

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

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Sunday 28th April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Holy Communion

We have come together as the family of God
in our Father's presence
to offer him praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive his holy word,
to bring before him the needs of the world,
to ask his forgiveness of our sins,
and to seek his grace,
that through his Son Jesus Christ
we may give ourselves to his service.

The Lord has told you mortals what is good, and what it is that the Lord requires of you: only to act justly, to love loyalty, to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6: 8

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Largo by G F Handel

OPENING SENTENCE

HYMN 552 Oh, for a closer walk with God *(The Flower o' the Quern)*

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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

PRAYERS including

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

ABSOLUTION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

ANTIPHONAL PSALM

22: 25 – 31

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live for ever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord;

**and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.**

²⁸ For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ **To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;**
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

³⁰ **Posterity will serve him;**
future generations will be told about the Lord,

³¹ **and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.**

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.

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.**

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.**

HYMN 600 Spirit of God *(Skye Boat Song)*

REFLECTION

HYMN 416 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing *(470/Warrington)*

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYERS including:

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 our thanks and praise.

... therefore, with your people of all places and times, and with the whole company of heaven, we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise in the angels' song:

**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.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

**Gracious God
we give you glory, thanks and praise
for the dying and undying love of our Saviour Jesus Christ.
In your great goodness
you have brought us into communion with him
and with all who love him,
and made us heirs of your everlasting kingdom.
By your grace, may we continue in this holy fellowship,
and live to the glory of your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN 739 The Church's one foundation *(Aurelia)*

THE BENEDICTION ends with sung **Amen**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fugue in F major BWV 540* by J S Bach

Welcome to Canongate Kirk. This morning we extend a special welcome to all visitors - please join us in the foyer for tea and coffee after the service. On this last Sunday of the month, our service incorporates the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The bread is gluten free and the wine port with a touch of water. In a further change to our seating arrangements for Communion, the Kirk Session has agreed that individual glasses will be available in the King David Aisle only. Those sitting either side of the central aisle will be served with a common cup. Please choose your pew according to whether you prefer common cup or individual glass. 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 - 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.

Evening Service Our monthly united evening service with St Giles' will take place this evening at 7pm here in Canongate Kirk and our guest preacher will be The Right Revd Sally Foster-Fulton, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. As usual a quartet of singers from the Cathedral choir will be in the gallery. There will be an opportunity to meet the Moderator and other members of the congregation over refreshments in the foyer afterwards. All welcome.

Kirk Session There is a strong possibility that an extra meeting will need to be held on the evening of Wednesday 8th May to finalise the terms of the Basis of our Parish Grouping with St Giles' Cathedral. The meeting should not last long and will take place in the church foyer, **not** the Harry Younger Hall. All Elders are encouraged to bear this in mind and attend if possible.

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. The first time you use the new machine you will be asked if you wish Gift Aid to be applied. If yes, just follow the steps on the screen. Once you have registered for Gift Aid, so long as you use the same card, you will not be asked again.

Sunday Rotas As a follow-up to our appeal for volunteers to help with Sunday duties new rotas have been drawn up and can be found at the back of the church. 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.

Please note there is a new rota in the foyer for tea and coffee helpers up to June. No experience needed.

And our Open Kirk programme to welcome visitors and tourists to Canongate Kirk continues on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. Please sign up on the board in the foyer if you can help take a turn.

Craft Club The Craft club continues to meet monthly in the Harry Younger Hall on the second Wednesday of each month from 6.30pm – 8pm with the next meeting on Wednesday 8th May. The group is open to crafters and non-crafters, skilled and non-skilled alike – you can be sure of a friendly welcome.

Events in May To mark the 250th anniversary of the death of Robert Fergusson, the Scottish Poetry Library has organised an evening to celebrate his extraordinary life and times at **7pm this Wednesday 1st May** here in Canongate Kirk. Poetry, music and conversation will be provided by writer James Robertson, academic Professor Rhona Brown and musician Tommy Reckless. Tickets from Eventbrite at <https://bit.ly/3TA786S>

This Friday 3rd May at 3pm we once again welcome the latest generation of hugely talented students from the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music in Surrey for a concert of chamber music. Tickets: £15/£7.50. All proceeds go to Canongate Kirk.

Canongate Kirkyard Tours We are delighted to announce that local historian and guide, Eric Drake, will resume a range of tours on the first Sunday of each month starting next Sunday 5th May with ‘Canongate’s Royal Connection’ - a fascinating delve into history from David I to Charles I including legends and facts, royal gifts, royal servants and more! Each month covers a different theme including Canongate and the Enlightenment, the Arts, the World and Soldiers & Sailors. Tours start at the front of the Kirk at 11.30am and last an hour. Free of charge but donations to Canongate Kirk welcome! Leaflets with more information are available at the back of the church.

<p>St Giles at Six Weekly free concert tonight: Glenalmond College Chapel Choir https://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events</p>
