

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Holy Spirit and Fire with Baptismal Font, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**,
a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

January 9, 2022

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 613-563-1409 gowans978@gmail.com

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 *Shine, Jesus, Shine* by Graham Kendrick

Call to Worship

One: Beloved, God chooses us and calls us by name.

All: We belong to God. Alleluia!

One: Our lives have purpose because we belong to God.

All: We are called to be like Christ and follow him.

One: We will find joy, peace, and restoration through God's amazing grace.

**All: Let us worship God who claims us and loves us!
Praise be to God!**

****Hymn: When morning gilds the skies** 438

**1. When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awakening cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair;
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**2. To God, the Word, on high,
the host of angels cry:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let mortals, too, upraise
their voice in hymns of praise;
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**3. Let earth's wide circle round
in joyful notes resound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let earth and sea and sky,
from depth to height reply:
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**4. Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song
through all the ages on:
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

Prayer of Adoration

O Lord God, creator of the universe — the sun and moon and stars. You come into our midst to reveal your light. By the work of your Spirit, you lead us in new paths. Your beloved Son has called us to new life and by his grace, reconciles the divisions among us, the division from you, Lord. O Holy One, we praise you for the blessings you give us in our baptism into Christ, and through your love that surrounds us day by day. To you we give all praise, glory and honour, through Jesus Christ, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, but we confess that we prefer our old, familiar ways. We cling to destructive habits, we harbour grudges and that we could not let go. We are reluctant to welcome a stranger or forgive one another. Nostalgia for the past prevents us from exploring new possibilities. In your loving kindness, forgive us. Have

mercy upon us and move among us so that we might pursue new life in Christ together.

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

Do not be afraid, for Christ has redeemed you. Baptized in water, Spirit and fire, he has washed away your sins. Risen from death, he invites you to be washed in the cleansing tide of God's mercy. Your sins are forgiven; be at peace with God, with yourself, and with each other.

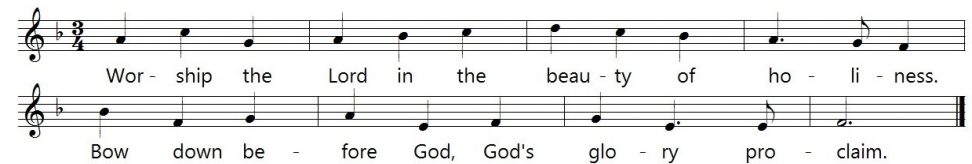
Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 43: 1–7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your

life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth — everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Responsive Reading: Psalm 29 (with refrain 1)



Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glorious name;
worship the Lord in holy splendour.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
**the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.**

The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

The Lord makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

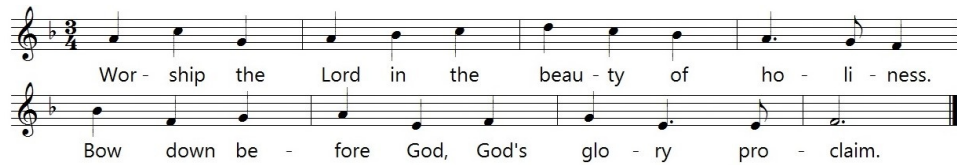
The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**The voice of the Lord makes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in the temple of the Lord all say, "Glory!"**

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign forever.

O Lord, give strength to your people!

O Lord, bless your people with peace!



Second Reading: Luke 3:15–17, 21–22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord,
People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: When Jesus comes to be baptized tune 126**

- 1. When Jesus comes to be baptized
He leaves the hidden years behind,
The years of safety and of peace,
To bear the sins of humankind.**

- 2. The Spirit of the Lord comes down
Anoints the Christ to suffering,
To preach the word, to free the bound
And to the mourner, comfort bring.**
- 3. He will not quench the dying flames
And what is bruised he will not break,
But heal the wound injustice dealt
And out of death his triumph make.**
- 4. O Spirit help us be like Christ
To live in love and charity,
To walk in truth and justice now
And grow in Christian dignity.**
- 5. We praise you God, source of our life;
We praise you Christ, eternal word,
We praise you, Spirit, gracious gift
And triune presence fills our world.**

Sermon The Voice of the Lord

Prayers of the People

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

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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:
wake 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 their 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***

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

**Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow 830
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer of Dedication

****Hymn: Lord, the light of your love is shining**

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**1 Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us.
Set us free by the truth you know bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.**

Refrain

**Shine, Jesus shine;
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by your blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me. *Refrain***

**3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever-changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. *Refrain***

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Tune* by John Stanley

Thank you!

The Presbyterian Women wish to thank all of you who donated warm clothing items on our Christmas Tree in the narthex. They will be taken to the Ottawa Mission. Once again thanks for your generosity and support for this project.

Our Events

Monday, January 10 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

Wednesday, January 12 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Presbyterian Women will meet by teleconference.

Wednesday, January 12 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Session Meeting

Thursday, January 13 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, January 14 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study: Please read 1 Maccabees 14.

Sunday, February 27 ~ after service

Annual Meeting — Please start thinking about your reports.

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

Mondays, March 21 to May 16 ~ 1 to 3 p.m. or 7 to 9 p.m.*
Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program Spring Basic Course

The training will take place over Zoom.

Tuesday, April 5 ~ 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.*

Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program Continuing Education
Event: **Exploring Dementia** led by Linda Leduc, nurse and educator, over Zoom.

*For more information on either event:

www.pastoralcare.com or ottawapastoralcare@gmail.com or Terri Skuce at 613-591-3366.

May 13 to 15, 2022

Glebe High School 100 Year Celebration. All Glebe alumni and students, and the community are welcome. Register at www.Glebe100.ca

Mission Moment: Presbyterians Sharing

We are God's people, called to serve God with our many gifts. We belong to a denomination that is connected by faith, governance, history and mission. Presbyterians Sharing is one of the ways that Presbyterians across Canada work together to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, sharing God's love and hope in our communities, in Canada and around the world. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing help build strong congregations, serve vulnerable people, walk with Indigenous people, seek justice and share God's love. When we work together, we can accomplish so much more than we ever could on our own.