

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

www.canongatekirk.org.uk

Email:canongatekirk@btinternet.com

Tel: 0131 556 3515

Minister: The Revd Neil Gardner LVO MA BD DL

Organist: Mr Simon Leach FISM GMusRNCM



Sunday 21st June 2026

Third Sunday after Trinity

The Birth of John the Baptist

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

OPENING SENTENCE Take heart, you seekers after God. For the Lord listens to the poor and does not despise his captive people.

Psalm 69: 32 – 33

HYMN 225 Summer suns are glowing *(Ruth)*

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 85

Lord, you were favourable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.

³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation towards us.

⁵ Will you be angry with us for ever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

⁶ Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

⁸ Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

¹² The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.

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

Isaiah 40: 1 – 11

GOSPEL

St Luke 1: 57 – 66

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 334 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry *(Winchester New)*

SERMON

HYMN 718 We cannot measure how you heal *(Ye Banks and Braes)*

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 535 Who would true valour see

(Monks Gate)

THE BENEDICTION

ends with sung Amen

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

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 Andre Theng to the organ bench while Simon is away. (*Andre is also performing the St Giles at 6 free concert tonight!*) 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 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. 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. **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.

Kirk Session The next meeting is TOMORROW, Monday 22nd June, at 6pm in the Harry Younger Hall.

Open Kirk The Royal Mile is packed with tourists again and our student interns are now welcoming visitors to the Kirk Monday to Friday. However, we are looking for volunteers for Open Kirk on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. Open Kirk is a valuable source of revenue for the church and if you would like to take a turn please sign up on the board in the foyer or contact Lesley Wallace on lesley.wallace@blueyonder.co.uk

Summer Concerts

28 th June 4pm	Danish Chamber Choir	FREE
6 th July 2.30pm	Seattle Children's Chorus	FREE

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: Andre Theng. Recital of music for recorder and continuo. *Free entry with optional donation. Register on Eventbrite.*