

Anglican-Lutheran Society Conference 2024



Come to the beautiful city of Edinburgh situated in South-East Scotland. Enjoy the hospitality of St John's Church in Princes Street, the heart of the city, and a conference combining worship, good food, stimulating company and examination of an important theme:

'Church in a State'

Friday 13th – Tuesday 17th September 2024

Some Anglican and some Lutheran Churches are 'established', 'national' or 'state' Churches. Others are not. But all Churches operate within states and communities and strive to make their voices heard in the public square. So the first part of our conference will look at how they do this.

But there is another sense in which our Churches in Europe and North America might be said to be in a state. So the second part of the conference will consider some of the many perplexing issues confronting us.

It will be an opportunity to visit Edinburgh and explore this delightful corner of Scotland, to share in some lively discussion and to enjoy worshipping together.



The Conference Venue

St John's Church is in Princes Street in the heart of the city. The Cornerstone is its purpose-built conference facility. You can see it to the left of the church. Beneath it are two restaurants, a gift shop and a book shop. It is



a short walk from Edinburgh Waverley Station, and trams and buses link it to the airport. The places of interest that we shall visit are just a short walk away.



Everything in the Cornerstone Centre is modern. It is over three floors served by stairs and a lift. The main hall is light and spacious. It will easily accommodate 70+ people for our presentations, and there are four break-out areas.

The Church is magnificent and we shall join the regular congregation for Sunday worship and will base our own daily services there.

Accommodation

We shall stay in the Premier Inn in Princes Street, just a very short walk from the church. The rooms are comfortable, all ensuite, with TV, coffee and tea making facilities and wi-fi. We shall also have our breakfast there each day.



Provisional Programme

Friday :

16.00 – 17.00 Registration in the Cornerstone Centre (with tea/coffee)

17.00 After a welcome by Markus Dünzkofer, Rector of St John's Episcopal Church, we shall be introduced to 'Scotland and the story of Scottish Christianity'. This will be followed by Evening Worship (Lutheran) and a Buffet Supper. Then follows 'A Wee Sing' with members of The Iona Community which will end by 21.00

Saturday

09.00 Morning Prayer (Anglican) will be followed by a session; 'What Luther's Theology of the Two Kingdoms has to offer today'. Then, after coffee, we shall be invited to consider 'How Secularism can Shape Worship'. After Lunch (in the Centre) we visit the Scottish Parliament and hear about Church/State relationships in Scotland

16.30 Tea break (back at the Centre) and then 'Strengths and Weakness of being an Established Church in England'. Into the church for a joyful Celebration of Traditional Anglican and Lutheran Hymnody and closing worship. Evening free to find food and refreshment

Sunday

09.30 Choral Matins in St John's Church is followed by a Sung Eucharist at 10.30 after which we are invited to Refreshments with members of the congregation. We shall find our own lunch before visiting St Giles' Church of Scotland Cathedral. At 15.30 we hope to have Prayers in St Giles' followed by Free Time until, at 18.00, we are back in the Centre for 'A Truly Scottish Evening Meal'. The day ends with a presentation, 'The Church in the Public Space' which ends by 21.00.

Monday

09.00 Morning Worship (Lutheran) followed by two sessions on 'Perplexing Issues our Churches face' with a coffee break between them. At 12.00 there is Free time to find your own lunch before meeting in the Centre for a Presentation and Break-Out Groups Evening Worship at 17.00 is followed by the Conference Dinner at 19.15.

Tuesday

09.00 Reflecting on the Conference Experience, then Holy Communion using the Lutheran Common Liturgy before Departure after coffee at 11.00

Getting to Edinburgh by Air : From USA there are direct flights to Edinburgh Airport from New York, Newark and Chicago. From Canada there are direct flights from Toronto with Air Canada rouge. From Europe low-cost airlines including Easyjet, Jet2, Ryanair, and Norwegian, fly from numerous destinations. In Britain a number of cities offer direct flights to Edinburgh. The easiest way between the airport and the city centre is by tram, which stops in Princes Street near to St John's Church. The journey takes 35 minutes and in 2023 the open return ticket costs £9.50, but you must buy your ticket before entering the tram. There are buses and taxis for those who prefer them.

Getting to Edinburgh by Rail from all parts of the UK is simple. You go to Edinburgh Waverley Station from where it's a 15 minute walk or shorter bus or tram ride to the church. **Parking in Edinburgh city centre is limited** so if you plan to drive check online.

The Conference Fee

The conference fee will be **£700** per person (or its equivalent in your own currency) which includes bed, breakfast, some meals and all outings and visits. You will purchase some of your own meals during free time. **There will be a limited number of bursaries for student members** to help meet the conference fee, but not travel costs. If you would like to apply for a bursary complete that section of the registration form. Preference will be given to people who have not received a bursary in the past.

Extending your stay

You may wish to extend your stay in Edinburgh either before or after the conference. That will be possible but you will be responsible for booking your room and for the additional cost of staying in the hotel. The Society is hoping to arrange a three-day programme immediately following the conference to include a visit to The Royal Yacht Britannia, St Andrews and some lochs and glens. This will depend on the level of interest so please indicate on the booking form if you would like to join in.

Book your place now

At this early stage we need to know how many people are interested in attending the conference so that we can press ahead with the arrangements. **If you think you might like to come please complete the booking form and return it as soon as possible with a refundable deposit of £50 per person (or its equivalent in your own currency).** Then, in February, we will let you have the final programme. If at that stage you are unable to attend the conference your deposit will be refunded.

How to pay

- **If you have a UK bank account** please make a bank transfer from your account using the following information. We prefer this method. There are no fees or delay in receiving funds. Name of account: Anglican Lutheran Society; Bank: CAF Bank Sort code: 405240; Account Number: 00012337. Put your surname and 'Edinburgh' in the Reference field. If you can't do this, send a cheque payable to 'Anglican-Lutheran Society', marked 'Edinburgh Conference' on the back, to our Treasurer, Patrick Litton, 75 Rannoch Road, London, W6 9SX. Your registration will be completed when the funds have cleared.
- **If you do not live in the UK or do not have a UK bank account** you can either:
 - a) **pay by PayPal** using the donate button on the 'How to Join' page of the website and marking your payment 'Edinburgh Conference', which is what we prefer, or
 - b) **make an international Bank Transfer** (BACS) using the following information:
CAF Bank - 25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4JQ, UK
IBAN number: GB65CAF840524000012337 (this identifies our account and is mandatory within the Euro banking area) **Account:** Anglican-Lutheran Society, 10 Sandwich Street, London WC1H 9PL, UK **Swift Code (BIC):** MIDLGB22XXX **Beneficiary Bank SWIFT:** CAFBGB21XXX (this identifies the bank and is more common for non-Euro transfers)

However, international BACS incur higher fees than PayPal so the Society loses money. So please use the 'Donate' button if you possibly can. If you use BACS be sure to tell Helen Harding by email at angluthsociety@outlook.com. She will look out for it. Transfers do go astray which can cause delay and sometimes difficulty when you try to get the unpaid money back from your own bank.