

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

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Sunday 3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Baptism

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in E flat major by J S Bach

OPENING SENTENCE I shall run the course made known in your commandments, for you set free my heart.

Psalm 119: 32

HYMN 125 Lord of all being, throned from afar

(Ombersley)

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 31: 1 – 5, 15 – 16

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;

do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

² Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

³ You are indeed my rock and my fortress;

for your name's sake lead me and guide me,

⁴ take me out of the net that is hidden for me,

for you are my refuge.

⁵ Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand;

deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;

save me in your steadfast love.

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.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 2: 37 – 42

GOSPEL

St Matthew 28: 16 – 20

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 625 O thou who camest from above

(Hereford)

REFLECTION

HYMN 636 Baptised in water

(Bunessan/212)

BAPTISM Otilie Gwelly Jean Morris Hartrick

BLESSING 796 The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you:
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

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 682 Go in grace and make disciples *(Abbot's Leigh)*

THE BENEDICTION *ends with sung* **Amen**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fugue in E flat major* by J S Bach

Welcome to Canongate Kirk! Today we are glad to welcome the family and friends of Otilie Hartrick , granddaughter of Donald and Jennifer Morris, who is to be baptised into the wider family of the Church. 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 May 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.

Our redecoration project is almost complete with work to the wooden floors still to be done before the regimental colours and standards go back up. Thanks to a generous benefactor, we have also taken the opportunity to install a new audio-visual system – adjustments will need to be made so please bear with us as we try to get the settings right, both for the congregation in the pews and those watching on-line. Please also note that the city council – which owns the kirkyard – have tightened up on their rules about the gate. Frustrating as it may be, we can no longer leave the gate open and unattended, so please avoid driving into the kirkyard unless you really need to.

Christian Aid Sale The annual book sale will take place at Edinburgh New Town Church (formerly St Andrew's & St George's West) in George Street, starting on Saturday May 9th and then continuing from Monday 11th to Friday 15th May. Books, toys, stamps, music and more can be dropped off from 9am to 8pm on May 4th – May 7th. For more information please visit <https://www.edinburghnewtownchurch.org.uk/work/christian-aid-sale/>

Stamps We have found a company who will recycle used stamps with the money coming directly to the Kirk so please continue to bring any used stamps along to church and put them in the box at the back of the church. We would just ask that you trim the stamps leaving a margin of about a quarter of an inch (0.6cms) around them. We have received £57 for the first sack of stamps - not a huge amount but every little helps. The second sack is almost ready to go. They also recycle other items – have a look at the poster for details.

Sunday Rotas Now that we are back in the kirk, 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.

St Giles' at Six - FREE concert: Organ Recital with Hans Hielscher.
Free entry, with an optional donation. Register for your ticket on Eventbrite.