

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

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Sunday 1st June 2025

Sunday after Ascension

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prélude in B major. Op 99 by Saint-Saëns

OPENING SENTENCE Christ has entered heaven itself, to appear now before God on our behalf.

Hebrews 9: 24

HYMN 438 The Head that once was crowned with thorns *(St Magnus)*

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 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

shout to God with loud songs of joy.

² For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.

³ He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.

⁴ He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

⁵ God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

⁷ For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.

⁸ God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.

⁹ The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.

For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

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

Ephesians 1: 15 – 23

GOSPEL

St Luke 24: 44 – 53

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 446 Lift up your hearts, believers! *(St Theodulph)*

SERMON

HYMN 424 Blest be the everlasting God *(Bishopthorpe)*

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 439 Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious! *(Regent Square)*

THE BENEDICTION *ends with sung Amen*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fugue in B major. Op 99 by Saint Saëns*

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. 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 June edition of our monthly newsletter is now 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.

Open Kirk There is a rota in the foyer for volunteers to sign up for Open Kirk on Saturdays and Sundays until September - between 11am and 1.30pm or 1.30pm and 4pm. There is also another rota for weekdays if anyone wants to sign up on an ad hoc basis now that the tourist season has started up again, but please check the on-line calendar for occasional events already booked in.

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.

BBC Radio 4 The Minister's recent *Prayer for the Day* series is available on BBC Sounds <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b006qmpj> until 9th June.

Craft Club The next date will be Monday 9th June from 6.30pm – 8.00pm in the Harry Younger Hall. Everyone is welcome, experienced crafters and non-crafters alike. One of the Craft Club's current projects is to baby blankets for babies baptised at Canongate Kirk. If anyone is interested in knitting a baptism blanket at home, please get in touch with the Craft Club organisers via the church office - all supplies will be provided.

KIRKYARD MIDSUMMER TOUR

Advance notice that at 12 noon on Sunday 22nd June, local historian Eric Drake will be our guide for a fascinating tour to discover some of the secrets of this historic space and of the people for whom it is the last resting place. These include the “father” of the New Town, a well-travelled son of a farm labourer, an enterprising young man from Greenland and a Scot who saw the start of the American Revolution. The tour will last roughly one hour. Free but donations welcome.

CANONGATE KIRK CONCERTS IN JUNE

Sunday 1st June	7.30pm	Rudsambee Company of Singers	£15/£10
Saturday 14th June	7.30pm	Calton Consort Summer Concert	£15/£12
Thursday 26th June	1pm	Masterworks American Choir	FREE
Sunday 29th June	1pm	Mississauga Festival Choir, Canada	FREE

St Giles at Six - FREE concert tonight: St Andrews Madrigal Group - a programme of choral and organ music, including works by Weelkes, Morley and Vautor. [www.stgilescathedral.org.uk /events](http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events)