from the dead and He is Lord.

Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess

That Jesus Christ is Lord.

### Confession & Absolution *please sit or kneel*

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.

**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,  
forgives us and frees us from our sins.  
He heals and strengthens us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Peruvian Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father  
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father**  
To him be glory for ever!  
**To him be glory for ever!**  
Alleluia, amen,  
**Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father  
**Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father**  
To him be glory for ever!  
**To him be glory for ever!**  
Alleluia, amen,  
**Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit  
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit**  
To him be glory for ever!  
**To him be glory for ever!**  
Alleluia, amen,  
**Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray together

**Almighty and eternal God,**  
**the strength of those who believe**  
**and the hope of those who doubt,**  
**may we, who have not seen,**  
**have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing,**  
**who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**  
**one God, now and for ever.**  
**Amen**

## Reading from Revelation 1.4-8

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father. To him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

"Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

**Hymn      GOD SENT HIS SON, they called Him Jesus;**  
He came to love, heal, and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.

Because He lives I can face tomorrow;  
Because He lives all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living  
Just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a new-born baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he gives;  
But greater still the calm assurance,  
This child can face uncertain days because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river;  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.

## The Gospel John 20 v19-31

Alleluia, hear the Good News of our risen saviour  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour, hallelujah**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

*At end: Alleluia, give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel  
**Praise to Christ our Lord. Alleluia!***

**Sermon**

## Intercessions

### The Peace

As the risen Lord came and stood among his disciples  
he shared his peace with them and said, "Peace be with you".

May the peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

### Hymn      **WHO AM I THAT THE HIGHEST KING would welcome me?**

I was lost but He brought me in  
Oh His love for me, Oh His love for me

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God Yes I am

Free at last, He has ransomed me  
His grace runs deep  
While I was a slave to sin  
Jesus died for me  
Yes He died for me

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am  
In my Father's house  
There's a place for me  
I'm a child of God. Yes I am

I am chosen Not forsaken  
I am who You say I am  
You are for me Not against me  
I am who You say I am

## 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, Author of all being.

Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world.

You are unceasingly at work from chaos bringing order  
and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope,  
He lives in us that we may walk in light of love.

**Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power  
to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.**

As children of your redeeming purpose,  
freed by him who burst from the tomb  
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 is the Lord God Almighty**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty**

**Who was and is and is to come**

**Who was and is and is to come**

**Lift up His name with the sound of singing**

**Lift up His name in all the earth**

**Lift up your voice and give Him glory**

**For He is worthy to be praised**

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all,  
for by the Cross eternal life is ours  
and death is swallowed up in victory.

**In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb  
and changed the women's sorrow into joy.**

**From the Garden the mystery dawned  
that he whom they had loved and lost  
is with us now in every place for ever.**

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread,  
speaking peace to the fearful disciples,  
welcoming weary fishers on the shore,  
he renewed the promise of his presence.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,  
recalling the great Passover feast of the first covenant  
our Lord took bread and gave 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,  
they may be to us the body and blood of your redeeming love,  
and that 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 the Bread**

The living bread is broken for the life of the world  
**Lord, unite us in this sign.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

As Christ 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.  
Save us from the time of trial and 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 to 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

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still  
afar off you met us in your Son and brought us home.

Dying and living, he declared your love,  
and opened up for us the gates of glory.

## Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal  
covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

### **I WILL SING THE WONDROUS STORY**

Of the Christ who died for me;  
How He left the realms of glory  
For the cross on Calvary.  
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me;  
Sing it with the saints in glory,  
Gathered by the crystal sea.

I was lost but Jesus found me,  
Found the sheep that went astray;  
raised me up and gently led me  
back into the narrow way  
Days of darkness still may meet me;  
Sorrow's paths I oft may tread,  
But his presence still is with me,  
By His guiding hand I'm led.

He will keep me till the river  
Rolls its waters at my feet,  
Then He'll bear me safely over,  
made by grace for glory meet.  
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me;  
Sing it with the saints in glory,  
Gathered by the crystal sea.

## Dismissal

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

*Please do join with us for a cuppa and chat*

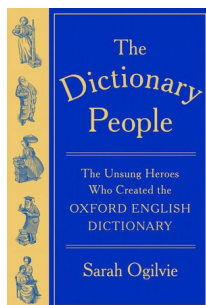
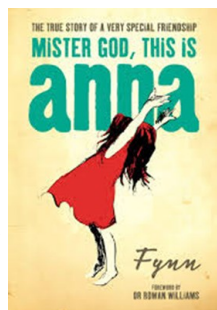
## BOOK CLUB — MISTER GOD, THIS IS ANNA by FYNN

This book got mixed reactions from the group, some loved it while others found it a challenging read. Anna, originally 6 years old, is found by Fynn, a teenage boy, abandoned and mistreated in an East London slum. She is taken into his family and she & Fynn have many discussions and adventures during which it becomes obvious that she is something of a child prodigy. She understands and explains ideas about God and the world around her that is far beyond her years. Fynn is suitably impressed and bemused by this precocious "mathematician, theologian, philosopher and gardener".

Some of us could not believe that this was a true story and some of us were uneasy with some of the physicality of the book. But without doubt it touched the heart, and baffled the brain.

Our next read is Dictionary People by Sarah Ogilvie.  
It is about the unsung heroes who created the Oxford English Dictionary. We will meet on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm at St. Mary's.

Vicki Clark



# TRY Praying

Please pick up a couple of Trypraying booklets to give away to friends, family, neighbours or those you meet. The trypraying booklet is a 7 day prayer guide for those who are not religious. It's been used by thousands of people simply encouraging people to pray and offer them support. We are encouraging people to pick one up and use it, to read it for a week and then passed it on to friends, colleagues and neighbours to Try Praying.

We would love to hear your stories of answered prayer or to receive prayer requests so send us an email at [office.stlandm@gmail.com](mailto:office.stlandm@gmail.com)

trypraying



**Saturday 3rd May Coffee Time** - Join us for cuppa and chat on the first Saturday of the month from 10.30am for Coffee at St Mary's.



Our Swap Shop theme for this month is Soft Furnishings and bric-a-brac. Next month we have our Summer Fair and plant sale. Swap Shop returns after the summer months.



**St Leonard's 10am**  
[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)

**St Mary's 10am**  
[stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://stmarysdalkeith.org.uk)

Find us on  **@StLandM**

**Church Office & Rectory**

11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH193RQ



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



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