

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



Sunday, March 14, 2021

Prelude Prelude on "Nettleton" by Peter Stearns

Call to Worship

Worship

One: Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: God gathers God's people from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

All: Let us thank the LORD for such all-embracing love;

One: Let us praise God for God's wonderful works to humankind.

All: We will worship God with thanksgiving and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.

****Hymn: Oh for a thousand tongues to sing 374**

1. **Oh for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.**

3. **He speaks, and listening to his voice
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
the humble poor believe.**

5. **My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name.**

Prayer of Adoration

Gracious God, great and wonderful are your works! Your steadfast love is everlasting. You have come among us in Christ Jesus to save us. Where there is darkness, you bring light. Where there is sadness, you speak words of hope. Where there is despair, you bring new possibilities. You bring healing for the sick, and forgiveness for the sinner. You bring justice for the oppressed, speaking truth instead of lies. Stir us with your Spirit, O God, in this time of worship. Awaken our joy and reverence as we offer you our songs and our silence, our prayers and praises, for you are our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, even as we praise you, we are aware of our failures as your disciples. We take your love and acceptance of us for granted. We are often careless with our relationships, more focused on ourselves than on you or those around us. We spend our days distracted by the news, rather than seeking your light and truth. Forgive us. Awaken our spirit of commitment and compassion. Give us a new vision of your purposes and our place within them, so we may serve you more faithfully, day by day.

The Lord's Prayer

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

God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace we have been saved — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Scripture

First Reading: Numbers 21:4–9

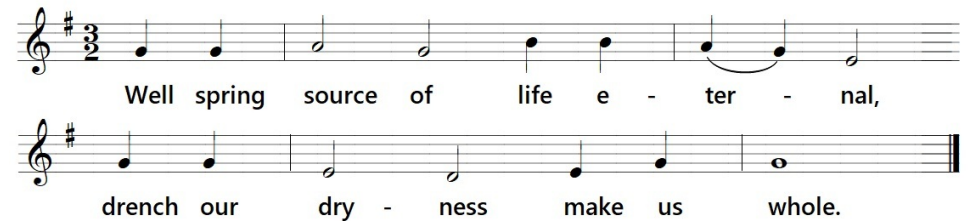
From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.

The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.”

Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.”

So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22 Refrain 1



Well spring source of life e - ter - nal,
drench our dry - ness make us whole.

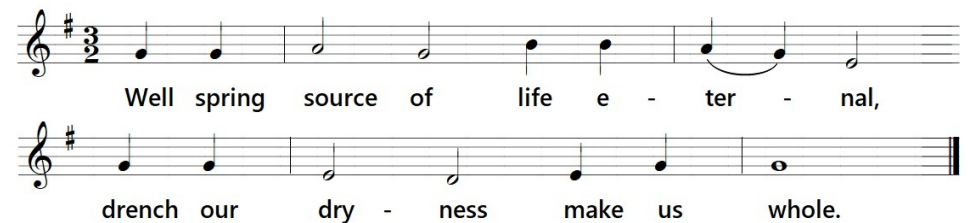
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
**those redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.**

Some were sick through their sinful ways,
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;
they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.

**Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord,
who saved them from their distress;/
The Lord sent out a word and healed them,
and delivered them from destruction.**

Let them thank for the Lord's steadfast love,
for God's wonderful works to humankind.
**And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,
and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.**



Well spring source of life e - ter - nal,
drench our dry - ness make us whole.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1–10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: I hunger and I thirst** 198

- 1. I hunger and I thirst; Jesus my manna be;
ye living waters, burst out of the rock for me.**
- 2. Thou bruised and broken bread, my lifelong wants supply;
as living souls are fed, oh feed me, or I die.**
- 3. Thou true life-giving vine, let me thy sweetness prove;
renew my life with thine; refresh my soul with love.**

**4. Since first their course began, rough paths my feet have trod.
Feed me, the living bread; help me, thou Son of God.**

**5. For still the desert lies my thirsting sou; before;
O living waters, rise within me evermore.**

Sermon Look at Jesus and Live

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Open our eyes, Lord x 2** 445

- 1. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.**
- 2. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

Announcements

Offering (invitation)

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow 830

**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

****Hymn: There is a redeemer**

358

**1. There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy one.**

Refrain

**Thank you, oh my Father, for giving us your son,
and leaving your Spirit till your work on earth is done.**

**2. Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names,
precious lamb of God, Messiah, oh for sinners slain.**

Refrain

**3. When I stand in glory, I will see his face,
and there I'll serve my King forever, in that holy place.**

Refrain

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 *Nun danket alle Gott* by Wilbur Held



Hymn 358 ~ Words and Music: Melody Green

Hymn 445 ~ Words and Music: Bob Cull

Nun Danket alle Gott ~ Music: Wilbur Held

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Hymns 198 and 374, and *Prelude on "Nettleton"* by Peter Stearns
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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 the Rev. Paul Wu at 613-276-2551, or paulwu55@yahoo.ca

Lent

The tradition of giving something up for Lent is a practice that many Christians have adopted as a form of fasting. There are, however, many simple ways to incorporate other spiritual practices into daily life over Lent. Instead of 'giving something up' for Lent this year, why not try 'taking up' a new spiritual practice? Check out St Giles's website for helpful ideas.

<https://stilesottawa.org/news/>

Mission Offerings

Twice a year the St Giles Presbyterian Women collect donations which are divided 50:50 between (1) Dr Pauline Brown Bursary Fund in India and (2) a local charity. The bursary fund supports education for hospital staff and community health workers in Jobat, India where St Giles member Pauline Brown lives. The local charity is chosen twice a year. This season we have chosen to support the Dementia Adult Day Program held at Abbotsford House, Glebe Centre. This program was greatly enjoyed by our own, much loved member, Edna Fraser who passed away on February 11, 2021. The women invite others who might like to contribute. Cheques should be made out to "St Giles Church" with "Women's Missions" on the memo line. They can be placed on the offering plate or mailed to the church.

Events

Monday, March 15 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.



Friday, March 19 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study on the Passion Narrative will continue by teleconference. Please prepare Matthew 26:35–56

We've Got Mail

Thank you so much for your kind financial gift. It was a complete surprise. Our family is incredibly grateful. It was such an honour to serve you. Praying for your transition with Paul.



Blessings, Dan Chook Reid

A Pandemic Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.
Amen.

Mission Moment ~ Empowering Women and Girls

On March 8, we celebrated International Women's Day and reflected on the work the church is doing around the world to help achieve gender equality. Through Presbyterian World Service & Development, we support programs that help marginalized women and girls to:

- reach their full potential,
- access quality education and health care,
- achieve economic independence and advocate for their rights.

Empowering and supporting vulnerable women and girls not only creates self-reliance but is crucial to ending poverty and hunger. When women are empowered, they help build a more sustainable and just world.

