

# ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Good Friday, April 2, 2021

## Greeting and Welcome

Leading in worship is our minister, 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

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God,  
**All: who redeems us from sin and death.**

One: For us and for our salvation,  
**All: Christ became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.**

One: Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
**All: Now and forever.**

**\*\*Hymn: Bless the Lord, My Soul**

**Taizé**

*Refrain*

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

*Solo 1*

It is God who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ill,  
who redeemed your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. *Refrain*

*Solo 2*

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
God does not treat us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our faults. *Refrain*

Prayer of Adoration

We come to the foot of your cross, Lord Jesus, and we weep with the disciples. With Mary, we ponder the mystery of your life and death. With those who witnessed your love in word and action, we proclaim the truth of who you are. We come to you

this day, because you first came to us. We come to love you, because you first loved us. We come to serve you, because you first served us. We come to worship, humbled by your love for us, offering our love to you.

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of love and mercy, you sent Christ into the world so that we might have life and have it abundantly. Yet our lives are often less than you would have them be. We do not trust the power of your love. We have filled the world with violence and terror because we cannot trust the way of compassion and service. In the face of uncertainty and trouble, we give up on you and one another. Forgive who we have been, amend who we are, and direct who we shall be for the sake of Christ, our Saviour and Lord.**

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

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, no matter what we have done, God's deep love will never let us go.

Scripture

Scripture 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Matthew 27:27–35

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.

**\*\*Hymn:        Were you there  
                         (when they crucified my Lord)    233**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

Scripture 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 27:36–44

Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by

derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

**\*\*Hymn: Were you there  
(when they mocked him on the cross) 233**

**Were you there when they mocked him on the cross?  
Were you there when they mocked him on the cross?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they mocked him on the cross?**

Scripture 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: Luke 23:39–43

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

**\*\*Hymn: Jesus, remember me (sing 3 times) 206**

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

Scripture 4<sup>th</sup> Reading: Matthew 27:45–50

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

**\*\*Hymn: Were you there  
(when the sun refused to shine) 233**

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?**

Scripture 5<sup>th</sup> Reading: Matthew 27:51–61

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

**\*\*Hymn:      Were you there  
                  (when they laid him in the tomb)                    233**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

Scripture 6<sup>th</sup> Reading: Matthew 27:62–66

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn:    Beneath the cross of Jesus**

**238**

- 1.    Beneath the cross of Jesus  
      I fain would take my stand,  
      the shadow of a mighty rock  
      within a weary land,  
      a home with in the wilderness,  
      a rest upon the way,  
      from the burning of the noontide heat  
      and the burden of the day.**
  
- 2.    Upon the cross of Jesus  
      mine eyes at times can see  
      the very dying form of one  
      who suffered there for me,  
      and from my stricken heart with tears  
      two wonders I confess:  
      the wonders of redeeming love  
      and my own unworthiness.**
  
- 3.    I take, O cross, thy shadow  
      for my abiding place;  
      I ask no other sunshine  
      than the sunshine of his face;  
      content to let the world go by,  
      to know no gain nor loss;  
      my sinful self my only shame,  
      my glory all, the cross.**

Sermon: Death is Not the End

Prayers of the People

- 1. Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure:  
cleanse me from its guilt and power.**
  
- 3. Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to thy cross I cling:  
naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Saviour, or I die.**
  
- 4. While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when my eyelids close in death,  
when I soar through tracts unknown,  
see thee on thy judgement throne,  
rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in 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

Bless the Lord, My Soul ~ Words: Robert Batastini Music: Jacques Berthier  
Hymn 206 ~ Words: Luke 23:42 Music Jacques Berthier  
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We are grateful for the ministry of our readers.  
The readers today are:

Jean Currie  
Stan Currie  
Jan Fourney  
Diane Munier  
Daisy Tsai