COMMECCI St Leonard's & St Mary's 18th May 2025

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Welcome

The Easter acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hymn SING TO GOD NEW SONGS OF WORSHIP:

All His deeds are marvellous; He has brought salvation to us With His hand and holy arm: He has shown to all the nations Righteousness and saving power; He recalled His truth and mercy To His people Israel.

Sing to God new songs of worship: Earth has seen His victory; Let the lands of earth be joyful Praising Him with thankfulness: Sound upon the harp His praises, Play to Him with melody; Let the trumpets sound His triumph, Show your joy to God the King!

Sing to God new songs of worship: Let the sea now make a noise; All on earth and in the waters Sound your praises to the Lord: Let the hills be joyful together, Let the rivers clap their hands, For with righteousness and justice He will come to judge the earth.

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.**

The Collect

Let us pray together

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Reading from Revelation 21.1-6

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

This is the word of Lord Thanks be to God

Hymn A NEW COMMANDMENT

I give unto you, That you love one another As I have loved you, That you love one another As I have loved you. By this shall all men know That you are My disciples, If you have love one for another. By this shall all men know That you are My disciples, If you have love one for another.

The Gospel John 13.31-35

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

Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

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 risen Lord be always with you and also with you.

 Hymn LORD JESUS CHRIST, You have come to us, You are one with us, Mary's son.
Cleansing our souls from all their sin, Pouring Your love and goodness in; Jesus, our love for You we sing, Living Lord.

> Lord Jesus Christ, now and every day, Teach us how to pray, Son of God. You have commanded us to do This in remembrance, Lord, of You: Into our lives Your power breaks through, Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, You have come to us, Born as one of us, Mary's son. Led out to die on Calvary, Risen from death to set us free, Living Lord Jesus, help us see You are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, we would come to You, Live our lives for You, Son of God. All Your commands we know are true, Your many gifts will make us new, Into our lives Your power breaks through, living Lord.

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 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. 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 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

Look, the Bread of Heaven is broken for the life of the world. And the wine of heaven is poured out for the healing of the nations.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

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. 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 far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, and opened the gates of glory. May we who share Christ body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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 THE DAY THOU GAVEST, LORD, IS ENDED, The darkness falls at Thy behest; To Thee our morning hymns ascended, Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

> We thank Thee that Thy church unsleeping, While earth rolls onward into light, Through all the world her watch is keeping, And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island The dawn leads on another day, The voice of prayer is never silent, Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking Our brethren 'neath the western sky, And hour by hour fresh lips are making Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never, Like earth's proud empires, pass away; Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever, Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.

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



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News from our Mission Partners in Uganda uganda.mafint.org



- Last week Sam spent the week in Northern Uganda visiting partners in Arua and working with the district team in Yumbe who are working on the new airstrip near the refugee settlements. Due to mechanical issues with the district machinery, the progress on the airstrip is slow. Please pray for the right permissions to come for the airstrip and for the completion of the ground works.
- Please pray for continued work to build an airstrip in Mbale in Eastern Uganda. The Bucket Ministry is an example of the work MAF is supporting in Mbale - please read their story <u>here</u>.
- At this time of the year we always have some turn over in the team. This year we have 3 MAF families returning to their home countries of UK, USA and Switzerland. These families have served with MAF Uganda for the last 6-10 years and so will be sadly missed. On the up side we have 2 new families preparing to join the team from the Netherlands and UK. Please pray for the transitions, the comings and goings and for a strong programme over the summer while many families take leave. Please also pray for Sam who will be managing the programme for June and into July while the Country Director is on leave.
- We are racing towards the end of the school year which for the girls is the 5th June. Please pray for Rebecca as she completes primary school and prepares for the move up to secondary school and for Rachel who is completing her year of homeschooling and looking to return to in person school next school year.



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Both Churches are registered Charities St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151 St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677





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