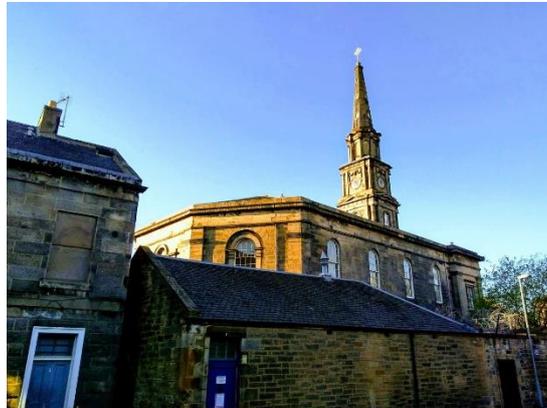


**North Leith Parish Church
Sunday 7 March 2021
Third Sunday in Lent**



Click the link below to listen

[Welcome, Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach](#)

Call to Worship

(Based on Psalm 19)

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul,
The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple,
The rules of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart,
The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes,
The orders of the Lord are true and righteous,
More to be desired than gold and
in keeping them is great reward.
Let us worship the Lord.

Prayer of Approach

Lord God,
You are our holy God,
You are separate from us and
other to us,
Yet You have made us in your image and
You are our one God
Who calls us close to You in worship and praise.
Ready and prepare us now Lord,

Help us to set aside all that distracts us from You
and would shut out Your voice.
May our understanding of Your will for us grow and
may the meditations of all our hearts be acceptable to You now.

Lord God,
We confess our sins to You,
The times when we have broken the ways You give us to live
When we think that Your rules don't really matter
or that we are an exception to them.
We confess the things we have intended to do but have left undone and
the things we have done which we wish were undone.
We are sorry. Forgive us Lord.
Help us to see ourselves as You see us
and bring to light our hidden faults.
Restore us and change us Lord.
Open our mouths to speak truth and justice
and our hearts to love and care for Your people.
We trust in Your power to bring good from evil
and in gratitude for Your care for us we pray together the words which Jesus taught us to
say together

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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.**

Click the link below to listen

[Hymn CH4 Praise to the Lord](#)

Scripture Reading John 2:13- 22

Reader Shirley Hopkins

Click the link below to listen

Scripture Reading and Reflection

Living Pictures



Cramond Island

Katherine Taylor

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Thank You Lord, that You give us commandments to live by, the best ways to live our lives. Thank You for sending us Jesus, to show us how to live and love, and to give us the hope of life after death.

Jesus spoke truth to power and we pray for those who have the faith and courage to do that Lord. Make their voices and actions known and help us to recognise them too. We pray for Your protection for demonstrators in Myanmar and for peaceful protest. We pray for our leaders, in government and in local councils. May their ears and minds be open to Your truth. We pray for the church too as she listens to Your voice in this time of change. Help Your people to speak truth with courage.

Jesus' work was to bring people close to You and we pray for the mission plans in the church, in One Church for Leith and in Presbytery. May they follow Your will and do Your

work in the world. We pray for Your missionaries in difficult and dangerous places. May they know Your peace, protection and share Your promise of new life.

Jesus lived justly and we pray for those who have responsibility for justice and for upholding rules for the common good in our land, judges and sheriffs, court officials and police. May they know Your wisdom, Lord. We pray for prisoners and their families and those who care for them. May they know the hope of Your presence with them.

Lord, You hold us together through loving commandments and the life of the Holy Spirit. Hold together now, close to You, those who are grieving, those whose faith is weakening and who are doubtful and all those who are struggling with work, illness and other trouble in life.

Lord in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer,

Amen

Click the link below to listen

[Hymn CH4 Let us Build a House](#)

Blessing

May the Blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us and with all those we love, now and for evermore.

Amen

Voluntary

Click the link below to listen

[The Heavens are Telling FJ Haydn](#)



Intimations

North Leith Easter Magazine

Contributions to the magazine are very welcome. Perhaps you would like to share what you are looking forward to this year? Or has there been a special walk or place which has lifted your spirits during the past few months? The deadline is 16th March.

Easter

We are planning to celebrate Easter by brightening up the North Leith church railings with as many knitted or crocheted flowers as we can. We may even have enough to give away! All kinds of flowers and leaves are welcome. If you would like help with a pattern and wool please contact the church office.

Thank you to Shirley Hopkins for reading and for her photograph of Cramond Island and to our organist Iain Mackinnon for his choice of voluntary.

Pictures

[Jackson, Donald. St. John's Bible, Aertsen, Pieter. Cleansing of the Temple](#), from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. [Second Temple](#), [Saint Peter's Square](#) Cramond Island – Shirley Hopkins