

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Guercino, 1591-1666. Christ Preaching in the Temple,
from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the
Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

July 4, 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
Guest Soloist: Garth Hampson

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg People. The Algonquin peoples have lived on this land since time immemorial. We are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Great is the Lord;

All: and greatly to be praised.

One: Praise God in the cities and towns,

All: and in all the quiet places.

One: Praise God on the mountains and hilltops;

All: and in every valley, on every plain and in the deeps.

One: We gather to raise our voices in praise with all God's creation;

All: let us praise God's holy name together, here and everywhere.

****Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

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**1. Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, who rules all creation.
My soul, praise God who alone is
your health and salvation.**

**Come all who hear, sisters and brothers draw near,
joining in glad adoration.**

**2. Praise to the Lord,
who in all things so wondrously reigning
hides you with sheltering wings,
ever gently sustaining.**

**Have you not seen how your heart's wishes have been
granted through God's kind ordaining.**

**3. Praise to the Lord,
who will prosper your work, who defends you;
surely God's merciful goodness
here daily attends you;
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
when in great love God befriends you.**

**4. Praise to the Lord,
and with all that is in me adoring,
all who have life and breath,
come with glad praises outpouring!
Let the Amen sound from God's people again:
now and forever adoring!**

Prayer of Adoration

Great are you, O God, and greatly to be praised in all places and at all times. You have made all things and called them good. You created humans in your image. You gave us breath and life, a calling and a purpose. Filled with love for all creation, you lift up leaders and send out disciples to take part in your reconciling work in the world. Your love is endless, your mercy without measure, your faithfulness without limit. And so we praise you with all our strength, mind, heart and soul, in the name of Jesus, your Son, led by your Spirit who guides us day by day.

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of overflowing grace, we are a people blessed with
abundance, and yet we take so much for granted. We do
not recognize that your gift of life is precious, and so we
waste time on things that do not matter. Preoccupied with
our own needs and desires, we close our eyes to the needs
of those around us; we close our hearts to those who are not**

like us. We turn away from opportunities to learn and grow. In your mercy, forgive us, O God. Change our hearts and renew our calling to be bearers of your peace, and witnesses to the work of your kingdom.

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

While it is true that we have all sinned, and fall short of the glory of God, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, In Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

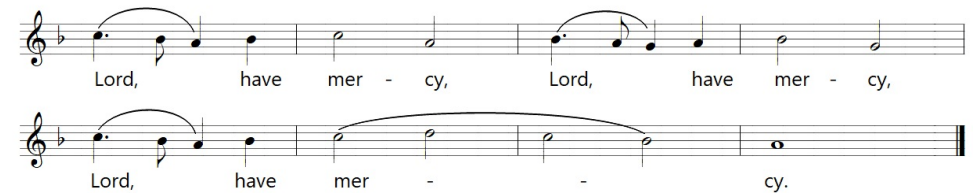
Scripture

First Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2–10 (NRSV)

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows — was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard

from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Psalm 123 (*Refrain I*)



To you I lift up my eyes,

To you enthroned in the heavens!

As the eyes of servants

look to the hand of their master,

as the eyes of a maid

to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to the Lord our God,

until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,

for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than its fill

of the scorn of those who are at ease,

of the contempt of the proud.

Refrain

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

1. **We lay our broken world
in sorrow at your feet,
haunted by hunger, war and fear,
oppressed by power and heat.**
2. **Here human life seems less
than profit, might and pride,
though to unite us all in you,
you lived and loved and died.**
3. **We bring our broken towns,
our neighbours hurt and bruised;
you show us how old pain and wounds
for new life can be used.**
4. **We bring our broken loves,
friends parted, families torn;
then in your life and death we see
that love must be reborn.**
5. **We bring our broken selves,
confused and closed and tired;
then through your gift of healing grace
new purpose is inspired.**
6. **Oh Spirit, on us breathe
with life and strength anew;
find in us love, and hope, and trust,
and lift us up to you.**

Sermon Made Perfect in Weakness

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: O for a world where everyone**

730

1. O for a world here everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.
2. O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.
3. We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.
5. O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering (invitation)

**Doxology: 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.**

830

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

Two Notes of Thanks

Thank you for the surprise last Sunday. Greatly appreciated your recognition of the 50th Anniversary of my ordination as an elder. Don Tate

Care Packages: The boxes of baking were mailed on June 25 to the six Cameron Soldiers serving in Ukraine. We very much appreciated all of the assistance both with the baking and the financial costs of the mailing.



Communion

Communion is normally scheduled for June, but given the current circumstances, and hoping for the best, it will likely be scheduled in September.

Events

Monday, July 5 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.



Wednesday, July 7 ~ at 10:30 a.m.

The **Presbyterian Women** decided to keep in touch all summer, so will meet by teleconference.

Friday, July 9 ~ 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. Please read Psalm 132 and Chapter 14 "Obedience" of "A Long Obedience in the Same Direction" by Eugene Peterson.

Thursday, August 26 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Session will meet. The location is to be determined.

NEW DATE: September 19 ~ 10:30 a.m.

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



October 14-16, 2021

This year's Synod Conference will be offered virtually.

Climate Change: What Can I Do? Christian Caring for

Creation. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Normal Wirzba from Duke University. He will present 3 plenary sessions: What Kind of World Are We In? What is the Point of the World? Eating Our Way to Heaven. On Friday evening, October 15, we will have a Climate Change Town Hall, moderated by Thomas Mulcair. The invited panel includes Dr. Norman Wirzba of Duke University, David Heurtel, former Quebec Minister of the Environment, Dr. Jessica Moerman, an environmental scientist, and Dr. Caroline Begg, an ecological agriculturalist. www.vimeo.com/568505277

Mission Moment:

Protecting Frontline Health-Care Workers in Malawi

COVID-19 cases were increasing rapidly in Malawi in January 2021. Mphatso Nguluwe, Director at the Synod of Livingstonia Health Department, asked the PCC for help. There was an acute shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) for health-care workers at the David Gordon Memorial Hospital, which serves a population of 80,000 people. With funds from Presbyterians Sharing, the hospital purchased waterproof hazmat suits, heavy-duty gloves, gowns, face shields and essential drugs. Nurse Sella shared: "The availability of PPE enabled me to work wholeheartedly. After seeing so many of my fellow staff being infected with COVID-19 while on duty, it gave me chills to do my work. Now that we have the PPE, I am ready to work and save lives."