

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



November 28, 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 sermon texts and 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.

Music Director: Heather Rice
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 *Serenade* by Jeremiah Clarke

Call to Worship

L: Hope is a flame that is given by God.

P: Hope for a new world burns in our hearts.

L: Hope burns in the message of the Law and the teaching of the Prophets.

P: Hope is revealed in Jesus Christ.

(As the candle is lit, sing)

****Hymn: Hope is a Star** 119

**1. Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.**

Refrain **When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
And none shall be afraid.**

L: Let us pray:

**P: Source of light, burn in our lives and in your world with
your renewing hope. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of the covenant, our praises and prayers overflow with hope as the season of Advent opens. You come to your

people to dwell with us. You come with power — not to dominate, but to transform. You come with promises — not to give us what we want, but to make all things new. You come with signs of your deep Agape love for the world. You come, and your truth breaks forth, shattering lies and setting your people free. Your coming is our hope, and so, we offer you our worship in gratitude and anticipation. Come into our lives again, O God, and show us how to hope in the face of all that is discouraging, for we gather in the name of Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, your promise and our hope.

Unison Prayer of Confession

O God beyond all understanding, forgive our sleepiness in the presence of your splendour. Forgive us if we yawn when you present us with life-changing possibilities. Forgive us for abandoning hope so quickly, and lamenting the same old thing in the same old way. Forgive us for underestimating your power to do a new thing. Awaken us to your holy, hopeful presence. Awaken us so we may watch and wait for you, Lord Jesus Christ. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

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 One who comes with justice also comes with mercy. The God of Judgment is truly the Christ of compassion. God offers you forgiveness today, in the hope you will receive it gladly. Do not be afraid but rejoice in the God who comes to us.

Scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14–16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Psalm 25: 1–10 (*Refrain 2*)



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;

teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth

or my transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,

for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord;

therefore the Lord instructs sinners in the way.

leads the humble in what is right,

and teaches them the way they should go.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep God's covenant and decrees.



Second Reading: Luke 21:25-36

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will

not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these

Reader: This is the word of the Lord,

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Hail to the Lord's Anointed**

115

1. **Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**
2. **He brings salvation speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
he saves the poor and needy,
and helps the weak be strong;
they sing who once were sighing,
their darkness turned to light,
for they, who once were dying,
are precious in his sight.**
3. **He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers
spring in his path to birth.**

**Before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.**

4. **All powers shall bow before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing,
for he shall have dominion
o'er river, sea and shore,
far as the eagle's pinion
or dove's light wing can soar.**
5. **O'er every foe victorious,
Christ on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever —
that name to us is Love.**

Sermon The Days are Surely Coming

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: Creator of the stars of night**

111

1. **Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, the Saviour of us all,
we pray, oh hear us when we call.**
2. **To you the labour pain was known
that made the whole creation groan,**

until the time that you would free
your own in glorious liberty.

3. **Old was the world that drew toward night;
you came, but not in splendour bright
as monarch, but the humble child
of Mary, faithful mother mild.**
4. **At your great name, Christ Jesus, now
all knees must bend; all hearts must bow;
all things in heaven your name shall bless.
All things on earth your power confess.**
5. **Come in your holy might, we pray;
redeem us for eternal day,
when all your judgements will be known
and power of darkness overthrown.**
6. **To God the Father, God the Son
and God the Spirit, Three-in-One,
laud, honour, might and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

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 earth is waiting**

1. **All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.**
2. **Thus says the prophet to those of Israel:
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,"
one whose name is "God-with-us" our Saviour shall be;
with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.**
3. **Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.
He is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.**
4. **In lowly stable the Promised One appeared;
yet feel his presence throughout the earth today,
for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, with his coming he brings us liberty.**

Benediction

Postlude *March* by Henry Purcell

An Important Anniversary

The Rev. Paul Wu began his ministry with us one year ago today. St Giles has been richly blessed. We are exceedingly thankful. We wish Paul and Daisy all good wishes and look forward to our future with them.

Our Events

Monday, November 29 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

Wednesday, December 1 ~ 10:30 a.m.

The **Presbyterian Women** will meet by teleconference.

Thursday, December 2 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, December 3 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study continues the study of the Apocryphal books.

Please read 1 Maccabees 10. We meet by teleconference.

Sunday, December 12 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Service of Holy Communion

Thursday, December 16 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Session meeting

Friday, December 24, 2021 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service

Joining the Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study:

1. Before the start time, call toll-free 1-888-884-4539.
2. Enter the passcode number which is 7455703#.
3. Make sure to press the # after the number.
4. You will be asked to say your name. Say it. Then press #.
5. You will then be connected.
6. You may find it preferable to put your phone on speaker.

Community Events

Tuesday, November 30 ~ 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Scottish Heritage Day in Ontario — Flag Raising at Ottawa City Hall with the participation of the Cameron Highlanders and other musicians and dancers.

Friday, December 3 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Trivia Night in support of Campus Ministry at Algonquin College. Contact Jack Wilson at wilsonjohns@rogers.com for the Zoom link.

Christmas Hamper Project hosted by Centretown United

www.centretownunited.org/xmashamperprojext

1. To adopt a hamper, please register by November 30.
2. The help pack and carry on December 18, contact Daphne at chp2016volunteers@gmail.com
3. To deliver and carry hampers on December 20, contact Fiona at chp.deliverycrew@gmail.com
4. To donate by cheque to Centretown United Church, The Christmas Hamper Project, 507 Bank St, Ottawa ON, K2P 1Z5

Mission Moment

Embracing Education in Afghanistan



Khadija is five years old and attends a community-based school in Laghman, Afghanistan. Khadija's older sister did not have the opportunity to attend school, so Khadija has wholeheartedly embraced her studies. "I love going to school every day and meeting my friends there. My favourite subject is mathematics." Through the support of Community World Service Asia, a partner of PWS&D, Khadija and her friends also received school supplies. "One day,

after completing my studies, I will become a traffic police officer and guide people in the right direction," said Khadija, smiling.