

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

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**Sunday 22nd February 2026
1st Sunday of Lent
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.

Because Jesus himself has passed through the test of suffering, he is able to help those who are in the middle of their test.

Hebrews 2: 18

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Capriccio in C major by Froberger

OPENING SENTENCE

HYMN 718 We cannot measure how you heal (*Ye Banks and Braes*)

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 32

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

² **Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

**I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’,
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

⁶ Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;

**at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are a hiding-place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.**

**¹⁰ Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

**¹¹ Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

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 5: 12 – 19

GOSPEL

St Matthew 4: 1 – 11

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 337 Forty days and forty nights

(Aus der Tiefe)

REFLECTION

HYMN 392 When I survey the wondrous cross

(Rockingham)

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.**

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 167 Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah *(Cwm Rhonnda)*

THE BENEDICTION ends with sung **Amen**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fugue in G major* by Handel

Welcome to the Harry Younger Hall, the temporary home of Canongate Kirk while the church is being redecorated. 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. Those preferring individual glasses should sit on the west side of the hall, i.e. nearest the door, and those who prefer common cup on the other side of the aisle. 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 on the table at the back of the hall. If you would like to receive it by e-mail, please get in touch with the office. We have transferred the basket for foodbank donations to the hall in the meantime.

Monthly Evening Service This will take place TONIGHT in St Giles' Cathedral at 7.30pm. Please note change of time.

Kirk Session The Kirk Session next meets TOMORROW, Monday 23rd February, at 6pm in the Harry Younger Hall.

Coffee Morning Members of the congregation continue to be enthusiastic about raising funds, regardless how modest, towards our redecoration programme. Several now plan to organise a Spring Coffee Morning to take place in the Harry Younger Hall from 10am on Saturday 14th March. The theme of the event will be of a "bring and buy" nature where members of the Kirk may in advance bring along unwanted and unused gifts. One of the stalls for example will be looking for and selling "pre-loved" jewellery. **And by popular request there will now be a baking stall!** The event will be a perfect opportunity for members to bring along their friends for some fun, refreshments and "rummaging ". Tickets priced £5 each can be purchased from Krista Ellis, Anne Croft or Dinah Croy. Contributions for selling on the day can be handed in either on a Sunday at church or to the kirk office.

Sunday Rotas Normal service will continue as much as possible while we meet in the Harry Younger Hall. 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. There is also a new cleaning rota for the Hall as we do not currently have a caretaker – this requires two people to give approximately an hour of their time towards the end of every week.

St Giles' at Six - FREE concert tonight: Heriot Watt Orchestra - present 'Scottish' Orchestra music, featuring works by Mendelssohn and Malcolm Arnold and including the premiere of Harris Endean's Organ Concert and Joan Proven's Beaters, blows, Burns and bows. [www.stgilescathedral.org.uk /events](http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events)