

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.

Cover photo: circa AD 520, mosaic; Ravenna, Italy

Old Testament figures: Abel with his perfect lamb, Melchizedek at the table, Abraham and his Son Isaac.



St Giles Presbyterian Church

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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 21, 2021

Prelude *Solemn Trio* by Malcolm Archer

Call to Worship

One: Come, all who desire to know God.

All: Come, all who yearn to see Jesus.

One: Come, all who thirst for the Spirit.

All: God is in our midst this day.

One: So let us praise God's holy name.

All: We will worship God with heart, mind, strength and soul, and declare God's goodness to us.

****Hymn: Fairest Lord Jesus**

375

1. **Fairest Lord Jesus, Lord of all creation,
Jesus, of God and Mary the Son;
thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
O thou my soul's delight and crown.**
2. **Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the verdure and bloom of spring.
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
he makes the saddest heart to sing.**
3. **Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
fair is the shimmering, starry sky;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines clearer
than all the heavenly host on high.**
4. **All fairest beauty heavenly and earthly,
wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
none can be nearer, fairer or dearer
than thou, my Saviour, art to me.**

Prayer of Adoration

Creating God, Loving Son, Guiding Spirit. With springtime sun and the promise of new life, you wake us from our slumbers. We glorify your name for you are faithful to us through every season of the year and every season of life. We are grateful for your patience and persistence, drawing near to us even through the times we cannot draw near each other. Your promise of hope in Jesus Christ, drawing life out of the grip of death, means so much to us. Even as his cross looms on the horizon in this season of Lent, we praise you for Jesus' courage and compassion which bring renewal to us in the midst of our challenges. We praise you, O God, for the love that never lets us go.

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, our friend and Saviour, as we ponder your sacrifice, we recognize the self-centred ways in which we lead our lives. You entrust us with the task of sharing your love in this world, yet we often we fall short. We get lost in our own plans and worries and neglect to show love, even to those right beside us. We find some people too difficult to care for. We think some people unworthy of your love and ours. Our own needs seem insurmountable and we cannot reach out to someone else. Forgive us, Lord Jesus. Renew a right spirit within us, so that we find the courage to go on and the compassion to reach out in your name.

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 of suffering and glory has revealed to us the way of life in Jesus Christ. Through the path of obedience, God has inscribed a new covenant in our hearts, so that we shall be His people, and He shall be our God. That indeed is Good News.

Scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31–34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 51:1–12 Refrain 1



What won - drous love is this, I my soul, O my



soul, what won-drous love is this, O my soul.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
**according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.**

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
**so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.**

Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
**You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**


Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
**Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.**

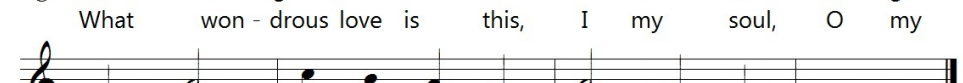
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.



What won - drous love is this, I my soul, O my



soul, what won-drous love is this, O my soul.

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5–10

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Jesus Name Above All Names** by Naida Hearn

**Jesus, Name above all names,
Beautiful Saviour, Glorious Lord!
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

Sermon A Long Obedience, in the Same Direction

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Take up your cross**

211

- 1. Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
if my disciple you would be;
deny yourself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.**
- 2. Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill frightened spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.**
- 5. Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down,
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

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: Praise him, praise him**

372

- 1. Praise him, praise him, Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O earth, his wonderful love proclaim!
Hail him, hail him, highest archangels in glory;
strength and honour give to his holy name!**

**Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard his children;
in his arms he carries them all day long.**

Refrain

**Praise him, praise him! Tell of his excellent greatness;
praise him, praise him, ever in joyful song!**

2. Praise him, praise him, Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!

**For our sins he suffered and bled and died;
he, our Rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
hail him, hail him! Jesus the Crucified.**

**Sound his praises! Jesus who bore our sorrows,
love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong. *Refrain***

3. Praise him, praise him, Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!

**Heavenly portals loud with hosannas ring!
Jesus Saviour, reigneth forever and ever;
crown him, crown him, Prophet and Priest and King!
Christ is coming, over the world victorious;
power and glory unto the Lord belong. *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 *Benedictus* by John Marsh

Hymn 375 ~ Words: anonymous, translation: Lilian Stevenson

Music: Silesian folk song arranged by James Hopkirk

Jesus, Name Above All Names ~ Words and Music: Naida Hearn

Solemn Trio ~ Music: Malcolm Archer

Benedictus ~ Music: John Marsh

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Hymns 211 and 372 are in the public domain

Samuel Banda

In loving memory of Samuel Banda, who passed away recently in Malawi, St Giles Presbyterian Church is responding to the call from Presbyterian World Service & Development in response to the COVID-19 surge in that country. This surge in cases is being fuelled by the highly infectious strain of coronavirus first discovered in South Africa. It is putting extraordinary strains on an already burdened health care system. Please give generously to this cause by indicating "COVID Response-Malawi" in your offering. At its next scheduled meeting, the Session of St Giles will consider matching donations from members of the congregation towards this critical and ongoing need.

Florence Crighton

Our condolences are with the Crighton family, for the passing of Florence Elizabeth Crighton on March 9, 2021. Florence loved many pets over her long life. Donations to the Ottawa Humane Society are appreciated. Private burial to be held at Beechwood Cemetery.

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 22 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.



Friday, March 26 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study on the Passion Narrative will continue by teleconference. Please prepare Matthew 26:57–27:10

Friday, April 2 ~ 10:30 a.m.

St Giles will be holding a **Good Friday Service**. All are welcome to join in remembering the death and sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord.

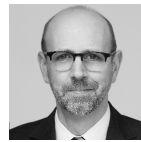


Easter Sunday, April 4 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion will be observed during the service, in celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday, May 8 ~ 10:30 p.m.

Anniversary Sunday — We will welcome the Rev Dr Roland De Vries, Principal of the Presbyterian College.



A Prayer for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Holy God, Creator of all, we pray for courage to live lives of truth, reconciliation and healing, to face our complicity in perpetuating racism, and to work towards eliminating racial prejudice and injustice so that all your world can live in harmony.

Mission Moment Summer Student's Virtual Ministry

Presbyterians Sharing provides financial assistance for seminary students to gain ministry experience by serving in rural and remote congregations across the country. Last summer, Samuel Andri, a student from the Vancouver School of Theology, served in the Synod of Saskatchewan. Due to COVID-19, Samuel led online worship and helped deliver a Vacation Bible School program virtually. Though his responsibilities were fulfilled online instead of in person, it did not make his experience any less meaningful. When asked about his summer experience, Samuel said, "I am forever grateful for the opportunity to reflect on what it means to serve God in more rural areas of Canada and to reflect on the beauty of serving God in a more close-knit community even through online platforms."

