

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

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 photo: Pauline Brown and Colleen Morrison

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

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: God has invited us to come.

All: So we gather.

One: God has spoken to the world.

All: So we listen.

One: God has given us glimpses of grace and mercy.

All: So we wait and watch, longing for healing, eager for hope.

One: God has been faithful to all generations.

All: So we trust. And so we worship God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

****Hymn: Immortal, invisible, God only wise**

290

1. In mortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light in accessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, the great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
the clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small,
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither, and perish; but naught changeth thee.
4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: oh help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Prayer of Adoration

Creator God, Source of all life,

in you all creatures are connected

and all creation redeemed and made new.

Day by day you make yourself known to your people.

In the beauty of the heavens we see your glory.

In the bounty of the earth we know your generosity.

In strength for our bodies and minds we experience your energy.

Delighting in all that we have seen, known, and heard,

we worship you, one God, Creator, Christ, and Spirit.

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, along with our praise, we offer you our confession.

At times we forget what we once knew of your love.

Consumed by worry, we forget to trust you. Although we know you made us for a purpose, we choose our own ways.

Discouragement seeps into our hearts in the cold of winter and we do not serve you with eagerness. We fail to speak out against injustice in our community. Forgive us. Renew our energy for your purposes. Raise us up on wings of faith. May we walk by your light and not grow weary. May we run and not faint.

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

Dear friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, while it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21–31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
'My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God'?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 147:1–11, 20 Refrain 1



Praise the Lord!

**How good it is to sing praises to our God;
the Lord is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem;
and gathers the outcasts of Israel.

**The Lord heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.**

The Lord determines the number of the stars;
and gives to all of them their names.

**Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
whose understanding is beyond measure.**

The Lord lifts up the downtrodden;
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;

make melody to our God on the lyre.

The Lord covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

**The Lord gives to the animals their food,
and to the young ravens when they cry.**

The Lord takes no delight in the strength of the horse,
nor pleasure in the speed of a runner;

**but the Lord takes pleasure in those show reverence,
in those who hope in God's steadfast love.**

**The Lord has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know God's ordinances.**

Praise the Lord!



Second Reading: Mark 1:29–39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to

the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Those who wait on the Lord**

6 62

- 1. Those who wait on the Lord
shall renew their strength;
they shall rise up on wings as eagles;
they shall run and not be weary
they shall walk and not faint:
help us, Lord; help us, Lord, in your way.**
- 2. Those who serve the suffering world shall renew . . .**
- 3. Those who live the risen life shall renew . . .**
- 6. Those who wait on the Lord shall renew . . .**

Sermon: She Began to Serve

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Brother, sister, let me serve you**

6 35

- 1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**
- 2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.**

**6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.**

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: We are marching 6 39
We are marching in the light of God;
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God;
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.**

Benediction

Postlude

Hymn 635

Words and Music: Richard Gillard

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

Hymn 639

Words: South African, English translation, Anders Nysberg

Music: South African traditional arranged by Anders Nyberg

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

Hymn 662

Words: Traditional Music: John Bell

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

~ Hymn 290 is in the public domain ~

We've Got Mail



Dear Congregation,

We thank the Lord for sparing our lives to see 2021 and the ministry in St Giles under the Rev. Paul Wu.

We wish the congregation a healthy winter season and all the best in the new year.

Sincerely,
Abiodun Lewis

Prayer for Putting on a Mask

We bless you and praise you, Jesus, for commanding us to love one another. Let this mask be a sign of your love, and let my behaviour be filled with love for my neighbour. Amen

Prayer For Those Who Live Alone

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Events

Monday, February 8 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

Wednesday, February 10 ~ 10:00 a.m.

The Presbyterian Women will meet by teleconference. Please see the instructions below.

Thursday, February 11 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Session will meet. Location to be determined.

Friday, February 12 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study will continue by teleconference. Please prepare Isaiah Chapters 62–64.

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 — PWS&D Sunday

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) envisions a sustainable, compassionate and just world. On PWS&D Sunday, we celebrate and reflect on the work our church is doing to ensure vulnerable communities around the world are able to improve their quality of life. From responding to emergencies to helping people access nutritious food, clean water, adequate health care and quality education, PWS&D is helping people thrive. Through the generous support of individuals and congregations, and in collaboration with global partners, we respond together.

Prayer

We give thanks for congregations and individuals who continue to generously support the work Presbyterian World Service & Development is doing to bring abundant life for all.