

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Before we were born, God knew us.

All: God knit us together in the womb.

One: God searches out our paths, and tracks us along our way.

All: So we praise God, because we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

One: There is nowhere we can go where God is not with us.

All: How wonderful are all God's works! Let us worship God together.

****Hymn: God of mercy, God of grace**

39

- 1. God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face.
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine;
fill your world with light divine,
and your saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.**
- 2. Let the people praise you, Lord;
be by all that live adored.
Let the nations shout and sing
glory to their gracious King;
at your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.**
- 3. Let the people praise you, Lord;
earth shall then its fruits afford.
Unto us your blessing give;
we to you devoted live,
all below and all above,
one in joy and light and love**

Prayer of Adoration

O God of mercy and God of grace

Let the people praise and give thanks to you,
for you are good and your love endures forever.

Let the nations shout and sing glory to you,
for you are sovereign and your kingdom knows no end.

O God ever creating, ever loving, ever leading,

You are stillness when we are frantic;

You are truth when we are confused and perplexed.

You give us freedom when we are paralyzed by fear;

You send us light when we stumble in the darkness.

You are love when we feel lonely and empty.

For all that you are, all that you have been,

and all that you will be for us,

we praise you, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

We turn to you in worship,

to listen for your voice and seek your way for us.

Desiring to be transformed people,

we bring to you our unison prayer of confession:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you call us to fullness of life but we have settled for much less. We have wandered from your ways and wasted your gifts. We ignore the pain of others, and turn our faces from injustice. At times we have hidden from the truth, especially when it calls us to do what we are afraid to do. We have given up in despair when problems around us seem overwhelming. Forgive us our small faith. Give us courage to listen and follow your call.

Prayer — The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Believe in the good news! We are known and created — made in the most fearful and wonderful way. Accept the fact that we are accepted. We are accepted by that which is greater than us, by the Lord God Almighty. Thanks be to God.

Scripture

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1–10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy.

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 Refrain 1



O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before a word is on my tongue,

O Lord, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written

**all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them — they are more than the sand;

I come to the end — I am still with you.



Second Reading: John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Reader: This is the words of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Lord, speak to me**

7 67

**1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children lost and lone.**

2. **O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet;
oh feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungering ones with manna sweet.**
3. **Oh teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious truths that you impart,
and wing my words, that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.**
4. **Oh fill me with your fullness, Lord,
until my heart shall overflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your word to tell, your praise to show.**
5. **Oh use me, Lord, use even me
just as you will, and when, and where,
until at last your face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

Sermon: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Lead Me, Jesus; I will follow**

6 46

**Open my eyes that I may see;
I will serve you: your disciple I will be.
Lead me, Jesus; I will follow,
Down the pathways, all along the sea
Teach me, Jesus, to be loving:
your disciple I will be.**

Announcements

Offering

****Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow 830**
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn: Will you come and follow me 6 34**

1. **Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown;
will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?**
2. **Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?**
3. **Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,**

**and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?**

- 4. Will you love the “you” you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?**
- 5. Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.**

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

Postlude

Hymn 634

Words: Iona Community (Scotland) Music: John Bell
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Hymn 646

Words and Music: Ted Green
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Mission Moment - Paving the Way for a Brighter Future

Anxious and unsure about his future, Abdul was 14 years old when he joined the electronics and computer program offered by the Joint Christian Committee for Social Service (JCC) in Lebanon. Now 19 years old and equipped with a diploma and five years of experience, he has a good job and an income to support his family. JCC's vocational training programs teach marketable skills and offer hope for many young Palestinian refugees who are out of school and living without a dream or ambition. Through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, the Presbyterian Church in Canada has been supporting this life-giving programme since 2018. Sylvia Haddad, JCC Director, shared that "equipping youth, and especially refugees who have nothing, with a skill or vocation is very important. The challenge is great, but we cannot give up and are grateful for your support."



Greeting and Welcome

Leading in worship is the Rev. Paul Wu. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors. Let us together know the joy and wonder of worshipping God.

There are large print bulletins available. Please speak with an usher. The church is fully accessible with an elevator, ramps and a properly-appointed washroom.

A Note on Our Worship

The symbol ** means please stand if you are able

Forward in Faith — Our Vision

St Giles Presbyterian Church seeks to be a welcoming, fully-alive faith community, which shares Christ's vision for the world and responds in a Christ-like manner to the present-day challenges of our society and world in partnership with all who seek to make Christ's vision for the world a present reality.

Cover Image: Stephanie Yan

St Giles Presbyterian Church

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Organist: Brenda Beckingham

Soloist: Sharon Haidenger