



St Leonard's Welcomes You in Jesus' Name

'Come to me, all of you who are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest' **Matthew 11 : 28**



We Are Back!

With Lockdown restrictions finally easing, churches are once again being allowed to open their doors to a limited number of worshippers (maximum of 50) from 26 March.

Our first service back in church will be on Sunday 28th March at 10.30am - note the clocks go forward one hour that day so don't be caught out. It is also, of course, Palm Sunday, marking the start of Holy Week. Our Minister will be leading the worship.



There will also be a service in church the following Sunday 4th April (Easter Day) at 10.30am and this will be again be led by our Minister.

As when services resumed last September after the previous Lockdown, the guidelines in place will remain unchanged. Everyone attending should wear a face covering and be socially distanced at all times. The same designated pews will be in use to ensure this happens in church.

Entry will again be via the back door only. On entry you will be asked for contact details for Test and Trace purposes. Hand gel will be available by the hall as you proceed through to the sanctuary, where you will be guided to a seat. Please place your offering in the plate as you pass.

Angus will play the hymns on the organ but no singing is yet permitted. Nor will there be any tea or coffee available after the service. When you leave the hall at the end of the service it is important not to gather in groups immediately outside. Churches have been allowed to open before most other businesses / organisations, so will be scrutinised closely for any breach of the regulations.

It is likely that after Easter services will take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month for a few months. Look out for a newsheet on Easter Sunday with further information on this.

Online Worship Calendar

Our weekly online worship will continue after services resume in church.

Services can be accessed each week via You Tube or St Leonard's Facebook page.

Over the next few weeks the services will be led as follows:

Sunday 28th March
(Palm Sunday)
Rev Edward Andrews

Sunday 4th April
(Easter Day)
Rev Donald Prentice



Sunday 11th April
Rev Edward Andrews

Sunday 18th April
Rev Donald Prentice

Sunday 25th April
Rev Edward Andrews

Recordings of each service are also available in CD format by contacting John Carson
Tel: (01309) 674541.
Email: j.carson2@btinternet.com

Visit www.stleonardschurchforres.org.uk

Rev David Wright

As many of you will be aware, David sadly passed away on the morning of 18th February in Bruach House Care Home in Nairn.

After graduating from Aberdeen University David's Ministry took him to a variety of parishes around Scotland. It began in the East Lothian fishing community of Port Seton before he was called north to Forfar. Then it was on to Hawick in the Scottish Borders before his final call to St Columba's in Stornoway, from where he retired in 1997.

David and Margaret then moved to Nairn and a few years later David became our Interim Moderator in St Leonard's following the resignation of Peter Robertson. He also preached regularly during Paul Amed's subsequent ministry and throughout the three year vacancy after he left us to return to Stornoway.

David's unerring grasp of the Scriptures and faithful exposition thereof were a hallmark of his exceptional preaching. He also filled in at the organ with great aplomb for many years.

David will always be remembered with great affection in all our hearts as a loyal churchman and true friend, whose pawky sense of humour brought a smile to many a face.

We give thanks to God for David's life and witness and ask God's richest blessings on Margaret and all the family at this sad time.

In Our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers at this time the following members of our fellowship in St Leonard's:

- > **John Carson**, as he seeks to regain his strength and fitness following his recent stay in hospital.
- > **Sadie Conn**, now back home with a care package after a spell in Seafield Hospital, Buckie.
- > **Derek Gobbett**, at the start of the road to recovery following serious illness.
- > **Alasdair Morton**, starting to get around again following a hip replacement.
- > **Eddie Cowie**, who has been in and out of hospital of late.
- > **Roger Gittings**, recovering from a nasty fracture of his wrist.

If you know of anyone else who is ill please let the Pastoral Care Team or the Minister know.

Urgently Required

Lina Cancini has recently resigned as our Safeguarding Coordinator due to family pressures.

There is an urgent requirement to find a replacement as we cannot operate as a Church without having someone in the role, so if you can think of anyone suitable please notify the Minister or Session Clerk straightaway.

You Tube Recordings

Our Minister has recorded a series of talks during this period of Lent. These can be accessed on the You Tube Channel.

One of our new members, Gemma Spurgeon, has also recorded a couple of meditative sessions, which are worth viewing, also on the You Tube channel.

Sock Appeal

Just a gentle reminder that our Sock Appeal is continuing this year with the opportunity to gather loose change and donate to the Church at the end of December.

If you do not have a sock, you can pick one up when we are back in church.

Minister

Rev Donald Prentice
St Leonard's Manse, Nelson Road
Tel: (01309) 672380

Email: dprentice@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk

Roy Anderson
22 Woodside Park
Tel: (01309) 671595

Email: royand@btinternet.com

Scottish Charity No. SC005094

Pastoral Letter from the Minister



A Prayer for Easter Day

Risen Lord,
we are the Easter people, and Alleluia is our song.

We are the Easter people come to worship,
released from tombs of pain and doubt and fear and death
into the freedom of this new day,
and its promise of hope fulfilled.

We are the Easter people,
Emerging into the brightness of faith,
Blinking, questioning, wondering, hoping.



Come to us, into the garden of our lives,
and touch all that is barren, and wasted and dried
with Your healing hand.

Forgive our half-lived lives,
our broken promises, and our failed kindness.

Call to us by our name,
that we might turn from all that limits and burdens us,
and lift us up into forgiveness and freedom.

Open the gateways of our hearts and minds,
and call us out into Your world to be,
embraced by Your unfailing and renewing mercy.

Today, in silence, prayer and song,
may we encounter Jesus and His grace.
For we are the Easter people, and Alleluia is our song.

Through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

Amen

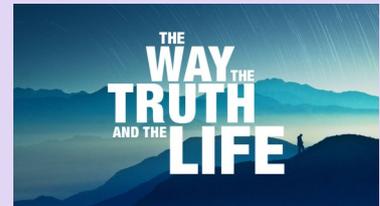
from Church of Scotland Worship Resource

Easter Blessings

Jesus came into the world
A precious baby boy
God gave us His only son
This wondrous gift of joy.

A great sacrifice was made
So we'd gain eternal life
Jesus suffered upon the cross
In anguish, grief and strife.

But Jesus conquered the power of
death
And all its painful woes
The tomb was empty, the stone
rolled away
From the grave our Saviour arose.



When we believe in Jesus
And accept Him in our heart
All things are made new again
We have a brand new start!

As we celebrate this Easter
In praise with joy and song
We have a blessed assurance
To the Saviour we belong.

Easter Quiz

1. What is the first day of Lent called?
2. Where did the arrest of Jesus take place?
3. From which country does the Easter lily originate?
4. Which of Jesus' disciples denied him three times?
5. Which is the only Shakespeare play to mention Easter?
6. Who was made to carry the cross of Jesus?
7. Easter Island is a territory of which country?
8. Where did the arrest of Jesus take place?
9. What does Golgotha mean in Hebrew?
10. Which artist painted the Last Supper?
11. Which Roman governor tried Jesus?
12. Who wrote the song 'Easter Parade'?