

**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 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Pentecost**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Improvised Short Preludes*

OPENING SENTENCE Through the Holy Spirit he has given us, God's love has flooded our hearts.

*Romans 5: 5*

HYMN 489 Come down, O Love Divine

*(Down Ampney)*

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 104: 24 – 34, 35b

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.

**25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide,  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.**

**26** There go the ships,  
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

**27 These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;**

**28** when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

**29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.**

**30** When you send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the ground.

**31 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works—**

**32** who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

**33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

**34** May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

**Praise 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.**

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 2: 1 – 8

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 13: 1 – 13

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 598      Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire      *(St Columba)*

SERMON

HYMN 627      Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost      *(Capetown/CH3 438)*

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;  
On the third day he rose again;  
he descended to the dead.**

**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 615 Holy Spirit, ever living

(Abbot's Leigh)

THE BENEDICTION

ends with sung Amen

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Fantasia on 'Guide my feet while I run this race'*  
by John Riley

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**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. Today we welcome John Riley to the organ bench while Simon is away. 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 latest 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.

**Next Sunday** our morning service will incorporate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, followed later that day with our monthly united Evening Service with St Giles' here at 7pm. As usual a quartet of singers from the Cathedral choir will be in the gallery. All welcome.

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.

**Concert in May** On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm Open Orchestra will perform the ever popular Freischütz Overture by Weber and the rarely played Symphony 1 by Kalinnikov. Admission FREE with a retiring collection.

**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** Please continue to bring any used stamps along to church and put them in the box at the back of the church. Please 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: The Edinburgh Mandolin & Guitar Orchestra.** A dynamic programme of music for this eclectic ensemble. *Free entry, with an optional donation. Register for your ticket on Eventbrite.*