

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

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**Sunday 23rd August 2026
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Chanson du Matin by Elgar

OPENING SENTENCE We know that the Son of God has come and given us understanding to know the true God.

1 John 5: 20

HYMN 485 Dear Lord and Father of mankind

(Repton)

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 124

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side
—let Israel now say—

**² if it had not been the Lord who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,**

**³ then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;**

**⁴ then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;**

**⁵ then over us would have gone
the raging waters.**

**⁶ Blessed be the Lord,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth.**

**⁷ We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken,
and we have escaped.**

**⁸ Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

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: 1 – 8

GOSPEL

St Luke 5: 1 – 3, 12 – 16

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 540 I heard the voice of Jesus say *(The Rowan Tree)*

SERMON

HYMN 716 Come and find the quiet centre *(Lewis Folk Melody)*

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.

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 166 Lord of all hopefulness *(Slane/500)*

THE BENEDICTION *ends with sung Amen*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fugue in C Major by Marcel Dupré*

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. 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. A leaflet with a list of our remaining Fringe events can also be found at the back of the church.

Next Sunday our morning service will incorporate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, followed later that day with our monthly united Evening Service with St Giles' here at 7pm. As usual a quartet of singers from the Cathedral choir will be in the gallery. All welcome.

Final Kirkyard Summer Tour Next Sunday 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.

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.

THIS WEEK'S FRINGE CONCERTS AT CANONGATE KIRK

Tuesday 25th August – 9pm £15/12

Calton Consort An hour of reflection and sonic depth with composers Schnittke and Grigorjeva.

Saturday 29th August – 2pm ADMISSION FREE

Stray Notes Join Harrogate's friendliest community choir for a fabulous afternoon as they sing an eclectic mix of music including choral, pop, rock and show tunes.

St Giles' at Six TONIGHT - Rakhat-Bi Abdyssagin and Bob Coecke perform Rakhat-Bi Abdyssagin's *Quantum Universe*, a Symphony for Organ, Quantum Guitar and Electronics *Free entry with optional donation. Register on Eventbrite.*