

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

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**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

OPENING SENTENCE Frail mortals are filled with the rich plenty of your house, and you give them to drink from the stream of your delights; for with you is the fountain of life.

*Psalm 36: 7 – 8*

HYMN 28 Thy mercy, Lord, is in the heavens *(London New)*

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 95: 1 – 7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

<sup>2</sup> Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

**let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

<sup>3</sup> For the Lord is a great God,

**and a great King above all gods.**

<sup>4</sup> In his hand are the depths of the earth;

**the heights of the mountains are his also.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it,

**and the dry land, which his hands have formed.**

<sup>6</sup> O come, let us worship and bow down,

**let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

<sup>7</sup> For he is our God,

**and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

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.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 17: 1 – 6

GOSPEL

St John 4: 5 – 19, 25

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



**Spring Coffee Morning** Our fund-raising coffee morning and ‘bring and buy’ event in the Harry Younger Hall is **NEXT SATURDAY**, 14<sup>th</sup> March at 10am. Unwanted and unused gifts are needed for stalls which include “pre-loved” jewellery and home baking. It’s a perfect opportunity for members to bring along friends for some fun, refreshments and “rummaging”. Tickets at £5 each can be purchased from Krista Ellis, Anne Croft or Dinah Croy. Contributions can be handed in to the kirk office.

**Craft Club** This month’s meeting of the Craft Club will be **TOMORROW**, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March from 6.30pm – 8pm in the Harry Younger Hall. All welcome, crafters and non-crafters alike.

**Swing Band Concert** The Heart and Soul Swing Band will be performing a charity concert on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at **Meadowbank & Willowbrae Church**, 83 London Road EH7 5TT. Entry is free with donations requested for Christian Aid Scotland. <https://mandwchurch.org.uk/>

**Annual Congregational Meeting** A short meeting to note our accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 will be held immediately after the morning service next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Copies of the accounts are available today.

**Sunday Offerings** Now that we are being charged to deposit cash into the bank, we encourage all members of the congregation who do not currently give via bank transfer to consider using our convenient contactless giving machine, Payaz. This will also enable us to claim Gift Aid where applicable. Full details are only required the first time you use the machine, making future donations quick and simple. Alternatively, you can continue to use the white envelopes, which enable us to claim Gift Aid and increase the value of your donation at no extra cost to you. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**Sunday Rotas** Normal service will continue as much as possible while we continue to 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 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: Joyce Byrne (Mezzo Soprano)**  
[www.stgilescathedral.org.uk /events](http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events)