

**CANONGATE KIRK  
THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE  
AND EDINBURGH CASTLE**  
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**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**  
**Candlemas**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

*Prelude in G Major* by J S Bach

**OPENING SENTENCE** One thing I ask of the Lord, it is the one thing I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

*Psalm 27: 4*

**HYMN 332** When Mary brought her treasure

*(Ave Maria Klare)*

**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 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,  
the world, and those who live in it;

**2 for he has founded it on the seas,  
and established it on the rivers.**

**3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?**

**4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,  
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,  
and do not swear deceitfully.**

**5 They will receive blessing from the Lord,  
and vindication from the God of their salvation.**

**6 Such is the company of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

**7 Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.**

**8 Who is the King of glory?**

**The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.**

**9 Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.**

**10 Who is this King of glory?**

**The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.**

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

Malachi 3: 1 – 4

GOSPEL

St Luke 2: 22 – 40

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 528      Make me a channel of your peace      *(Prayer of St Francis)*

SERMON

HYMN 543      Longing for light, we wait in darkness      *(Christ be our Light)*

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 498      Angel voices ever singing

*(Angel Voices)*

THE BENEDICTION

*ends with sung Amen*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Voluntary in D Minor by John Stanley*

**Welcome** to the Harry Younger Hall, the temporary home of Canongate Kirk while the church is being redecorated. Our service this morning is conducted by Elspeth McPheat DCS while the Minister is away. A livestreamed video of today's service is available on our website [www.canongatekirk.org.uk](http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk) - feel free to share the link. We are also uploading to our website photographs of the redecoration of the kirk as work progresses. The latest edition of our monthly newsletter is available on the website and paper copies can be found on the table in the foyer. 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.

**Craft Club** This month's meeting of the Craft Club will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February from 6.30pm – 8pm in the Harry Younger Hall. New members are most welcome - the group is open to crafters and non-crafters, skilled and non-skilled alike.

**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 14<sup>th</sup> 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. Please do not donate foodstuffs. 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.

**Free Will Offering Envelopes** These are now available. However, as we are now having to pay bank charges on all cash paid into the bank, we would encourage you to consider switching to a monthly Standing Order if possible. Please speak to the Treasurer for more details. Thank you to those who have already made the switch.

**St Giles' at Six - FREE concert tonight:** Organ Recital, Iain Quinn  
[www.stgilescathedral.org.uk /events](http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events)