

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Pentecost Sunday
May 23, 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.

Interim Organist: Larry Kempffer
Soloist: Sharon Haidenger

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Breathe upon us, Holy Spirit,

All: and inspire our worship with your truth.

One: Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit,

All: and fill us with your love.

One: Strengthen us, Holy Spirit,

All: and move us to act with your power.

One: Breathe in us, Holy Spirit,

All: and receive our prayers and praise.

****Hymn: Come down, O Love divine 386**

- 1. Come down O Love divine, seek now this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.**
- 2. Oh let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming,
and let your glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**
- 3. Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing,
true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
and pride in earthly glory scorns with loathing.**
- 4. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far out-pass the power of human telling,
for none can guess its grace, till we become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

Prayer of Adoration

God of power and possibility, with the flame of your Spirit, you give us passion to change the world in Jesus' name. With the breath of your Spirit, you refresh us to engage life in all its complexity. Your Spirit embraces us in our diversity and invites us to find unity in your love. We honour you for the gift of creation in all its beauty and bounty. We praise you for your presence with us in every time and place. In this time of worship, O God, breath your Spirit upon us once again, and renew us to serve you in the world, the world that aches for the healing and wholeness you offer through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mystery and mercy, we confess that we have not always paid attention to the urging of your Spirit, calling us to follow your will and your way. Too often we claim to belong to Jesus, but choose instead to ignore his teaching. You created us to love you and one another, but we fail to offer your love to those who differ from us. Stir in our hearts and in our lives with your Holy Spirit. Transform who we are, and direct who we shall become through Christ's redeeming 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

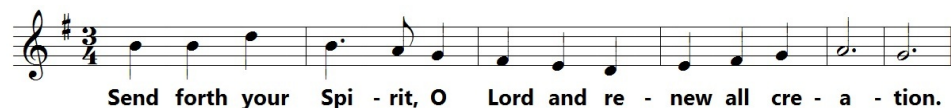
The Lord proclaims through Prophet Ezekiel, "A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you." A heart of flesh to discern the way of God, and a spirit of obedience to follow that path. This is good news because it does not depend on us, on our fragile psyche or shifting desires, but depends wholly on God's covenantal faithfulness. Thanks be to God.

Scripture

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1–10

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Psalm 104:24–34, 35b *Refrain 1*



O Lord, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

Yonder is the sea, great and wide,

**creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.**

There go the ships,

and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you

**to give them their food in due season;
when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.**

When you hide your face, they are dismayed;

**when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.**

**When you send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

may the Lord rejoice in all these works —

who looks on the earth and it trembles,

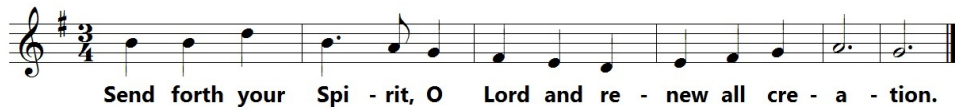
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

**May my meditation be pleasing to the Lord,
in whom I rejoice.**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord!**



Second Reading: Acts 2:1–21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness**

399

Refrain **Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free.
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, Wind, Wind on the sea.**

- 1. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep;
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep,
and over the aeons you called to each thing:
awake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings. *Refrain***
- 2. You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land,
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes. *Refrain***
- 3. You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill;
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still,
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind. *Refrain***
- 4. You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes;
from the bondage of sorrow
the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes;
with bold new decisions
your people arise. *Refrain***

(With thanks to the Quodlibet Choir Ottawa for allowing us to use their recording <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOvEzRctTh0>)

****Hymn: Breathe on me, breath of God 389**

1. **Breathe on me, breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love
and do what thou wouldst do.**
2. **Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.**
3. **Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.**
4. **Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.**

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.**

****Hymn: In your pentecostal splendour**

1. **In your pentecostal splendour
rise, O living God, arise;
smoke of battle blurs and blinds us;
blow your wind and clear our eyes.
Hallelujah, hallelujah! You are God of victories!**
4. **You at Pentecost did shower
gracious rain from heaven above;
on all flesh did pour your Spirit,
silver-winged, descending dove.
Hallelujah, hallelujah! You are liberty and love!**
5. **Let the fire of your near presence
melt our fears, like wax, away;
touch our lip with songs of courage;
teach us with your saints to say,
Hallelujah, hallelujah! You will guide us all the way!**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

The Session of St Giles has accepted the resignation of **Brenda Beckingham** as organist / music director as of May 16, 2021 (for health reasons). We wish to express the appreciation of the St Giles congregation for her leadership during the last eight years. Our choir and our congregation have gained much from the music program.

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.

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 24 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.



Friday, May 28 ~ 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 126 and Chapter 8 "Joy" 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.



Community Events

Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre is pleased to announce that we have partnered with RainBarrel.ca to host a **RAIN BARREL FUNDRAISER!** Each rain barrel includes a leaf and mosquito filter basket, an overflow adaptor, a spigot and an overflow hose. Rain barrels prices start at \$35 each and must be pre-ordered online. Pre-ordered rain barrels will be available for pick up on Wednesday, June 16 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on 917 Woodroffe, Ave, Ottawa. Our goal is to raise money to help support the continued programming and maintenance at our beautiful camp. Please order at www.rainbarrel.ca/gracefieldchristian

Mission Moment:

This year, Pentecost and Healing and Reconciliation Sunday fall on the same day, making it a day not only for celebration, but also for solemn reflection and prayer for the Indigenous children who attended residential schools and the people who are living with its legacy. Resources to help worship leaders develop services to mark the church's birthday and honour its commitment to reconciliation are available at presbyterian.ca/worship. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing have helped build this comprehensive library of worship resources, providing congregations with free materials (seasonal, intergenerational, ecumenical, etc.) to do God's work throughout the year.

