

Connect

St Leonard's & St Mary's

11th May 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Easter



For the Lamb at the centre of the throne
will be their shepherd;
'he will lead them to springs of living water.'

Welcome

The Easter acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hymn PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear,

now to his temple draw near.

Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,

Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee,

Then to thy need

He like a mother doth speed,

Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;

Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:

Ponder anew

What the Almighty can do,

Who with His love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen

Sound from His people again:

Gladly for aye we adore Him.

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

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make us perfect in every good work to do your will,
and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Reading from Revelation 7 v9-17

I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

All the angels standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. Fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:

“Amen! Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honour
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”

Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes, who are they, and where did they come from?”

I answered, “Sir, you know.” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.
‘Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.
The sun will not beat down harshly upon them,’
nor any scorching heat.
For the Lamb at the centre of the throne
will be their shepherd;
‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’
‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

This is the word of Lord

Thanks be to God

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.

The Gospel John 10 v22-30

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

Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

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

BEHOLD THE LAMB WHO BEARS OUR SINS AWAY,
Slain for us, - and we remember the promise made
that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the king

The body of our saviour Jesus Christ,
torn for you, - eat and remember; the wounds that heal,
the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the king

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you — drink and remember, He drained death's cup
that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the king

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise, to respond
and to remember, our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King

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.**

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 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 **YE SERVANTS OF GOD,** Your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, Almighty to save;
And still He is nigh, His presence we have;
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give Him His right,
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honour and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

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

St Leonard's, Lasswade



Together in Christ



St Mary's, Dalkeith

The Diocesan Big Day

We were asked by the Diocese to contribute a snap-shot poster of some of the events and blessings we have enjoyed in this last year. As your Rector I have the privilege of presenting the poster opposite (well a larger A2 version) at the Diocesan Big Day, celebrating the work of the churches throughout our Edinburgh Diocese.

When I first received the invite to contribute and present a poster about our churches activities I personally was a bit negative about the whole affair. After all life is busy enough without having to give up a Saturday and to go into the city and spend time in our Cathedral.

However, as we began to discuss and prepare the poster it struck me once again about how blessed we are as the congregations of St Leonard's and St Mary's. We can so quickly fall into the trap about being negative and downtrodden, pedalling a story about only being a small church and then believing that we are a struggling dying church. This is a false narrative and pulls ourselves and those around us down into a dark place. Yes there are challenges but there will always be challenges. The danger with this false narrative is, that it can so easily become a self fulfilling prophecy.

Take a look at the poster, its only a snap-shot, it doesn't include everything we do! There are no pictures of the Home Groups, or Reflections Groups, or our Mid Week Worship. No mention of the Pastoral or Clergy Teams or even any pictures of our Sunday worship together week by week.

The narrative is we may be small but we are alive and active. There is much to celebrate and give thanks for in the life of our two churches. As you give to this life and activity of the church in many different ways I pray we would also know afresh the love of God, through loving and serving each other.

So as I head off to the Big Day I am proud to celebrate our achievements and blessings and give thanks for each of you and for all that you contribute to the life of the churches of St Leonard's and St Mary's.

Peter



Scottish Episcopal Church Welcomes the appointment of Leo XIV

The election of Pope Leo XIV has been welcomed by Bishop Mark, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

The Primus said after the new Pope appeared on the balcony at St Peter's Square in the Vatican City: "I rejoice in the news of the election of Pope Leo and I offer the prayers of the Scottish Episcopal Church as he begins this very special ministry, for the strength and courage to lead the Catholic Church in its mission to bring love and hope to the world.

"I also pray for the Catholic community here in Scotland as it welcomes its new Holy Father, and look forward to the continuing friendship between our Churches in the years ahead."

Pope Leo XIV is the pontifical name of Chicago-born Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, who was selected by the gathered cardinals after four votes over two days in the Sistine Chapel. He succeeds Pope Francis, who died on Easter Monday.

The Rev Canon Prof Charlotte Methuen, Convener of the Inter-Church Relations Committee, writes: "This seems an inspired choice of the next Bishop of Rome. Cardinal Robert F. Prevost was born in Chicago and is the first ever pope to come from North America, but has many years of missionary and pastoral service in South America. His family background brings together Central American and European influences.

"He was made a cardinal in 2023 by Pope Francis and is expected to continue Pope Francis' focus on speaking out on behalf of the poor and marginalised. That he has taken the papal name Leo (XIV) might point to the tradition of Leo XIII (pope 1878 – 1903), the social pope who stood up for the rights of workers while also encouraging the Roman Catholic church to engage with modern intellectual developments.



Lad's Bowling Night

Friday 23rd May 7pm

Corn Exchange 10 New Market Rd, Edinburgh EH14 1RJ

We have booked two lanes for an hour of bowling on Friday 23rd May. Currently we have 7 signed up ready to bowl but there are 5 spaces still available. So if you would like to come please do get in touch with Fiona. We have not booked any food for this event, drinks will be available at the bar. Afterwards Peter is happy to be accompanied to a local pub or Chinese for an evening meal for those who wish to tag along.

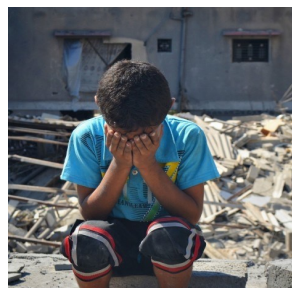
Bishop's Lent Appeal: Abraham's Children in Crisis

Please Return your Lent Box

This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal is for Abraham's Children in Crisis (ACIC), a small charity working in the Holy Land. Lent Appeal Boxes Should be returned as soon as possible so that this years collection can be collated and sent off to the Charity who despite the ongoing conflict seek to reach the vulnerable in a time of crisis.

Donations can also be made through placing your gift in an envelope clearly marked Bishop's Lent Appeal and placed in our offering plates.

THANK YOU



TRY Praying

trypraying

Have you tried praying?

How about encouraging others to pray?

The TryPraying booklet is a 7 day prayer guide that has been used by thousands of people simply encouraging them to pray and offer them support. Along with many other churches throughout the UK and beyond 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 or neighbours to Try Praying. - Go on Try Praying and pass it on.



St Leonard's 10am
stleonardslasswade.org.uk

St Mary's 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



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for
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