

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

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Sunday 27th September 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Sacrament of Holy Communion

We have come together as the family of God
in our Father's presence
to offer him praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive his holy word,
to bring before him the needs of the world,
to ask his forgiveness of our sins,
and to seek his grace,
that through his Son Jesus Christ
we may give ourselves to his service.

OPENING SENTENCE
seek his presence.

Look to the Lord and be strong; at all times

Psalm 105:4

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in G minor by Buxtehude

HYMN 189 Be still for the presence of the Lord

(Be Still)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO PRAYER

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

PRAYERS including

Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open,

all desires known,

and from whom no secrets are hidden:

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you,

and worthily magnify your holy name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.** Lord have mercy.

ABSOLUTION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

ANTIPHONAL PSALM 78:1-4, 25-32

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² **I will open my mouth in a parable;**

I will utter dark sayings from of old,

³ things that we have heard and known,

that our ancestors have told us.

⁴ **We will not hide them from their children;**

we will tell to the coming generation

the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,

and the wonders that he has done.

Mortals ate of the bread of angels;

he sent them food in abundance.

²⁶ He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,

and by his power he led out the south wind;

²⁷ **he rained flesh upon them like dust,**

winged birds like the sand of the seas;

²⁸ he let them fall within their camp,

all around their dwellings.

²⁹ **And they ate and were well filled,**

for he gave them what they craved.

³⁰ But before they had satisfied their craving,

while the food was still in their mouths,

³¹ **the anger of God rose against them**

**and he killed the strongest of them,
and laid low the flower of Israel.**

³² In spite of all this they still sinned;
they did not believe in his wonders.

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

Exodus 17: 1-7

GOSPEL

St Matthew 21: 23-32

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 606 Lord, you sometimes speak in wonders (*Stuttgart*)

REFLECTION

HYMN 554 Rock of ages, cleft for me (*Petra*)

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.**

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYERS including:

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... therefore, with your people of all places and times, and with the whole company of heaven, we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise in the angels' song:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory:
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son
and brought us home.**

**Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your
children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN 540 I heard the voice of Jesus say

(The Rowan Tree)

THE BENEDICTION

ends with sung **Amen**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G minor by Buxtehude

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 - 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.

As usual on this last Sunday of the month our service incorporates the **Sacrament of Holy Communion**. The bread is gluten free and the wine port with a touch of water. Please note that individual glasses will be available in the King David Aisle only, at the far right hand side of the church. Those sitting in the nave, either side of the central aisle, will be served with a common cup. Please choose your pew according to whether you prefer common cup or individual glass. Our regular monthly united **Evening Service** with St Giles' takes place here at 7pm. As usual a quartet of singers from the Cathedral choir will be in the gallery. All welcome.

Kirk Session Next meets at **6.30pm** tomorrow, Monday 28th September, in the Harry Younger Hall. Please note change of time to facilitate car parking. If anyone would like the Kirk Session to add their name to our membership roll, please speak to the Minister or Session Clerk.

Harvest Thanksgiving Advance notice that our traditional service of Harvest Thanksgiving will take place on Sunday 11th October at 10.30am. The congregation is invited to bring along donations of non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletries, which will be transferred afterwards to the Trussell Trust Edinburgh Foodbank network. Cash donations may also be given for our own Homeless Fund.

Sunday Offering The Kirk Session has agreed with the Finance Committee's recommendation that we should no longer take up an offering as part of the service. This is for the good reason that most people support the church financially in other more direct ways, for which we are very grateful. There is now a plate in the foyer beside the contactless machine where cash donations may still be placed before or after the service. An offering bag will still be brought forward during the service as we sing 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.'

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.

Stamps and Food Please continue to bring any used stamps along to church and put them in the box at the back of the church. And don't forget the basket for food bank donations in the foyer.

St Giles' at Six TONIGHT – an organ recital by James Hicks, from New Jersey. <i>Free entry with optional donation. Register on Eventbrite.</i>
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