



EASTER SUNDAY

He is risen

and walks with us today

Connect

The weekly news from St Leonard's & St Mary's

Sunday 4th April 2021



Easter 2021

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

There are a number of resurrection encounters that occur. Some of these are recorded others are just mentioned in the passing but what is clear is that the resurrection was not just a one day wonder. Jesus was alive and began meeting with his followers in different places and at different times. I wonder if you have a favourite story of Jesus' resurrection appearances .

I have two. I love the imagery and can easily enter in to the story of the resurrection encounter where Peter and the disciples go fishing that we read of at the end of John's Gospel. Out fishing and catching nothing they are tired and no doubt fed up with their empty catch. Then Jesus calls out to them from the shore and the situation begins to change. A marvellous catch of fish and the shout goes up it's the Lord. Peter jumps in with both feet as usual and swims or wades ashore to Jesus. There the disciples find that Jesus has already made a fire and is roasting some fish for breakfast and Jesus invites them to come and rest and have some breakfast

The second resurrection encounter that challenges and encourages me is the account of the two disciples journeying to Emmaus from Luke 24.

Having hid with the other disciples in the upper room two disciples decide to make a run for it and head home. With hearts filled with grief and being in fear of the Temple guards and Roman soldiers they set off, heading home down the road to Emmaus. All their hopes and dreams of a better life to come had died with Jesus upon the cross. Even though there were reports of an empty tomb from the women, and from Peter and John, who went running out that first Easter morning to the tomb, these two travelling disciples like many of us struggled to comprehend the things that had taken place in the last few days. From triumphal entry with cries of Hosanna, to

the betrayal and cries of crucify him the disciples hopes and dreams had been shattered to pieces and in bewilderment , in confusion about their own future and about what had taken place they head home in despair and unbelief that someone would break into the tomb and steal the body. After all if Jesus really was the Messiah why did he have to suffer and die?

As they journey away from the empty tomb they have an encounter with the risen Lord. Even though they didn't know it at that time it was our Lord that walked with them along the everyday road.

One of the reasons I love this story is that in its imagery it reminds me that the Risen Jesus, the Lord and King of all the universe and beyond is willing to come and walk beside us on our journey. Even when we may be walking through a time of grief and bewilderment, Jesus can and does walk beside us. While we are struggling to find hope, and have many questions about whether Jesus is Lord and is risen, He comes alongside us. Even when we are in a state of confusion about which way to turn in life, Jesus is there.

Like the disciples walking downhearted as they head back home we too can often walk through life without realising or acknowledging that Jesus is with us. It takes a step of faith for us to trust that God is near and not far from us regardless of what we have been through in these last days, months and even year each of us can turn afresh to God and talk with him as we face the new day, and the new season Easter. I pray that all of us would encounter the Lord in our everyday even if we don't know or feel his presence.

For these two disciples it was when Jesus lifted up the bread, blessed and broke it that their eyes were open to who he was and is. This to me speaks of our worship and the act of taking bread and wine in memory of Jesus love for us. In the Eucharist we give thanks for what Jesus has done for us and retell his story of sacrificial love. Likewise in the Eucharist we declare who Jesus is, that he is the risen Lord. That He is our sacrifice, our Passover Lamb, provided for us so that through his death and resurrection we are forgiven of our sins and brought with him from death into new life.

"Alleluia Christ is risen! He has risen indeed Alleluia" is our cry as we recall again the wonderful, amazing and marvellous accounts of Jesus resurrection to live now with us as our Risen Lord. He is the Lord whom we can encounter even today in the breaking of the bread as we journey with Jesus.

With love from Peter and the family



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 highlight 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 powerful message that meaningful 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"



Preparing to return to our buildings.

The church has been active in many different ways over this past year and found new ways to worship and sing the Lord's song during this strange time. Now with a glimmer of hope as a result of lockdown and the out rolling of the Vaccinations we are looking at the possibility of a return to worship within our church buildings. Let us be honest, it will not be the same, and we expect that a number of COVID precautions will remain in place for some months to come.

The Site Teams tasked with the work of preparing the church will be meeting and working over the next few weeks to get our buildings clean and ready for worship to resume. The Vestry and Clergy Team will then need to agree on how and when to move forward with the reopening.

Please be kind to one another for there is no simple or correct solution and what works well for one church or person may not work for another.

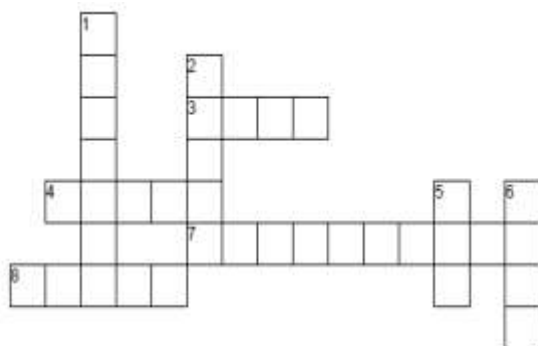
We are however, looking at maintaining our Online Worship and working towards Sunday 2nd May as the proposed date for a return to worship within our buildings. To begin with we propose to continue with Sunday at 10am and offer Worship in one building a week starting from St Mary's on the 2nd May and the St Leonard's on the 9th and continue that week about pattern throughout the summer. Depending on how the easing of lockdown continues I would hope that by September we may have returned to weekly worship within both of our church buildings in some form. So please do hold your Vestry and Clergy Team in your prayers as we seek an acceptable way forward and begin to reopen our buildings and other activities of the church.



Debora Kayembe

Mary Johnston

Ali Thomson



ACROSS

3. A place where someone is buried
4. "He is not here; he has _____, just as he said." Matthew 28:6
7. A shaking or trembling of the the earth
8. A heavenly being that serves as a messenger for God

DOWN

1. The first or early part of a day
2. A hard solid substance found in the ground which is often used for building
5. A period of twenty-four hours
6. A period of seven days

B H M W E E K A J E S U S E S
 N T J O X D G N O L M L N A R
 I S Z V K M T G O R H C L R I
 B D O I T C A E R I S E N T S
 X A M O L A L L R S R R T H E
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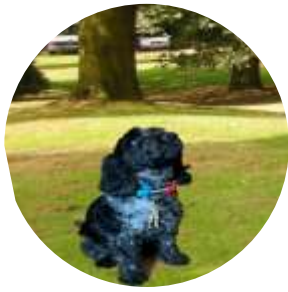
TOMB
SHOOK
EARTHQUAKE

ANGEL
WEEK
ROLLED

RISEN
FIRST
JESUS

RISEN
DAWN
AFRAID

STONE
HEAVEN
DAY



Izzy's News

Happy Easter to everyone.

I hope you have a wonderful Easter and take time to marvel again at the wonderful love of God for us.

If you look closely you may see the beautiful and colourful Easter gift that I was given by my Aunty Tina. She is so thoughtful even if the new collar is a little bit big for me. I told Dad that he should get a colourful dog colour too as I think he only has boring white ones for some reason.

Anyway the Church gardens are looking wonderful and I spied some spring flowers hiding behind hedgerows that will soon be placed around our tombs. So I am looking forward to see the transformation on my next visit. Why don't you join in on Easter Sunday and come and see the beauty and explosion of joy that has been created in Easter celebration.

Mum says that if you are coming to worship at 10am on Sunday then please do let her know as she likes to be organised unlike Dad who says just go with the flow and then ends up in trouble for not thinking things through!

I heard some good news from my good friends Rosie and Teddy who live with Jacqui. They say that after a long wait and a lot of fussing and stress they now have a cosy house. Jacqui's central heating was installed this week hopefully bringing to an end the long saga of her cold house and trying to get the heating sorted. Sadly though I have heard some worrying news from Annie, Martin and Pat's dog, to say that their boiler an old oil heating unit is now caput! Thankfully they like cuddling up together and going for long walks so they are surviving as long as the weather stays ok.

I've been told I can have a wee break over Easter so will not be reporting again until the end of the month. Do take care and stay safe and warm, I hope you can.

with love and licks from Izzy



An Easter Break

It has been over a year since we moved our worship to an online format in an endeavour to keep our churches connected and worshipping throughout the COVID pandemic. As we begin to ease out of lockdown we plan now to celebrate Easter then take a two week break to allow us to rest and recharge. Traditionally as a family we would attend Spring Harvest at this time seeking refreshment and renewal but sadly once again this too has moved to an online format and we will not be able to gather in person with our friends from Felixstowe. We will do our best to find space to rest while remaining local and maybe even getting to paddle in the sea.

Therefore there will be

NO online worship at St Leonard's and St Mary's
on Sunday's the 11th and 18th of April.

(This will include Wednesday worship too)

On line worship will resume on Sunday 25th April

We encourage you, as we will do, to visit another church for worship, some are open again if you book a space and others still offer online worship. Why not pop into a church and see what they are doing and then return to us with any ideas or thoughts that may help us as we seek to navigate church life after lockdown and we begin to form a new norm for the future.

Here are some Online Service Suggestions

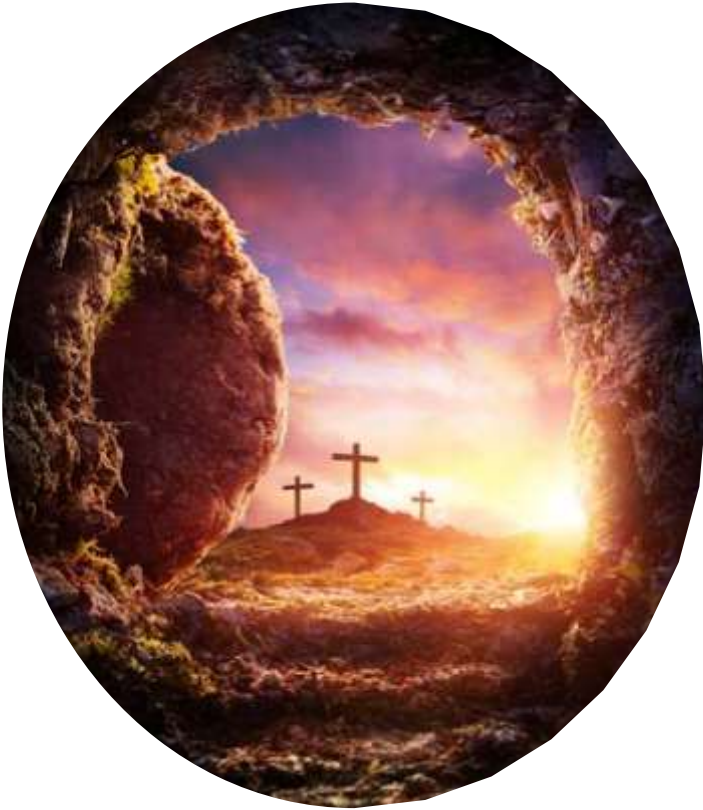
St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral www.cathedral.net/online-services/

St John's Kings Park Church Search on Youtube for "SJKP CHURCH"

Bonnyrigg Parish Church Search on Youtube for "Bonnyrigg Church"

other churches are available with their own live streams so please feel free to visit another church and let us know your experience.

Easter Sunday



A service of celebration

*There will be no Zoom Worship for Today
however we will be on Facebook live for our
Outdoor Easter Service from St Mary's at 10am*

*Please note the Easter Break
No services until Sunday 25th April
Online at 10am — Zoom or Facebook Live*

Easter Sunday - a service of celebration

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Eternal God, who raised Christ from the dead:
set us aflame with the fire of your love,
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The new Paschal candle is lit

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

HYMN: THINE BE THE GLORY, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won!

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, Death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee: aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love;
Lead us in Thy triumph to Thy home above.

Confession

Christ died upon the cross that our sins could be forgiven
Let us therefore with faith confess our sins and receive his forgiveness.

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, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. Grant that we may proclaim in our lives the mystery of your power and love to the glory and honour of your eternal name. Amen.

The Gospel Mark 16 v 1-8

When the Gospel is announced we say

Glory to Christ our Saviour

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, 'Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?'

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. 'Don't be alarmed,' he said. 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here.

See the place where they laid him.

Now go, tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid

give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel

Praise to Christ our Lord.

A time of quiet reflection

Intercessions for Today

Let us pray....

The Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with 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.

Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power

to warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose,

freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life,

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,
and of new birth in the Spirit

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
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 bless this bread and wine,
that we may be 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.

**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.

Distribution of Communion

Please remain seated as the Communion Bread is distributed

Prayer after Communion

**Father, by the Holy Spirit at work in us, strengthen our faith,
that we may grow in love as we serve your risen Son,
who is our Lord and God. 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 TO GOD BE THE GLORY! great things He hath done!

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

*Please remember to enjoy your Easter Break
Our next Online service will be on Sunday 25th April at 10am
On Zoom and Facebook Live.
All being well Sunday 2nd May will be live from St Mary's*

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**

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