

The seed sown on rich
soil bears fruit and
yields a hundred or
sixty or thirtyfold.

Matthew 13:23



Connect

St Leonard's & St Mary's
Connecting with God, connecting with each other!
Sunday 16th July 2023

Words of Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God,
the Father and from his Son Christ Jesus, our Lord,
in whom we rejoice by the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us.

Amen

let us pray:

**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

AND CAN IT BE that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.

'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Prayer of Confession

God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Therefore let us confess our sins in penitence and faith

**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

**Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.
May we find peace in your service,
and in the world to come, see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

Reading from Romans 8.1-11

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Hymn **SPEAK, O LORD, AS WE COME TO YOU**

To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

The Gospel We read from Matthew 13.1-9,18-23

Hear the Good News of our risen Lord according to Matthew
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop, a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.'

'Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: when anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.'

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

Sermon

A declaration of faith

As the body of Christ we declare our faith together

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with his love**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high**

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Intercessions for today

The Peace

We meet in the name of the prince of peace.

Let us share God's peace.

Peace be with you
and also with you

Hymn

HOLY SPIRIT, LIVING BREATH OF GOD,

Breathe new life into my willing soul.

Let the presence of the risen Lord,

Come renew my heart and make me whole.

Cause Your Word to come alive in me;

Give me faith for what I cannot see,

Give me passion for Your purity;

Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,
May Your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
In each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace;
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth,
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see.

Offering

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own we give you. Amen**

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.

Worship and praise belong to you Father
in every place and at all times.

You made us, and all the people of the world
and everything that is.

**You give us the daylight. Your Word lights up our minds.
Your Spirit lives in us
so that we can look at the world with your eyes.**

As citizens of heaven, 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.**

Father you never forget us or turn away from us even when we fail you.
You sent your Son Jesus, who gave his life for us.
He healed those who were sick, cared for those who were poor
and cried with those who were sad.
He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive.

For all your love we give you thanks
in the way that Jesus showed us.
For on the night before he died,
while he was having supper with his friends,
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.'

**So, as we do what he told us,
we open our hearts to him;
we remember how he died
and rose again for us.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit on us
and upon this bread and wine;
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ,
and that, sharing your life,
we may travel in your company to our journey's end.

**With all your people we give you thanks and praise
through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Distribution of Communion

Everyone is invited to receive communion or a blessing at this time.

Prayer after Communion

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious
and his mercy endures for ever

Living God, in this sacrament we have shared in your eternal kingdom. May we who taste this mystery forever serve you in faith, hope and love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord:
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Hymn THE SPIRIT LIVES TO SET US FREE, walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity, walk, walk in the light.

Walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light,
walk in the light of the Lord.

Jesus promised life to all, walk, walk in the light.
The dead were wakened by his call, walk, walk in the light.

We know his death was not the end, walk, walk in the light.
He gave his Spirit to be our friend, walk, walk in the light.

The Spirit lives in you and me, walk, walk in the light;
His light will shine for all to see, walk, walk in the light.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen!

*Please do join with us for refreshments
served at the close of the service*

Reflections Group



The Reflections Group meets once a month on a Wednesday afternoon 2pm -4pm. We are about to begin a new book, so this is an ideal opportunity for anyone wishing to join us to get in touch. Our next date to meet is Wednesday 26th July.

The book we have chosen was written by Daniel Ralph, who until recently was a minister in the Baptist church in Wester Hailes, Edinburgh. He is now in America. The book focuses on Psalms 120-134 The Songs of Ascent. They are beautiful and structured and comforting, intended to cultivate holiness and guide us in the pattern of faithfulness. In the group, we reflect on how the passages speak to us as individuals and share our thinking. If you interested on hearing more about the group, please contact Margaret McMeekin Tel: 0131 454 0793

Summer Fair Quiz Winners

Congratulations to Scott Reynolds and Byam Trotter for winning the Quiz. We hope they both will enjoy the goodies they have won. Our Next Quiz and supper night is on Friday 18th August £10 a ticket and we are looking for quiz teams of 4-6 players, friends, families and work colleagues welcome at the Dalkeith Rugby Club 7pm doors open.

KEYHOLDERS REVIEW

Our insurers have asked for an up to date list of Key Holders. Specifically at this time this is for St Mary's but as both churches are now with Ecclesiastical we will be expecting them to request this for St Leonard's later in the year. Can all current Keyholders please contact the church office and let us know what keys have been issued to you. If you have had keys in the past and no longer need them on a regular basis then please also return them to Fiona.



Jam Jar Amnesty

If you have been enjoying some of our homemade Jams, Jellies and chutneys we thank you for your support. But what did you do with your empties? Please bring along your empty cleaned jars to church and place them beside the Jam and Chutney box. Thank You.

Word Search Puzzle

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

PLANTS
WITHER
FELL
ROCKY

SCORCH
BIRDS
PARABLE
SHALLOW

FARMER
ROOT
SCATTER
GOOD

THORNS
CHOKE
SEED
SOW

CROP
SOIL
GREW
PATH



St Mary's
stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's
stleonardslasswade.org.uk

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 0131 663 7000 or email  office.stlandm@gmail.com

Our Rector's Day off is usually a Monday

Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677