

*Christmas Morning*

**J**esus  
NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

**Connect News**

10am Morning Worship

St Leonard's and St Mary's

## The Welcome

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you**

We gather this holy morning to worship the Lord,  
and to recall the wonderful story of his birth.  
**We gather to celebrate the gift of Jesus, our Lord.**

**Carol: COME AND JOIN THE CELEBRATION,**

It's a very special day;  
Come and share our jubilation,  
There's a new King born today!

See the shepherds  
Hurry down to Bethlehem;  
Gaze in wonder  
At the Son of God who lay before them.

Wise men journey,  
Led to worship by a star,  
Kneel in homage,  
Bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so

'God is with us,'  
'round the world the message bring;  
He is with us,  
'Welcome!' all the bells on earth are peeling.

## Prayer of Confession

**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.

## Christmas Collect:

O God of heaven touching earth,  
grant that we who celebrate the birth of Jesus,  
may come to know and acknowledge Him as our Lord and Saviour,  
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen

## A Reading from Isaiah 52 v 7-10

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## Gospel Reading from Matthew 1:18-25

When it is announced we say:  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about:  
his mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before  
they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy  
Spirit. Now because Joseph was faithful to the law, but did not want  
to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him  
in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take  
Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the  
Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the  
name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the  
prophet: 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will  
call him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us'). When Joseph woke  
up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took  
Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage  
until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

At end: Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

## Sermon

### Thanksgiving and naming of a child

As Jesus took children in his arms and blessed them,  
so now we welcome all who come to receive God's blessing  
giving thanks for their birth and praying for God to encircle them  
with his love, grace and mercy, now and always

What name have you given this child?

Heavenly Father, we praise you for the birth of  
surround *her* with your blessing  
and help *her* to know your love, and protection,  
and know your goodness and faithfulness all of *her* days.

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace  
**Amen.**

### The Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given  
and he shall be called Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace.  
The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

**Carol:**     **AWAY IN A MANGER, no crib for a bed,**  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay;  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes:  
I love You, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask You to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Your tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with You there.

## Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas

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.**

As children of your redeeming purpose  
who celebrate the birth of your Son,  
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.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father.

In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us,  
and lived for a time among us, that we might for ever live with you.

Obedient to your calling, he accepted death on the cross.

When you exalted him on the third day,  
and bestowed on him the name above all names,  
he opened the gate of glory that we might be your children,  
and share in his kingdom of Peace.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,  
desiring to complete the work for which he came into the world,  
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.

**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.**

## **The Distribution of Communion**

*All are welcome to come and receive the bread and wine of communion*

### ***Distribution of Communion***

#### **Prayer after communion**

**God our Father, you have made known to us again the birth of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: strengthen our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for evermore. Amen**

#### **The Christmas Blessing**

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit Be with you and those you gather with this Christmas time.  
**Amen**

**Carol: O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL,** Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light of light,  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God, Begotten, not created:

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God in the highest:

## The Dismissal

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

*On behalf of the Congregations of St Leonard's and St Mary's  
we wish you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year*

*We warmly invite you to join with us throughout the year  
as we learn more about this new born King*

***Sunday 1st January  
Worship Together 10am at St Leonard's***

***Sunday Worship at 10am for both churches  
resumes from Sunday 8th January***



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

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

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Both Churches are registered Charities

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St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677