

We warmly welcome you as we gather here today for our service of worship and fellowship together.

I found it interesting this week while preparing for this service to discover that some of the earliest images used in Christian art are not that of Jesus sacrifice on the cross but the image of the "Good Shepherd". It was actually a few hundred years after the resurrection of Jesus that the church and Christian art began using the "Crucified One" as the main image of our faith. Nevertheless, the image of the Good Shepherd is still a powerful one full of meaning and depth for us today.

The image of Israel's leader as a shepherd is ancient. 2 Samuel 7.4-9 acknowledges that David was a shepherd. Isaiah 40.11 informs us that the Messiah, 'will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms.' However, the rulers of Israel are often described as bad or false shepherds as in Ezekiel 34.1-10. In response, God says that he himself will be their shepherd and later in that same passage that he will be our saviour (v.22), and will set a shepherd over us. All of this background reading feeds into today's Gospel.

Ultimately the Good Shepherd watches over the full life of His Sheep and brings lambs into life, gives them life and journeys with them through life. Even through the dark valley of death on into eternal life. Jesus comes to offer us life, a full life, a life with a purpose and meaning, to be lived out to the full. Will you accept his call to come and follow Him?

Peter



I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. I have come that you may have life. Welcome **Collect for Purity** Hymn 420 Praise Him, Praise Him! **Confession & Absolution** Gloria 161 Peruvian Gloria Collect 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. **Reading from** Acts 2: 42-47 The Lord's my Shepherd Hymn Gospel Reading John 10: 1-10 Sermon Prayers for Today Peace 375 O let the Son of God enfold you Hymn **Eucharistic Prayer Prayer after Communion** God of steadfast love, watch over the Church redeemed by the blood of your Son. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to your eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Blessing 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. Hymn 40 Amazing Grace! Dismissal

## THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'll not want.

He makes me lie in pastures green. He leads me by the still, still waters, His goodness restores my soul.

> And I will trust in You alone. And I will trust in You alone, For Your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness, And He anoints my head with oil, And my cup, it overflows with joy, I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path, I will not fear the evil one, For You are with me, and Your rod and staff Are the comfort I need to know.

## Christian Aid Week 14-20 May

we will have a retiring collection at both Churches on Sunday's 14th & 21st of May and welcome your donations to this years Christian Aid Appeal.

If you are able we also encourage you to give by Gift Aid by filling in an envelope find out more at **www.christianaid.org.uk** 

## Lyle Cornet - update

In the Church Magazine there is a page dedicated to Lyle and his struggle with cancer and the hope to raise  $\pounds 60,000$  to help towards giving him a bedroom and



wet-room. With thanks to all who have given Lyle's fund now stands at £40,000 so we are nearly there. Every little helps!!! Lyle was baptised at St Mary's and has connections with Janina Short and other members of both churches so there family are aware that we are holding them in our prayers.

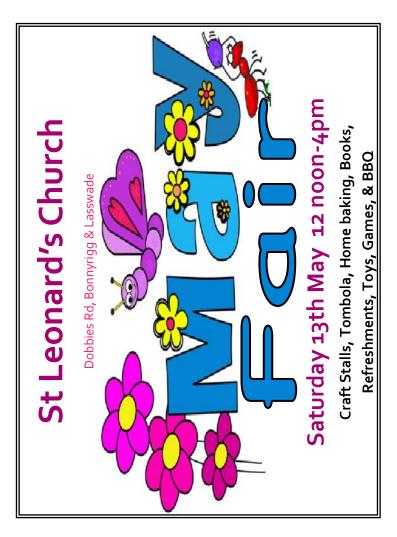
If you can give a little or more if your able then please place your donations in the LYLE CORNET donations box at the welcome desk.

Information and Enquiries: please visit our Websites or contact the Church Office stmarysdalkeith.org.uk or stleonardslasswade.org.uk Church Office 11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH19 3RQ 0131 663 7000 email: churchofficerectory@gmail.com Both Churches are registered with the Scottish Charity Register St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677



Confirmation Service 10am Sunday 21st May at St Mary's





**Dates for the Diary** 

Messy Mary's meets from 4pm- 6pm on the Saturday May 27th

Messy Lennie's meets from 4pm - 6pm on the Wednesday May 31st

All Welcome - so sign up and find out more by visiting the church Websites. stmarysdalkeith.org.uk or stleonardslasswade.org.uk 0131 663 7000