

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

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Sunday 12th October 2025

Harvest Thanksgiving

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Voluntary in A minor by Maurice Green

OPENING SENTENCE There are many who say, 'If only we might see good times! Let the light of your face shine on us, Lord'. But you have put into my heart a greater happiness than others had from grain and wine in plenty.

Psalm 4: 6 – 7

HYMN 233 Come, ye thankful people, come

(St George's Windsor)

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 144: 9-15

I will sing a new song to you, O God;
upon a ten-stringed harp I will play to you,
¹⁰ **the one who gives victory to kings,
who rescues his servant David.**

¹¹ Rescue me from the cruel sword,
and deliver me from the hand of aliens,
**whose mouths speak lies,
and whose right hands are false.**

¹² May our sons in their youth
be like plants full grown,
**our daughters like corner pillars,
cut for the building of a palace.**

¹³ May our barns be filled
with produce of every kind;
**may our sheep increase by thousands,
by tens of thousands in our fields,**

¹⁴ and may our cattle be heavy with young.
**May there be no breach in the walls, no exile,
and no cry of distress in our streets.**

¹⁵ Happy are the people to whom such blessings fall;
happy are the people whose God is the LORD.

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

James 2:14-17

GOSPEL

St Luke 12: 13 – 21

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 229 **We plough the fields and scatter** *(Wir pflügen)*

SERMON

HYMN 231 **For the fruits of all creation** *(Ar Hyd Y Nos/562)*

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 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father *(Faithfulness)*

THE BENEDICTION *ends with sung Amen*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Nun Danket Alle Gott by Siegfried Karg-Elert*

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. As part of our Harvest Thanksgiving, many thanks to all who have brought donations of non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletries, which will be transferred to the Trussell Trust Edinburgh Foodbank network. Cash donations may also be given for our own Homeless Fund. 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. Our monthly service takes place at Croft an Righ, Abbeyhill, this afternoon at 4pm. It lasts less than half an hour and is followed by a cup of tea and a chance to chat – all welcome.

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. We remain open to visitors at weekends so there is also a rota in the foyer for volunteers to sign up for Open Kirk on Saturdays (mornings and afternoons) and Sunday afternoons. Please help if you can. There are still a lot of visitors and tourists on the Royal Mile!

Craft Club This month's meeting of the Craft Club takes place TOMORROW, Monday 13th October, from 6.30pm – 8pm in the Harry Younger Hall. All welcome.

Canongate Kirk fundraising programme Further to the announcement in this month's newsletter that we are going ahead with the redecoration of the interior of Canongate in the New Year, the first fundraising event has been arranged for the evening of Friday 7th November – a varied programme of songs entitled "Daydreams and Nocturnes" here in the Kirk. Tickets @ £10 each are available NOW, please mark the evening in your diaries! Likewise a fundraising Christmas supper in the Harry Younger Hall on Tuesday 16th December. There will be other events to help replenish our resources as the weeks and months go by – if you would like to suggest, or better still organize, something please let us know!

Art Sale for Christian Aid, to be held between noon and 7pm on Friday 24th October and from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 25th. In the New Town Church, 13 George Street. Includes paintings, prints and books. "This October, collectors and art lovers are invited to a sale full of character, colour and history. From 19th century landscapes to bold contemporary visions, this special sale will celebrate the breadth of artistic talent that has flourished in Scotland and beyond."

St Giles' at Six – please note that tonight's concert has been cancelled.

For future concerts, see [www.stgilescathedral.org.uk /events](http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events)