

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

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**Minister: The Revd Neil Gardner LVO MA BD DL**

**Organist: Mr Simon Leach FISM GMusRNCM**



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Christian Aid Week**

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Wo Gott der Herr nicht bei uns hält* by Scheidemann

OPENING SENTENCE God said... 'I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.'

*Genesis 9: 13*

HYMN 181 For the beauty of the earth

*(Lucerna Laudonae)*

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 66: 8 – 12, 16 – 20

Bless our God, O peoples,

let the sound of his praise be heard,

**<sup>9</sup> who has kept us among the living,  
and has not let our feet slip.**

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.

**<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net;  
you laid burdens on our backs;**

<sup>12</sup> you let people ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

**<sup>16</sup> Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what he has done for me.**

<sup>17</sup> I cried aloud to him,  
and he was extolled with my tongue.

**<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.**

<sup>19</sup> But truly God has listened;  
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

**<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God,  
because he has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me.**

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

1 Peter 3: 13 – 22

GOSPEL

St John 14: 15 – 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.**



**Welcome to Canongate Kirk!** 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](http://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. The monthly service at Croft an Righ, Abbeyhill, takes place this afternoon, at 4pm. Members of the congregation are more than welcome to attend and stay for a chat afterwards.

Our redecoration project is almost complete. 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.

**Presbytery Action Plan** Members of the Kirk Session and other representatives of the congregation are reminded of the meeting in the Harry Younger Hall TOMORROW evening at 6pm.

**Craft Club** This month's craft club has been postponed to May 18<sup>th</sup> and will be focussed on planning for our Christmas craft market and coffee morning this November. If you would be interested in crafting something for this, please join us on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Harry Younger Hall.

**Christian Aid Sale** The annual book sale at Edinburgh New Town Church (formerly St Andrew's & St George's West) in George Street, is open this week from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. For more information please visit <https://www.edinburghnewtownchurch.org.uk/work/christian-aid-sale/>

**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. The Open Kirk board has also gone back up to encourage volunteers at weekends.

**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 already received £57 for the first sack of stamps.

**St Giles' at Six - FREE concert: Piano Recital with Matteusz Rettner**  
Free entry, with an optional donation. Register for your ticket on Eventbrite.