

# Connect

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

**Sunday 21st January The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

**Welcome to St Mary's**

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

-Mark 1:15 ESV



# Preparing for the Season of Lent

It may be a few weeks away yet however preparations have begun for this years Season of Lent and we invite you all to be involved as we repent and seek God's transforming love to renew and refresh us as we prepare to celebrate Easter.

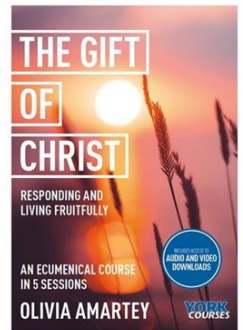


Lent begins on **Wednesday 14th February**  
with two Ash Wednesday Services

**St Leonard's at 10am and then at St Mary's at 7.30pm.**

## Lent Study Groups and Study Guide

God has given us his Son, Jesus Christ, the greatest gift of all time. Through the Bible, we discover that he also gives each of us a special gift. Our growing relationship with God involves finding out what our gift is and using it in every circumstance God places us in. For through our special gifts, God blesses others through us.



This warm-hearted five-session course, draws on the skills Olivia Amartei learnt as a senior leader in the NHS. This was God's training ground for her. Despite facing numerous crises, Olivia found herself developing flexibility, wisdom and the grace to maintain a sense of fun amid the topsy-turviness of life. Now she invites us to embrace the adventure we are all on with Christ, as we look, in turn, at: The generosity of God; Discovering our gift and responding; Being with Jesus and becoming fruitful; When things go wrong, and ways of staying on track; and It's all good - how God changes everything.

You can study on your own or join one of our Study Groups meeting on a Monday and Tuesday Evening. Please sign up today to receive a Study booklet and let us know if you are interested in joining one of the groups. It is also planned that the Sundays in Lent will also reflect the study theme of the week. So lets get ready for Lent 2024

## Call to Worship

Come, let us sing unto the Lord  
**let us rejoice and be glad**

For he is our God  
**and we are his people, called to proclaim his praise**

## Hymn     **THE SUN COMES UP, IT'S A NEW DAY DAWNING**

It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, O my soul  
O my soul, Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

## Confession     *please sit or kneel*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son  
to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us therefore confess our sins in penitence and faith,

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been,**

**help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be.**

*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,  
by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service.  
Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

## Reading: Psalm 62 v5-8

My soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him.  
Truly he is my rock and my salvation;  
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.  
My salvation and my honour depend on God  
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.  
Trust in him at all times, you people;  
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

**Hymn WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME** If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let My love be shown,  
Will you let My name be known,  
Will you let My life be grown in you, and you in Me?  
  
Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare,  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let Me answer prayer in you and you in Me?  
  
Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in Me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through My sight and touch and sound in you and you in Me?

Lord, Your summons echoes true when You but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow You and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go  
Where Your love and footsteps show;  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in You and You in me.

## **The Gospel Reading: Mark 1.14-20**

Hear the gospel of our Lord according to Mark  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

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

## **Sermon**

## **Intercessions for today**

## The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

Let us share his peace

**Hymn**    **HERE IS LOVE vast as the ocean,**  
Loving kindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of life, our ransom  
Shed for us His precious blood.  
Who His love will not remember?  
Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten  
Throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the Mount of Crucifixion  
Fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,  
Poured incessant from above,  
And heaven's peace and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Here is love for all the ages  
risen Lamb of Heaven He stands.  
Calling home His Father's children  
holding forth his wounded hands.  
We are called to feast forever  
at the table of our Lord  
and day by day to love each other  
till his kingdom is restored.

## Offertory Prayer

Let us present our offerings to the Lord  
**God of love and giver of all good things,**  
**we pray that you would accept these gifts**  
**and use them for the glory of your name. Amen**

# 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, God our maker.

Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,  
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.

Day and night celebrate your glory  
till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son,  
you have revealed yourself to the world.

By the guiding of a star, you made him known to the nations  
as the son of David and king of Israel;  
that in following him, we might be led from darkness  
and into his marvellous light.

**Filled with the Spirit,**

**who descended upon your Son at his Baptism in the Jordan,  
we who are baptised in his name  
strive for his heavenly kingdom in whose radiance  
we are transfigured and the earth is transformed.**

As children of your redeeming purpose  
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.

Our hope is built on him  
in whom you are well pleased.

Having been shown to the world as your beloved Son,  
he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom.

**The blind received their sight,  
the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed,  
and the captives set free.**

**At his word, water became wine,  
the hungry were filled with bread,  
and the dead were raised.**

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.

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 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.**

## Invitation to come and receive

*All are welcome to come and receive communion or a blessing at this time*

## Thanksgiving and sending out

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

## Prayer after communion

**Gracious God in your timing  
your Son was revealed to us as the Messiah.  
Help us to be your disciples, seeking and following the Lord Amen**

## Blessing

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts and minds  
with the good news of his kingdom;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you now and always.  
**Amen**

## Hymn **GOD IS WORKING HIS PURPOSE OUT,**

As year succeeds to year;  
God is working His purpose out,  
And the time is drawing near;  
Nearer and nearer draws the time,  
The time that shall surely be,  
When the earth shall be filled  
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost East to utmost West,  
Wherever souls have trod,  
By the mouth of many messengers  
Goes forth the voice of God;  
Give ear to Me, ye continents,  
Ye isles, give ear to Me,  
That the earth may be filled  
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

What can we do to work God's work  
To prosper and increase  
The brotherhood of all mankind  
The reign of the prince of peace?  
What can we do to hasten the time,  
When the earth may be filled  
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

March we forth in the strength of God  
With the banner of Christ unfurled,  
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth  
May shine throughout the world:  
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin,  
To set their captives free,  
That the earth may be filled  
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth,  
Unless God blesses the deed;  
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide  
Till God gives life to the seed;  
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,  
The time that shall surely be,  
When the earth shall be filled  
With the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

## **Dismissal**

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

*Do gather with us for fellowship  
and refreshments served after the service*



Creative  
family  
fun



We look forward to the start of a new year and a year of Messy Activities offering opportunities for family and friends to gather and explore some familiar Bible Stories through arts, crafts, song and story. Finishing off with a family meal together at no cost.

**Last Saturday of each Month from 4pm at St Mary's.**

January 27th Moses, The Prince of Egypt,

February 24th Joshua and the Walls of Jericho

March 30th EASTER Celebrations

*Everybody's Welcome, anyone can come.*

**St Mary's Sunday at 10am**

[stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://stmarysdalkeith.org.uk)



**St Leonard's Sunday at 10am**

[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)



@stlandm

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Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

Please note that Monday is our Rector's day off