

The Connect

The Weekly Newsletter for the congregation and friends
of St Leonard's Lasswade & St Mary's Dalkeith



Palm Sunday

28th March 2021



*Do remember that our clocks spring forward 1 hour on
Sunday Morning*



Holy Week & Easter

Holy Week Ecumenical Services

This year you are being given a choice of services that may interest you through out Holy Week.

The Bonnyrigg, Cockpen, Lasswade and Rosewell churches will be uploading a nightly act of Worship for each evening of Holy Week. The videos will be able to be viewed via a link on our Facebook page. Val and Jacqui have been involved in these recordings. So look out for them. Peter is delivering the Good Friday reflection.

The Dalkeith churches are offering two Zoom worship services. Firstly on Maundy Thursday Evening and the second on Good Friday Evening. Both meetings are at 7.30pm. Maundy Thursday will have an act of Communion from St Mary's.

Please do join in with this Zoom Worship by using Meeting ID: 825 3718 3203 and Passcode: 638744. You can also join by 'phone-in. Ring 0131 460 1196 and enter the meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

Outdoor Worship

With a lot of work having gone into our Easter Gardens and numbers being limited for indoor worship we are planning to host two outdoor services.

Good Friday **A short act of reflection at the Cross**

12 Noon at St Leonard's

3 pm at St Mary's

Easter Sunday **An Easter Eucharist Service** 10 am at both Churches

Please phone to book a place (50 max)

Please pray for good weather and bring a chair

Due to guidelines people will need to be seated for this Services of worship. Some chairs can be provided

Of course these events especially Easter Sunday are weather permitting. A decision will be made on Maundy Thursday. News about these events will be emailed out on that day and also be announced on our Facebook and Webpages.

Palm Sunday & the Passion of Christ



We begin Holy Week this Sunday with a celebration of “Palm Sunday” but this Sunday can also be called “Passion Sunday”.

“Palm Sunday” reminds us of the Triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem riding humbly on a donkey. People took Palm leaves and waved them and laid their cloaks before Jesus, to hail him as their saviour king, with shouts of Hosanna, and blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

“Passion Sunday” however refers to the fact that Jesus entered into Jerusalem with a purpose to fulfil. He came with a mission, a passion of love to lay down his life for his us. Our forgiveness and salvation may come freely to us but a cost was paid that involved the suffering and death of Jesus. Therefore worship on this Sunday can often move from triumphant shouts to a place of despair in less than an hour. Our Palm leaves shaped in to the sign of the cross remind us of this transition, the hosanna King comes to die.

What does it all mean?

With shouts of “Hosanna” Jesus enters Jerusalem. He especially chooses to enter seated on a colt. Why? Because, 1,000 years before, David’s son Solomon, who went on to become Israel’s greatest king, rode into Jerusalem on a donkey to be crowned as ruler (1 Kings 1:38-40). And 500 years earlier, the prophet Zechariah prophesied that one day a righteous son of David would enter Jerusalem the very same way as Solomon: “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Your king comes to you ... humble and mounted on a donkey” (Zechariah 9:9). Jesus knowing this imagery fulfilled this prophecy, signalling to any attentive observers that he was the promised king in the line of David.



But Jesus’ coronation would be unlike any other in human history. For his triumphant entrance would lead to a crown of thorns, of suffering and death. Isaiah 50 and 52 as well as Psalm 22 foretell of the

suffering servant and the pain that would be endured by the one who comes in the name of the Lord. When we reflect on the events of Holy Week and



Good Friday especially with the crucifixion of Jesus we can easily see the connections between these Old Testament passages and the events that are recorded in the New Testament many years later.

Psalm 22 records "They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones. They divide my garments among them, and for my garments they cast lots." These verse give a graphic illustration of the physical events of the crucifixion. Psalm 22 also begins in despair with the very words that Jesus speaks from the cross "My God, why have you abandoned me?". Yet by faith we hold on, for although this Psalm begins in despair, it also ends with a declaration of salvation and celebration.

Jesus cry from the cross, "My God! Why have you abandoned me?" is a very harrowing statement that may leave us disturbed: Did the Father reject Jesus in his agony? Jesus surely knew the Psalm and he would have known that this suffering would end in salvation, victory and celebration.

However, the suffering is real, and needs to be embraced like a woman giving birth, there is pain to be endured for a time. Jesus even in the garden of Gethsemane knew the reality of the pain and despair. In deep gut wrenching distress he sweats drops of blood as he submits to the plan of salvation which means that he has to drink the cup of condemnation so that we could be set free to drink the cup of redemption and salvation. I believe Jesus knew he had the victory but still had to face the reality in the flesh enduring the pain, the suffering, the humiliation and ultimately his death.

He was lifted up so that all humanity could be drawn to him, some will come and scoff and sneer, others will come and weep and mourn. While others will embrace a deeper truth and remark surely this is the Son of God.

The cross was his throne where he was acknowledged as "King of the Jews" (Mark 15:26). Our "crosses" are our thrones: We to share Christ's victory when we embrace our sufferings for his kingdom like he embraced the cross so that we could be servants, disciples of the crucified King.



With love from Peter

Easter Garden - The story continues



Preparing the Easter Gardens

On the 3rd of April Easter Saturday we invite you to bring your potted spring flowers to the church garden to help build up and transform our Easter Garden into a beautiful array of colour and life, celebrating our risen Lord.

Please drop off your flower pots between 11 and 2pm and someone from our small team of gardeners will arrange them around the tomb. After a few weeks you can collect your flowers for potting out in your own gardens or leave them for our gardeners to plant in the church grounds.



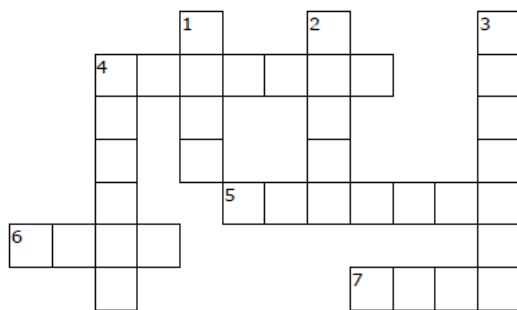
We also invite you to bring any stones of encouragement that you may have written or painted so that these can be placed around the Easter Garden on Saturday 3rd of April.

We look forward to seeing the wonderful display we are creating and pray it will bring joy and sense of hope to all who will see it.

Thank You



Gospel Puzzle Time



ACROSS

- Said something in a loud voice; called out; yelled
- A word used for praise and adoration which means "save us"
- A pathway for vehicles, persons, and animals; a street or highway
- What a person is called

DOWN

- A young animal of the horse family; especially one under one year
- The Son of God
- A small town
- To stretch out over a large area

L W T F I F Z S B L E S S E D
 Z V R B S Z K P N N B A P R V
 H E G P W D H R T Q R C Z J Y
 Z F J I H H D E S G O I J A H
 S Z Y K W R E A H V A X I F L
 V Y V E O P R D O H D G K I G
 I T B L H V S R U C G X N G W
 L G H R F E D O T C L O A K S
 L N V I A O A Q E G U A J P T
 A T P Z G N S V D S N C E E V
 G R P S C H C H E N N M O Q L
 E F B J H V E H A N A F C L X
 S S M E V X T S E N F J J B T
 K J E S U S O U T S H Z S V S
 N C A E Y H D I S C I P L E S

SPREAD
 HIGHEST
 HEAVEN

VILLAGE
 SHOUTED
 CLOAKS

BLESSED
 DISCIPLES
 NAME

BRANCHES
 LORD
 ROAD

HOSANNA
 JESUS
 COLT



Izzy's News

Hi Everyone

I am a little confused about Palm Sunday as I don't have any Palms so I was wondering if we can rename it Paw Sunday. We can all then take a Paw-s at this time and reflect on the Good News that Jesus is King.

I've been keeping an eye on the church garden and our Easter activities. Mum and Dad keep having to replenish the leaflets about the Way of the Cross so I know that people have been engaging with this spiritual exercise. Our Tombs and Easter gardens are looking lovely too.

My friend Sashabelle has been in touch to say that she is doing a sponsored human walk to raise funds to help St Leonard's hall fund. She is going to drag her owner out on a Kilt walk and has invited me to join Team Rise and Shine and drag my Dad out too. So if you want to sponsor Sashabelle or me do get in touch and if you want to join us for a walk and blether then see Sashabelle's Rise and Shine page for contact details. Its not till the end of April so there is still time to get involved with or without a kilt.

On other news I have been sitting in on some interesting Zoom meetings recently and I don't want to raise too many hopes but all being well it looks like we will be returning to having worship in our church buildings soon! I am sure Dad will let you know if I haven't already let the cat out of the bag by then.

With love and licks from Izzy





Weekly Worship Online

Sunday @ 10am with Eucharist Celebration

Wednesday @ 10am Informal Worship

Join us on ZOOM for Worship and Fellowship

ZOOM Meeting ID: 656 157 5203 at 10am

Or watch our Facebook group at

"St Mary's and St Leonard's Church Family" Or phone in



Telephone Worship Service

join in with your church family by dialling into worship

(0131) 460 1196

Aware that some people in our congregations do not have access to a smart phone or computer, or are not comfortable using Facebook or Zoom we have decided to try a Dial in Service. By dialling a **local rate number** you will be able to listen to the weekly worship services both on a Sunday and a Wednesday and be able to speak and contribute to a time of fellowship with other church members after the service. We invite you to give it a try:

Step 1: At 9.55am just before the Worship Starts dial **460 1196**

Step 2: You will be asked for a Meeting ID

type in 656 157 5203

Step 3: then press the # key

Step 4: There is no additional Password

so press the # key again

you will then be connected to the Service

*Please note that depending on your Phone Contract
you may be charged for using this service at a local rate call.*

Palm Sunday with a reading of the Passion Gospel

Welcome Peter

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hymn ***ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOUR** to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high;
and mortal men and all things created make reply.

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

Confession Peter

Lord, we cry out Hosanna, Lord save us!

As we confess our sins may we, walking in the way of the cross,
find it to be for us the way of life;

**God our Father, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word
and deed, and in what we have failed to do in love.**

We repent of our sin and turn back to you.

**Have mercy on us, wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from
our sin, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

May God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Collect **Almighty God,**
whose Son entered not into glory before he was crucified,
may we, walking in the way of the cross,
find it to be for us the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Prayers of Intercession Mike Jones

Hymn: **HERE IS LOVE** vast as the ocean, loving kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of life, our ransom shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the Mount of Crucifixion fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above,
And heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

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, Maker of light and darkness.
Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of
sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son, enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and
strangers made welcome. Your spirit frees us to live
as sons and daughters in our Father's house.

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross,
sharing the joy of his obedience, now 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 Christ in whom the world is reconciled.

Lifted on the cross, his suffering and forgiveness
spanned the gulf our sins had made.

Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the Firstborn, freely offered up his life.

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 to us the symbols of your redeeming love and may we 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 living bread is broken for the life of the world
Lord, unite us in this sign.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour 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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us your peace.**

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

Passion Reading from Mark 14 & 15

A time of quiet reflection with music

*The service ends here
an abrupt ending with no blessing, no hope, just waiting and watching,
waiting and watching for the new life of Easter*

Good Friday Service 12 Noon at St Leonard's / 3pm at St Mary's

Easter Sunday Outdoor Service at both Churches 10am
Please remember to phone the church office to book your place.
Please bring your own deck chair if you can.



Eco Congregations Film Night - 7th April

Our next film night discussion takes place on Wednesday 7th April at 7.30pm. Beforehand watch the film "Not Without Us" and then join us for discussion.

To watch the film for free please contact Pauline Jones

by email pjthomson24@googlemail.com

Who will help you register to watch the film.

About this Film

COP21 in Paris brought about the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. However as we prepare for COP26 later this year this Film helps remind us of the events surrounding the Paris COP21 conference. Although over four years old the film continues to highlighted that Climate Change is not a single issue debate but is about an interconnected web of justice issues. By calling for a communities perspectives to be front and centre of the debate the film conveys it powerfully message that change can't happen without us and the communities that are most at risk from climate change today.

"What you do for us, without us, is not for us"



Help Raise Funds for St Leonard's

Join the Kiltwalk from April 23rd to 25th



Team "Rise and Shine" wants YOU to join us in walking, having some fun, and raising a few pounds towards our building fund! Don some tartan and bring your furry friend(s) as we go as far as we can go (1 mile, 5K, 10K, or "infinity and beyond!" whatever works for you).

The team's designated charity is St. Leonard's, Lasswade, and the team "leader" is Sashabelle. The team will walk in the King George V Park in Bonnyrigg and wave at St. Leonard's as we loop past at the top of the hill!

Kiltwalk 2021 is an opportunity to raise funds for charity while walking with friends or by yourself (staying within whatever restrictions are in place at the time!). In years past this has been a large group event over a set course, but this year individuals and teams have the flexibility to set their own course and agenda. Individual walkers sign up online (note there is a registration fee) and set individual distance and fundraising goals. As a Kiltwalker you may designate any Scottish charity. Funds raised by Kiltwalking will be then matched at 50% by the Hunter Foundation, so if you get £100 sponsorship, your charity will receive £150. So it is a great opportunity for us.

Sashabelle sincerely hopes you will join team Rise and Shine, and sponsor our team, or let her know how to cheer you on as an individual Kiltwalker!

Would you like to join in or have questions?

Contact Sashabelle's spokesperson (Sandiann Devaney) at sandiann.devaney@yahoo.com or 0785 1903151.

The Kiltwalk website is thekiltwalk.co.uk which has lots of good information and a "Register Now" button. So go on walk and raise funds with friends.



2021 Palm Crosses - are on there way

All being well your Palm Cross should arrive sometime this week so please look out for it and display it in window.

If you do not receive one by the end of next week or would like a couple to give away please do contact the Church Office and we will arrange for them to be delivered to you.



Happy Birthday to
Beatrice King

1st Peter 1 verse 3

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth
into a **living hope** through Jesus Christ.*

**St Mary's
Dalkeith**



**St Leonard's
Lasswade**

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

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Do call or email if you need help