

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, May 16, 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
Guest Organist: Larry Kempffer
Soloist: Sharon Haidenger

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Clap your hands, all you peoples;

All: We will shout to God with loud songs of joy.

One: For God, the Most High, is awesome, reigning over all the earth.

All: We will sing praises to God this day and every day.

One: Let us worship God with all we have to offer!

All: We will offer God our love – heart, body, mind and soul!

****Hymn: Hail the day that sees Christ rise** 265

**1 Hail the day that sees Christ rise, hallelujah!
to his throne in paradise; hallelujah!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, hallelujah!
enters now the highest heaven. Hallelujah!**

**4 Christ, for us still intercede; hallelujah!
By your suffering for us plead; hallelujah!
near yourself prepare a place, hallelujah!
has the firstfruits of God's grace. Hallelujah!**

**5 Now though parted from our sight, hallelujah!
In the depths of starry night, hallelujah!
May God raise us up again, hallelujah!
Heirs of your eternal reign.. Hallelujah!**

Prayer of Adoration

God of promise and purpose, we greet you this day with thankful hearts. As flowers open and buds unfurl around us, the beauty of your world lifts our hearts in praise. As children grow

and students prepare to graduate, their energy and enthusiasm encourages us toward your future. You lifted up Jesus to be by your side, and so we know he is always by our side as the future opens before us. Draw close to us in this hour of worship and show us the promise and purpose in our own lives — how we can unfurl with new life and move into the future with the energy of your Holy Spirit and the abiding love of Christ our Lord.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, you have called all your followers to carry the Good News of God's love and forgiveness to the ends of the earth. Yet we confess we cannot always find the words to tell others of our faith. We are often silent when others criticize the church that bears your name. We try to act out your love but it's hard to tell others why we do what we do for you. Forgive our hesitation to share the gift you have given us, and renew our courage to speak of our commitment to you.

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

Brothers and sisters in Christ. As we reflect on the Ascension of the Lord, rest assure that it is our Lord who goes before us. He will be with us; he will not fail us or forsake us. Do not fear or be dismayed, for it is the Good News of Christ.

Scripture

First Reading: Acts 1:1–11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Psalm 93 Refrain 1



God, our Lord, a sov' - reign migh - ty,
robed in ma - je - sty and light.

The Lord reigns and is robed in majesty;

the Lord is robed, and is girded with strength.

The Lord has established the world; it shall never be moved;

**your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.**

The floods have lifted up, O Lord,

the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.

**More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the Lord!**

Your decrees are very sure;

**holiness befits your house,
O Lord, forevermore.**



God, our Lord, a sov' - reign migh - ty,
robed in ma - je - sty and light.

Second Reading: Luke 24:44–53

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what

my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Where cross the crowded ways of life 760**

- 1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.**
- 4. The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.**
- 5. O Saviour, from the mountain side,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
oh tread the city's streets again;**
- 6. Till human hearts shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heaven above,
shall come the city of our God.**

Sermon Looking Up Towards Heaven

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Glory to God 812**

- 1. Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God. Hallelujah, hallelujah!**
- 2. Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria. Alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3. Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God. Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Passing of the Peace

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 Hail King Jesus 268**

**All hail King Jesus. All hail Emmanuel,
King of kings, Lord of lords, bright Morning Star.
and through eternity I'll sing your praises,
and I'll reign with you throughout eternity.**

**All hail King Jesus. All hail Emmanuel,
King of kings, Lord of lords, bright Morning Star.
and through eternity I'll sing your praises,
and I'll reign with you throughout eternity.**

**and through eternity I'll sing your praises,
and I'll reign with you throughout eternity.**

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



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.

Prayer for Dan

Pastor Dan Chook Reid wrote to the congregation to provide an update on his health. His cancer may have returned. Please pray for Dan, Melody and the boys.

PWS&D response to COVID-19 Crisis in India

The people of India desperately need help. PWS&D is responding with its partners in India to provide supplies, education and information. Session will be discussing in its

upcoming meeting on Thursday on how best St Giles can help.

Donations to Malawi

In memory of Sam Banda, St Giles has received \$2,805 in donations from individuals towards Malawi relief. The Session has resolved that St Giles will match that amount and the total will be forwarded to PWS&D.

Presbyterian Women Mission Donations

At their meeting this past week, the Presbyterian Women have decided to continue collecting Mission Donations until the end of June. The amount will then be divided between the Pauline Brown Fund and the Dementia Adult Day Program at Abbotsford House with the latter in memory of Edna Fraser.

Events

Monday, May 17 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.



Friday, May 21 ~ 10:00 a.m.

The **Bible Study** group continues with the study of the Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120–134). The Bible Study group will meet over teleconference. If you are interested to join us, contact the Rev. Paul Wu at 613-276-2551 for more information. For April 30, please read Psalm 125 and Chapter 7 "Security" of "A long Obedience in the Same Direction" by Eugene Peterson.

June 20 ~ 10:30 a.m.

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



Mission Moment: Transform Online Course

Last fall, ministry leaders from across Canada came together for The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Transform Online Course. Over four weeks, Rick Morse — co-creator of the New Beginnings church renewal programme and author of Making a Congregational Plan that Makes Sense — challenged leaders to imagine what it means to faithfully respond to God's mission and engage others to be missional. The course, which was made possible through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, equipped leaders with the transformative tools, principles, and insights necessary to discern God's call for their ministries' futures and create plans for moving forward.

Community Events

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. It will address issues of racism, Indigenous/settler reconciliation, LGBTQ+ rights, disability rights, poverty in Canada, climate justice and refugee rights. For more info or to register, visit www.cpj.ca/seeking-justice-together.

Friday, May 21 ~ 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Make a Joyful Noise — A virtual concert in support of Campus Ministry at Algonquin College featuring musicians from local congregations. To register for this Zoom event, email wilsonjohns@rogers.com or georgekwari@gmail.com by May 20. Donations by freewill offering.



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