

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

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**Sunday 23rd February 2025
2nd Sunday before Lent**

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.

Lord, who is like you, majestic in holiness, worthy of awe and praise, worker of wonders?

Exodus 15: 11

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in E flat Major BWV 552 by J S Bach

OPENING SENTENCE

HYMN 128 How shall I sing that majesty

(Coe Fen)

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

37: 1 – 11, 39 – 40

¹ Do not fret because of the wicked;

do not be envious of wrongdoers,

² for they will soon fade like the grass,

and wither like the green herb.

³ Trust in the Lord, and do good;

so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

⁴ Take delight in the Lord,

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord;

trust in him, and he will act.

⁶ He will make your vindication shine like the light,

and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

⁷ Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him;

do not fret over those who prosper in their way,

over those who carry out evil devices.

⁸ Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.

Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off,

but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

¹⁰ Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;

though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.

¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the land,

and delight in abundant prosperity.

³⁹ The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord;

he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

⁴⁰ The Lord helps them and rescues them;

**he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.**

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

Genesis 45: 3 – 11, 15

GOSPEL

St Luke 6: 27 – 38

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 664 vv 1 – 4 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face

(St Agnes)

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.

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.

Gracious God

we give you glory, thanks and praise

for the dying and undying love of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In your great goodness

you have brought us into communion with him

and with all who love him,

and made us heirs of your everlasting kingdom.

By your grace, may we continue in this holy fellowship,

and live to the glory of your name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 664 vv 5 – 7 Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear *(St Agnes)*

THE BENEDICTION ends with sung **Amen**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fugue in E flat Major BWV 552 by J S Bach*

Welcome to Canongate Kirk. This morning we extend a special welcome to all visitors - please join us in the foyer for tea and coffee after the service. 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. Those sitting 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. 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 also 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.

Evening Service Our monthly united service with St Giles' will take place TONIGHT at 7pm here in Canongate Kirk. Our guest preacher will be The Revd Dr Stewart Gillan, Minister of St Andrew's Jerusalem. That church was built as a memorial to Scottish soldiers who lost their lives in the region during the First World War, and has a link with both St Giles' and Canongate Kirk. This is an ideal opportunity to hear at first-hand how the last year and more has affected life not just for the Scots Kirk but for all who have been caught up in the terrors and tensions of Israel and Palestine. As usual a quartet of singers from the Cathedral choir will be in the gallery. All welcome.

Kirk Session The Kirk Session next meets TOMORROW, Monday 24th February, at 6pm in the Harry Younger Hall. If anyone would like their name to be added to our congregational roll, please have a word with the Minister or Session Clerk. Please note that parking in the kirkyard might be difficult due to an event being held in the church in the afternoon.

New Year, New Rotas Please sign up to help if you can with tea and coffee after the service, reading lessons or being part of a Sunday welcome team.

Stamps Don't forget that we have had an ongoing collection for used stamps for many years. This year's Stamp Appeal proceeds will go towards the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian project Firmly Planted, which aims to establish self-sustaining tree nurseries to nurture and protect the environment and protect livelihoods for households and communities in Malawi.

<p>St Giles at Six -Free concert tonight: Heriot-Watt University Orchestra. Matthew Brown - Conductor https://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/events</p>
