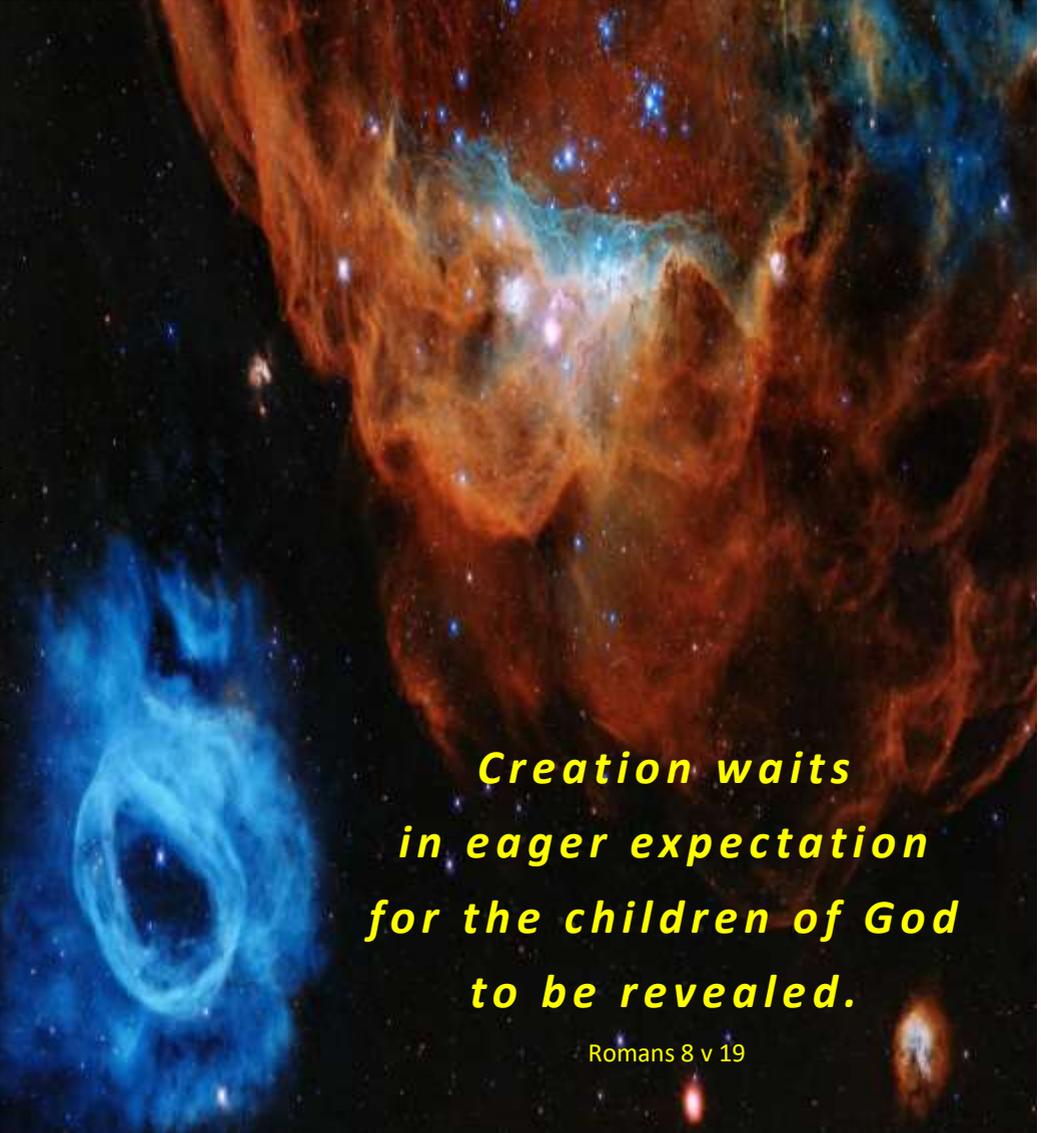


# Connect

Sunday 26th September 2021

Weekly News from St Leonard's and St Mary's



*Creation waits  
in eager expectation  
for the children of God  
to be revealed.*

Romans 8 v 19

Jointly hosted by St Leonard's and St Mary's Churches

# Harvest Fair

*Harvesting Midlothian's creations*

St Mary's Episcopal Church, Dalkeith Country Park

**Saturday 2nd October 10am-2pm**

Free Admission

*Local Crafts*

*Local Produce*

*Children's  
activities*

*Books*

*Model Train*

*Home Baking*

*Refreshments*

*Music*



St Leonard's Lasswade SC014351

St Mary's Dalkeith SC001677

## Our Worship Service for Sunday 26th September

### Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**And also with you**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy  
Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your  
holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Hymn      **ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING**

Lift up your voice and with us sing:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

*O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!*

Dear mother earth who day by day  
Unfoldest blessings on our way  
O praise Him, alleluia  
The Flowers and fruits that in thee grow  
Let them His glory show.

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness,  
O praise Him, hallelujah!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:

### Confession

God our Father,  
we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,  
and acted ungratefully. Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,  
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.  
Father, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,  
but ignore the cry of the hungry. Father, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We are thoughtless,  
and do not care enough for the world you have made.  
Father, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

We store up goods for ourselves alone,  
as if there were no God and no heaven. Father, in your mercy:  
**forgive us and help us.**

## **Absolution**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive *us our* sins, open *our* eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen *us* to do God's will  
and give *us* the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

## **Collect**

**Creator God, you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts  
whereby we call you Abba, Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that we and all creation may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever**

## **A Reading from Romans 8 v14-25**

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

## **The Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Mark 4 v26 –32

### **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus said, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces corn – first the stalk, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. As soon as the corn is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.' Again he said, 'What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel

### **Praise to Christ our Saviour**

## Sermon

Song      **ASCRIBE GREATNESS to our God, the Rock,**  
His work is perfect and all His ways are just.  
Ascribe greatness to our God, the Rock,  
His work is perfect and all His ways are just.  
A God of faithfulness and without injustice,  
Good and upright is He;  
A God of faithfulness and without injustice,  
Good and upright is He.

## Prayers for Today

Peace      We meet in Christ name  
**Let us share his peace**

Song      **FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS,**  
Lord, we pray with one accord,  
for a just and equal sharing  
of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action  
help us rise and pledge our word.  
  
Lead us forward into freedom,  
from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred,  
all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
fear will die and hope increase.  
  
All that kills abundant living,  
let it from the earth be banned:  
pride of status, race or schooling,  
dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
may we hallow brief life's span.

You, Creator God, have written  
your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness  
bring the life of Christ to mind;  
that by our response and service  
earth its destiny may find.

## **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 our thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, O God,  
Creator of all things visible and invisible,  
Whom the heavens praise, the sun and moon and all the stars,  
the earth, the sea and all that is in them,  
in every place and at all times.

Through your life-giving Holy Spirit  
Who first moved over the waters of creation,  
And brought forth life.  
You now seek to renew your creation,  
and call us to new birth, in a world restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose,  
with all your creatures throughout space and time  
we offer you our praise, together 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, God our creator,  
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh.  
Through Him you revealed yourself in the world,  
and bring your saving work to its completion.  
Obedient to your will He died upon the Cross.  
By your power you raised him from the dead.  
He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free  
to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death,  
knowing that his hour had come,  
having loved his own, he loved them to the end.  
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 the Spirit's life-giving power,  
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,  
and 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.**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

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.**

*Everyone is invited to come and receive the bread  
In memory of God's great love for each one.*

## Post-Communion prayer

Heavenly Lord,  
you long for the world's salvation:  
stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess  
and revive in us new hope  
that all creation will one day be healed  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Blessing

God the Father, who created the world,  
give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation.  
**Amen**

God the Son, who redeemed the world,  
inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest.  
**Amen**

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole creation,  
help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace  
**Amen**

and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

**Song: FATHER, LORD OF ALL CREATION,**  
ground of being, life and love;  
Height and depth beyond description,  
only life in you can prove:  
You are mortal life's dependence:  
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;  
Yours is every hour's existence,  
sovereign Lord of time and space.

Jesus Christ, the man for others  
we, your people, make our prayer  
help us love, as sisters, brothers  
all whose burdens we can share

where your name binds us together  
you, Lord Christ, will surely be  
where no selfishness can sever  
there you love the world may see.

Holy Spirit, rushing, bringing  
wind and flame of Pentecost  
fire our hearts afresh with yearning  
to regain what we have lost  
may your love unite our action  
nevermore to speak alone  
God, in us, abolish faction  
God, through us, your love make known.

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace  
to love and serve the Lord and his creation  
**In the name of Christ Amen**

*Refreshments are served at the close of the service*

### **Next Sunday - Harvest Celebrations - Sunday 3rd October**

Come and join in with us next week for our Harvest Weekend.

Saturday 2nd Oct Harvest Fare 10am to 2m

Sunday 3rd Oct Harvest Sunday at both Churches

Donations of dried or canned produce will be donated to the local Storehouse foodbank Although it is lovely to see real fruit and veg we cannot store these for distribution.

### ***Celebrations & Birthday's***

Birthday blessings to

Barbara Somerfield, & Izzy Harris

& Wedding Anniversary Blessings on Fiona & Peter

*(oh that reminds me I need to buy a gift for her)*



## Getting ready for you're Annual General Meeting

The end of September marks the end of our Congregations financial year and the work begins to produce our Annual Accounts and Reports for this past year of 2020 -2021.

We therefore call on all groups and activities of the church to begin submitting their Annual Reports to the Church Office for inclusion in this years Annual Report Document.

Both churches are governed by their respective Vestry who as a body act as the trustees of the charity and work in partnership with the Rector and Clergy Team to care for the Physical and Spiritual needs of each church and the linked charge of St Leonard's and St Mary's.

### **Ordinary Vestry Members**

There is a need within both churches for new Vestry members. Ordinary Vestry members are key personnel within the Vestry. Office bearers may do a number of different and specific tasks within the life of the church, however the Vestry cannot operate without a number of Ordinary members making up the Quorate for decision making. Ordinary members usually only serve for a limited time before stepping down.

### **Office Bearers**

There are a number of Office Bearers. Church Warden and Rector's Warden, Lay Representative to Synod. These post are usually voted on by the Congregation at the AGM. The post of Vestry Secretary and Treasurer are regarded as administrative roles of the Vestry and are appointments that are made by the Vestry. However we are in need of Treasurer at St Leonard's as well as a Secretary at St Mary's. We are aware that these are key posts within the life of the church and will be looking to offer ongoing support to those who will offer to take up these positions. With changes to the constitution the new post holders will only be expected to commit themselves to a limited time period similar to the ordinary members.

Please pray for your church at this time and consider how you could best serve the church in the year ahead.



# *Jzzy's News*

Hello Everyone,

Is it just me or is it starting to feel more autumnal. Some of the trees that I play under are starting to change colour signifying that the seasons are once more changing.

Before we get too far into autumn however I do hope you are all looking forward to the Harvest Celebrations. I know Sandiann and Mum have been working hard behind the scenes preparing for the Harvest Fare and if I am allowed I would love to see you there too. There will be a variety of stalls and goodies on offer. So I hope we have some lovely weather as well.

I got to travel up to Dundee this week to check in on Samuel and to give him lots of licks and cuddles. He is doing well and has been really encouraged by his placement work with the Hot Chocolate Trust which is one of Dundee's busiest Youth Work organisations. He's not keen on the theory and books but loves engaging with the young people he is meeting up with.

On the trip up to Dundee it was exciting to see all the different farmers at work. Combine harvesters and tractors, as well as fruit pickers in their rows and rows of poly-tunnels. Do remember to say a prayer for all those who work hard to bring in our physical harvest. I hear from Mum that there are some concerns about food distribution etc and that some of the shelves are low on stock. So there is some concern about supply and much to pray about as we think of the Harvest and for everyone involved in the food production, processing and delivery of goods. Pray too for those affected by fuel poverty especially with the new rises in fuel costs and remember to give to your local Food Bank and Pet rescue centres too.



With licks and love from Izzy



With thanks to everyone who has helped create our section of the Cop26 Scarf which is pictured above. This will then be sewn together with other contributions and displayed during the Climate Conference in November.



Our thanks and appreciation also go to those who helped out with our latest litter pick on Saturday 8th Sept.

Join in with some other Eco-activities

**Pilgrimage:** The Pilgrimage following the John Muir way and St Ninians way takes from **Dunbar to Glasgow Oct 17-31**. It takes in North Berwick, Aberlady, Portobello, Queensferry, Bo'ness, Falkirk, Grangemouth, and Kirkintilloch. Sign up at [www.artandecology.earth/sign-up/](http://www.artandecology.earth/sign-up/)

Please speak to Vicki Clark to find out more about our local involvement from Portobello to Queensferry **on Monday, October 25th**. The pilgrimage involves not only walking but lots of side-events so should be fun!

**Film night:** next meets on Wednesday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. Mary's. Come along and watch the film together and then discuss. All Welcome

**Green Hearts:** Do you have a Green Heart? We encourage you to display a green heart in a window and also to join in with making a display of hearts at the church. Make your own or cut out the green heart opposite to display

I look forward to seeing you at some of these events and to seeing your green hearts



## Display your love for the Environment

We are encouraging everyone to have a green heart and think about how we can encourage others to feel united in working together to show that we love and care for our planet.

So we encourage you to display a Green Heart in a window or on your house door as a sign of encouragement .

Make your own design or cut out the Heart above to join in.



Join in with  
Weekly Sunday Worship



**St Mary's 9.30am**  
[stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://stmarysdalkeith.org.uk)

**St Leonard's 11.15am**  
[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)

Find us on  @StLandM

**Wednesday Morning On-line Worship**  
10am on Zoom & Facebook Live

### **Church Office & Rectory**

11 Peacock Parkway  
Bonnyrigg EH193RQ



0131 663 7000

or email  [office.stlandm@gmail.com](mailto:office.stlandm@gmail.com)

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

Do let us know if any need arises at this time  
and we will try and help.