

Connect News

OH COME,
LET US
WORSHIP
& BOW DOWN,
Let Us KNEEL
BEFORE THE LORD,
OUR Maker!

PSALM 95:6

Sunday 8th March 2026
3rd Sunday of Lent

Who is Jesus?

This question for me and I hope for you is probably the most important question of all. For how we answer that question should shape and mould the rest of our lives.

Psalm 95 is known as an "enthronement" psalm which calls for joyful worship of God as the almighty Creator, the King, and Shepherd of his people. It reminds us of the majesty and mightiness of God as King above all. It calls us to come before God with thanksgiving and to extol or praise him with music and song. To celebrate that God is for us, we are his people, the flock under his care.

Our Gospel reading today takes us to Jacob's well on the outskirts of a village in Samaria. The people of Samaria are as much looking for a Messiah as the Jewish people were. They share a historical lineage back to Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham. So they share the same promises of God that God has not abandoned his people but will one day send them a saviour. The woman at the well and the people in the village are thirsty longing and waiting, looking to be refreshed with the living water of the Spirit.. Into this setting enters Jesus. He often keeps his identity quiet, but here declares to the women at the well that he is the one who gives us life and can fill us with living water. Jesus declares he is the Messiah, the chosen King, the saviour of the world. He does not hide this from her or those in the village.

So I dare say the question is not "who is Jesus?" for Jesus himself declares "I am he!" He declares openly that he is the Messiah, the King, the saviour. Therefore the question is not who is Jesus but do we believe him?

A revival broke out in a small town known as Sychar in Samaria sometime around AD27 because a woman at a well encountered Jesus the Messiah. Through her witness many came to declare that Jesus was and is the promised Messiah. Not just a Jewish Messiah but the Saviour of the world.

So let us today and for the rest of our lives rejoice and come before God, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before Jesus the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.



Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus
Amen.

Hymn

ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED;

he doth still my trust renew.

Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.

God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,

sword and crown betray his trust;

what with care and toil he buildeth,

tower and temple, fall to dust.

But God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower

God's great goodness aye endureth,

deep his wisdom, passing thought:

splendour, light, and life attend him,

beauty springeth out of naught.

Evermore from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from earth to God eternal

sacrifice of praise be done,

high above all praises praising

for the gift of Christ his Son.

Christ doth call one and all: ye who follow shall not fall.

Prayer of Confession

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,
forgives us and frees us from our sins,
he heals and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life, may we always thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Reading of Psalm 95

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.
For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.
The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.
Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.

Hymn **LET YOUR LIVING WATER FLOW over my soul.**

Let Your Holy Spirit come and take control
Of every situation that has troubled my mind.
All my cares and burdens on to You I roll.

Come now, Holy Spirit, and take control.
Hold me in Your loving arms and make me whole.
Wipe away all doubt and fear and take my pride,
Draw me to Your love and keep me by Your side.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.
Father, Father, Father.
Spirit, Spirit, Spirit.

Give your life to Jesus, let Him fill your soul.
Let Him take you in His arms and make you whole.
As you give your life to Him He'll set you free.
You will live and reign with Him eternally.

Gospel Reading John 4.5-26

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to John
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the well and plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jesus, tired as he was from the journey sat down by the well. It was about noon.

When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.' 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?'

Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.'

He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' 'I have no husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband.

'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.' 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith together in the words of the Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one substance with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercessions

The Peace

We meet in Christ name
Let us share his peace

Hymn

AS WATER TO THE THIRSTY, as beauty to the eyes,
As strength that follows weakness, as truth instead of lies;
as songtime and springtime and summertime to be,
So is my Lord, My living Lord,
So is my Lord to me.

Like calm in place of clamour, like peace that follows pain,
Like meeting after parting, like sunshine after rain;
Like moonlight and starlight and sunlight on the sea,
So is my Lord, My living Lord,
So is my Lord to me.

As sleep that follows fever, as gold instead of grey,
As freedom after bondage, as sunrise to the day;
As home to the traveller and all he longs to see,
So is my Lord, My living Lord,
So is my Lord to me.

Offering

Let us present our offerings to the Lord:

**Generous God, accept the offering of your people
for the work of your Kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Maker of light and darkness.

Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,
brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

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 he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the Firstborn, freely offered up his life.

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.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as our Lord taught us to 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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.

Distribution

*All are welcome
to come and receive as we gather at our Lord's table*

Prayer after communion

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious
and his mercy endures forever.

**God of our pilgrimage, we have found the living water.
Refresh and sustain us as we go forth on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves,
to take up your cross, and to 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

**JESUS IS LORD! Creation's voice proclaims it,
For by His power each tree and flower
Was planned and made.**

Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it,
Sun, moon and stars in heaven cry, 'Jesus is Lord!'

Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!
Praise Him with hallelujahs for Jesus is Lord!

Jesus is Lord! Yet from His throne eternal
In flesh He came to die in pain on Calvary's tree.
Jesus is Lord! From Him all life proceeding,
Yet gave His life a ransom thus setting us free.

Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror,
From death He rose, and all His foes shall own His name.
Jesus is Lord! God sent His Holy Spirit
To show by works of power that Jesus is Lord.

The Dismissal

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



“I Will Give You Rest: Come”

The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials from Nigeria bring us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God.

Join us for prayer for the world and ourselves:
St David’s Dalkeith Wed 11th March at 1pm
All Welcome



Jam and Chutney

A stock of wonderful tasty homemade Jam’s and Chutney is offered for sale at both churches for you to purchase for yourself or even to give away. Choose your jar and place the money in the honesty box. Spread and enjoy...



easyfundraising

When you shop on-line did you know you could be raising funds for the church without it costing you a penny.



By using this QR Code you will be taken to Easyfundraising where you can enter in the “St.Leonard’s Church Lasswade” and then start browsing your favourite online stores knowing that we will receive a penny or two. Remembering that pennies make pounds at the end of the year.



Bring and Bid

Auction night
Friday 20th March

On Friday 20th March, we are excited to host our first Bring and Bid Auction. Tickets will be available for purchase at both churches prior to the event, priced at £2.00, which includes refreshments.

Doors will open at 7pm, allowing everyone to browse the items for sale on display. The Auction will officially commence at 7:30pm, with Peter Harris and Anne Mackay serving as our auctioneers.

Come and get involved bring an item and bid for others . We are expecting an evening of entertainment with all proceeds from the evening going towards the ongoing mission and maintenance of the churches.

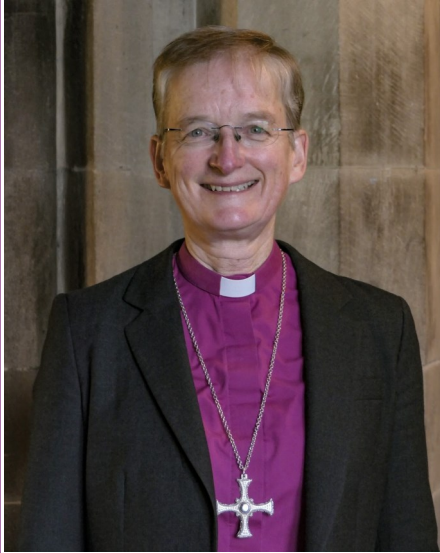
How can you help?

Participate in the Big Bid! Let's see how much we can raise from items we no longer need. If you have a cherished or valuable item, you can place a reserve on it. If it doesn't sell, you can take it back at the end of the evening. There will be an interval during which sold lots can be paid for and further browsing time will be provided. The next auction slot will begin around 8:30pm. With doors closing at 9:30pm

As this is our first fundraising auction, we are focusing on smaller items rather than furniture. We hope you will join us, bring 'LOTS' to auction, and enjoy the lively atmosphere once the bidding starts!

You can bring your items on the evening or better still bring them to church the week prior to the event handing them over to one of the Social Committee Anne McKay & Rebecca Brouwers Harries at St Mary's or Alison Bruce & Elizabeth Baker at St Leonard's

Please donate, buy a ticket and come and have fun



Congratulations, Bishop Dagmar!

As you are probably already aware, the Right Reverend Dr Dagmar Winter was elected on Saturday 14 February as the Bishop-Elect of Edinburgh Diocese.

Bishop Dagmar currently serves as the Bishop of Huntingdon, a suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Ely. Since 2023 she has also been the Acting Bishop of Ely. So comes to us with much experience ready to serve the people and churches of the Diocese of Edinburgh

Following the election, Bishop-Elect Dagmar said:

"I am hugely honoured to have been elected as the next Bishop of Edinburgh and would like to thank most warmly all those involved in the thorough process, indeed, in electing me. "I rejoice in the diversity and inclusivity of the Diocese of Edinburgh and can't wait to get to know all the clergy and people in the charges from the Tweed to the Firth of Forth – your joys, your challenges, your opportunities.

I firmly believe that the Scottish Episcopal Church has a unique voice to share in today's world, and I am committed to supporting and encouraging all who contribute to its mission and ministry and to raising its profile further. I also look forward to joining the College of Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church. "As I pray for you, please pray for me as I prepare to leave Ely and join you in Edinburgh."

Please keep Bishop Dagmar in your prayers
as we work towards her installation as Bishop of Edinburgh on
Saturday 30 May 2026
at **St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.**

Holy Week Services 2026

Monday 30th March to Friday 3rd April

Lasswade Bonnyrigg & Rosewell

Daily Prayer Reflections

9am at the Pitcairn Centre

Evening Worship 7pm

Monday 30th March – Stations of the Cross at Our Lady

Tuesday 31st March – Rosewell Church

Wednesday 1st April – Lasswade Church

Maundy Thursday 2nd April – St Leonard's Church

Good Friday 3rd April – Cockpen & Carrington Church

Dalkeith Area

Palm Sunday Praise

6.30pm at St John's Church
an evening of worship together

Maundy Thursday

7pm at St Mary's Dalkeith

We are commanded to love and break bread
in memory of Christ's passion for us all.

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Commencing at 10am from St Mary's

Early Easter Sunday

7.30am in the King's Park
followed by Breakfast in St John's

This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal is for Aberlour Children's Charity.



aberlour
scotland's children's charity

Aberlour Children's Charity works to provide tailored support to families facing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination. It provides support at the earliest opportunity by offering a range of services across Scotland, utilising the voices of those impacted to create and implement tools for change. The charity has been in operation for just over 150 years, with a long and varied history, seeking always to place the children at the heart of what they do giving every child the best possible start in life.

Please consider supporting this years Lent Appeal by taking a Donations Box home with you and leave it in a prominent place in the home or work to encourage people to donate to this amazing work.

Remember to return the box after Easter.



Alternatively you can use the QR Code here to be taken to the Stewardship Page run by the Diocese to donate online to this years Lent Appeal.



St Mary's
stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's
stleonardslasswade.org.uk

Find us on  **@StLandM**

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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