

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



JANUARY 24, 2021

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Trust in the Lord with all your heart,

All: And lean not on your own understanding;

One: In all your ways acknowledge Him,

All: And He shall direct your paths.

One: In this time of worship, let us turn our lives to God and accept the good news.

All: We will listen for Christ's call and follow him.

****Hymn: He leadeth me**

650

1. **He leadeth me: oh blessed thought!
oh words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

Refrain **He leadeth me! He leadeth me!
By his own hand he leadeth me!
A faithful follower I would be,
for 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

2. **Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!** *Refrain*
3. **Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine,
content, whatever lot I see
since 'tis my God that leadeth me!** *Refrain*
4. **And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.**

Prayer of Adoration

Lord Jesus Christ, you have called us together as your people. You have called us your friends and invited us to follow you. And so your church has grown from scattered homes in ancient times — to a worldwide community, embracing men and women, old and young, from many nations and cultures.

In our worship today, inspire us to wonder at the miracle of your church. Help us see the privilege we share to be part of your people across the ages and across the continents. It is your love that keeps drawing us to you and to each other, and so we offer our wonder and praise with millions of people who also gather in your name this day.

Prayer of Confession

God of all the ages, we gather in worship week by week, hoping to encounter your presence. But we confess it's not easy to hear your voice. Sometimes we get distracted by what's happening around us. Sometimes we get confused by conflicting views of what you expect from us. Sometimes we feel challenged and resist a new word from you. We confess it is hard to turn our lives around when we think we already know where we're going. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

Friends in Christ, believe in the good news. God's steadfast love endures forever. Trust that God's forgiveness is for you. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with each other, in the name of Christ our Lord.

Scripture

First Reading: Jonah 3:1–10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: 'By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.'

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Psalm 62:5-12 Refrain 2



For God alone my soul waits in silence,
From whom comes my hope.

**God alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

On God rests my deliverance and my honour;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in God at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before God; who is our refuge.

Those of low estate are but a breath,
those of high estate are a delusion;
**in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.**

Put no confidence in extortion,
and set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

**Once God has spoken;
Two things have I heard:
that power belongs to God,
and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.
For you repay to all according to their work.**



Second Reading: Mark 1: 14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake — for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Reader: This is the words of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: You walk along our shoreline**

753

- 1. You walk along our shoreline
where land meets unknown sea.
We hear your voice of power,
"Now come and follow me.
And if you still will follow
through storm and wave and shoal,
then I will make you fishers,
but of the human soul."**
- 2. You call us, Christ, to gather
the people of the earth.
We cannot fish for only
those loves we think have worth.
We spread your net of gospel
across the water's face,
our boat a common shelter
for all found by your grace.**

3. **We cast our net, O Jesus;
we cry the kingdom's name;
we work for love and justice;
we learn to hope through pain.
You call us, Lord, to gather
God's daughters and God's sons,
to let your judgement heal us
so that all may be one.**

Sermon: Who Knows?

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: I'm gonna live so God can use me 648**

1. **I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord anytime! x2**
2. **I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord anytime! x2**
3. **I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord anytime! x2**
4. **I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord anytime! x2**

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: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer**

651

1. **Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore;
feed me now and evermore.**
2. **Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all thy journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.**
3. **When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee:
I will ever give to thee.**

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 753

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan Music: Johann Steurlein

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Service of Baptism / Reception of New Members

The Session of St Giles is organizing this Service on the upcoming Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021. For those wishing to know more about baptism, or confirmation of faith, or how to join the congregation of St Giles, please contact Rev. Paul Wu at 613-276-2551, or paulwu55@yahoo.ca

St Giles Annual Report

In preparation for the Annual Meeting on February 28, we need to have all material in the office by mid-February (earlier is better). This timing allows us to put the report together for publication. We realize that some organizations will have to await receiving financial information. For those who can go ahead, it would be helpful if you could proceed and send your reports. We propose a report format similar to last year and have sent a list of responsibilities.

Donation of Securities

For some members, the in-kind donation of securities may be a desirable means of donating to St Giles. Our Trustees have established procedures to enable members to give in this way. If you have interest in exploring this possibility further please contact the Treasurer.

From Dan Chook Reid

Dan wishes to thank congregation members for the generous gift when he finished his time with us. No doubt it would be great to see him from time to time.

News

We are saddened to learn of the recent passing of Mr. Samuel Banda in Malawi. He is remembered as a good husband, a caring father, a faithful Christian and an active member of St Giles. Our condolences are with Miriam, Tenor and the rest of the family. May the Lord watch over you and keep you.

Events

Monday, January 25 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference

Friday, January 29 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study will continue by teleconference. Please prepare Isaiah Chapters 56-58

**Sunday, February 28 ~ after service
Annual Meeting**

Joining the Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study:

1. Three to five minutes before the start time, call toll-free 1-888-884-4539.
2. You will be asked to enter a passcode number which is 7455703#.
3. Make sure to press the # after the number.
4. You will then be asked to say your name. Say it.
5. Press the # again.
6. You will then be connected.
7. You may find it preferable to put your phone on speaker.

Mission Moment: Providing Food for the Displaced

In Syria, conflict continues to plague the population, causing over six million people to become internally displaced. As a result, many people are faced with a lack of access to food, loss of employment, high prices and inflation, making them very vulnerable. COVID-19 has only exacerbated the situation. Working with partners at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Presbyterian World Service & Development is providing food baskets to 7,400 families to help meet daily food requirements. During these times of uncertainty, the food baskets will provide a source of sustenance for the families.



Prayer

We pray that, with the support of food baskets provided by PWS&D partners, the many Syrians facing food insecurity due to ongoing conflict will find the sustenance they need.

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.

St Giles Presbyterian Church

Church Office, 181 First Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2G3
613-235-2551 office@stgilesottawa.org www.stgilesottawa.org

Minister:

The Rev. Paul Wu 613-276-2551 paulwu55@yahoo.ca

Church Administrator: Patricia Brush

Office hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Organist: Brenda Beckingham

Soloist: Sharon Haidenger