

# ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, May 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  
Soloist: Sharon Haidenger

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: We gather with joy, for Easter continues.

**All: Like spring crocuses breaking through the earth, the power of resurrection breaks through in surprising ways.**

One: Like the vine that supports blossoms and fruit, God's Word upholds the church in strength.

**All: Like an attentive gardener, God tends the needs of all creation.**

One: Let us worship God who makes all things new.

**All: We will praise our God who brings growth to each and every life.**

**\*\*Hymn: For the beauty of the earth 434**

**1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies**

*Refrain*

**Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise**

**3. For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight,   *Refrain***

**5. For each perfect gift of thine,  
to the earth so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,   *Refrain***

Prayer of Adoration

Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, you are the vine, and we are the branches. Your love is our strength. Your energy is our joy. Your attentiveness is our hope. Your power can transform even the most difficult situations. You nourish our faith and imaginations so that we can bear fruit in many ways. You promise we can dwell in you because you are dwelling in us. We gather today to offer our praise to you, and bring glory to God the Father, through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with the love you know as God, ever Three and ever One, so that our love will honour you each and every day.

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we confess there are so many ways we fail to love you fully. Forgive us for our lack of reverence for the earth and for using up more than our share of its resources. Forgive us for ignoring the cries of others who know pain or discrimination which we dismiss as mere complaint. Forgive us for seeking praise from others yet failing to encourage them in their endeavours. Forgive us, O God, and root our lives more deeply in your love.**

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

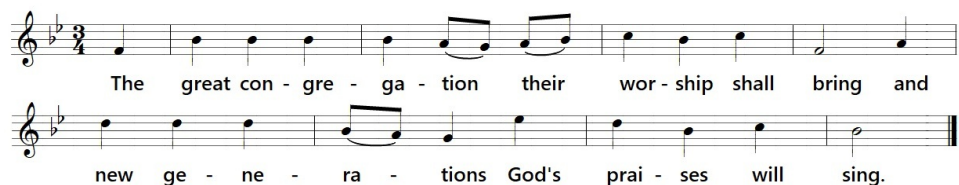
Apostle John tells us that God is love, and that God's perfect love casts out fear. Sister and brothers in Christ, we are promised that those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them. Know your hope in this good news: God's perfect love abides in you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Scripture

First Reading: 1 John 4:16–21

So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Psalm 22: 25–31 Refrain 1



From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear you.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
**and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before you.**

For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
who rules over the nations.

**all who sleep in the earth  
shall bow down to the Lord;**

all who go down to the dust,  
shall bow before the Lord;  
and I shall live for God.

**Posterity shall serve the Lord;  
future generations will be told about the Lord,  
and proclaim deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that God has done it.   *Refrain***

Second Reading: John 15:1–8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is

thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn: We are one in the Spirit 471**

1. **We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity will one day be restored,**

*Refrain*

**and they'll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love;  
and, they'll know we are Christians by our love!**

2. **We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news,  
that god is in our land,   *Refrain***

3. **We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
ae will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard each one's dignity,  
and save each one's pride.   *Refrain***

4. **All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, who is God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit who makes us one,   *Refrain***

Sermon Pruned by God

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn: I'm gonna live so God can use me 648**

1. **I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.  
I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.**
2. **I'm gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.  
I'm gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.**
3. **I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.  
I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.**
4. **I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.  
I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime.**

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: All the way my Saviour leads me**

**699**

- 1. All the way my Saviour leads me,  
what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt His tender mercy  
who through life has been my guide?  
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,  
Here by faith in Him to dwell!  
For I know, whate'er befall me,  
Jesus doeth all things well;**
- 2. All the way my Saviour leads me,  
cheers each winding path I tread,  
gives me grace for every trial,  
feeds me with the living bread.  
Though my weary steps may falter,  
and my soul athirst may be,  
gushing from the rock before me,  
lo, a spring of joy I see;**
- 3. All the way my Saviour leads me,  
oh the fullness of his love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised  
in my Father's house above.  
When my spirit, clothed immortal,  
wings its flight to realms of day,  
this my song through endless ages,  
"Jesus led me all the way!"**

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

Hymn 434 ~ Music: Conrad Kocher arr by William Monk Words: Brian Dill

Hymn 471 ~ Words and Music: Peter Scholtes

Hymn 648 ~ Words and Music: African American Spiritual  
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Hymn 699 is in the public domain



## **Guest Organist**

We welcome Larry Kempffer as the substitute while our regular organist, Brenda Beckingham, is on leave (for the Sundays of May 2, 9, and 16).

## **Services of Worship**

The Session of St Giles has resolved to suspend in-person worship services on Sundays, according to the latest health directives. If you do not have the capability to join us online by livestream via Zoom, or by teleconference, or to watch the recorded service on YouTube, please contact the Rev. Paul Wu to make alternative arrangement. For more information, visit St Giles's website at [stgilesottawa.org](http://stgilesottawa.org)

## **Office Hours**

The office hours of the minister and church administrator will remain unchanged for the duration of the stay-at-home order. Should you wish speak to either in-person, please phone ahead to make an appointment.

## **Cameron Highlanders**

We have mailed a care package to a Cameron Highlander who is deployed to Mali.

## Events

**Monday, May 3 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** will meet by teleconference.



**Friday, May 7 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

The **Bible Study** group will continue with the new unit on the Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120–134). Over 15 weeks, we will be studying these Psalms, much like the people of God in their ancient pilgrimage to the city of Jerusalem, to the temple of the Lord. We will be using the book, "A Long Obedience, in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society" by Eugene Peterson as the main reference material to guide our journey. The Bible Study group will meet over teleconference. If you are interested to join us, contact the Re. Paul Wu at 613-276-2551 for more information. For April 30, please read Psalm 123 and Chapter 5 "Service".

**June 20 ~ 10:30 a.m.**

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



## Community Events

**Wednesdays ~ 12:00 noon**

Southminster United Church continues its noon-hour concerts albeit virtually. You can watch live or you can go to their website to see previous concert videos.

[https://www.facebook.com/MusicatSouthminster/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/MusicatSouthminster/live_videos/)

**May 17 to May 20**

**Seeking Justice Together Virtual Conference** is hosted by Citizens for Public Justice. It will explore how we are called to seek justice together through intersectional, interpersonal,

interconnected approaches. Speakers and facilitators will address issues of racism, Indigenous/settler reconciliation, 2SLGBTQQIA+ rights, disability rights, poverty in Canada, climate justice and refugee rights. For more information or to register, visit [www.cpj.ca/seeking-justice-together](http://www.cpj.ca/seeking-justice-together).

## Mission Moment: Empowering Youth in Malawi

The people in Malawi's Mzimba District face many challenges. School dropout rates are high and teen pregnancy is on the rise. More women are experiencing gender-based violence, and there is a lack of knowledge about HIV transmission and prevention. To help address and educate the community about these issues, Presbyterian World Service & Development's local partner, Livingstonia Synod AIDS Programme, has trained 20 community facilitators to teach parents how to nurture adolescents. The facilitators help parents engage youth on issues such as sexual and reproductive health, teen pregnancy, early marriage and the transmission of HIV. The project has been successful in encouraging adolescents to return to school after dropping out.

