

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



August 29, 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: Jo Landry

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: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

One: Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

All: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

****Hymn: A mighty fortress is our God 315**

**1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a refuge never failing,
our helper sure amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe yet seeks to work us woe
with craft and power great and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth has not an equal.**

**2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not a Saviour on our side,
the One of God's own choosing.**

**Who is this Saviour, who? Christ Jesus, living, true.
Lord Sabbaoth by name, from age to age the same,
already wins the battle.**

- 3. And though this world, with evil filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
the truth to triumph through us:
the powers of death and hell our God will surely quell:
their rage we can endure, for look! their doom is sure;
one little word will fell them.**
- 4. That Word above all earthly powers —
no thanks to them! — abiding,
ensures that all God's gifts are ours,
through Christ in us residing,
whose summons rings above all goods, all earthly love.
Earth's powers waste away; God 's word endures always,
whose reign will last forever.**

Prayer of Adoration

Faithful God, in the world of your creation, you made the seasons to change, the sun to shine and the rain to fall, the vines to bear fruit and the fields to produce good things. You alone are our strength and security; you alone are our mighty fortress; you alone bring us rest and comfort. So we turn to you as the source of all life, marvelling at your wisdom, seeking to learn your purpose for our lives. We offer you our praise and thanksgiving, for you are the God who made us, the Christ who mends us, and the Spirit who brings us life.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, even though we know you are the Bread of Life, the Living water, we confess we often turn our

backs on you. We speak and think in ways that deny our loyalty and love for you; we ignore our own needs and the needs of others. We harbour anger and say things too quickly that cause others pain. In your mercy, restore us to right relationships with you and with one another.

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, 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: Numbers 16:1–11, 23–35

Now Korah son of Izhar son of Kohath son of Levi, along with Dathan and Abiram sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth — descendants of Reuben — took two hundred fifty Israelite men, leaders of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men, and they confronted Moses. They assembled against Moses and against Aaron, and said to them, "You have gone too far! All the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. So why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of

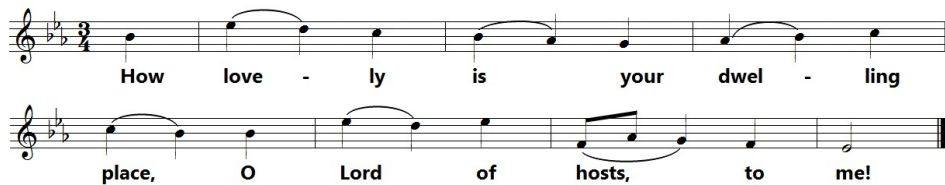
the Lord?" When Moses heard it, he fell on his face. Then he said to Korah and all his company, "In the morning the Lord will make known who is his, and who is holy, and who will be allowed to approach him; the one whom he will choose he will allow to approach him. Do this: take censers, Korah and all your company, and tomorrow put fire in them, and lay incense on them before the Lord; and the man whom the Lord chooses shall be the holy one. You Levites have gone too far!" Then Moses said to Korah, "Hear now, you Levites! Is it too little for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to allow you to approach him in order to perform the duties of the Lord's tabernacle, and to stand before the congregation and serve them? He has allowed you to approach him, and all your brother Levites with you; yet you seek the priesthood as well! Therefore you and all your company have gathered together against the Lord. What is Aaron that you rail against him?"

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Say to the congregation: Get away from the dwellings of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. So Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram; the elders of Israel followed him. He said to the congregation, "Turn away from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, or you will be swept away for all their sins." So they got away from the dwellings of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the entrance of their tents, together with their wives, their children, and their little ones. And Moses said, "This is how you shall know that the Lord has sent me to do all these works; it has not been of my own accord: If these people die a natural death, or if a natural fate comes on them, then the Lord has not sent me. But if the Lord creates something new, and the ground

opens its mouth and swallows them up, with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into Sheol, then you shall know that these men have despised the Lord.”

As soon as he finished speaking all these words, the ground under them was split apart. The earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, along with their households — everyone who belonged to Korah and all their goods. So they with all that belonged to them went down alive into Sheol; the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the assembly. All Israel around them fled at their outcry, for they said, “The earth will swallow us too!” And fire came out from the Lord and consumed the two hundred fifty men offering the incense.

Psalm 84 (Refrain I)



How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!

**My soul longs, yes, faints
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh sing for joy
to the living God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my Sovereign and my God.

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise!**

Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

**As they go through the Valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.**

**They go from strength to strength;
each one appears before God in Zion.**

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob!

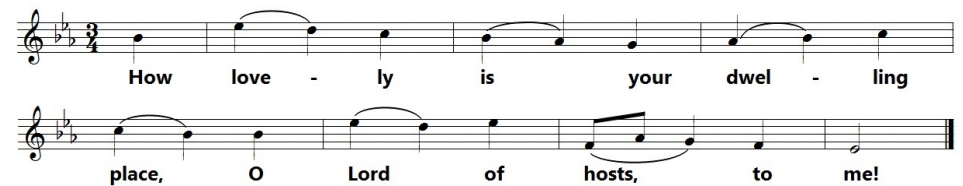
Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed!

For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.

**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
Bestowing favour and honour.
No good thing does the Lord withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

**O Lord of hosts,
blessed is the one who trusts in you!**



Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:8–12

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For

"Whoever desires to love life
and see good days,
let him keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from speaking deceit;
let him turn away from evil and do good;
let him seek peace and pursue it.
For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their prayer.
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: How lovely, Lord, how lovely 53**

- 1 How lovely Lord how lovely is your abiding place
My soul is longing fainting; to feast upon your grace
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest,
and so your temple calls us within its walls to rest**
- 2 In your blest courts to worship, O God, a single day
is better than a thousand if I from you should stray.
I'd rather keep the entrance and claim you as my Lord
Than revel in the riches the ways of sin afford**
- 3 A sun and shield forever are you, O Lord Most High;
you shower us with blessings; no good will you deny.
The saints your grace receiving
from strength to strength shall go
And from their life shall rivers of blessing overflow.**

Sermon Sons of Korah Give Praise

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: As the deer 2x**

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**As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you:
you alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.**

Refrain

**You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

Like echo following voice, like thunder following lightening,
gratitude follows grace. We give thanks because we have
first been given so much, we bless because we have first
been so thoroughly blessed. Thanks be to God.

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: Glorious things of thee are spoken 483**

- 1 Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
One whose word cannot be broken**

formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

- 2 See the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.
- 3 Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading —
light by night and shade by day —
daily on the manna feeding
which God gives them when they pray.
- 4 Saviour, since of Zion's city
we, through grace, a part may claim,
let the world deride or pity,
we will glory in thy name.
Fading is all worldly pleasure,
all its boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.

Benediction / Postlude


Events



Monday, August 30 ~ 11:00 a.m.
Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

Friday, September 3 ~ 10:00 a.m.
The **Bible Study** group will read the epilogue of "A Long Obedience in the Same Direction" and we will reflect on the journey of the 15 Psalms of Ascent

Wednesday, September 8 ~ 10:30 a.m.
The **St Giles Presbyterian Women** will meet by teleconference. All St Giles Women are invited to join in.

September 19 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Anniversary Sunday — We will welcome the Rev Dr Roland De Vries, Principal of the Presbyterian College. 
The Presbyterian Women are planning to host the reception. Ideally, the reception will be held outdoors if weather permits. There will be light refreshments on the North lawn.

Sunday, October 3 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Communion Service corresponding to the World Communion Sunday.

Sunday, October 3 ~ 1:00 to 4:00 pm.
Virtual Walk in support of the **Centretown Emergency Food Centre** www.centretownchurches.org/walkathon/ . For more information, please get in touch with Stan Currie.

Sunday, November 7 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Remembrance Sunday