

**CANONGATE KIRK
THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE
AND EDINBURGH CASTLE**

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Sunday 17th March 2024
Passion Sunday/St Patrick
Fifth Sunday of Lent

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Ciaccona in E minor by Buxtehude

OPENING SENTENCE Jesus died for all so that those who live should cease to live for themselves, and should live for him who for their sake died and was raised to life.

2 Corinthians 5: 15

HYMN 59 Oh, come, and let us to the Lord *(Irish)*

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO PRAYER The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

PRAYERS including

We confess to God almighty, to all the company of heaven, and to each other, that we have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault.

Therefore we beseech almighty God to give us the grace of true repentance, to have mercy upon us, and cleanse us from our sins.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

ABSOLUTION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

ANTIPHONAL PSALM

51: 1 – 4, 7 – 12

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

³ **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight.

⁷ **Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;**

wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ **Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God,**

and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹ **Do not cast me away from your presence,**

and do not take your holy spirit from me.

¹² **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Glory be to the Father,

and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now

And ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 5: 5 – 10

GOSPEL

St John 12: 20 – 33

SUNG RESPONSE

Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;

take we the robe and the harp and the palm;

sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,

dying in weakness, but rising to reign. (H. Bonar)

PRAYER OF GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies:

we, your unworthy servants, give you most humble and hearty thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all people.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by

our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory.

Give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be

unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our

lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking

before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ

our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now

and for ever. Amen.

HYMN 598

Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire

(*St Columba*)

REFLECTION

HYMN 465 Be thou my vision (Slane)

OFFERING Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

CREED **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS *ending with The Lord's Prayer*

HYMN 468 Son of God, eternal Saviour (Blaenwern)

THE BENEDICTION *ends with sung Amen*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Prelude and Fugue in G minor* by Buxtehude

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**Welcome** to Canongate Kirk. Please be aware we have an induction loop system for the benefit of those who use hearing aids. A livestreamed video of today's service is available on our website [www.canongatekirk.org.uk](http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk) - feel free to share the link. The latest edition of our monthly newsletter is also available on the website and paper copies can be found at the back of the church. If you would like to receive it by e-mail, please get in touch with the office.

**Congregational Meeting** Our annual meeting to note the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 will take place immediately after the morning service TODAY. Copies are available at the back of the church.

**Contactless Machine** Our previous machine in the foyer has been replaced by a new 'Payaz' contactless machine which has allowed us to set up different donation values, or let the donor choose the amount they wish to give. Where applicable we will also be able to claim Gift Aid on donations.

**Sunday Offerings** We are grateful to everyone who supports the church financially in the variety of ways, including contactless, that are now available. Many members of the congregation still prefer to put something in the offering bags when they are passed around during the service. If you give by other means, please feel free to pass the bag on to those sitting alongside you so that everyone has an opportunity to give their offering.

**Season of Reflection and Renewal** As a follow-up to our appeal for volunteers to help with Sunday duties new rotas have been drawn up to take effect from 7<sup>th</sup> April onwards. For Sunday duties we are hoping to have teams of six helpers consisting of three new volunteers and three elders. Please sign up to help in either capacity and aim to be here by 10am on the relevant Sunday. A number of people also offered to read lessons at Sunday services, for which a separate rota has also been created. Again please sign up if you would like to, and add your contact details.

**Tea and Coffee** Please note there is a new rota in the foyer for tea and coffee helpers from April to June. No experience needed.

**Open Kirk** Our programme to welcome visitors and tourists to Canongate Kirk will resume at Easter weekend and continue every weekend thereafter in the meantime. Please sign up on the board in the foyer if you can help take a turn.

**Flower Arranging Demonstration** Pick up some new ideas with a flower arranging demonstration by a local florist in the Kirk next Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, starting at 10am with coffee. The session is free but a small donation towards the flowers is requested. All welcome!

**Concert** Our next concert is on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm. The Linton Singers perform *Voices of Angels* – a wide ranging programme of mainly female composers from 11<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> century. Tickets £12 on the door.

**Next Sunday** On Palm Sunday we will be joined by friends from the Royal Regiment of Scotland Association as part of their re-union weekend.

**Edinburgh Easter Play** '*Easter, the Women's Story*' is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March in Princes Street Gardens. More information at <https://easterplay.org/>

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| <p><b>St Giles at Six</b> Weekly free concert <b>tonight</b>: George Heriot's School Chamber Choir. <a href="https://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events">https://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events</a></p> |
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