

# ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## 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

# JANUARY 31, 2021

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Praise the Lord!

**All: Praise the Lord, O my soul!**

One: The Lord is just in all his ways,

**All: and kind in all his doings.**

One: The Lord is near to all who call on him,

**All: to all who call on him in truth.**

One: He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;

**All: he also hears their cry, and saves them.**

One: Praise the Lord!

**All: Praise the Lord, O my soul!**

**\*\*Hymn: All creatures of our God and King**

**1. All creatures of our God and King  
lift up your voice and with us sing;  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
O brother son with golden beam,  
O sister moon with silver gleam,  
sing praises, sing praises,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**5. Let everyone of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take their part:  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
All who long pain and sorrow bear,  
give God your burdens and your care:  
sing praises, sing praises,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**6. Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship God in humbleness:  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:  
sing praises, sing praises,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Prayer of Adoration

O Loving God, you are the wisdom behind all that mystifies, the strength in all that nourishes, and the glory beyond all that amazes. We come before you in bended knees, in humility and in reverence. When our eyes are open and our spirits alert, we experience your glory around us. Scattered throughout the earth, smouldering deep inside us, radiating in acts of love, sparks of your glory reside. Deep is our joy each time we encounter you. So we gather in worship to express our reverence and praise. Together we celebrate the good we have experienced, knowing it all comes from your hand, O Gracious God.

Prayer of Confession

**And yet, we are strangely resistant to your grace. There are so many times we turn from you, O God. We forget that food for body and soul comes from your goodness. We focus on what troubles us and ignore the help and healing you offer. We seek wisdom and meaning in the wrong places. We confess we can be cruel, harming the earth, other living beings, and one another. Forgive us. Open our eyes to your wonder and wisdom. Give us the courage to live lives that overflow with your love for the sake of Christ who loves us. Amen.**

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

Hear the good news: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone away. A new life has begun. Thanks be to God that we can make a new start, forgiven and set free.

### Scripture

First Reading 1 Corinthian 8:1-13

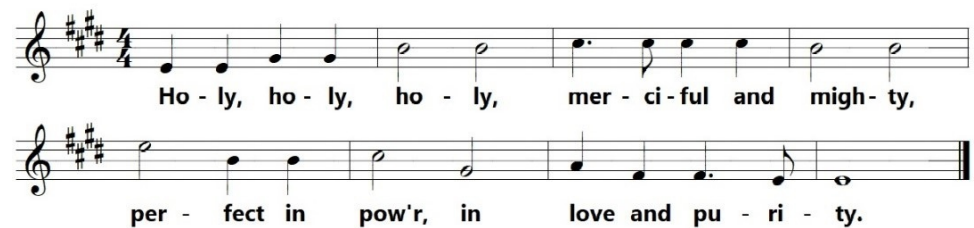
Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on Earth — as in fact there are many gods and many lords — yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since

their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Psalm 111 Refrain 1



Praise the Lord!

**I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

Great are the works of the Lord,  
studied by all who delight in them.

**Full of honour and majesty are the works of the Lord is,  
whose righteousness endures forever,  
Who has gained renown by wonderful deeds.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful.

The Lord provides food for the faithful;  
ever mindful of the covenant.

**The Lord has shown the people works of power,  
in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

The works of God's hands are faithful and just;

**all the precepts of the Lord are trustworthy.**

They are established forever and ever,

**to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

The Lord sent redemption to the people;

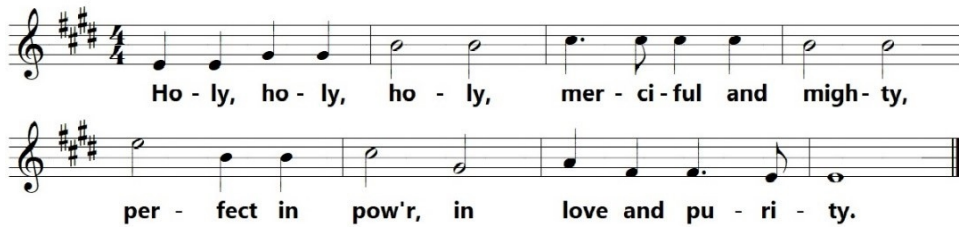
**The Lord has commanded a covenant forever.**

**Holy and awesome is the name of the Lord.**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

**all those who live by it have a good understanding.**

**The praise of the Lord endures forever.**



Second Reading: Mark 1: 21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching - with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn: Sometimes a healing word is comfort**

- 1. Sometimes a healing word is comfort:  
easing the grieved or anxious heart,  
giving assurance of our caring,  
treasuring each and every part.**

Refrain

**Come, break the silence! Let us tell  
the Word that makes us free and well.**

- 2. Sometimes a healing word remembers:  
calling up days of joy or pain,  
letting the past renew the present,  
till hope can mend and move again. Refrain**
- 3. Sometimes a healing word is angry:  
giving a name to discontent,  
shining a light on sin or grievance,  
calling of people to repent. Refrain**
- 4. Sometimes a healing word takes chances:  
going where no one yet has been,  
facing the dangers of the desert,  
hoping for shelter at the inn. Refrain**
- 5. Sometimes a healing word will listen:  
hearing the voiceless into speech,  
letting the pattern of the story  
move us to learn what it can teach. Refrain**

Sermon: Stumbling Block to the Weak

Prayers of the People

1. **O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**
2. **Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.**
3. **Teach me thy patience; still with thee  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
and trust that triumphs over wrong,**
4. **in hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.**

Announcements

Offering

**\*\*Doxology: 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.**

Prayer of Dedication

1. **In the bulb there is a flower,  
in the seed, an apple tree,  
in cocoons, a hidden promise:  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.**
2. **There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness,  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.**
3. **In our end is our beginning,  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing,  
in our life, eternity,  
in our death, a resurrection,  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.**

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

Postlude

Hymn 433

Words: Francis of Assisi, translated by William Draper

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams

All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722638

Hymn 675

Words and Music: Natalie Sleeth

All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722638

Hymn 768

Words: Patrick Michaels Music: George Neumark

All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722638

~ Hymn 642 is in the public domain ~

### **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.

## **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, February 1 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** will meet by teleconference

### **Friday, February 5 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

**Bible Study** will continue by teleconference. Please prepare Isaiah Chapters 59–61.

### **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.