

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

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Sunday 30th August 2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

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.

Offer your very selves to God: a living sacrifice, dedicated and fit for his acceptance.

Romans 12: 1

OPENING SENTENCE

HYMN 189 Be still for the presence of the Lord

(Be Still)

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 105: 1 – 6

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

² **Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.**

³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

⁴ **Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.**

⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered,

⁶ **O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

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

Romans 12: 9 – 18

GOSPEL

St Matthew 16: 21 – 28

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 694 Brother, sister, let me serve you (*Servant Song*)

REFLECTION

HYMN 662 Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts (*Maryton*)

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.**

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

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.

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son
and brought us home.**

**Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your
children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN 153 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father *(Faithfulness)*

THE BENEDICTION ends with sung **Amen**

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Welcome to Canongate Kirk! We extend a special welcome to all visitors - please join us in the foyer for tea and coffee after the service. Today we welcome David Goodenough to the organ bench while Simon is away giving a recital in Liverpool. 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 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.

As usual 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. Please note that individual glasses will be available in the King David Aisle only, at the far right hand side of the church. Those sitting in the nave, 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. Our regular monthly united **Evening Service** with St Giles' takes place here at 7pm. As usual a quartet of singers from the Cathedral choir will be in the gallery. All welcome.

Final Kirkyard Summer Tour Today Local historian Eric Drake's tours of Canongate Kirkyard come to an end with the focus on *Theatrical Types - actors, professional musicians and other people associated with the stage*. The tour starts at 12 noon and is free, with donations encouraged.

BBC Radio 4 Extra The Minister has been asked to lead the Daily Service on BBC Radio 4 Extra tomorrow, Monday 31st August. The broadcast, marking the end of the Edinburgh International Festival for another year, goes out at 9.45am and is then available on BBC Sounds for a month afterwards.

September Concert On Friday 4th September at 1pm The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland will be giving a free lunchtime concert with a retiring collection in support of Canongate Kirk. All welcome!

Sunday Offering The Kirk Session has agreed with the Finance Committee's recommendation that we should no longer take up an offering as part of the service. This is for the good reason that most people support the church financially in other more direct ways, for which we are very grateful. There is now a plate in the foyer beside the contactless machine where cash donations may still be placed before or after the service. An offering bag will still be brought forward during the service as we sing 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.'

Sunday Rotas Please sign up to help if you can with tea/coffee after the service, reading lessons, arranging flowers or being part of a Sunday welcome team. The Open Kirk board has also gone back up to encourage volunteers at weekends.

Open Kirk We will continue into September to welcome visitors to the Kirk Monday to Friday and we continue to welcome volunteers to help on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. Open Kirk is a valuable source of revenue for the church and if you would like to take a turn please sign up on the board in the foyer or contact Lesley Wallace on lesley.wallace@blueyonder.co.uk

Stamps and Food Please continue to bring any used stamps along to church and put them in the box at the back of the church. And don't forget the basket for food bank donations in the foyer.

St Giles' at Six TONIGHT - St Giles' at Six TONIGHT - Bristo Community Concert Band with a varied programme of music with a Celtic connection, featuring pieces from Braveheart to Bond and Danny Boy to Doctor Who. <i>Free entry with optional donation. Register on Eventbrite.</i>
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