

# Connect

Your Weekly News from St Leonard's & St Mary's  
Sunday 20th March Lent 3



## **The Church Family:**

Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5

# Praying for Ukraine



## **Psalm 31:21-24**

21 Praise be to the Lord,

for he showed me the wonders of his love  
when I was in a city under siege.

22 In my alarm I said, "I am cut off from your sight!"

Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to you for help.

23 Love the Lord, all his faithful people!

The Lord preserves those who are true to him,  
but the proud he repays in full.

24 Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.

## **Let us Pray**

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace.

for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them and hear their hearts cry.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of peace.

Amen

**Please consider giving a donation to  
The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)**

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal give online at:  
<https://donation.dec.org.uk/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

Or give a donation on Sunday when you come to worship.



# Groundwork Lent 3

## Preparing and exploring the future of our churches

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

As we come to the third week of Lent we build upon the groundwork that we have been doing over the last two weeks. In week one we encountered and explored the theme that God knows us and believes in us. Last week we noted that not only does God know us he calls us to be his children, disciples growing in faith. In this third week we reflect upon the theme that God doesn't call us to be alone in our relationship with Jesus but invites us into a family that is both "catholic" or universal but also locally grounded.

God calls us to be the People of the Lord. To be like a body made up of many parts but working together supporting, encouraging and building each other up. To be like living stones building and worshipping together.

I wonder who in your family you are most like? Family traits are passed on from one generation to the next. I look like my brother and my father. Sam whether he wants to or not looks a lot like me too. These similarities are easy to see in the physical. However, as a family we can also pass on our values and norms, our bad habits or traits as well as our good ones.

Likewise for each of us as members of God's family. When we grow and mature in the faith we are encouraged to bear fruit, the fruit of the Spirit. St Paul tells us in his letter to the Galatians chapter 5 verses 22-25 that:

*The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit*

As members of the body, the family, the people of God we are encouraged to pass on, or to sow and grow the fruit of the Spirit within ourselves and in each other. By this fruit of the Spirit being nurtured and cultivated within us we become known and identified as God's children, his family.

With love from Peter, your brother in the Lord

# WORSHIP Sunday 20th March Lent 3

## Welcome

### Opening Responses

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

This is the day that the Lord has made  
**let us rejoice and be glad in it**

**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      LONGING FOR LIGHT, WE WAIT IN DARKNESS.**  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

### **Prayer of Confession**

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith

**Father we acknowledge that we have not loved  
as you would have us love.**

**We turn to you again  
and ask for your mercy,  
forgive us and renew us  
through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen**

*The minister declares God's forgiveness*

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.

### **Reading of Scripture Colossians 3 v12 –17**

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## **Group Discussions.**

*In a small group of 3/4 people please do take time to reflect upon today's passages of scripture and consider some of the questions being asked. You do not need to cover all the questions being asked but try and cover at least one or two as we reflect upon what it means to be God's chosen people, the family of God.*

*Some additional verses to ponder*

### **1 Peter 2:5**

Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

### **Galatians 5:13**

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become servants to one another.

## **Today's Questions**

- What makes you feel part of our church family?
- If Jesus were to walk into our church today, how would he recognise us as his family?
- What are the fundamental characteristics of being a family that help us to understand what it means to be a church family?
- How do we build our relationships as brothers and sisters?
- How do we show our care and concern for each other?
- What are your hopes, dreams and aspirations for the church family around the world and locally?

## Post it Note—Feedback

*What one aspect of today's reflection do you want to take forward into the week ahead? Take a note of this for yourself and if you are happy to write a post it note for our feedback.*

## **Hopes and Dreams Questionnaire**

*What questions about the future of the church should we be asking?*

*We are constructing a questionnaire to help us take a census of the current church activities and also to be able to explore together our Hopes and Dreams for the future of the churches of St Leonard's and St Mary's.*

*We desire for you to be involved and invite you to make suggestions about questions that you think we should be asking. These will then be collated by a small team including Noreen Grieve and Vicki Clark. If you have any suggestions please pass these to them, or email the church office or drop a (readable) note in the Suggestions Box at Church.*

## Prayer for the Church Vision

**Father God, we desire as a church  
to take hold of the vision and plan You have for us  
and pray that You would lead and guide us to take a step of faith  
in the direction that You would have us go.  
Help us we pray, to grasp your vision for the church.  
May we be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading and guidance.  
Help us not to make rash and quick decisions out of fear  
or a sense of urgency, but to humble ourselves  
and to trust that we are held by you  
as we seek Your plans and purposes.  
Draw us closer to each other and to You,  
that as the church vision emerges in our hearts,  
we will know the Holy Spirit at work in us,  
for the glory and praise of your name. Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession for today

Hymn

## **JESUS, STAND AMONG US**

At the meeting of our lives;  
Be our sweet agreement  
At the meeting of our eyes.  
O Jesus, we love You,  
so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity  
and take away our fear.

So to You we're gathering  
Out of each and every land;  
Christ the love between us  
At the joining of our hands.  
O Jesus, we love You,  
so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity  
and take away our fear.

Jesus, stand among us  
At the breaking of the bread;  
Join us as one body  
As we worship You, our Head.  
O Jesus, we love You,  
so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity  
and take away our fear.

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here  
**His spirit is with us**

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.**

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

Before your Son our Lord was given up to suffering and death,  
we remember 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 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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

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.**

*All are welcome to come forward  
and receive the bread of communion  
Or a blessing at this time*

*(mask - sanitise - receive - consume - mask - return)*

## Prayer after communion

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious  
**And his mercy endures for ever**

**God of mercy and forgiveness,  
may we who have gathered at your families table  
live together in unity and peace,  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.**

## The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen**

**Hymn**      **I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY,**  
I have heard My people cry;  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
I will speak My word to them.  
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, If You lead me;  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain;  
I have wept for love of them –  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone;  
I will speak My word to them.  
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them –  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
Till their hearts are satisfied;  
I will give My life to them.  
Whom shall I send?

## **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**in the name Christ Amen**

**Please do join with us for a time of fellowship and refreshment  
at the close of the service**



# Groundwork

## LENT STUDY GROUPS

We invite you to explore today's topic more fully by joining in with one of our homegroups

**Monday Night 7.30pm**

hosted by Andrew Watt

The Neuk 2 Bridge End Dalkeith

**Tuesday Night 8pm 22nd March**

at St Mary's Church

*Contact Church Office for more information 663 7000*



## Bishop's

## Lent Appeal 2022

This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal is in aid of the "The Welcoming" which is a community project to assist refugees who are or will be moving to live in Scotland. They offer support and befriending as well as access to life skills, learning English and help with applying for jobs or accommodation.

"New Scots" is the term they use as they welcome in new people to our communities and link them up with an old Scot to help them settle in.

[www.thewelcoming.org](http://www.thewelcoming.org)



## Congratulations to

## Barbara and Nigel

## on their

## Golden Wedding Anniversary

We give thanks for your love and friendship.

# Come and help make a difference

## SPRING CLEAN

at St Leonard's

Friday 1st April 2pm –4pm &

Sat 2nd April 10 am –12 Noon



## Coffee at Mary's

10.30 — 12Noon

Saturday 2nd April



## Swap Shop

"Tools" is the theme of our April Swap Shop. Maybe you have some spare or ones you would like to give away. Maybe you are looking for something? Then come and join us on the 2nd of April and have coffee and browse our Swap Shop of tools.



## Digital Connect Group at St Mary's

Organised by Una from Volunteer Midlothian.

**No meeting this week**

**Next Meeting Tuesday 29th March**

Buying and Ipad? Get in touch to hear about a special 4 week training programme specifically for Ipad users.



# Izzy's News

Hi everyone,

I wonder who in your family you are most like? According to the Kennel Club I have a number of Breed Traits & Characteristics. I wonder if you recognise any of these in me?

I am affectionate, welcoming, good with children and other dogs, but not cats. I don't drool unless teased with food, I enjoy playing and being active but also like to cuddle in or stay close by. I am a little protective and my bark at times can be quite sharp pitched but usually I just want to come and see whose at the door.

Every dog is different and other breeds have different characteristics. Some are high energy like the Golden retriever and Labrador that I sometimes meet up with when I am in the Rosewell park. I play with them for a bit but their rough and tumble is not for me. Sadly some dogs or breeds are often given a bad name because of their character or traits. My view however is that all dogs are usually loving, kind and loyal and sadly it is often down to poor ownership and parenting that a dog turns bad.

How we treat each other can have lasting effects that are hard to break out of. Sometimes sadly a dog that has learned or been forced to be vicious may never learn to trust again and always be aggressive. Nevertheless, there are some good dog Samaritans out there who will endeavour to take on a rescue dog and give them a new home and in time we hope that the dogs behaviour will change and be reformed.

Dad says you humans are generally good people too, but that sadly sometimes you end up on the wrong path. I hope like me however, you will come to know that you are loved and will endeavour to stay on the right path.

Yours with love, licks and barks, Izzy

# We Are Family

"Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."  
Mark 3:35 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Mark 3:20-35



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

FAMILY	CROWD	CIRCLE	JESUS	DIVIDED
LAW	EAT	MOTHER	DISCIPLES	KINGDOM
HOUSE	BROTHER	SEATED	TEACHERS	GOD



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

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

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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677